Textbooks and the Thompson Library:
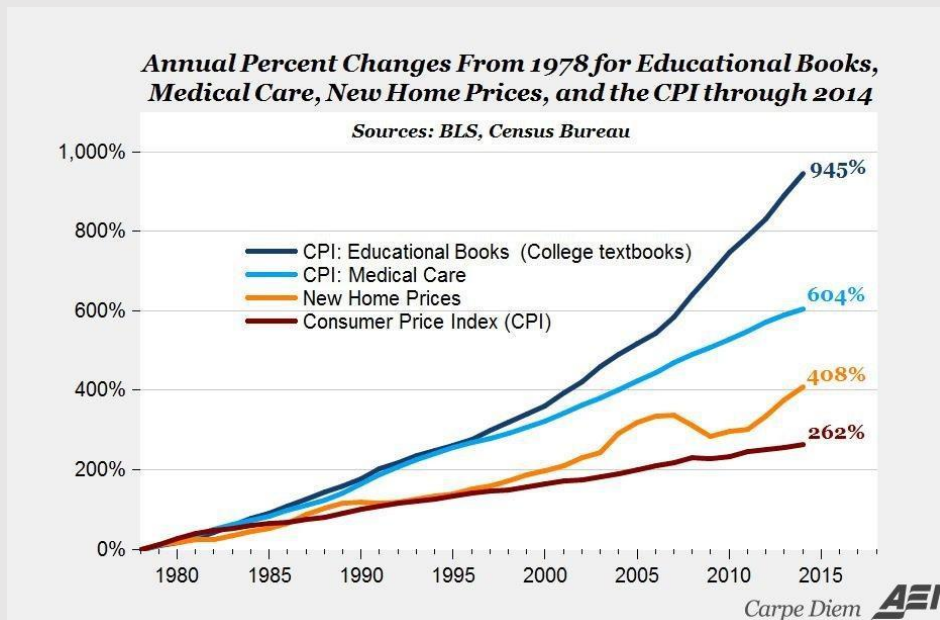## Helping increase student success by easing course cost.

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Electronic Resource Management Librarian

August 14, 2015

Textbook Pricing Overview

Textbooks comprise a large and variable amount of student expense. According to the National Association of College Stores, the trade organization that advocates for college book stores, the average cost of a textbook in 2013 was $79.[1] The College Board suggests that full-time undergraduates should budget between $1,225 and $1,328 for "Books and Supplies" in 2014-2015.[2] Student PIRGS, an advocacy organization that campaigns for textbook affordability amongst other things, states that this cost can make up "as much as 40% of tuition at a two-year community college and 13% at a four-year public institution."[3] Textbook prices have also outpaced other high-growth sectors. According to data collected by Mark J. Perry from the Consumer Price Index category "Educational Books and Supplies" textbook prices have risen by 812% since 1978.[4] Students at the University of Michigan-Flint have complained about the cost of textbooks at student forums, to library staff, and in the student newspaper ("Students losing limbs for textbook prices," *Michigan Times*, November 24, 2002. "Students discuss high cost of textbooks," *Michigan Times*, November 22, 2008. "Tired of high textbook prices?," *Michigan Times*, September 8, 2009.).

Table 1. Rise in textbook pricing since 1978

Source: Mark Perry[5]

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[1] "Higher Education Retail Market Facts & Figures," National Association of College Stores, Inc., accessed May 28, 2015, http://www.nacs.org/research/industrystatistics/higheredfactsfigures.aspx.

[2] "Average Estimated Undergraduate Budgets, 2014-2015," College Board, accessed May 28, 2015, http://trends.collegeboard.org/college-pricing/figures-tables/average-estimated-undergraduate-budgets-2014-15.

[3] Ethan Senack, *Open Textbooks: The Billion-Dollar Solution* (Washington: The Student PIRGs, 2015), 5.

[4] Mark J. Perry, "The college textbook bubble and how the "open educational resources" movement is going up against the textbook cartel," *AEIdeas*, December 24, 2012, http://www.aei.org/publication/the-college-textbook-bubble-and-how-the-open-educational-resources-movement-is-going-up-against-the-textbook-cartel/.

[5] Mark J. Perry, "The new era of the $400 college textbook, which is part of the unsustainable higher education bubble," *AEIdeas*, July 26, 2015,

Textbooks at the University of Michigan-Flint

For the Winter 2015 semester there were 858 different titles available to students totaling $81,785.62. The average price of these textbooks was $95.32. The most expensive title, *Principles of Instrumental Analysis* for Chemistry 460, costs $400.65 new.   The least expensive title, *Oedipus Rex* for English 394, costs $2.50 new. Titles with a new price over $99.99 constitute 310 titles totaling $57,816.05 with an average price of $186.50.

