

VC Academic Senate Statement of Support of Open Educational Resources/Zero-Textbook Cost Development

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Whereas, The significant rise in costs of textbooks and other instructional materials is a barrier to college attendance, student access, and student success. Due to this, California Community Colleges (CCC) are charged with empowering day-one access to instructional materials through Open Educational Resources (OER) as informed by California Code of Regulations, title 5, § 54221 Burden-Free Access to Instructional Materials; and

Whereas, The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC; see Resolutions 09.05 SP19 and 13.01 SP 21) and the College Textbook Affordability Act of 2015 (AB 798) both support the reduction of costs for college students by encouraging faculty to accelerate the adoption of lower cost, high-quality OER; and

Whereas, The ASCCC recognizes OER, which offer high-quality teaching and learning resources as the preferred and most sustainable mechanism for eliminating course costs except in cases where eliminating costs is not possible (ASCCC Resolution 03.05); and

Whereas, The Ventura College (VC) Academic Senate recognizes that shifting instructional material costs to the college is unsustainable, that OER are continually improving in quality and coverage, and that reducing instructional material costs aligns with our equity goals; and

Therefore be it Affirmed, That the VC Academic Senate support student equity through day-one burden-free access to high-quality instructional materials that increases access and reduces costs for students; and

Affirmed, That the VC Academic Senate encourage the widespread adoption of OER materials, particularly with respect to increasing ZTC course sections and degree/certificate pathways.

Citations:

ASCCC, Resolution 09.05 S19, "[Support the Development of Open Educational Resources \(OER\)](#)," Retrieved 3.13.26.

ASCCC, Resolution 13.01 S21, "[Institutionalizing Open Educational Resources](#)," Retrieved 3.13.26

California Code of Regulations, Title 5, §54221, “[Burden-Free Access to Instructional Materials](#),” Retrieved 3.13.26

California Legislation, AB 798, “[College Textbook Affordability Act of 2015](#),” Retrieved 3.13.26.

See also ASCCC, Resolution 03.05 F21, “[Zero Means Zero Textbook Cost](#),” Retrieved 3.13.26.