The Past is Prologue: Telling our Stories about Textbook Affordability Programs

Cindy Shirkey, Head, Collection Development, East Carolina University, shirkeyc@ecu.edu
Jeanne Hoover, Scholarly Communication Librarian, East Carolina University, hooverj@ecu.edu
Serin Anderson, Collections & Budget Coordinator, University of Washington Tacoma, serin@uw.edu
Suzan Parker, Head, Collections & Course Support Services, Univ. of Washington Bothell, sparkerz@uw.edu
East Carolina University’s Textbook Affordability Programs

**Course-Adopted Textbook Program**

Professors inform bookstore of choices

Get list from bookstore & look for any with unlimited licenses

We own some already and buy some each term

Texts can be accessed through a database

Maximum potential savings of more than 160K per term

**Alternative Textbook Program**

Provides a $1,000 stipend for faculty to switch to free and/or low cost materials

Includes library materials

A personal librarian is assigned to each faculty member for the project

To date, 29 faculty have participated in the program and over 60 faculty have applied to the program.
Textbook Use Analysis - UW Bothell 2015-16

- Reviewed circulation data for new reserve textbooks
  - 695 checkouts for 354 items.
  - 69% of the items had 0 or 1 check-out
  - Ave circulation = approx. 2 check-outs per reserve item vs 0.75 for general collection

- Average circulation for newly purchased reserve items:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>price category</th>
<th>total spent</th>
<th># items</th>
<th># check outs</th>
<th>ave circ / item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$0 - $99</td>
<td>$8,251</td>
<td>292</td>
<td>424</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100 - $199</td>
<td>$6,632</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$200+</td>
<td>$4,708</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Spring Quarter 2017 Pilot

- Small, targeted pilot with 2 programs
- Approximate spend of $3500
- Goals: evaluate workflows, costs

2017-2018 Expanded Pilot

- Expanded to all schools/programs
- Assigned texts $75 and over
- Request form for titles not included
Small Group Discussions

1 - What kind of textbook initiatives are you involved with at your institution?

2 - What’s working with your program?

3 - What interesting things have you tried that didn’t work out? And, why? (productive failure)

4 - How has the role of textbooks impacted your collection development policies and budget?

5 - How have Open (& Affordable) Educational Resources fit within your institution?