

# ASLMU Senate

---

## Resolution

### Open Education Resources Resolution

I. *WHEREAS the national 4-year private University average for course materials is \$1,240/year.<sup>1</sup>*

II. *WHEREAS the estimated cost at Loyola Marymount University for undergraduate books and supplies in 2019-2020 was \$1,080/ year.<sup>2</sup>*

III. *WHEREAS Loyola Marymount University is committed to increasing the diversity and inclusion of the LMU community and creating a more equitable environment as stated in President Snyder's "Beyond Words" letter<sup>3</sup> and through the Anti Racism Project<sup>4</sup>.*

IV. *WHEREAS an increase in tuition at Loyola Marymount University from \$50,252<sup>5</sup> in the 2019-2020 year to \$52,402<sup>6</sup> in the 2020-2021 academic year has caused an increased financial burden to students.*

V. *WHEREAS 68% of parents are worried about paying for college due to the economic shock of the COVID-19 pandemic and 53% say their children's education plans have changed.<sup>7</sup>*

VI. *WHEREAS the Cal State school system saved their students approximately \$36 million by enacting the aforementioned legislation through working with on-campus bookstores to offer cheaper electronic copies, faculty efforts, and students resourcefulness.<sup>8</sup>*

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://research.collegeboard.org/trends/college-pricing/figures-tables/average-estimated-undergraduate-budgets-sector-2019-20>

<sup>2</sup> <https://financialaid.lmu.edu/generalinformation/costofattendance/undergraduatecostofattendance/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://president.lmu.edu/media/letters/beyondwords/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://resources.lmu.edu/officeofinterculturalaffairs/initiativesprograms/thelmuanti-racismproject/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://bulletin.lmu.edu/content.php?catoid=12&navoid=489>

<sup>6</sup> <https://financialaid.lmu.edu/generalinformation/costofattendance/undergraduatecostofattendance/>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.cnbc.com/2020/06/16/68percent-of-parents-are-worried-about-paying-for-college-amid-covid-19.html>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.dailydemocrat.com/2019/08/28/low-cost-free-textbooks-a-goal-for-states-college-students/>

# ASLMU Senate

---

## Resolution

### Open Education Resources Resolution

VII. *WHEREAS: Federal legislators unveiled the Affordable College Textbook Act to support the creation and expanded use of open educational resources (OER). This includes establishing a grant program to support projects at colleges and universities to create and expand the use of open educational resources and strengthen price transparency so students can identify classes that use open textbooks when they register.*<sup>9</sup>

VIII. *WHEREAS The Hannon Library, under the leadership of Jamie Hazlitt and with the support of the Academic Technology Committee and the Office of the Provost, began the Open and Affordable Textbook Initiative (OATI), a program “designed to help LMU faculty identify and adopt high-quality, flexible, accessible, and low or no-cost course materials for our LMU students using OER and library resources.”*<sup>10</sup>

IX. *WHEREAS: Faculty face challenges in providing more affordable educational resources due to perceptions of quality, discovery, copyright, maintenance, time, and most importantly incentive to provide.*

X. *WHEREAS: 63% of students reported skipping buying or renting a textbook, 90% of students worried that forgoing these course materials would negatively affect their grade, 25% of students worked extra hours to pay for their textbooks + course materials, and 11% were forced to skip meals.*<sup>11</sup>

---

<sup>9</sup> <https://uspirg.org/news/usp/affordable-college-textbook-act-could-save-students-millions-pricey-books>

<sup>10</sup> <http://libguides.lmu.edu/OATI>

<sup>11</sup> <https://uspirg.org/news/usp/affordable-college-textbook-act-could-save-students-millions-pricey-books>

# ASLMU Senate

---

## Resolution

### Open Education Resources Resolution

XI. *WHEREAS: Textbook prices rose 88 percent between 2006 and 2016, about three times the rate of inflation.<sup>12</sup> Sixty-five percent of students report having skipped out on buying or renting one or more textbooks because the cost was too high<sup>13</sup>. Fourteen percent of students report they occasionally or frequently drop a course because the textbook cost is too high.<sup>14</sup>*

