

A Resolution in Support of Establishing A USGA Funded Textbook Award Program

WHEREAS the University of Alabama at Birmingham Undergraduate Student Government Association has the honor and responsibility of representing the entire undergraduate student voice; and

WHEREAS it is the duty of the USGA to lead the undergraduate student body towards positive and relevant changes; and

WHEREAS attending college is associated with a number of financial burdens including but not limited to tuition, fees, housing, textbooks, and school supplies; and

WHEREAS the financial burden of college may begin to impact areas such as academics, financial health, and mental health; and

WHEREAS every student has a right to accessible academic success; and

WHEREAS students facing financial hardship may not be able to afford their textbooks; and

WHEREAS many UAB classes require students to purchase online homework subscriptions in order to complete coursework that affects their class grade; and

WHEREAS the average university student spends more than \$1200 a year on textbooks and related course materials according to the College Board¹; and

WHEREAS 78 percent of students who do not purchase textbooks expect to perform worse in that class²; and

WHEREAS preference for the award will be given based on demonstrated financial need, determined by the Office of Student Conduct and Outreach, and awards will be allocated until the entire semester fund is utilized; and

WHEREAS the applications for the USGA Textbook Award Program will be managed by the Office of Student Conduct and Outreach in accordance with FERPA.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the UAB USGA, representing the undergraduate student population, supports the implementation of a USGA Textbook Award Program sponsored and supported by the USGA, the Office of Student Conduct and Outreach, the UAB

¹<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/whats-behind-the-soaring-cost-of-college-textbooks/>

²<https://www.chronicle.com/article/7-in-10-Students-Have-Skipped/128785>

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Bookstore, and the Office of the Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration to increase the accessibility of academic success for all students; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the UAB USGA hopes to continue this award and their partnerships in future years.

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