

Textbooks on Reserve Programs at Regional Campus Libraries

John Burke, Miami University Middletown
Krista McDonald, Miami University Hamilton
14th Annual AURCO Conference – April 5, 2008

The Goal:

To assist students who are unable to afford their textbooks or whose financial aid situation prevents them from making the purchases until several weeks into the semester. We are also giving all students an opportunity to make use of their required texts while on campus (i.e., to work on assignments between classes). The program can also assist students who add a course late in the semester and need the textbook in a hurry to catch up on assignments. Our intention is to make these materials for learning as widely available as possible, which is certainly a part of the library's mission.

Planning and Implementation Questions:

1. **Who could participate in the planning?**

2. **How should decisions be made throughout the process?**

3. **What criteria are used to decide on a course's inclusion in the program?**
 - a. **Nature of the course** (Miami Plan course or other introductory level course)
 - b. Significant **projected student enrollment** as determined by the number of sections offered and maximum enrollment limits in each section
 - c. Use of a **single textbook for all or most sections** offered for the course
 - d. **Nature of the texts** (only required texts will be purchased; no study guides, lab manuals, workbooks or other related materials included)
 - e. Publication of a **new edition of the text is not immediately pending**

4. **Where does the money come from to purchase textbooks and how are they procured?**

Results so far:

MU Hamilton: 56 courses with textbooks on reserve; 542 circulations since January 2007

MU Middletown: 71 courses with textbooks on reserve; 625 circulations since September 2006

Resources for more information:

Our PowerPoint presentation and handout: <http://www.users.muohio.edu/burkejj/aurco2008/>

Miami University Hamilton (www.ham.muohio.edu/library/texts_on_reserve.htm)

Miami University Middletown (www.mid.muohio.edu/library/textbooks.cfm)

Buczynski, J. A. (2006). Faculty Begin to Replace Textbooks with "Freely" Accessible Online Resources. *Internet Reference Services Quarterly*, 11(4), 169-179.

Hsieh, C.; Runner R. (2005). Textbooks, leisure reading, and the academic library. *Library collections, acquisitions & technical services*, 29(2), 192-204.

Pekow, C. (2007). Did you know? Textbooks join tuition on list of rising costs for students. *Grants for Libraries Hotline*. 7, 7.

Pollitz, J. H., & Christie, A. (2006). The high cost of textbooks: A convergence of academic libraries, campus bookstores, publishers?. *Electronic Journal of Academic and Special Librarianship*, 7. Retrieved January 28, 2007, from <http://southernlibrarianship.icaap.org/index.html>

Powell, Eileen Alt. (2007). Textbooks take bite from student budget. *Washingtonpost.com* Retrieved October 13, 2007 from <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/08/08/AR2007080801544.html>

Rosenbush, S. (2007, January 17). Web sites challenge the textbook goliaths. *BusinessWeek.com*. Retrieved January 18, 2007, from http://www.businessweek.com/technology/content/jan2007/tc20070117_348380.htm?chan=top+news_top+news+index_technology

Rube, K. (2005). *Ripoff 101: 2nd edition: how the publishing Industry's practices needlessly drive up textbook costs: A national survey of textbook prices*. State Public Interest Research Groups. Retrieved February 14, 2007, from <http://www.maketextbooksaffordable.com/newsroom.asp?id2=1561>

Krista McDonald (mcdonak@muohio.edu or 513-785-3100)

John Burke (burkejj@muohio.edu or 513-727-3293)