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RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the University of Mississippi is a “community of learning dedicated to nurturing excellence in intellectual inquiry” which is also committed to “good stewardship of our resources;” (Creed)

WHEREAS, the community of learning currently engages in the widespread use of textbook materials specified by instructors and purchased and used by students particularly in large introductory classes;

WHEREAS, the University of Mississippi’s Associated Student Body has undertaken an investigation of national practices, issues, and challenges in reducing textbook costs to students;

WHEREAS, the University of Mississippi’s Provost and ASB Treasurer have been instrumental in forming and participating in an Institutions of Higher Learning Textbook Task Force that has identified common interests of stakeholders at its member institutions and recommended actions to alleviate the burden of textbook costs to students in the state;

WHEREAS, the University of Mississippi’s Office of Information Technology is currently developing a web-based resource that will provide a uniform service to faculty in specifying textbooks and assist students and textbook providers in identifying course requirements in a timely manner;

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, by the Senate of the Faculty at the University of Mississippi, as representatives of the faculty, that we express our support of the IHL Task Force in their effort to:

1. Require publishers to disclose the substantive changes being made in new editions of textbooks.
2. Require publishers to disclose the suggested retail price of new editions of textbooks.
3. Require publishing companies and retailers to sell textbooks that offer accompanying bundled items in two formats, i.e. with and without a bundle.

RESOLVED, this the 9th day of October 2007.

THE SENATE OF THE FACULTY



CHAIR, University of Mississippi Senate of the Faculty