

**Ad Hoc Textbook Affordability
Committee Resolution
from the Senate Executive Committee
September 16, 2008**

Whereas, the cost of textbooks and ancillaries have gone up dramatically in recent years; and,

Whereas, higher costs can adversely affect the affordability of higher education for CSUF students; and,

Whereas, Associated Students, CSUF, Inc. has recommended that the CSUF Academic Senate form an Ad Hoc Committee on Textbook Affordability; therefore be it

Resolved that an Ad Hoc Committee on Textbook Affordability be formed this fall;

Resolved that the Ad Hoc Committee recommend campus based policies and solutions that have the potential to reduce the cost of textbooks and course materials;

Resolved that the Ad Hoc Committee report back to the CSUF Academic Senate on its findings by April 15;

Resolved that the Ad Hoc Committee be comprised of two student representatives appointed by Associated Students CSUF, Inc., three faculty members and one library faculty member appointed by the CSUF Academic Senate, and two administrators appointed by the CSUF Academic Senate in consultation with the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

CSUF Academic Senate Approved Unanimously
September 18, 2008

Faculty Strategies for Reducing Student Textbook Costs

1. Order bundled book packages (those with CDs and other supplementary materials) only when you are sure they are necessary. You can order the book separately at a lower cost.
2. Order books by the deadline so that students can have a better chance for "buy backs." Students get a higher price for the buy back when the book is ordered for the next semester.
3. Consider whether you can use the same edition for two or more years. This also allows students to get a better "buy back" price.
4. Consider text supplements or course packs in lieu of additional textbooks that you will use to a limited degree.
5. Explore options for custom textbooks. Publishers can provide only the chapters you will use and this cuts costs.
6. Provide students the option of a digital text, which also significantly reduces costs.
7. Find out the costs of the textbooks you plan to order. You might be surprised at the total cost of textbooks for your course.
8. Consider making the textbook available in the library.
9. Work with the bookstore in making rental copies available.
10. Use materials such as .pdf files and online readings that are free and readily available to students.

Average Textbook Prices Nationally

	2003-2004 Academic Year	2006-2007 Academic Year	Percent Change Over 3 year period
2-year public	\$727	\$850	17%
4-year public	\$786	\$942	20%
4-year private	\$807	\$935	16%

Source: College Board Annual Survey of Colleges, average prices for full-time, full-year students.