

Resolution in Support of Open Educational Resources

SUNY New Paltz Student Association
68th Student Senate

Primary Sponsor: Tiana Concepcion

Co-Sponsor(s): 68th Student Senate

WHEREAS, research conducted by the [College Board](#) has found that average students spend \$1200 per year on textbooks,

WHEREAS, the price of textbooks has increased at [twice the rate](#) of inflation in the past two decades,

WHEREAS, the cost of college textbooks is often a major affordability issue for students, who take on additional loan debt to pay for textbooks, or undercut their own learning by foregoing the purchase of textbooks;

WHEREAS, textbook publishers have not responded adequately to the concerns of students, faculty, and other stakeholders,

WHEREAS, 'open educational resources' are defined as an: online, free to access, easy to share, and affordable to print materials written by education professionals under an open license

WHEREAS, open educational resources offer an affordable, comparable and flexible alternative to expensive, commercial textbooks:

WHEREAS, it is the prerogative of faculty to select course materials that are most appropriate for a class;

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to seek and consider low-and no-cost options, including open educational resources, as long as there is no reduction in quality;

BE IT RESOLVED, that SUNY New Paltz Student Association supports the use of Open Educational Resources

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that SUNY New Paltz Student Association encourages faculty to commit to expanding Open Educational Resource and other no-cost course materials when selecting textbooks.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that SUNY New Paltz Student Association encourages faculty to move self-published manuals and products from paper-based versions to a cost-free electronic version within an established platform such as Blackboard (CourseWeb) or Electronic Lab Notebook.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a mechanism be explored for students to identify Open Educational Resource course materials in course catalogs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in order to promote the expansion of Open Educational Resources by faculty, recognition of these efforts be considered in annual reports, promotion and tenure processes.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that SUNY New Paltz Student Association encourages SUNY New Paltz Office of Academic Affairs and the Sojourner Truth Library to offer support to faculty when expanding and adopting open textbooks, when academically appropriate.