High textbook costs can provide a barrier to student success. If students are unable or unwilling to purchase course materials they are immediately at a disadvantage and may underperform or drop classes. In the Fall 2013 semester the University of Michigan-Flint had 3,338 undergraduate Pell Grant recipients out of 7,143 undergraduates[6] or 47% of the undergraduate student body. This would indicate that just under half of undergraduates come from low-income families or have demonstrated financial need. The university does make two scholarships available to students for the purchase of textbooks, however, one is limited to Political Science majors[7]:

> The Barnes & Noble Book Scholarship: "This award is for (1) UM-Flint Nursing Program students enrolled in the four-year degree program at the University of Michigan- Flint, (2) for students participating in Invest in Your Success, and (3) for those students experiencing financial challenges in funding textbook purchases. Financial need is a consideration in making the awards."

> Keller, David R. Book Fund: "This fund was established to assist students in purchasing textbooks for their education at University of Michigan-Flint. Applicants must be full-time undergraduate students majoring in Political Science."

Scholarships have the limitation that they are dependent on student awareness, qualification, application, and award. The Thompson Library can help ease student burden through a number of strategies: by providing textbooks on course reserve, by increasing the awareness of and facilitating access to licensed ebook content, and by increasing the awareness of and facilitating access to Open Education Resources.

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https://www.aei.org/publication/the-new-era-of-the-400-college-textbook-which-is-part-of-the-unsustainable-higher-education-bubble/.

[6] "State of Michigan Public Act 201 of 2012-Section 245," University of Michigan-Flint Institutional Analysis, accessed June 3,2015, http://www.umflint.edu/analysis/state-michigan-public-act-201-2012-section-245#pell.
[7] "UM-Flint Scholarship Summaries," University of Michigan-Flint Financial Aid Home, accessed June 3, 2015, http://www.umflint.edu/finaid/um-flint-scholarship-summaries.

The top 25 most expensive department's books (with more than 1 title) by average price are:

Table 2. Most expensive departmental textbooks by average price

	Department	Dept	New Price	Used Price	Rental New	Rental Used	Number	Average New
1	Marketing	MKT	$2,081.10	$1,560.85	$1,523.55	$927.70	8	$260.14
2	International Business	INB	$748.95	$561.70	$589.70	$322.50	3	$249.65
3	Finance	FIN	$1,990.70	$1,493.05	$1,560.50	$853.85	8	$248.84
4	Accounting	ACC	$969.45	$727.10	$704.00	$421.45	4	$242.36
5	Management	MGT	$4,036.20	$3,027.15	$3,205.10	$1,726.15	19	$212.43
6	Engineering	EGR	$2,990.70	$2,243.05	$2,149.95	$1,332.25	15	$199.38
7	Science	SCI	$383.85	$287.90	$249.50	$172.75	2	$191.93
8	French	FRN	$379.50	$284.60	$259.55	$170.80	2	$189.75
9	Business	BUS	$1,410.35	$1,057.75	$1,080.15	$623.10	8	$176.29
10	Aging	AGE	$349.00	$261.75	$265.80	$149.25	2	$174.50
11	Chemistry	CHM	$3,294.90	$2,471.25	$2,528.00	$1,485.65	19	$173.42
12	Psychology	PSY	$3,938.55	$2,953.90	$3,004.85	$1,763.25	25	$157.54
13	Mathematics	MTH	$3,760.15	$2,820.10	$2,766.45	$1,688.35	24	$156.67
14	Radiation Therapy	RTT	$458.00	$343.50	$377.40	$206.10	3	$152.67
15	Health Education	HED	$295.65	$221.75	$192.15	$133.05	2	$147.83
16	Computer Science	CSC	$1,771.10	$1,328.30	$1,325.75	$767.90	12	$147.59
17	Biology	BIO	$2,804.05	$2,103.05	$2,214.50	$1,247.95	19	$147.58
18	Computer Information Systems	CIS	$2,735.45	$2,051.60	$1,963.75	$1,222.65	19	$143.97
19	Economics	ECN	$2,873.15	$2,154.80	$2,340.95	$1,245.45	21	$136.82
20	Music	MUS	$1,444.24	$1,083.15	$1,046.25	$649.95	13	$111.10
21	Physical Geography	GEO	$768.55	$576.45	$553.85	$337.90	7	$109.79
22	Sociology	SOC	$1,171.85	$878.90	$901.15	$526.60	11	$106.53
23	Physics	PHY	$924.15	$693.15	$651.05	$415.90	9	$102.68
24	Physical Therapy	PTP	$2,458.35	$1,843.70	$1,767.95	$1,096.00	25	$98.33
25	Mathematics Education	EDM	$393.25	$295.00	$294.10	$176.95	4	$98.31

