



## **Associated Student Union of Contra Costa College**

### **A Resolution in Support of Open Textbooks**

**Adopted unanimously September 10, 2020**

WHEREAS, research shows that food insecurity, housing insecurity and homelessness in Contra Costa College is exponentially higher than the state; and

WHEREAS, these factors and buying expensive textbooks fundamentally add a huge financial burden to Contra Costa College students; and

WHEREAS, add to the potential that students will either drop out, take additional loan debt, undercut their own learning by forgoing the purchase of textbooks, or in extreme scenarios have to choose books over food; and

WHEREAS, textbook publishers have not responded adequately to these concerns, but have exacerbated this problem by raising prices and unnecessarily issuing new editions of textbooks; and

WHEREAS, part of Contra Costa College's mission is to foster transformational educational experiences and responsive services that ensure effective student learning and institutional effectiveness by committing its resources using equitable, inclusive and integrated decision-making processes.

WHEREAS, open textbooks offer an affordable, comparable and flexible alternative to expensive, commercial textbooks; and

WHEREAS, students have a problem with textbook affordability and its impact on their educational success; and

WHEREAS, 'Open Educational Resources' is defined as teaching, learning and research materials in any medium – digital or otherwise – that reside in the public domain or have been released under an open license, and are free to access, use, adapt, repurpose,

revise, and redistribute at no cost and with no or limited restrictions

WHEREAS; other colleges/universities in the Country have already successfully implemented 'Open Educational Resources' and had great results

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Contra Costa College Associated Student Union supports the use of open educational resources, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Contra Costa College Associated Student Union, with the best interest of the students educational success will advocate for the development and adoption of open educational resources.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that Contra Costa College Associated Student Union encourages faculty to consider open educational resources when academically appropriate.