

**SENATE RESOLUTION
SR-F18-005**

PRIMARY AUTHOR(S)	Sarah Al-Khalili (BCOE Senator)
SECONDARY AUTHOR(S)	
SPONSOR(S)	President Pro Tempore Julian Gonzalez and CHASS Senator Alyssa Tocker
TITLE	Demand of Removal of Access Codes in all Undergraduate Courses

WHEREAS, students are required to purchase “access codes” for various courses across various disciplines;

WHEREAS, an access code is defined¹ as, “A password you use to access course content online. The content you access depends on the course, but can include things such as practice exam questions, interactive videos to help you understand course concepts, and course assignments. If your professor requires you to purchase an access code, it is because at least part of your grade will be related to and/or come from the online content;”

WHEREAS, according to Undergraduate Admissions², the average student will spend \$1400 per year on textbooks and supplies;

WHEREAS, the average cost of an access code can vary between \$60-\$120 per course;

WHEREAS, students who have to purchase access codes are put at more financial strains because access codes are not included in the yearly aggregate cost of textbooks and supplies stipulated by Undergraduate Admissions;

WHEREAS, the CNAS and BCOE students are primarily burdened with the additional costs of access codes since every CNAS and BCOE student needs to take the Physics 2 or 40, Chemistry 1 and/or the Math 10 series which all require the purchase of an access code;

WHEREAS, the requirement of purchasing an access code is not limited to the aforementioned courses and colleges, since the requirement for students to purchase access codes is at the discretion of the professor regardless of the college and course subject;

¹ <http://www.campusebookstore.com/about/AccessCodes.aspx>

² <http://admissions.ucr.edu/cost/>

WHEREAS, the students primarily affected are students from CNAS and BCOE, the cost of access codes is extremely strenuous when factoring in the costs of required lab notebooks, lab manuals, clickers, and lab coats which are necessities that students in other colleges are not required to deal with nor pay for.

WHEREAS, this requirement not only puts students at financial risk, but at learning disadvantages as well due to the fact that students are unreasonably expected to afford textbooks, supplies and additional resources required by Professors at their own discretion;

WHEREAS, without purchasing an access code students' grades are put at risk because homework makes up about 10-15% of students' grades, meaning that students must pay for parts of their grade to ensure that their learning experience is not put at risk;

WHEREAS, this is an unethical practice considering that Professors are capable of choosing whether students must pay for essential learning materials or not;

WHEREAS, this practice is not one that is uniform amongst the colleges, therefore it is financially and educationally disadvantaging certain populations on this campus without properly factoring in these unbearable costs;

Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Associated Students of UC Riverside -

- (1) Condemn all faculty who continue the use and require students to purchase access codes for their courses.
- (2) Urge the Interim Dean of Students, Ellen Whitehead; Dean of BCOE, Christopher S. Lynch; Dean of CNAS, Kathryn E. Uhrich; Dean of CHASS, Milagros Peña; Dean of the School of Business, Yunzeng Wang; Dean of GSOE, Thomas M. Smith; to condemn all faculty who engage in this unethical practice.
- (3) *Let It Be Finally Resolved*, the (Interim) Dean of Students along with the aforementioned Deans must work with the Academic Senate to ensure that Professors who require students to purchase access codes discontinue such practices and find free alternatives.

Cc: UCR Chancellor
UCR Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs
Highlander Newspaper
Interim Dean of Students
Dean of CHASS, CNAS, BCOE, School of Business, and GSOE



Andrea Cuevas

Executive Vice President

SUBMITTED ON - *November 28th, 2018*

COMMITTEE APPROVED ON - *November 28th, 2018*

VOTE COUNT - *6-0-1*

SENATE APPROVED ON - *December 5, 2018*

VOTE COUNT - *12:0:4*