Source: University of Michigan-Flint Bookstore Winter 2015 title list[8]

The 25 most expensive books are:

Table 3. Twenty-five most expensive titles (U of Michigan-Flint, Winter 2015)

	Dept		Author	Title	ISBN	New Price	Used Price	Rental New	Rental Used
1	CHM	460	SKOOG	PRIN.OF INSTRUMENTAL ANALYSIS	9780495012016	$400.65	$300.50	$260.40	$180.30
2	BIO	432	SHERWOOD	HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY-W/20 STUDY CARDS	9781111577438	$348.95	$261.70	$279.15	$157.05
3	ECN	315	LANDSBURG	PRICE THEORY+APPLICATIONS	9781285423524	$348.65	$261.50	$226.60	$156.90
4	PHY	343	SERWAY	MODERN PHYSICS	9780534493394	$341.00	$255.75	$221.65	$153.45
5	MGT	313	ANDERSON	INTRO.TO MGMT.SCI.,REVISED-TEXT ONLY	9781111532246	$339.65	$254.75	$271.70	$152.85
6	CHM	331	PAVIA	SMALL-SCALE APPR.TO ORG.LAB.TECHNIQUES	9781439049327	$339.35	$254.50	$271.50	$152.70
7	ACC	322	KIESO	INTERMEDIATE ACCOUNTING-TEXT	9781118147290	$332.10	$249.10	$215.85	$149.45
8	MGT	489	HILL	STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT:INTEG.APPR.	9781111825843	$331.35	$248.50	$298.20	$132.55
9	MTH	374	BURDEN	NUMERICAL ANALYSIS	9780538733519	$326.65	$245.00	$261.30	$147.00
10	FIN	466	MADURA	INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL MGMT.	9781133947837	$317.00	$237.75	$206.05	$142.65
11	AUE	400	HEYWOOD	INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE FUND.	9780070286375	$313.65	$235.25	$250.90	$141.15
12	MGT	211	ANDERSON	ESSEN.OF STATISTICS F/BUS.+ECON.	9780538754576	$308.55	$231.40	$277.70	$123.40
13	MKT	330	BOONE	CONTEMP.MARKETING	9781133628460	$298.35	$223.75	$238.70	$134.25
14	ECN	202	MCEACHERN	MICROECONOMICS	9780538453714	$297.65	$223.25	$267.90	$119.05
15	FIN	361	BREALEY	FUNDAMENTALS OF CORPORATE FINANCE	9780078034640	$297.65	$223.25	$267.90	$119.05
16	ACC	320	HORNGREN	COST ACCT.-TEXT	9780132109178	$295.40	$221.55	$265.85	$118.15
17	FRN	112	HEILENMAN	VOILA! -W/3 CDS	9781428231313	$293.55	$220.15	$190.80	$132.10
18	ACC	424	LOUWERS	AUDITING+ASSURANCE SERVICES-W/CD	9781259197109	$290.35	$217.75	$188.75	$130.65
19	INB	385	HILL	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS	9780078029240	$290.35	$217.75	$261.30	$116.15
20	EGR	356	BERGMAN	INTRO.TO HEAT TRANSFER	9780470501962	$288.35	$216.25	$187.45	$129.75
21	CHM	452	VOET	FUNDAMENTALS OF BIOCHEMISTRY	9780470547847	$287.00	$215.25	$186.55	$129.15
22	MKT	338	HAWKINS	CONSUMER BEHAVIOR-W/CD	9780077645557	$285.35	$214.00	$185.50	$128.40
23	EGR	315	BUDYNAS	SHIGLEY'S MECH.ENGINEERING DESIGN	9780073398204	$285.00	$213.75	$185.25	$128.25
24	EDL	520	ALEXANDER	AMERICAN PUBLIC SCHOOL LAW	9780495910497	$284.00	$213.00	$184.60	$127.80
25	MGT	371	KRAJEWSKI	OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT	9780132807395	$280.80	$210.60	$224.65	$126.35

Source: University of Michigan-Flint Bookstore Winter 2015 title list[9]

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[9] Ibid.

