

## **Faculty Senate Resolution**

### **Open Educational Resources**

Whereas

The University of Missouri – Kansas City Student Government Association approved by acclamation UMKC SGA Legislative Proposal SP1, “The Open Textbook Access Act,” on October 7, 2019;

Whereas

UMKC SGA’s “The Open Textbook Access Act” specifically “...calls upon members of the UMKC Faculty to embrace and adopt open textbook resources as primary textbooks in their courses.”

Whereas

Open textbooks are a form of free or cost-reduced resource that provides students and instructors with a cost-conscious alternative to expensive, traditional textbooks;

Whereas

Open textbooks available with a Creative Commons license allow faculty enhanced academic freedom to edit, combine, share and distribute educational resources tailored to curricular and classroom needs at UMKC;

Whereas

The cost of traditional textbooks represents a burdensome expense for students already facing other cost barriers to attaining educational success at the university; and

Whereas

The University of Missouri – Kansas City Textbook Affordability Survey Report, issued Spring 2019, reported that 70% of student respondents had delayed purchasing a textbook for a class, and 53% of student respondents had chosen not to purchase a required textbook, and Textbook cost was cited as a reason by the majority of those who did not purchase a required textbook;

Therefore

Be it Proclaimed by the UMKC Faculty Senate that the Senate supports the goals of “The Open Textbook Act” from UMKC Student Government Association; and

Furthermore

The Senate encourages all faculty to examine strategies to lower the cost of course materials for students, including Open Educational Resources and open textbooks, to the extent possible; and

Furthermore

The Senate encourages all faculty to report course material adoptions, whether traditional textbooks, affordable or open textbooks, to the UMKC Bookstore in a timely fashion consistent

with the requirement in Title 20 of the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, “§ 1015b. Textbook information,” thus facilitating assessment of cost savings for students;

Furthermore

The Senate encourages UMKC University Administration to provide faculty incentives, including support of faculty work in areas involving adoption of such resources.

***Approved by unanimous vote by Faculty Senate, March 3, 2020.***