

Open Source Textbook Task Force

MEETING MINUTES

Friday, September 9, 2016

1:00 p.m. in Room 1C of the LOB

Task Force Attendees:

Kevin Corcoran – Executive Director, Connecticut Distance Learning Consortium

Martha Bedard – Vice Provost for University Libraries, University of Connecticut

Christopher Clark – Professor and History Department Head, Moderator for Faculty Senate, University of Connecticut

Patricia Banach – Director of Library Services, Eastern Connecticut State University

Christon Kurker-Stewart – Academic Affairs, Office of Higher Education

James Brunt – Professor, Gateway Community College

Gregg Haddad – State Representative, 54th District

Saman Azimi – Student, University of Connecticut

Dan Barrett – Professor, Gateway Community College

Sally Reis – Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, University of Connecticut

Clara Ada Ogba – Director of Library Services, Gateway Community College

Call to Order

Motion to approve the minutes

Seconded

Minutes accepted

Martha Bedard introduce guests from Barnes and Noble and the National Association of College Stores to discuss their engagement with OER

Richard Hershman discusses role of college stores in OER

Chief Digital officer at Barnes and Noble presents on ideas to help make books more affordable

Richard Hershman opens floor to questions

Dan Barrett asks “What is the core message as how to solve the problem in Connecticut”

Hershman responds that “...the state being a convener is a good role for the state...”

Patricia Banach asks “How do profit margins work in this business”

Chris Clark asks “Would there be data that’s available from either of your systems that will monitor if the developments being discussed are having an actual influence?”

Hershman responds that companies will be actively tracking data around affordability

Martha Bedard calls presentation to a close

Sally Reis discusses stipend program at UConn

Greg Haddad discusses factors that may discourage schools from making transition to OER, and how other schools lack resources

Kevin Corcoran expresses sentiment that Babson Survey Research Group has been performing these types of surveys for almost 10 years and is a trusted name. So, using the Babson survey as base provides a strong foundation.

James Brunt says that remediation may play a role in the expense of textbooks

Professor Clark raised the question about the amount of financial aid available to students in light of the rising cost of textbooks.

Kevin Corcoran raises the question of using loan money (with interest) towards purchasing commercial textbooks.

Kevin Corcoran states that revised copy of the Babson survey is ready.

Kevin Corcoran calls meeting to close.