

Resolution Endorsing HSU Associated Students'
Resolution in Support of Affordable Textbooks
#13-04/05-FA – April 12, 2005

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University endorse the first three resolved clauses of the attached HSU Associated Students' *Resolution in Support of Affordable Textbooks*, adopted on March 7, 2005:

Resolved, by the members of The Associated Students call upon college textbook publishers to adopt the following practices:

- *To keep the cost of producing textbooks as low as possible without sacrificing educational content;*
- *To give faculty and students the option of buying textbooks separately;*
- *To keep textbook editions on the market as long as possible without sacrificing the educational content;*
- *To give preference to paper or on-line supplements to current editions over producing entirely new editions;*
- *To disclose to faculty members all of the different products they sell - including both bundled and unbundled options, list how much each of those products cost, the length of time they intend to produce the current edition, and how the newest edition is different from the previous edition; and be it further*

Resolved, that The Associated Students call upon faculty to give preference to the least cost textbook option when the educational content is equal and to press publishers to adopt the above practices, and be it further

Resolved, that The Associated Students call upon the University to encourage as many opportunities for students to purchase used books as possible, including the Associated Students Book Exchange and the Humboldt State University Bookstore, ...

; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University urge HSU faculty to consider, when selecting textbooks and other course-related materials, those issues addressed in the first two resolved clauses of the attached HSU Associated Students' *Resolution in Support of Affordable Textbooks*, adopted on March 7, 2005, including the publishers' practice of bundling and otherwise increasing pricing with the frequent release of new editions; and be it further

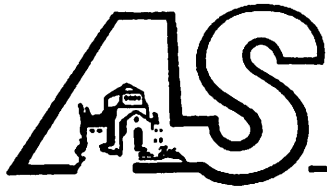
RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University urge HSU faculty to select, whenever possible and without compromising quality, the most economical textbooks, course materials and modes of disseminating course content; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University urge the university to address the request for as many opportunities as possible for students to purchase used books as is noted in the third resolved clause of the attached HSU Associated Students' *Resolution in Support of Affordable Textbooks*, adopted on March 7, 2005; and be it further

RESOLVED: That copies of this resolution and its attachment be forwarded to the Association of American Publishers, President Rollin Richmond, Provost Richard Vrem, all HSU College Deans, Dean of the Library Sharmon Kenyon, all HSU faculty, HSU Associated Students, the HSU University Center, the HSU Bookstore, the California Faculty Association, the California State Student Association, and the California Student Public Interest Research Group.

RATIONALE: *The Resolution in Support of Affordable Textbooks, adopted by HSU Associated Students on March 7, 2005, contains convincing evidence of inflated costs for textbooks and related course materials. By endorsing this resolution, we acknowledge our obligation to make higher education accessible to as many qualified students as possible, and recognize that the cost of textbooks and other course materials can represent a significant financial burden for our students.*

APPROVED – April 12, 2005



HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AFFORDABLE TEXTBOOKS

Adopted March 7, 2005

Whereas, according to a survey by the California Student Public Interest Research Group (CALPIRG), students spent an average of \$898 per year on textbooks in the 2003-04 school year, or almost 20 percent of the cost of in-state fees, and

Whereas, in contrast, a 1997 University of California survey found that students spent an average of \$642 on textbooks in 1996-97, and

Whereas, textbook publishers "bundle" textbooks with CD-ROMs and workbooks that over 65% of faculty surveyed say they "rarely" or "never" use, and

Whereas, textbook publishers put new editions on the market frequently – often with few content changes – making the less expensive used editions obsolete and unavailable, and

Whereas, textbook publishers charge American students more than students overseas for the same textbooks, and

Whereas, these new editions make it difficult for students to sell back their textbooks to the Humboldt State University Bookstore, and

Whereas, textbook publishers are unfairly charging students at a time when tuition and other college costs are rising, therefore be it

Resolved, by the members of The Associated Students call upon college textbook publishers to adopt the following practices:

- *To keep the cost of producing textbooks as low as possible without sacrificing educational content;*
- *To give faculty and students the option of buying textbooks separately;*
- *To keep textbook editions on the market as long as possible without sacrificing the educational content;*
- *To give preference to paper or on-line supplements to current editions over producing entirely new editions;*
- *To disclose to faculty members all of the different products they sell - including both bundled and unbundled options, list how much each of those products cost, the length of time they intend to produce the current edition, and how the newest edition is different from the previous edition; and be it further*

