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# Textbook Affordability Update

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**Faculty Senate Meeting**  
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# Assumptions

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- Academic freedom remains a core principle
- Faculty care about student learning
- Faculty select materials that facilitate this

# 2017 UCF student survey results, n=1,975

% of students indicating that, due to textbook costs, they “frequently” or “occasionally”:

- 53% Did not buy the textbook
- 21% Did not register for a specific course
- 20% Took fewer courses in general
- 19% Earned poor grade due to not buying textbook
- 9% Dropped a course
- 6% Withdrew from a course

# Promise of affordable textbooks

“I really like using a free online textbook and think it made things a lot easier and a lot less financially stressful on me. Textbook cost is a huge burden on college students—the cost of a \$50 textbook pays for my groceries for a week or two, gas for a month, my entire utility bill.”

- UCF student

# Impacts of textbook affordability programs

- **Students:** better access to course materials = higher grades + increased persistence + quicker time to graduate\* = increased student performance and less debt
- **Faculty:** competitive edge + more meaningful engagement = increased student satisfaction and CIP scores.
- **Institution:** strategic planning goals related to student success + lower cost of a college education = better metrics for performance-based funding allocations and legislative compliance

\*Lumen Learning (2017). *OER impacts student success*. Retrieved from <http://lumenlearning.com/page/oer-impacts-student-success-metrics/>

# Legislative mandate

## FL Textbook Affordability Law 1004.085

- Faculty are required to submit textbook orders earlier
- Deadlines are moved up from 30 days to 45 days
- Faculty are encouraged to review content changes in editions
- Faculty are encouraged to adopt OER content
- Requires universities to submit TA reporting to the state

# Grassroots efforts: faculty, librarians, IDs

By course level, Summ 2016-Spr 2018, avg textbook cost \$94

	<b>Unique faculty</b>	<b>Sections</b>	<b>Students</b>	<b>Potential savings</b>
<b>2000</b>	9	39	3,126	\$358,214
<b>3000</b>	5	6	346	24,600
<b>4000</b>	3	4	393	25,955
<b>5000</b>	3	5	70	5,680
<b>6000</b>	9	16	371	53,886
	<b>29</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>4,306</b>	<b>\$468,335</b>

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- BOG textbook report summary
  - USF Faculty Senate involvement
  - Outstripped our capacity to meet requests
  - Next steps??