The following lists the total cost for textbooks over $99.99 (new price) by department:

Table 4. Total cost for textbooks over $99.99 (new price) by department ($57,816.05 total price)

	Department	Dept	New Price	Used Price	Rental New	Rental Used	Number	Average New
1	Accounting	ACC	$917.85	$688.40	$670.45	$398.25	3	$305.95
2	Africana Studies	AFA	$190.60	$142.95	$123.90	$85.75	1	$190.60
3	Aging	AGE	$349.00	$261.75	$265.80	$149.25	2	$174.50
4	Anesthesia	ANE	$100.00	$75.00	$80.00	$45.00	1	$100.00
5	Anthropology	ANT	$480.90	$360.70	$357.75	$216.40	3	$160.30
6	Art History	ARH	$217.00	$162.75	$141.05	$97.65	1	$217.00
7	Art History	ART	$699.30	$524.50	$485.70	$314.70	4	$174.83
8	Automotive Engineering	AUE	$313.65	$235.25	$250.90	$141.15	1	$313.65
9	Biology	BIO	$2,273.45	$1,705.10	$1,811.85	$1,009.10	12	$189.45
10	Business	BUS	$1,390.45	$1,042.85	$1,065.75	$614.10	6	$231.74
11	Chemistry	CHM	$2,819.95	$2,115.05	$2,146.40	$1,276.10	13	$216.92
12	Computer Information Systems	CIS	$2,518.50	$1,888.90	$1,805.55	$1,125.00	14	$179.89
13	Communication	COM	$2,448.30	$1,836.20	$1,805.75	$1,071.10	14	$174.88
14	Criminal Justice	CRJ	$433.05	$324.80	$304.60	$194.90	3	$144.35
15	Computer Science	CSC	$1,354.75	$1,016.05	$981.50	$589.50	7	$193.54
16	Early Childhood Education	ECE	$775.20	$581.40	$585.95	$348.85	6	$129.20
17	Economics	ECN	$2,545.45	$1,909.10	$2,079.30	$1,097.85	10	$254.55
18	Elementary Education	EDE	$373.60	$280.20	$258.15	$168.15	3	$124.53
19	Education Leadership	EDL	$284.00	$213.00	$184.60	$127.80	1	$284.00
20	Mathematics Educadtion	EDM	$330.75	$248.10	$248.80	$148.85	2	$165.38
21	Education - Special Education	EDN	$414.00	$310.50	$329.35	$174.25	2	$207.00
22	Reading & Language Arts	EDR	$564.80	$423.60	$383.65	$254.15	4	$141.20
23	Engineering	EGR	$2,808.35	$2,106.30	$2,031.40	$1,250.20	13	$216.03
24	English	ENG	$803.00	$602.25	$604.45	$344.85	6	$133.83
25	Environmental Studies	ENV	$221.40	$166.05	$143.90	$99.65	1	$221.40
26	Finance	FIN	$1,990.70	$1,493.05	$1,560.50	$853.85	8	$248.84
27	French	FRN	$293.55	$220.15	$190.80	$132.10	1	$293.55
28	Physical Geography	GEO	$608.10	$456.10	$435.30	$265.65	4	$152.03
29	Health Care	HCR	$1,512.60	$1,134.45	$1,134.90	$654.35	10	$151.26
30	Health Education	HED	$210.65	$158.00	$136.90	$94.80	1	$210.65
31	History	HIS	$965.15	$723.85	$696.20	$425.35	7	$137.88
32	International Business	INB	$748.95	$561.70	$589.70	$322.50	3	$249.65
33	Management	MGT	$3,887.25	$2,915.45	$3,090.55	$1,661.35	16	$242.95
34	Marketing	MKT	$2,081.10	$1,560.85	$1,523.55	$927.70	8	$260.14
35	Mathematics	MTH	$3,162.35	$2,371.80	$2,293.65	$1,423.05	15	$210.82
36	Music	MUS	$1,144.30	$858.25	$823.10	$514.95	7	$163.47
37	Nursing Support Course	NSC	$719.00	$539.25	$553.70	$317.30	5	$143.80
38	Nursing Support Course	NUR	$2,561.45	$1,921.15	$1,870.90	$1,139.85	19	$134.81
39	Philosophy	PHL	$435.20	$326.40	$331.55	$190.65	3	$145.07
40	Public Health Science	PHS	$232.10	$174.05	$150.85	$104.45	2	$116.05
41	Physics	PHY	$503.00	$377.25	$326.95	$226.35	2	$251.50
42	Political Science	POL	$972.15	$729.15	$695.40	$437.45	7	$138.88
43	Psychology	PSY	$3,624.75	$2,718.60	$2,771.60	$1,621.95	17	$213.22
44	Physical Therapy	PTP	$1,451.15	$1,088.40	$1,024.05	$646.80	12	$120.93
45	Public Administration	PUB	$787.35	$590.50	$607.85	$341.10	4	$196.84
46	Resource Planning	RPL	$373.55	$280.20	$321.45	$168.10	2	$186.78
47	Radiation Therapy	RTT	$458.00	$343.50	$377.40	$206.10	3	$152.67
48	Substance Abuse Treatment	SAT	$347.00	$260.25	$273.05	$146.65	2	$173.50
49	Science	SCI	$383.85	$287.90	$249.50	$172.75	2	$191.93
50	Sociology	SOC	$959.60	$719.70	$722.80	$431.80	6	$159.93
51	Spanish	SPN	$417.55	$313.20	$335.85	$175.00	2	$208.78
52	Social Work	SWR	$934.65	$701.00	$607.50	$420.60	6	$155.78
53	Theatre	THE	$180.00	$135.00	$117.00	$81.00	1	$180.00
54	First Year Experience	UNV	$101.35	$76.00	$65.90	$45.60	1	$101.35
55	Women's and Gender Studies	WGS	$142.35	$106.75	$92.55	$64.05	1	$142.35

