

Northern Illinois University
COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE
10th Meeting (Third meeting of 2017-2018)
Monday, November 6, 2017

MINUTES

APPROVED

Present: Brenda Aranda (COE); Sheila Barrett (HHS); Dhiman Chakraborty (CLAS); Gaby Ibarra for Sabrije Fejzowski (Student LAS); Kerry Freedman (CVPA); Elisa Fredericks (COB); Sarah Holmes (ULIB); Mackenzie Powell (Student-VPA-ART)

Absent: Pat Anderson (Alumni Association-Ex-officio); Brianno Coller(CEET); Todd Gilson (Honors Director, Ex-officio); Trude Jacobsen (CLAS); Angela Kaminski (VP SAEM designee-Ex-officio); Ed Klonoski (Associate Vice Provost, Ex-officio); Jennifer Manning (HOUS-Ex-officio); Dan Pedersen (HOUS ex-officio); Eric Rapp (Student-LAS-MATH)

I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by E. Fredericks to approve the agenda, seconded by B. Aranda.
Motion passed unanimously.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by M. Powell to approve the October 2, 2017 minutes, seconded by E. Fredericks. **Motion passed unanimously.**

III. OLD BUSINESS

a. Textbook issue/survey/discussion

S. Barrett pointed out that last year student representatives came to the committee with the issue of textbook cost. At that time there was discussion regarding the students' concerns and the various hardship it causes for students. Sometimes faculty require a book for a course and then barely use it which is a burden for the students. There was a larger discussion last year.

The PowerPoint presentation from the Libraries "Alternative Textbook Resources" presentation was reviewed since many committee members were not able to attend. Some alternatives to having students purchase books are having a copy or copies on reserve the library. This does limit the time students can use the book and they must do that within the library. E-books are another option. There are Open Education Resources that are available under Creative Commons Licenses. These are open access materials available online. There was some discussion about the quality of these

materials. The discussion also included books that come with access codes for online materials and in some instances can be purchased separately from the book and allow students to have access to the online book.

S. Holmes reminded all that subject librarians will assist faculty with putting together materials for classes. They can assist with bringing together textbook as well as other materials for courses. Students can contact the subject libraries also for assistance if they are unable to afford textbooks. She also mentioned other sources through the library such as the I-share program and World CAT.

The student members agreed that the costs for textbooks for general education courses is the main issue. Not many students wish to keep books from their general education classes, however textbooks for major coursework are kept to use as reference materials, etc.

There was a brief discussion about making a recommendation to the Baccalaureate Council based on the information the committee has learned. Without the survey data though further discussion should occur, the subject will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

N/A

VII. ADJOURNMENT

K. Freedman made a motion to adjourn at 2:10 p.m., seconded by E. Fredericks. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Ratfield

*Administrative Assistant to the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs
Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost*