



Resolution of Support for Affordable Academic Resources at UCSD

Sponsor: Kenji Asakura, First Year Senator

Co-Sponsor: Caroline Siegel Singh, Sixth Senator

WHEREAS, the consumer price of college textbooks has increased by 88% between 2006 and 2016;¹

WHEREAS, many students cannot afford to purchase the required course material, including all class work hidden behind the pay-wall of access codes;

WHEREAS, low-income students are disproportionately affected since there are no alternatives to access codes, additionally, there are subjects that do not offer low cost alternatives to textbooks;

WHEREAS, college expenses are extremely costly and impact other aspects of student life, including rising rent prices, basic necessities, and food;

WHEREAS, the significant rise in cost of academic resources is a barrier to college attendance, student access, and student success;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Associated Students of UCSD urges the University of California San Diego to promote high-quality open resources to as an alternative to expensive, required textbooks and access codes to facilitate accessible course material for all students;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Associated Students of UCSD encourages the collaboration between student organizations, external entities, members of faculty, academic department chairs, to develop an action plan to present to Academic Senate on methods of making academic resources more affordable;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the sponsor will forward this resolution, or a letter, and related informational materials to the Dean of Undergraduate Education, Chair of each General Campus Academic Department and Chair of Academic Senate Educational Policy Committee;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Associated Students of UC San Diego supports UCSD CALPIRG in their efforts to commit professors to refrain from the use of access codes in the classroom, and to create a grant-funded Open-Educational Resource (OER) program that incentivizes professors to switch to cost-free resources.

¹ <https://www.bls.gov/opub/ted/2016/mobile/college-tuition-and-fees-increase-63-percent-since-january-2006.htm>