

**Resolution 036**  
**A Resolution to Publicize the SGA Co-Op Library**  
**Sponsored by: Senator Sharpe**  
**Co-Sponsored by: Senator Crnkovich, Senator Cunningham**

***Whereas,***

The Student Government Association's Diversity and Inclusion Executive Initiative, alongside the Center for Cultural Engagement (CCE), have recently launched a campus co-op library. This program allows students to donate their no-longer-needed textbooks to a library located in the CCE. The library then rents out the textbooks to students on a first come first serve basis.

***Whereas,***

A central goal of the co-op library is to have a stockpile of high demand textbooks available for as many students as possible each semester, which hopefully would lessen the financial strain of education on students, especially students who need financial assistance.

***Whereas,***

Every course syllabus at the University includes important information about a variety of matters such as academic integrity and campus resources.

***Whereas,***

Including information about the campus co-op library on course syllabi would further publicize this library.

***Whereas,***

According to NBC's review of Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data, textbook prices have risen over three times the rate of inflation from January 1977 to June 2015, a 1,041% increase.<sup>1</sup> Textbook costs have also increased 88% between 2006 and 2016, according to the BLS report.<sup>2</sup> A reason why textbooks prices have increased so drastically is because students are captive consumers, who are required to purchase the exact textbooks they are assigned by their professor.

***Whereas,***

Catholic University is under contract with the bookstore in a way that prevents faculty from advertising ways of purchasing textbooks independent of the CUA Barnes and Noble bookstore. Since the SGA Co-Op library does not sell any books, the University and its professors are welcome to publicize this service without violating this contract.

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<sup>1</sup><https://www.nbcnews.com/feature/freshman-year/college-textbook-prices-have-risen-812-percent-1978-n399926>

<sup>2</sup><https://www.vox.com/the-goods/2019/3/6/18252322/college-textbooks-cost-expensive-pearson-cengage-mcgraw-hill>

***Be it enacted that,***

The Student Government Association Senate, acting in its official capacity as the representative of the undergraduate student body of The Catholic University of America, hereby requests that

- 1) The Provost's office mandates SGA Co-Op library information be included on every course syllabus at the University.
- 2) Professors make strides in the classroom to publicize how students can donate to and borrow from the SGA Co-Op library.

Agreed to by a vote of \_\_\_\_\_ yeas to \_\_\_\_\_ nays on this date: \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ abstaining and \_\_\_\_\_ not present.

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Abigail Anger  
*President of the Student Government Association*

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Monica Wallace  
*Vice President of the Student Government Association*

