

## **Resolution 029**

### **A Resolution to Increase Communication Surrounding Textbook Purchases**

**Sponsored By: Senator Birth**

**Co-Sponsored By: Senator Besendorfer, Senator Marsden, Senator Schlee,  
Senator Sijgers, Senator Zentz**

***Whereas,***

Professors and department administrators have access to services via the Barnes and Noble University Bookstore on Cardinal Station to give students the titles of texts in advance of the start of class, as well as the ability to email students as needed in the weeks prior to the beginning of the semester.

***Whereas,***

There are some professors who request texts that are no longer in print, or the publisher will only allow the bookstore to sell the newest edition.

***Whereas,***

There is a system in place to notify professors if their requested text is unavailable and give them an opportunity to request a different one. If there is not proper correspondence, the bookstore automatically reverts to an available edition of the text.

***Whereas,***

This current system generates miscommunication between professors and students in terms of which text should be purchased, and consequently less time to purchase the proper text.

***Whereas,***

The bookstore is constrained to selling texts at the price the publisher demands, and the set price often leaves students purchasing them from elsewhere.

***Whereas,***

There are general deadlines to be met for when professors must submit text adoptions, but in some cases they are not strongly enforced.

***Whereas,***

There is flexibility for professors to choose some of the used texts in LC classes, but problems arise when LC professors switch LC sections and the assigned texts of each section do not reflect that change in a timely manner for students.

***Whereas,***

Greater clarity in terms of what texts to buy could make returns and exchanges more accessible, thus minimizing the disruption to coursework and cost for students.

***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. Communication between the bookstore and professors in regards to text availability is prioritized to ensure that there are no discrepancies between syllabi and the bookstore.
2. Deadlines for submitting text adoptions are strictly enforced so that there is ample time for corrections as well as for students to purchase their required texts.
3. Should professors' classes be switched, particularly for LC courses, or that assigned texts change, students should be notified via email regarding which texts are causing issues, and the proposed alternative texts or solutions as soon as this decision is solidified.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gerald Sharpe  
*President of the Student Government Association*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gemma del Carmen  
*Vice President of the Student Government Association*