Source: University of Michigan-Flint Bookstore Winter 2015 title list[10]

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[10] Ibid.

Textbook Affordability Strategies

Textbooks on Course Reserve

Course reserves are materials selected by faculty that are made available to students for short-term loan usually within the library building. Often these are textbooks or supplemental materials such as articles or secondary texts. Some instructors place personal or desk copies of textbooks on course reserve. Other professors request that texts are ordered by the library and placed on reserve. Textbooks are traditionally not collected by academic libraries due to the frequency of edition changes and questions regarding their appropriateness for academic collections.[11] The Thompson Library's collection development policy currently does not deviate from this: the library "will not attempt to maintain a textbook collection; it is the responsibility of students to acquire their own textbooks".[12] However, the library does order textbooks if instructors or departments request them. We then place these titles on course reserve.

Some academic libraries have conducted projects to make textbooks available on course reserve in a systematic manner. In 2009 North Carolina State University made 2,000 textbooks available on course reserve using $250,000 from the library's budget[13]. They did not purchase every text but used student suggestions in selection. In 2005 the University of Illinois Undergraduate Library and Illini Union Bookstore conducted a rental pilot. The library selected textbooks from the bookstore, placed them on reserve for the needed semester, and returned them to the bookstore when the semester ended[14]. Textbooks on reserve have some limitations: checkout times are limited to 2-hour in library use only, usually only one or two copies are purchased, it can be prohibitively expensive to purchase every textbook offered for every class, and there is an increased workload on existing staff in the selection and maintenance of textbooks on course reserve.

Open Educational Resources

Open Education Resources, or OER's, are "digitized materials offered freely and openly for educators, students and self-learners to use and reuse for teaching, learning and research." [15] Per-student textbook cost can be driven down by faculty adoption of OER's as textbooks. Since these resources are free for anyone to use the student textbook cost would be zero. Their electronic format would also allow for integration into Blackboard and other course management software and could be easily delivered to distance students. The Thompson Library could facilitate the adoption of OER's by

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[11] Molly Murphy, "Textbooks on Reserve: A Case Study," *Journal of Access Services* 10, no. 3 (2013): 146, doi:10.1080/15367967.2013.795429.

[12] "Collection Development Policies," University of Michigan-Flint Thompson Library, accessed June 3, 2015, http://www.umflint.edu/library/collection-development-policies#accordion-budget-structure-and-collection-responsibilities.

[13] Molly Murphy, "Textbooks on Reserve: A Case Study," *Journal of Access Services* 10, no. 3 (2013): 147, doi:10.1080/15367967.2013.795429.

[14] Mary S. Laskowski, "The Textbook Problem: Investigating One Possible Solution," *Library Collections, Acquisitions, & Technical Services* 31, no. 3-4 (2007), 163.

[15] OECD, *Giving Knowledge for Free: The Emergence of Open Educational Resources* (Paris: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, 2007), 10.

partnering with the Thompson Center for Learning and Teaching (TCLT) to conduct seminars on their use. This would raise the awareness of these resources so that faculty can implement them. Librarians could also work with the Office of Extended Learning (OEL) to help faculty embed the texts in Blackboard. The library could also create a page on the website that serves as an Open Education Resource directory similar to Lansing Community College Library's page http://libguides.lcc.edu/oer.

A notable provider of open source textbooks is OpenStax College from Rice University https://openstaxcollege.org. They currently offer fifteen introductory textbooks for free online. Bound print versions are also offered for sale ranging between $29 and $65. The textbooks are peer-reviewed and have been adopted by faculty at a number of institutions including Michigan State University, Western Michigan University, and Northern Michigan University[16].

