

Spring 2022 Textbook Affordability Committee

Meeting Minutes – March 22, 2022, 1 p.m. *Virtual via Zoom*

Members present: Jackie Griggs (Chair), Ann Price, Mark Russell (Follett representative), Bethanie Miller, Cindy Fritsch, Don Heumphreus, Mary Pearce (Registrar), Megan Anderson, Rebecca Moore, and Seth Mose

I. Approval of October 25, 2021, meeting minutes

Megan Anderson moved to approve. Don Heumphreus seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Jackie Griggs introduced and welcomed the new Registrar, Mary Pearce, to the committee.

II. Updates from Follett

a. Items to report / discuss regarding textbook distribution and textbook adoptions

Mark Russell said they are searching for a new manager for the Follett bookstore. He said he will work with the institution to include them in the decision making for the selection of the candidate. The selection should be soon—hoping for the Monday after Spring Break, April 25, 2022.

He said that the bookstore is being managed well, even with the absence of a manager.

The bookstore at HQ is now permanently closed. The bookstore at the Tech Center is open, except on Fridays, currently, but this may change with the new hiring of a bookstore manager.

Textbook adoptions for the summer 2022 semester are fantastic—maybe even 100%. For the fall 2022 semester, they are also looking very good too—nearly 100%. He praised our institution in our adoptions.

III. Updates from Faculty

a. Items to report / discuss regarding textbook distribution and textbook adoptions

The Chair asked for comments or anything to report from faculty. None were offered, which suggests everything is going well.

IV. Updates from Finance and Registrar

a. Items to report / discuss regarding spring 2022 semester

Cindy Fritsch from Finance said everything went well with the spring 2022 semester. Mary Pearce, Registrar, also said everything is going well.

V. Faculty and student bookstore surveys – distribution in April 2022

a. Survey Monkey distribution / faculty and student email announcements

The Chair received some suggested question revisions for both the student and faculty bookstore surveys. She shared those with the committee. The surveys will be distributed in April (before Spring Break) for two weeks, April 11 to 22, to both faculty and students. The surveys are conducted using an email with a link to Survey Monkey.

VI. Summer and Fall 2022 textbook adoptions deadline, March 16
Already addressed earlier - going great per Mark Russell, the Follett regional manager.

- VII. Follett Discover
- a. Concierge access requests
 - b. Assistance for faculty
 - c. Training for new faculty

The Chair reminded the committee about how to contact the Follett bookstore or Mark Russell directly via email at 2078mgr@follett.com regarding concierge access requests to use the Follett Discover system or for requests in Follett Discover training or assistance. Committee members were encouraged to share this information with division faculty colleagues.

VIII. Review of textbook affordability report to Chancellor / Board of Governors
The Chair shared the information in the report that is shared with the BOG. The report showed data such as the percentage of courses that met the textbook adoption deadline. Last year we had 95%--which is considered great.

OER textbook and course material offerings and options made by faculty provide a cost savings for students at more than \$10,000. Blue Ridge CTC faculty actively implement OER in their courses.

The Follett Access also provides a cost savings for students, saving more than \$25,000 for our students.

- IX. Follett Access adoption guide from Finance
- a. Next Follett Access deadline is August 31 for the spring 2023 semester

If a course is already using Follett Access, the program coordinator/decision maker needs to simply notify the Follett bookstore via the 2078mgr@follett.com email. Those faculty that are already using digital courseware will be contacted by Mark Russell to consider using Follett Access. The cost is much lower for digital courseware for students. Don Heumphreus, the program coordinator of IT, asked specific questions about the IT Comp TIAA exams. Mark Russell and Don will follow up separately.

- X. Any additional items

Ann Price, the program coordinator of accounting, said she has some individual questions about the Follett Access program that she will discuss separately with Mark Russell with Follett.

There were no additional items.