



Laney College
Peralta Community Colleges

900 Fallon St. 
Oakland, CA 94607

510-834-5740 
www.laney.edu 

Dream. Flourish. Succeed.

Recognition of Course Sections with Low-Cost Instructional Materials Options in the Laney Online Schedule of Classes

Open Educational Resources Committee

September 13, 2022

Whereas, Resolution 13.01¹ and Resolution 3.04², by Michelle Pilati, outlined the need for students to have access to low-cost instructional materials consistently statewide, and that the Senate Bill 1359 (Block, 2016) already requires all California Community Colleges to clearly label Zero-Textbook Cost (ZTC) in the online schedule of classes all sections that exclusively use digital course materials that are free of charge to students;

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for Laney College should support efforts by faculty and departments to increase student access to high-quality, accessible, Open Educational Resources (OER)³ and reduce the cost of instructional materials for students in course sections for which quality, accessible Open Educational Resources (OER) may not be available to accomplish zero cost for students;

Resolved, That Laney College, by Spring 2023, implement a mechanism for identifying course sections that employ low-cost instructional materials in the online schedule of classes; and

¹ Resolution 13.01, Fall 2017 Academic Senate Plenary: *Recognition of Course Sections with Low-Cost Course Material Options*, Michelle Pilati, <https://asccc.org/resolutions/recognition-course-sections-low-cost-course-material-options>, November 2017.

² Resolution 3.04, Fall 2021 Academic Senate Plenary: *Develop Statewide Recommendation for Definition of Low-Cost Course Materials* Michelle Pilati, <https://asccc.org/resolutions/develop-statewide-recommendation-definition-low-cost-course-materials>, November 2021.

³ OER as defined by a resource that is either in the public domain or has one of the following Creative Commons licenses; Attribution (CC BY), Attribution ShareAlike (CC BY-SA), Attribution-NoDerivs (CC BY-ND), or Attribution-NonCommercial (CC BY-NC) <https://creativecommons.org/>





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Resolved, That the Academic Senate for Laney College defines low-cost instructional materials (such as, but not limited to, textbooks, workbooks, lab manuals, online homework, and required printouts) whose total combined cost does not exceed \$50.

**[10/4/2022, the resolution is passed at Faculty Senate with suggested changes: First resolve: replace "Laney College" with "Laney's Office of Instruction." Second resolve: replace "Academic Senate for Laney College" with "Laney College Faculty Senate."]*





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For Reference:

Recognition of Course Sections with Low-Cost Course Material Options

Fall 2017

Resolution Number: 13.01

Contact: [Michelle Pilati](#)

Category: General Concerns

Whereas, The significant rise in costs of textbooks is a barrier to college attendance, student access, and student success, and many colleges are interested in reducing the cost of textbooks to increase student access to necessary course materials;

Whereas, The intent of the College Textbook Affordability Act of 2015 (AB 798, Bonilla, 2015) is to reduce costs for college students by encouraging faculty to accelerate the adoption of lower cost, high-quality, open educational resources (OER), and the Zero-Textbook-Cost Degree Grant Program focuses on the development of degrees with no associated text costs;

Whereas, Senate Bill 1359 (Block, 2016) requires all segments of public higher education in California to “Clearly highlight, by means that may include a symbol or logo in a conspicuous place on the online campus course schedule, the courses that exclusively use digital course materials that are free of charge to students and may have a low-cost option for print versions” (CEC 66406.9.) as of January, 2018; and

Whereas, Efforts to substantially decrease the costs of course materials should be recognized and, in some instances, reducing costs to zero may not be immediately possible;

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges support efforts to increase student access to high-quality open educational resources and reduce the cost of course materials and supplies for students in course sections for which open educational resources may not be available to accomplish zero cost for students; and





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Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges encourage colleges to implement a mechanism for identifying course sections that employ low-cost course materials.

Develop Statewide Recommendation for Definition of Low-Cost Course Materials

Fall 2021
Resolution Number: 03.04





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Contact: Michelle Pilati
Category: Diversity and Equity

Whereas, The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges supports efforts to increase student access to high-quality open educational resources and reduce the cost of course materials and supplies for students in course sections for which open educational resources may not be available to accomplish zero cost for students and encourages colleges to implement a mechanism for identifying course sections that employ low-cost course materials (Fall 2017, Resolution 13.01);

Whereas, Recognizing the need for an alternative to the legislated zero-cost designation (California Education Code §66406.9), some colleges and districts have implemented a low-cost designation with the definition of low-cost not being readily available or varying between less than \$30.00 to less than \$50.00;

Whereas, Efforts to mark course sections as zero-cost or low-cost should be informed by students' perspectives since the designations are intended to inform students of the financial burden of a given course section; and

Whereas, Students may register for courses at more than one college, and various definitions of low-cost at different institutions can be confusing and even misleading for students;

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges work with the Student Senate for California Community Colleges and California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office to identify a recommended definition of "low-cost" to be considered for adoption throughout the California Community College system.

