

**HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**University Senate**

**Resolution on Open Educational Resources**

14-15/16-EX — February 23, 2016 — Second Reading

**RESOLVED:** That the University Senate of Humboldt State University recognizes the obstacles to student success that are inherent in the increasingly high costs associated with textbooks and other course materials; and be it further

**RESOLVED:** That the Senate fully supports efforts to seek and consider affordable, accessible, high-quality course materials, including open educational resources (OER), in order to reduce the costs of textbooks and supplies for students; and be it further

**RESOLVED:** That the HSU Sustainable Learning Group, in collaboration with faculty, students and campus administration, be charged with developing a plan which provides evidence of faculty commitment and readiness to effectively use grant funds to support faculty adoption of OER; and be it further

**RESOLVED:** That the HSU Sustainable Learning Group pursue funding available through the State's OER Adoption Incentive Program in order to support these endeavors.

**RATIONALE:** The California Legislature recently passed AB 798, the College Textbook Affordability Act of 2015. The goal of the legislation is to reduce the costs of course materials for California college students by encouraging faculty to accelerate the adoption of high-quality, no-cost and low-cost course materials, especially OER. The legislation will be implemented via the OER Adoption Incentive Program, which will provide funding for faculty development in this important area. The State of California has allocated three million dollars in funding for the OER Adoption Incentive Program. Each CSU and California Community College campus is eligible to receive up to \$50,000 for programs focused on OER.

In order to receive this funding, each campus Senate must: 1) Adopt a resolution that states its support to increase student access to high-quality OER and reduce the cost of textbooks and supplies for students, and 2) Create and approve a plan, in collaboration with campus administration and students, which describes evidence of the faculty's commitment and readiness to effectively use grant funds to support adoption of OER.

HSU currently has an OER team in place – the HSU Sustainable Learning Group, led by Cyril Oberlander, Dean of the Library. The HSU Sustainable Learning Program has thus far been funded through the CSU Affordable Learning Solutions initiative. This Resolution is intended to further support the group's efforts to obtain OER development funding for our campus.