

**University Faculty Senate
168th Plenary
SUNY Environmental Science and Forestry
October 25, 2014**

Resolution on Affordability of Textbooks and Other Instructional Materials

Whereas the mission of the State University of New York (SUNY) is to provide the people of New York State with educational services of the highest quality and with the broadest possible access; and

Whereas the cost of higher education borne by students including those attending SUNY has risen in recent years; and

Whereas the cost of education can be prohibitive, affect access and affordability, and contribute to indebtedness for students and their families; and

Whereas the increased cost of textbooks and other instructional materials contributes to the overall increase in the cost of higher education; and

Whereas ensuring that students have access to textbooks and related materials is consistent with SUNY's mission and integral to student success; and

Whereas textbooks are continuously updated and it is not general policy or within the scope of the budgets of libraries to purchase textbooks as part of their academic holdings; and

Whereas faculty instructional copies may not be copyright compliant for use in library reserves; and

Whereas the Chancellor on October 23, 2014, announced the SUNY Affordable Learning Solutions initiative as part of International Open Access Week; and

Whereas on November 9, 2013, the General Assembly of the Student Assembly of the State University of New York passed the Textbook Affordability Solutions Resolution #1314-40; THEREFORE

Be it resolved that the University Faculty Senate (UFS) asks the Chancellor to work with campus Presidents to implement the Student Assembly of the State University of New York's Resolution #1314-40; and

Be it further resolved that the UFS asks the Chief Academic Officer on each campus to work with the Campus Governance Leader to consider faculty to adopt textbooks from all phases of Open SUNY Textbooks and other open textbook sources and be encouraged to author such resources; and

Be it further resolved that the UFS asks the Chief Academic Officer on each campus to work with the Campus Governance Leader to increase faculty knowledge of low or no cost textbook alternatives.

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**Resolution on Affordability of Textbooks and Other Instructional Materials
Passed without dissent**