XII. *WHEREAS: At Kansas State University, an open textbooks program run by the library, Provost's office, and the Center for Advancement of Teaching and Learning has saved students over \$1.1 million. <sup>15</sup>*

XIII. *WHEREAS: In subjects where traditional textbooks cost \$100-\$300, switching a single classroom of 100 students to an open textbook can save students up to \$30,000. <sup>16</sup>*

XIV. *WHEREAS: At the University of Massachusetts, a program to help classes switch to open textbooks saved UMass students over \$1 million in just four years. <sup>17</sup>*

XV. *WHEREAS: Used books can save students 25-50% of traditional textbook costs, rental websites and campus bookstores can give student 60% savings, e-textbooks can save students 40-50%, and library reserves can completely eliminate the need for students to buy textbooks. <sup>18</sup>*

---

<sup>12</sup> Average Estimated Undergraduate Budgets, 2014-15," The College Board, 2014, <http://trends.collegeboard.org/college-pricing/figures-tables/average-estimated-undergraduate-budgets-2014-15>.

<sup>13</sup> "Students Have Greater Access to Textbook Information," U.S. Government Accountability Office, June 6, 2013, <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-13-368>.

<sup>14</sup> "Fixing the Broken Textbook Market," Student PIRGs, January 27, 2014, <http://www.uspirg.org/sites/pirg/files/reports/NATIONAL%20Fixing%20Broken%20Textbooks%20Report1.pdf>.

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.lib.k-state.edu/open-textbook>

<sup>16</sup> [https://encompass.eku.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1458&context=fs\\_research#:~:text=In%20subjects%20where%20traditional%20textbooks,save%20students%20up%20to%20%2430%2C000](https://encompass.eku.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1458&context=fs_research#:~:text=In%20subjects%20where%20traditional%20textbooks,save%20students%20up%20to%20%2430%2C000).

<sup>17</sup> <http://opentextbookalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/OTA-Faculty-Handout.pdf>

<sup>18</sup> [http://studentgovresources.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Open\\_Textbook\\_Alliance\\_Toolkit.pdf](http://studentgovresources.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Open_Textbook_Alliance_Toolkit.pdf)

# ASLMU Senate

---

## Resolution

### Open Education Resources Resolution

XVI. *WHEREAS: Recent research has shown that open textbooks are as effective, if not more effective, than traditionally-published course materials. Results suggest that students achieve the same or better learning outcomes when using OER while saving significant amounts of money.*<sup>19</sup>

XVII. *THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that ASLMU supports faculty members working with The Hannon Library through the Open & Affordable Textbook Initiative to reduce the economic burden on students and urges faculty members not currently working with the OATI to contact their librarian liaison and submit applications for OATI grant funding to convert courses at the individual or department level.*

XVIII. *THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that ASLMU supports the registrar designating classes/professors that meet the criteria of the Open and Affordable Textbook Initiative so students can make informed decisions for the benefit of their financial well-being.*

XIX. *THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that ASLMU encourages Loyola Marymount University administration and faculty to continue investing resources and faculty recognition of this work, and move LMU towards a model of open and affordable education in order to create a more equitable environment for all students.*



Billy Oxley (Jan 11, 2021 20:43 PST)

---

Billy Oxley  
Senator for CBA



Abby Manullang (Jan 11, 2021 14:04 PST)

---

Abby Manullang  
Senator for CFA



Gordon Duddy (Jan 11, 2021 13:05 PST)

---

Gordon Duddy  
Senator for CSE



---

Kyle Saavedra  
ASLMU Speaker of the Senate

---

<sup>19</sup> <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11423-019-09700-4>

# ASLMU Senate

---

## Resolution

### Open Education Resources Resolution

*Elsie A Mares*

Elsie A Mares (Jan 15, 2021 14:10 PST)

---

*Elsie Mares*

*ASLMU Vice President*

*Leslie Sepulveda*

Leslie Sepulveda (Jan 15, 2021 16:46 PST)

---

*Leslie Sepulveda*

*ASLMU Attorney General*