There is an increasing body of literature outlining OER's, their potential cost savings for students, and their impact on student learning and outcomes. There may be some reluctance on the part of instructors to adopt if they fear a perceived lack of quality of the resources or the effect of online only texts on student learning. OER's that offer print versions of texts, such as OpenStax College, may all help to eliminate that fear. OER's are the most cost-effective option since neither the institution nor the student pays for the content.

Existing ebook licenses

The library subscribes to a number of aggregated textbook packages (Ebrary, Books24x7, Springer eBooks etc.) as well as purchases individual ebooks. Faculty could adopt ebooks as textbooks from existing library collections. Instructors could also work with the library in attempting to order their textbooks as ebooks (however many textbooks are not available for purchase by libraries due to publisher restrictions).

Librarians could work with instructors (and OEL) in the selection and implementation of ebooks for their course materials. An example of this in practice is a pilot conducted by the Southern New Hampshire University. They used "existing library resources to serve as the foundational "textbook" for an introductory business course." [17] Instructors "chose to embed e-book content links into the appropriate course modules in Blackboard using persistent links and EZproxy settings to sustain on- and off-campus use." [18] The authors of the project found that the implementation was time-intensive but noted "no significant difference in grades between the pilot semester and previous iterations of the course." [19] Cost-savings were realized by the library in their preexisting subscription to the product used (Books 24x7). Embedding textbooks in course management software also provides a great opportunity for librarians to collaborate with instructors in teaching. As the authors note, "it is not so often that librarians collaborate with faculty to influence course curriculum and delivery." [20] Again, the Thompson Library could partner with the Thompson Center for Learning and Teaching to create seminars on

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[16] "Adoption List," OpenStax College, accessed August 4, 2015, https://openstaxcollege.org/pages/adoptions.

[17] Brooke Gilmore Ratto and Andy Lynch, "The Embedded Textbook: Collaborating with Faculty to Employ Library Subscription E-Books as Core Course Text," *Journal of Electronic Resources Librarianship* 24, no. 1 (2012): 1, doi:10.1080/1941126X.2012.656070.

[18] Ibid., 4.

[19] Ibid., 7.

[20] Ibid., 8.

available ebooks and their platforms. These seminars would also describe the logistics behind adopting ebooks for course use.

The J. Murrey Atkins Library at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte purchases textbooks for course adoption. They have created a [Course Adoption eBooks Database](http://library.uncc.edu/etextbooks/search) (http://library.uncc.edu/etextbooks/search) that searches existing eBook collections as well as purchased titles. Links along with pictures of the books are provided for the available titles of the current semester. Users can also search available titles for future course adoption or request titles for the library to purchase if available. The Thompson Library could create a similar resource and host it on the library web site.

Recommendations

The Thompson Library should examine textbooks on course reserve further by conducting a pilot beginning in the Fall 2015 semester and running through the end of the Winter 2016 semester. A program of selecting a limited number of textbooks and placing on course reserve will help to better understand the logistics behind and usage patterns of texts on reserve. For this pilot the library will purchase one copy of each textbook priced at over $99.99 for the Computer Science (CSC) and Computer Information Systems (CIS) departments. Anecdotally, the greatest number of reference questions by students for textbooks come from students in these disciplines. Both departments also have a large number of textbooks over $99.99 based on Winter 2015 information (7 for Computer Science and 14 for Computer Information Systems) with a high average price ($193.59 for Computer Science and $179.89 for Computer Information Systems). It has been my experience that some CSC and CIS students are graduate international students who are unaware that course materials are not included in tuition when they arrive.

If the library purchased copies of all the Winter 2015 CSC and CIS texts the cost would have been $4,506.55 for 31 titles. If the library only purchased copies over $99.99 the cost would have been $3,873.25 for 21 titles. We (the library) can budget approximately $4,000 for the Fall 2015 pilot based on these numbers. We will also need to purchase additional titles for the Winter 2016 semester as not all courses and textbooks will be duplicated. New copies should be purchased as these texts may be used extensively and we need robust copies that haven't had prior use. We should also not cut into the inventory of the campus bookstore's used items so that the more affordable texts are available for students. The processing, tracking, and returning of rented textbooks each semester would be more laborious than following our established print acquisitions procedures. Using our print acquisitions workflow would simplify processing and invoicing as Ann Arbor would be creating order records, loading catalog records, and processing invoices. We would see short-term financial expense per text but would save labor man-hours.

