

This message is being sent on behalf of Jim Eustrom to Program Chairs and Resource Team.

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March 2017

We want to bring your attention to a new practice with regards to the class schedule search. Last year the Oregon legislature passed HB2871, a bill to support greater use of open educational resources in higher education across the state and *promote low cost materials from publishers*. OERs are at the heart of this legislation, but we recognize that OERs may not always be the best solution. At Chemeketa we have made great strides to make college more affordable through other avenues, such as textbook rentals and the Chemeketa Press.

HB2871 has now made it mandatory for all Oregon community colleges to note if course materials are low cost or no cost at the time of registration. HB2871 states that the community college *“shall prominently designate courses whose course materials exclusively consist of free textbooks or other low-cost or no-cost course materials. The course designation required by this section must appear in the published course descriptions that are on the Internet or are otherwise provided to students at the time of course registration.”* All Oregon community colleges have agreed that the new book price will be used to determine if the course meets the low cost criteria. ‘Low cost’ is defined as any course material that costs \$40 or less.

Low-cost or no-cost course material designations will be in place for summer term class registration. Designation is at the section level and will be displayed in class search with a symbol next to the course CRN. At this time this designation will not appear in the printed schedule.

Deans, Directors and Coordinators have been working with the Bookstore, Lean department and program faculty to create and publish a list of program authorized textbooks. This work is helping Chemeketa meet the requirements of HB2871. Additional information and guidelines regarding the authorized textbook list and related processes will be sent out in April.

Please share this information with program faculty. For additional information about HB2871 visit <https://www.oregon.gov/HigherEd/Pages/oer.aspx>.

Thank you for your support as we continue to work to improve textbook affordability for students.

Jim E