

Associated Student Government
San Diego Miramar College
10440 Black Mountain Rd, K1-208
San Diego, CA 92126



January 6, 2022

Academic Senate
San Diego Miramar College
10440 Black Mountain Rd, K2-105
San Diego, CA 92126

Regarding Zero-Textbook-Cost & Open Education Resources, 2021-22:

WHEREAS, During the 57th session of the Academic Senate for California Community College's (ASCCC) Fall Plenary, the ASCCC resolved the following regarding zero-textbook-cost and open education resources:

3.04 F21 Develop Statewide Recommendation for Definition of Low-Cost Course Materials

... Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges work with the Student Senate for California Community Colleges and California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office to identify a recommended definition of "low-cost" to be considered for adoption throughout the California Community College system.

3.05 F21 Zero Means Zero Textbook Cost

"... Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges work to further communicate that zero-textbook-cost has a clear and specific meaning by affirming California Education Code's original definition of zero-textbook-cost that refers to "courses that eliminate conventional textbook costs by using alternative instructional materials and methodologies," and recognize that a variety of approaches can be used to bring course costs for students to zero, including college library subscriptions, purchasing access to copyrighted resources, and purchasing print resources;

"Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges recognize open educational resources as the preferred and most sustainable mechanism for eliminating course costs but acknowledge that instances will arise in which eliminating costs is not possible;

"Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges assert that while open educational resources can reduce or eliminate instructional materials and textbook costs, resources should be dedicated to convening discipline faculty to determine the most sustainable mechanisms for reducing the costs of course resources; and

"Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges encourage the use of approaches that significantly reduce course resource costs such that course sections with a lowcost can obtain zero-textbook-cost status by virtue of the cost being absorbed by the college, district, or the state."

7.01 F21 System-Level Zero-Textbook-Cost Resources

"... Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges request that the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, as part of the Zero-Textbook-Cost Degree Program, explore the provision of centralized accessibility and licensing support to local colleges and districts."

16.01 F21 Advocate for Electronic Access to Required Course Materials

"... Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges work with our faculty colleagues in the California State University and University of California, through the Intersegmental

Council of Academic Senates (ICAS) and other practitioner groups, to develop a statewide response to publishers from the California public postsecondary systems; and

“Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges work with our faculty colleagues in the California State University and University of California, through the Intersegmental Council of Academic Senates (ICAS) and other practitioner groups, to explore options, including legislation, to support libraries in their ability to provide electronic access to required course materials that students need to succeed in their courses.”

17.01 F21 Local Senate Policies Regarding Textbook Adoption

“... Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California for Community Colleges provide guidance to local academic senates in developing policies that both protect students and uphold academic freedom in cases where changes to faculty class assignments result in changes in required course resources by Fall of 2022; and

“Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges encourage local academic senates to adopt policies that both protect students and uphold academic freedom in cases where changes to faculty class assignments result in changes in required course resources.” (source); and

WHEREAS, San Diego Miramar College has made good-faith efforts to align its practices with the Academic Senate for California for Community Colleges, California State University, University of California, and other California Community Colleges regarding zero-textbook-cost and open education resources, it has lagged behind the other colleges within the San Diego Community College District; and

WHEREAS, Library staff are a vital but limited resource for faculty to find and implement zero-textbook-cost and open education resources; and

WHEREAS, Student leaders of San Diego Miramar College have taken steps to survey the student body, educate themselves on the subject of zero-textbook-cost and open education resources, and present their findings to appropriate stakeholders in a manner consistent with shared governance hierarchy; therefore

LET IT BE RESOLVED, The Associated Student Government of San Diego Miramar College strongly urges the Academic Senate of San Diego Miramar College to endorse and assist with student-led efforts to implement more zero-textbook-cost and open education resources; and

RESOLVED, The Associated Student Government of San Diego Miramar College (ASG) requests the Academic Senate of San Diego Miramar College endorse the ASG’s petition for college leadership to provide funding so to hire a Non-Academic Non-Classified Employee to assist library staff in the research, acquisition, and implementation of zero-textbook-cost and open education resources.

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