Textbook Affordability Plan 2021-2025

In Accordance with Oregon House Bill 2213 The following Textbook affordability plan has been created for the Oregon Institute of Technology community and the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC).

Goals

1. *Adjust the institutional culture of text adoption and syllabus publishing to make materials available in order to inform student curriculum choices and planning.*
    a. Work with the bookstore and registrar to develop a way to request textbooks further in advance.
    b. By 2023 publish sample syllabi in 50% of classes for students to access at registration.

2. *Generate $2 million in student course materials savings by 2025.*
    a. Each quarter the library will provide updated savings numbers from the Library OER incentives program.
    b. $1 million in student savings will be reached by Spring 2022.
    c. The bookstore will notify instructors that if an OER Resource would like to be adopted, they can get a printed copy in for students at a low cost to students. The bookstore will also post when a textbook is an OER Resource. The sign will state: This is an OER Textbook, Low Cost/No Cost options may be available in digital format.

3. *Develop a toolkit for textbook adoption and changing textbooks accessible to all faculty.*
    a. The library OER incentives program will develop and implement a long term plan by Spring 2021.
    b. Resources will be posted for faculty by Fall 2021 with updating schedule of development opportunities each quarter after.

4. *Provide professional development and faculty support in affordable and open text options.*
    a. Access to an asynchronous course on open education and OER will be available to faculty by Winter 2021.
    b. Oregon Tech will continue partnership with Open Oregon Educational Resources and other entities in order to provide external professional development opportunities.
    c. A plan to communicate professional development opportunities will be included in the Library OER incentives program (goal 3.a).

5. *Support Oregon Tech created materials through creation of an institutional repository.*
    a. After 20 Open resources have been created the library will develop an institutional repository to store and make publicly available faculty created resources.

Communication plan

Upon completion and approval the textbook affordability plan will be submitted to the HECC and posted on a public facing webpage of the university. In addition the plan will be communicated to faculty through faculty senate. The plan will be made available to students through ASOIT and student leadership at both campuses. Comments and suggestions will be available through a webform where the plan is publicly posted.

In Fall 2019 a Microsoft team was created for anyone interested in open educational resources. Faculty applying for incentives through the library program or attending professional development on open education are automatically added to the team. The team is used to house relevant files and information as well as to post opportunities and information of relevance to open education.

Timeline:

- May 2019 OR HB 2213 passed requiring State Universities and Colleges to have textbook affordability plans.
- October 2019 Communication and recruitment of student participants
- November 2019 Oregon Tech Textbook Affordability Taskforce appointed
- January 2020 Textbook use survey of faculty
- March 2020 Plan goals established
- May 2020 Some members attend state Textbook affordability plan workshop
- September 2020 Draft opened for faculty review
- October 2020 Draft opened for student comment
- December 2020 Plan submitted for final approval to University Administration
- May 2021 Plan submitted to HECC

Sustainability and next steps

Each goal of the plan has been tied to a responsible office or group. These parties will be responsible for measurement toward completion. This plan is an adjustable and growing document to best support the needs of the students and the university. It is essential to success and sustainability of the plan that these parties communicate and adjust the plan periodically.

During the plan development there were three phases of broad communication with university constituents. It is expected that similar communication and planning will begin in 2023 to support updating the plan.

- Before the taskforce was appointed, presentations asking for student members and participation were given at ASOIT officer meetings at both Klamath Falls and Portland Metro campuses.
- In the data collection phase email was used to gather data from faculty in the form of a textbook use and adoption survey. The results of this survey were presented in an open forum on March 5th, 2020.
- Drafts of the plan were sent out via email to both faculty, and students (October 2020). Forums were held via electronic conference platforms to gather feedback on the draft plan in Fall of 2020.

Taskforce Membership:

- Sharon Beaudry, Associate Professor, Business
- Jolyn Dahlvig, Associate Dean of Students, Portland Metro Campus
- Andria Fultz, Associate Professor, Communication
- Ben Kintner, Registrar's office
- Dawn Lowe-Wincentsen, Professor, Portland Metro Campus Library Director
- Stephen Metsig, Student, Portland Metro Campus, Class of 2020, ASOIT-PM Officer 2019-2020
- Marci Miller, University Book store manager
- Zachary Pare, Student, Klamath Falls, Class of 2020
- Terri Torres, Professor, Mathematics, and Faculty Senate President 2019-2020
- Alan Wallace, Information Technology Services