We will need to create a team that will work on our textbook project. Mickey Doyle (the head of circulation who liaises with the book store), Margaret Reamer (the individual who maintains the course reserve system), and I can work together on implementing course reserves. I can handle tasks that fall within the purview of technical services, such as ordering and cataloging, Margaret can maintain the course reserves records, and Mickey can obtain title lists from the bookstore and serve as a point of contact between the two departments. An evaluation committee can discuss the pilot and determine

final recommendations. This committee could consist of library director Bob Houbeck, Computer Science liaison librarian Kui-Bin Im, director of Auxiliary and Recreational Services Theresa Landis, circulation department head Mickey Doyle, and myself.

Table 5. Winter 2015 CSC & CIS textbooks over $99.99 (new price)

Dept	Course	Section	Author	Title	ISBN	New Price	Used Price	Rental New Price	Rental Used Price
CIS	128	W1	SHAFFER	MICROSOFT OFFICE 2013,FIRST COURSE-1	9781285167640	$199.00	$149.25	$129.35	$89.55
CIS	151	W1	FREUND	MICROSOFT EXCEL 2013:COMPREHENSIV	9781285168432	$171.00	$128.25	$111.15	$76.95
CIS	152	W1	PRATT	MICROSOFT ACCESS 2013:COMPREHENSI	9781285168968	$171.00	$128.25	$111.15	$76.95
CIS	173	1	BRADLEY	PROGRAMMING IN VISUAL BASIC 2010	9780073517254	$160.00	$120.00	$104.00	$72.00
CIS	230	1	GOODAIRE	DISCRETE MATHEMATICS WITH GRAPH TH	9780131679955	$177.80	$133.35	$115.55	$80.00
CIS	363	1	DEITEL	INTERNET+WORLD WIDE WEB	9780132151009	$163.70	$122.80	$106.40	$73.65
CIS	365	1	ENGLANDER	ARCHITECT.OF COMP.HARDWARE+SYST.S	9780471715429	$166.75	$125.05	$150.10	$66.70
CIS	375	1	CHILDS	C++ CLASSES+DATA STRUCTURES-W/CD	9780131580510	$182.80	$137.10	$164.50	$82.25
CIS	384	1	CORONEL	DATABASE SYSTEMS	9781285196145	$231.00	$173.25	$150.15	$103.95
CIS	510	1	LAUDON	MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS	9780133050691	$264.00	$198.00	$211.20	$118.80
CIS	550	1	SEREF	DEVEL.SPREADSHEET-BASED DECISION...	9780975914687	$102.85	$77.15	$66.85	$46.30
CIS	550	1	SHARDA	BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE+ANALYTICS	9780133050905	$251.40	$188.55	$163.40	$113.15
CIS	592	3	TAN	INTRODUCTION TO DATA MINING	9780321321367	$152.20	$114.15	$121.75	$68.50
CIS	592	4	LEDOLTER	DATA MINING+BUSINESS ANALYTICS W/R	9781118447147	$125.00	$93.75	$100.00	$56.25
CSC	335	1	PANKO	BUSINESS DATA NETWORKS+SECURITY	9780132742931	$233.20	$174.90	$209.90	$93.30
CSC	370	1	WHITMAN	PRINCIPLES OF INFO.SECURITY	9781111138219	$170.35	$127.75	$153.30	$68.15
CSC	382	1	PRESSMAN	SOFTWARE ENGINEERING:PRAC.APPR.	9780078022128	$217.65	$163.25	$141.45	$97.95
CSC	535	1	STALLINGS	DATA+COMPUTER COMMUNICATIONS	9780133506488	$177.60	$133.20	$115.45	$79.90
CSC	575	1	LEVITIN	INTRO.TO DESIGN+ANALYSIS OF ALGORIT	9780132316811	$154.40	$115.80	$100.35	$69.50
CSC	577	1	TANENBAUM	DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS:PRIN.+PARADIGM	9780132392273	$186.20	$139.65	$121.05	$83.80
CSC	582	1	RAMAKRISHNA	DATABASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	9780072465631	$215.35	$161.50	$140.00	$96.90

Source: University of Michigan-Flint Bookstore Winter 2015 title list[21]

The potential workflow for processing the Fall 2015 CSC & CIS textbooks is as follows.

1. A list of Fall 2015 textbooks is obtained from the bookstore.
2. CIS and CSC titles over $99.99 are identified.
3. These titles are searched within the library catalog to see if we already own them.
4. We order from the campus bookstore (we'll set them up as a vendor and use our normal ordering procedures).
5. Ann Arbor's print acquisitions department creates an order record and loads a catalog record in Aleph when the orders are finalized.
6. The books are physically checked in when they arrived.
7. They are then cataloged and physically processed.
8. Finally, they are placed in the library course reserve system and made available to students.

