



NDSA-17-1819

A Resolution in Support of the Creation of an Icon on Campus Connection that Signifies if a Class's Required Materials are Low-Cost or No-Cost

WHEREAS, the North Dakota Student Association (NDSA) represents the voice of North Dakota's 45,000 public college and university students; and,

WHEREAS, the purpose of NDSA is to represent all students enrolled in the North Dakota University System (NDUS) and advocate on issues of higher education in support of access, affordability, quality, and the student experience; and,

WHEREAS, students often enroll in classes without knowing the cost of required textbooks and other materials; and,

WHEREAS, the expensive cost of materials can discourage students from purchasing textbooks and possibly even affect a student's academics; and,

WHEREAS, if given the information in advance, students may choose which classes they enroll in based on the price of textbooks; and,

WHEREAS, the NDUS is currently making changes to Campus Connection, the system that students use to enroll in classes; and,

WHEREAS, as part of those changes the NDUS could add a small icon indicating if a course uses low-cost or no-cost materials next to courses in the "Class Search" function of Campus Connection; and,

WHEREAS, the Core Technology Services (CTS) of the NDUS has stated that creating an indicator like this is possible; and,

WHEREAS, the ability to see if a class is low-cost or no-cost may encourage professors to begin using open educational resources (OERs), which are textbooks or educational materials that universities buy the rights to and distribute for free or at an extremely reduced price; and,

WHEREAS, the NDSA believes in making higher education affordable for students and by notifying students of which classes will cost the least and by encouraging professors to use affordable educational materials, we can lessen the financial burden of the students of North Dakota; so,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the NDSA encourages CTS and the NDUS to create an indicator on Campus Connection that would signify if a class uses low-cost or no-cost materials.