

Associated Students, Inc.
California Polytechnic State University
San Luis Obispo

Resolution #05-06

Support for Campus Leadership in Textbook Price Reduction

- Whereas: ASI is the official voice of the Cal Poly student body, and
- 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% of the cost of in-state fees; and
- Whereas: According to the same survey a new textbook costs \$102.44 on average, 58% more expensive than the price of an average used textbook, \$64.80; and
- Whereas: Notices are issued to every faculty member requesting which textbooks will be required the following quarter; and
- Whereas: According to El Corral Bookstore only 15-20% of faculty respond back to these notices before the deadline causing buyback prices to be severely reduced, and
- Whereas: Textbooks often come with bundled supplemental course materials that significantly increase the overall cost of textbooks to students, and
- Whereas: CALPIRG reported that 65% of faculty “rarely” or “never” use the bundled materials in their courses; and
- Whereas: Faculty and El Corral Bookstore have power to reduce the cost of textbooks to students at Cal Poly.

Therefore

Be it resolved: Faculty are encouraged to respond to textbook requisitions in a timely manner so the bookstore can buyback used books at a higher price and make the used editions available for purchase, and

Furthermore

Be it resolved: ASI encourages El Corral Bookstore to use all means possible to educate students about available discounts options for purchasing textbooks, and

Furthermore

Be it resolved: ASI encourages El Corral Bookstore to use all means possible to ensure that all students receive the fairest prices on new and used textbooks, and

Furthermore

Be it resolved: Faculty are encouraged to reuse textbooks while current editions are readily available and as long as they uphold current academic merit, and

Furthermore

Be it resolved: Faculty are encouraged to choose textbooks with the widest possible availability to ensure the lowest price to the students, and

Furthermore

Be it resolved: Faculty are encouraged to not choose bundled textbooks unless they fully intend to use the supplemental materials and should be aware of bundled vs. non-bundled options.

*For the purpose of this resolution the term faculty shall include professors, lecturers, teaching aids, graduate students, or any one else involved in the textbook selection process.

CERTIFIED as the true and correct copy, in witness thereof, I have set my hand and Seal of the Associated Students, Inc. this 26th day of January, 2005.

ADOPTED at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors by unanimous vote on January 26, 2005.

ASI Secretary

ASI Chair of the Board

ASI President

Sponsored by: **Joe Vaccaro**, Vice Chair ASI Board of Directors, College of Engineering
Blake Bolton, ASI President
Adam Mednick, ASI representative to the Academic Senate
Sarah Cowan, ASI representative to the Academic Senate