The textbooks we order should be cataloged. This speeds up the reserve processing time and allows the ordering procedure to align with our normal print acquisitions procedures. As titles become superseded by new editions old editions can move to the Thompson Library's Main Collection. It has been my experience that students will check out older editions to use as textbooks. These texts also make good introductory material for academic subjects UM-Flint offers. It takes 2-5 minutes to copy catalog a book. It takes a further 5 minutes to place a cataloged library book on course reserve which is faster than a non-cataloged non-library book.

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[21] "Textbook Pricing – Winter 2015," University of Michigan-Flint Bookstore, MS Excel File.

Many of these textbooks will see heavy use. *Business Data Networks & Security* (9th edition) on reserve for CSC 335 in the Winter 2015 semester saw 23 loans. *Business Intelligence and Analytics: Systems for Decision Support* (10th edition) had two copies on reserve for CIS 550 for the Winter 2015 semester. One copy was loaned 49 times while the other was loaned 38 times. *Developing Spreadsheet-Based Decision Support Systems: Using Excel and VBA for Excel* (2nd Edition) had two copies on reserve for CIS 550 for the Winter 2015 term. One copy was loaned 76 times and the other was loaned 63 times. Both copies needed repair during the semester as the text block was separating from the hinge on both due to heavy use. The repair process took each copy out of circulation for one day which disrupted student use. One copy is currently in need of repair as a portion of the text is again separating from the spine. If we only purchase one copy then we can foresee high-demand books seeing higher circulation which may need to be repaired multiple times during a semester.

A large expenditure of time will come with maintaining title lists between semesters. Prior to each semester titles lists will need to be obtained from the book store. Lists will need to be compared between semesters to see what needs to be purchased and placed on reserve. Titles will need to be pulled and titles will need to be added. Any books in need of repair should be identified and repaired between semesters so students are not affected by this downtime. We will need to track how often items need repair and how often items are circulated. These numbers will help influence future staffing.

Librarians will also begin tracking textbook requests. A new textbook category has been added to our reference query tracking system LibAnswers. When students ask librarians for textbooks the librarian should track these requests by always asking which course the book is for. The answer can then be entered (e.g. PSY100). This data can be collected to help make decisions for textbooks to be purchased in the future and gauge demand. It's essential that librarians are methodical in entering this information into LibAnswers as accurately as possible. Every time a student asks a librarian to check if we have a text we should always ask which class it is for as we look it up. If we are unable to purchase textbooks for every title we can make targeted purchases.

The library will be funding the 2015-2016 pilot using its print acquisitions budget. If a textbook program continues or expands additional funding will need to be secured. Ordering textbooks would exhaust the library's acquisitions budget and would not allow for expansion of its research collection and would hinder collection development cooperation with the Ann Arbor campus. Textbooks could present an opportunity for the Office of Development & Alumni Relations to reach new donors. Gifts could be made by donors who would like to purchase a textbook for the library. These gifts could be in smaller denominations ($50, $100, $250 etc.) to expand the university's donor base.

A drawback to textbooks on course reserve is that this only serves on-campus students. Our off-campus and distance learners will see no benefit. We have attempted to purchase electronic textbooks for departments (nursing, physical therapy) but oftentimes a library copy does not exist for purchase. Although an ebook may be available these are restricted by digital rights management (DRM) and are only available for use by the individual that purchases a product key. This is why it is important to further pursue Open Education Resources and ebooks as class materials.

The library should also work with the Thompson Center for Learning and Teaching in preparing seminars for teaching faculty on ebooks at course textbooks and OER's. Both arguably have more promise in lowering textbook cost for students. The methodical purchase of textbooks could prove to be

unsustainable for the library and the greater campus. Faculty adoption of OER's and licensed or purchased electronic content provides greater flexibility and greater cost savings to all parties involved. Librarians from the Library Research Instruction team can review the current literature and what other institutions are doing. Once a level of competency is obtained seminars can be given with coordination with TCLT. These librarians could support faculty who decide to pursue non-traditional textbooks. It would be beneficial to begin offering these seminars during the 2015-2016 academic year so that teaching faculty can make decisions for the following school year.

Once the Winter 2016 semester is over the course reserve pilot can be evaluated. With two semesters of information a determination to continue, discontinue, or expand the program can be made. We can also work on expanding OER and ebooks programs to support faculty learning. These options will allow the library to take a leading edge in helping to ease the financial burden on students and bolster the success of students who are struggling due to access to textbooks.