

Bookstore Advisory Council

March 30, 2015 2:00pm

Business Services Conference Room (Bldg. 8, Room 1106)

Members Present: Erin Campbell, Judy Comeaux , Alice Eng (Chair), Gregory Helmick, Glenda Kelsey, Gracie Lopresti and Bruce Turner

Others Present: Tully Burnett (Business Services), Matthew Davidson (Bookstore Manager), Aroline Neal (Bookstore-Textbook), and Stephanie Peters (Business Services), Dr. Traynham (AA Provost)

The meeting was called to order at 2:00pm by Alice Eng (Chair)

1. Approval to Audio Record Meeting

Alice Eng informed the attendees that the meeting would be recorded to assist with minutes. No objections.

2. Approval of minutes from October 27, 2014 Meeting

Motion to approve minutes as written by Erin Campbell and seconded by Gregory Helmick; Motion passed.

- 3. Faculty Adoption/Affordability Program-** Alice Eng contacted Chuck Klostermeyer to remind faculty at their monthly FA meeting to get their book orders in for Summer and Fall classes. As of the meeting there were 84% of summer classes with adopted textbooks out of a total of 972 classes. Of the 184 classes that did not have an adopted book about 8-10 do not have a required textbook for the course, but the majority do have an assigned professor that has not adopted a class book yet. Tully pointed out how it is very important to adopt the books early to utilize the “Buyback Program” which has the potential to save students \$150,000-\$200,000 each semester. Tully also mentioned the huge savings impact for Follett since the books are put directly on the shelves instead of having shipping costs from publishers or whole-sellers. Dr. Traynham mentioned that from a Chair level it is very difficult to adopt a Fall book by April 15th when it may not be enforced by all faculty in the Fall. Dr. Traynham said that at UF the Provost created a way to charge a department \$5 every day they are late on adopting a book. At USF the FA highlights a faculty member every month that finds a way to create cost savings for the students in regards to their course textbook. Tully mentioned he has talked with past and the current SG President to get a little pressure from the students to the faculty on adopting a textbook, but never received much feedback from the students. Gracie mentioned that SGA had an outreach campaign regarding Textbook Affordability and the

results showed students were interested, but didn't know what the plan of action should be to get better results. Tully mentioned that the current Follett contract ends in Oct. 2016 so an ITN committee will be created sometime in the Summer. Bruce asked if other SUS schools are having the same issue with early Fall registration and textbook adoptions. Dr. Traynham responded that our registration calendar is pretty standard to other SUS schools. He also mentioned that Admissions is pushing to get students registered before coming to Orientation. Dr. Traynham mentioned that at UF they allow more time because the students do not actually register for a class until the week prior. Everything done in the Spring/Summer is considered Pre-Registration. The legislative bill being discussed is to ensure the student knows the costs of the textbooks at time of registration so the Pre-Registration time allows teachers to the last week to adopt their textbook before Registration opens.

Judy Comeaux commented on how last summer there was a new edition for her Fall research class so students were confused when the book she adopted in Spring was not the newest edition for the Fall semester. Judy asked Aroline what the Bookstore policy is for new editions. Aroline said they will try to find as many of the old or new editions as possible and get back to the Office Manager with the info. Aroline commented many faculty do not want to adopt the most updated edition because they do not want to change their coursework or syllabus. Dr. Traynham mentioned in the pending legislative bill it states once you adopt a book you had to use it for 3 consecutive years. Tully clarified this is mainly for your general studies classes which have a 3-year cycle for updates with publishers. Matthew mentioned that mandating the 3 consecutive years would dramatically lower the cost of the textbook to the student since they could use the Rental Program instead of having to buy the textbook. Aroline does her best to inform faculty of the cost savings of using a textbook in the Rental Program when they are in the process of adopting their textbook. Using the Rental Program could drop the textbook price up to 40% to the student. This would also raise the Book Adoption rate because Aroline would already know the textbook for that class. Matthew mentioned a downfall of adopting an older edition is if they do a buyback we could not then use those books as a Rental book since the National Rental book would be the new edition. The old edition books would have to be marked down as a huge cost to the Bookstore. He mentioned this has happened in the past costing almost \$20,000 from one course changing editions right before the semester started.

Bruce asked how the current Fall textbook adoptions were. Aroline answered they were at 4.4% for approx. 2,500 classes with the University deadline being July 10th. Tully informed Dr. Traynham that the Bookstore will be compiling data of all repeat adopted textbooks used by professors and send to the department Chairs. Aroline did mention another caveat to the adoption process is that a professor may know a textbook he/she

wants to use for Fall, but they do not know how many sections they will be teaching. Aroline has to wait for a CRN# (Course Section Number) before she can enter the textbook as adopted for a class. Aroline is trying different incentive ideas to get the Fall Adoption numbers up. Alice suggested a college competition for highest Textbook Adoption %.

4. Future Meeting(s)

Typically the council meets once a semester unless something major emerges, so the next meeting will be in the Fall 2015.