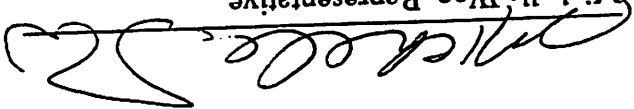
Resolved, that The Associated Students call upon faculty to give preference to the least cost textbook option when the educational content is equal and to press publishers to adopt the above practices, and be it further

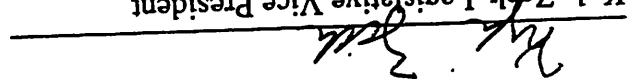
Resolved, that The Associated Students call upon the University to encourage as many opportunities for students to purchase used books as possible, including the Associated Students Book Exchange and the Humboldt State University Bookstore, and be it further

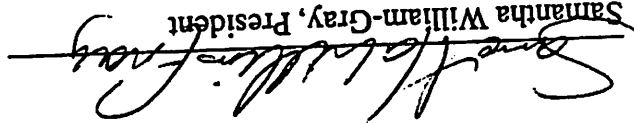
Resolved, that the HSU Bookstore negotiate with publishers for a complimentary University Access Copy to be placed in the HSU Library, and be it further

Resolved, that The Associated Students will forward a copy of this resolution to the following parties: the Association of American Publishers, President Rollin Richmond, Provost Richard Vrem, All HSU College Deans, Sharnon Kenyon, Dean of the Library, the HSU Academic Senate, the California Faculty Association, the California State Student Association, the HSU University Center, the HSU Bookstore, CALPIRG and the Lumberjack News and local media.

Drafted by: CALPIRG
Revised and authored by: Michelle Woo.


Michelle Woo, Representative
College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences


Kyle Zeck, Legislative Vice President


Samantha William-Gray, President

3/10/05
Date

3/10/05
Date

3/9/05
Date

Merry Schellinger

From: Rollin Richmond [rollinr@humboldt.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2005 9:53 PM
To: Merry Schellinger
Cc: Saeed Mortazavi; Mary Greta; Denice Helwig; Richard C. Vrem; Patty Lindley; Ken Fulgham
Subject: Responses to various resolutions from the Senate.

Saeed and Merry:

In response to your three memoranda dated May 3 and 4, here are my decisions on the resolutions accepted by the Senate.

Resolution #12-04/05 - I approve this resolution with the request that the Senate work with our attorney in Long Beach, Darryl Hamm, to address his concern about the resolution. It seems to me that the last sentence of Mr. Hamm's response to me below gives us an easy way of meeting his concern. If the Senate could move to adopt this change in the coming year, I would be grateful.

I think that the mentoring provision does create an argument or a defense in a tenure case. I don't think that it is a particularly strong defense as the candidate is ultimately responsible for meeting the RTP criteria. I think we create more trouble for ourselves by including the website and reference to Best Practices in the Handbook. I glanced through Appendix J and did not see any other instances in which we included such a reference. Including a specific practice in the handbook gives added weight to an argument for ineffective mentoring. I would recommend that the reference to the Best Practices be deleted from the resolution. If a deletion of this provision is not possible, I would add a sentence noting that the "best practices" are just examples and departments are free to choose any approach to mentoring that works for them.

Resolution #13-04/05 - I approve this resolution endorsing the Associated Students' resolution in support of affordable textbooks.

Resolution #14-04/05 - I approve this recommendation for changes to Appendix E.

Resolution #16-04/05 - I approve this recommendation for changes to Appendix J.

I approve the motion on the Spring Graduation List.

Resolution #22-04/05 - I approve this recommendation on the TOEFL score requirement.

Resolution #15A-04/05 - I approve this recommendation for changes in Appendix J.

Resolution #15B-04/05 - I approve this recommendation for changes in the professional development plan form.

6/30/2005

Resolution #23-04/05) - I approve the recommendation for changes in grants-in-aid procedures.

Resolution #19-04/05 - I approve the recommendation. The Provost pointed out to me that we have not specified term limits for the faculty, student or community members. I will make recommendations to this group at its first meeting in the fall and ask the Senate Executive Committee to review the recommendations during the Fall semester of next year. I would appreciate your prompt action on the

Greta: Will you please remind me in the early Fall about the need to set term limits for the IAAC group.

Merry: I ask the Provost to advise me on nearly all of the resolutions that come to my desk for approval. I would be appreciative if you would automatically send him copies of all the memoranda that you send to my office. He and I have an agreement that he will advise me on these issues since nearly all have some consequence for the principal academic mission of the University.

Thanks to all, Rollin

Rollin C. Richmond, President
Humboldt State University
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Email: rollinr@humboldt.edu
Cell: 707-599-6699

6/30/2005