

Preferred eReader and Open Education Resource Resolution

Whereas, Wright State University is committed to increasing the affordability of higher education for its students through increased use of open educational resources (OER's) and other online course materials to reduce the cost of textbooks; and

Whereas, No law, policy or administrative action should in any way impinge upon an individual instructor's ability to choose whatever textbooks and other teaching materials they have determined to be most appropriate for the classes that they are assigned to teach; and

Whereas, The Ohio Faculty Council has resolved¹ that Registrars, Bursars, AVPs of Enrollment Management/Directors of Financial Aid, Chief Information Officers, faculty leaders, and campus bookstores at Ohio's public institutions of higher education should explore the possibility of voluntarily adopting Inclusive Access models to support increased use of online educational resources at a significantly reduced cost; and

Whereas, Wright State University has chosen to partner with Barnes & Noble to administer its campus bookstore and associated educational resources, including its Inclusive Access model

- The voluntary adoption of the Inclusive Access model by WSU faculty has already saved WSU students \$753,869 in textbook costs during the 2018-19 academic year². Estimated savings for Summer and Fall 2019 exceed \$1.2 million; and

Whereas, Barnes & Noble has identified the Yuzu platform powered by VitalSource as the preferred e-reader for its online educational resources, including those available through Inclusive Access; and

Whereas, A subset of WSU faculty from across the university have volunteered to pilot a seamless integration of the Yuzu platform within the Pilot learning management system as part of their 2019-20 academic year course offerings; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that Wright State University should consider incorporating the Yuzu platform powered by VitalSource as the preferred e-reader for its online educational resources, including a seamless integration with Pilot by Spring 2020, pending results of the faculty pilot implementations in the 2019-20 academic year; and let it further be

Resolved, that voluntary adoption of Inclusive Access models and/or increased use of OER's by WSU faculty should continue to be encouraged and supported to the greatest extent possible, including continued collaborations with the WSU Library, Barnes & Noble and OhioLink to make the availability of inclusive access course materials as transparent as possible to faculty.

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<https://www.ohiofacultyCouncil.org/sites/ohiofacultyCouncil.wright.edu/files/page/attachments/TextbookAffordabilityResolutionOFC.pdf>

² Calculated based on the difference between the cost of new textbooks compared to Inclusive Access fees.