

THE SENATE OF THE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT BODY

S.R. 2018/2019 – 09

**A Resolution Formally Supporting the Utilization of Open Educational Resource to Reduce
Textbook costs.**

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT BODY

March 11, 2019

Authored by:

Raymond Berling- College of Education and Human Development Senator

Sponsored by:

Harrison Carter- Chair of Academic Affairs, Senator at Large; **Alex Chiarelott**- Senator at Large

March 11, 2019

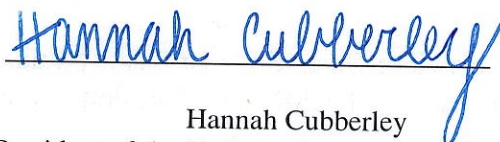
Approved by the Senate of the Undergraduate Student Body and prepared for the presentation to the president of the Undergraduate Student Government.

March 11, 2019

Approved by the president of the Undergraduate Student Government, and so ordered into effect.



Paul Garbarino
Speaker of the Senate



Hannah Cubberley
President of the Undergraduate Student Government

S.R. 2018/2019 – 09

A Resolution Formally Supporting the Utilization of Open Educational Resource to Reduce Textbook costs.

In the senate of the Undergraduate Student Body here assembled,

1. **Whereas**, the Undergraduate Student Government represents the undergraduate student voice
2. at Bowling Green State University; and
3. **Whereas**, Bowling Green State University and the Undergraduate Student Government
4. aim to ensure all student voices are represented within the Senate; and
5. **Whereas**, the cost of textbooks is a large financial concern for students who take on
6. additional debt or undercut their own education by forgoing the purchase of textbooks; and
7. **Whereas**, the Bureau of Labor Statistics has reported the cost of textbooks increased over
8. 900 percent since 1980; and
8. **Whereas**, in 2016, 66.5 percent of 22,000 college students surveyed in public Florida
9. universities did not purchase the required materials for a class because it was too expensive;
10. and
11. **Whereas**, in 2016, 19.8 percent of 22,000 college students surveyed in public Florida
12. universities failed a course because they could not purchase the required textbook; and
13. **Whereas**, the statistics found in public Florida universities are commonground for many
14. public institutions across the United States; and
15. **Whereas**, Bowling Green State University students budgeted an average of \$909 for books
16. and supplies during the 2018-2019 academic year; and
17. **Whereas**, objective 5 of section 3 in Bowling Green State University's Focus on the Future
18. states "we will design and implement academic affordability initiatives to address the
19. cost of a BGSU education"; and
20. **Whereas**, Open Educational Resource are teaching, learning, and research resources
21. released under an open license that permits their free use and repurposing by other; and
22. **Whereas**, Open Educational Resources can be textbooks, full courses, lesson plans, videos,
23. tests, software, or any other tool, material, or technique that supports access to knowledge;
24. and

25. **Whereas**, the Open Textbook Network promotes access, affordability, and student success
26. through the use of open textbooks in a variety of disciplines; and

27. **Whereas**, Bowling Green State University has been a member of the Open
28. Educational Resource system since the spring of 2017; and

29. **Whereas**, 2,717 students and 2,484 faculty members were surveyed across nine peer-
30. reviewed studies and 85% of them said Open Educational Resources were just as good or
31. superior to traditional resources.

32. **Therefore, let it be resolved that**, the Undergraduate Student Government encourages
33. all faculty members to utilize the Open Educational Resource system and other low-cost
34. alternatives when selecting required materials for their courses, and

35. **Therefore, let it further be resolved that**, the Undergraduate Student Government
36. encourages the University Library to continue to promote the Open Educational
37. Resource system in order to develop best practices within university faculty.

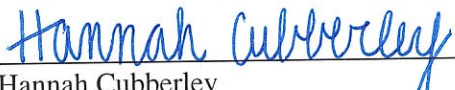
THE SENATE OF THE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT BODY

*Passes by the Senate and ordered presented to the president of the Undergraduate Student Body for
Approval or Veto.*



Paul Garbarino
Speaker of the Senate

I do hereby approve and order the legislation into effect.



Hannah Cubberley
President of the Undergraduate Student Government

I do hereby disapprove and order the legislation returned to the Senate.

Hannah Cubberley
President of the Undergraduate Student Government