Committee on Course Materials Affordability—Annual Report 2024-25

Committee Members:

- Chene Heady (chair)
- Steven Muller
- Kat McCleskey
- Greg Mole
- Wendy Snow
- Taylor Tharpe
- Kevin Schattenkirk-Harbaugh
- Ashley Leslie, DEC
- Susan Hines, Registrar
- Carl Harvey, CAFÉ Representative
- Brent Roberts, Dean of the Library, Ex-Officio
- Amanda Alter, Bookstore Manager , Ex-Officio

Meeting Dates:

The Committee on Course Materials Affordability held three in-person meetings this year:

- October 8, 2024, from 11:00 AM-12:00 PM (with Ann Barlow from Follett)
- March 6, 2025, from 8:00-9:00 AM (with Ann Barlow from Follett)
- April 22, 2025, from 10:00-11:00 AM

Accomplishments:

- Members of the committee met with faculty from across the university to gather their concerns about the implementation of the Follett transition and the Book Bundle transition. After collecting this information, we met with Follett representatives on the dates given above to relay faculty and staff concerns and to try to work out solutions.
- Our efforts resulted in some important clarifications and concessions on Follett's part about the Book Bundle program. One clarification: our interventions brought about a public acknowledgment from Follett that faculty may assign electronic books and paper books for separate texts in the same course, which was not initially stated. One concession: since information about the Book Bundle program was posted ten days after the call for book adoptions, the textbook submission deadline was pushed back ten days.
- We arranged for Follett to train via Zoom on any faculty members who desired instruction in how to use their textbook adoption portal (10/14, 2:00-4:00).

On-going Business:

- The Fall semester will be the first under the Book Bundle program and we anticipate continuing to mediate between Follett and faculty to work out likely problems.
- We intend to review our unpublish 2022-23 Canvas page about open-access materials and discuss how it might best serve as a faculty resource.