

**Undergraduate Student Success Committee
Textbook Affordability & Inclusive Access Update
September 10, 2018**

Wright State has been a pioneer in the implementation of an Inclusive Access approach to reduce the cost of textbook to students.

Student and faculty led efforts to develop several key strategies and initiatives over the course of the summer of 2017. Those strategies/initiatives were incorporated into a Faculty Senate resolution that charged the University with pursuing a set of synergistic approaches that, together, were expected to result in what could be a 75% reduction in annual textbook costs when fully implemented in the fall semester of 2019 with incremental savings each semester beginning in the spring semester of 2018.

The central strategy is the transition to an “inclusive access” model for course materials. In this model, students will pay a set fee (the lowest single price point available, often 50 to 70% off list and less than wholesale) for all educational resources associated with a set of courses that are part of the inclusive access program. These fees are being collected by the university’s bursar and textbooks have been waiting for the students in the campus bookstore (or available digitally through the institution’s learning management system) before the first day of class. Key aspects of an inclusive access model are the use of a professional negotiator (our campus bookstore – Barnes & Noble Education; BNED) and the adaptation of our ERP (Banner) that would allow students to opt out of the fee charged for course materials if they chose to do so.

The Wright State University’s Registrar, Bursar, AVP of Enrollment Management/Director of Financial Aid, Chief Information Officer and campus bookstore have adhered to the plan to pilot inclusive access. The following savings have been realized by our students thus far:

In the initial phase of the Inclusive Access pilot in the spring semester of 2018 a total of nine courses and 1,029 students who participated saved more than \$102,400 for an average savings of 48 percent (relative to the cost of new course materials).

An expanded pilot in the fall 2018 semester involves 40 courses impacting 120 sections and up to 6,105 students with a savings estimate of \$651,000 based on anticipated enrollment numbers for those courses.

A final phase of the pilot of Inclusive Access in the spring 2019 semester is expected to involve as many as 200 courses and the institution is on track to being at scale in regard to Inclusive Access beginning in fall 2019. Once at scale, savings to Wright State students as a result of Inclusive Access are anticipated to be between \$2 and 2.5 million every fall and spring semester going forward.

Wright State has also pioneered the implementation of a textbook auto adopt policy (<https://policy.wright.edu/policy/2025-textbook-selection>) that allows the campus bookstore to assume that if an instructor: (a) has taught a course within the past two academic years, and (b) has not identified a textbook prior to the time that students can first enroll for the same course in an upcoming semester, that the instructor will use the same textbook (including edition and format) they had used the last time they taught the course. This policy helps with compliance of The 2010 Higher Education Opportunity Act (H.R. 4137) that requires textbooks to be identified by the time that students can first register for a course. It also reduces costs by allowing the campus bookstore to keep used-book inventory on campus for re-sale the following semester. A limited initial implementation of the auto adopt policy in fall 2018 is credited with savings of approximately \$100,000 for students in 20 courses and a larger scale implementation in spring 2019 is anticipated to result in savings of approximately \$250,000 per semester going forward.