

2017-18 INSTRUCTIONALLY RELATED ACTIVITIES BUDGET REQUEST

Name of IRA Program: Textbooks on Reserve

Course Title and Number: NA

Faculty Program Director: George Wrenn

College and Department: University Library

Campus Phone: 826-3412

Email Address: glw11@humboldt.edu

1. Please describe the nature and objective of your activity and how it qualifies as an Instructionally Related Activity (IRA). Use the attached examples of evaluation criteria, reference in #3 provided by the IRA Committee.

Address the issue of how the course/activity relates to the larger curriculum (i.e. general education, majors, minors, electives). What are the students expected to learn by the end of this course activity that they did not know before? Are there any special requirements for participating in this activity? Please be as clear and concise as possible in your response.

Please also see attached memo. IRA funding is sought because the Library's book budget is insufficient to support the acquisition of textbooks. The educational benefit of the program is in the access it provides to textbooks that might be costly to purchase or rent (avg cost of a textbook purchased with IRA funds this year: \$112.15). Its importance to the University is in making a college education more affordable. The number of students benefiting directly depends upon use of the textbooks; use of acquired textbooks varies but use in 2016/17 is very good (avg 30.5 uses per title) and overall numbers of checkouts (2,318) suggests that many students take advantage of the program.

2. How does your program meet all the General Requirements listed in #2 of the IRA Funding Guidelines?

If the IRA Program no longer has a course title and number, please explain why it should still be eligible for IRA funding. The Textbooks on Reserve program acquires textbooks in support of the academic year curriculum and enrolled students. Textbooks are acquired prior to the fall and spring semesters, and made available through Library Reserve for checkout.

3. What is the instructor's level of participation in this IRA funded course and activity?

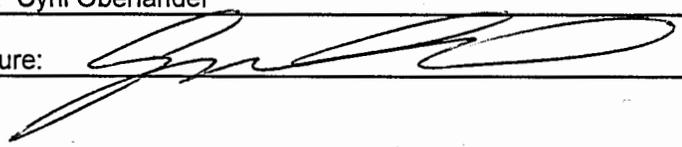
Faculty requests are considered carefully when funds are expended for textbooks.

I have reviewed this Instructionally Related Activities Budget Request in its entirety:

IRA Program Director Name: Cyril Oberlander

IRA Program Director Signature: 

Department Chair Name: Cyril Oberlander

Department Chair Signature: 

**Instructionally Related Activities
Request Spreadsheet
2017-18**

Textbooks on Reserve Program

Line Item	Identify Priority: 1 = highest priority	Category (see definitions)	Total Funds Needed	Amount Requested from IRA	Difference	Other Source of Revenue			Explanation/break down of line items; if this line item includes per diem, what is the date(s) of the events? (add attachment if necessary)	# of students directly served per year
						University / Associated Students	Fundraised	Student Contribution		
1	1		10,000		10,000				Acquisition of physical textbooks for use by students through Library Reserve	Varies
					0					
					0					
					0					
					0					
					0					
					0					
					0					
					0					
					0					
TOTALS			10,000	0	10,000	0	0	0		
TOTAL REVENUE	0									
TOTAL EXPENSE	10,000									
REVENUE OVER EXPENSE	-10,000									
2015-16 IRA Allocation	2016-17 IRA Allocation Request	Difference								
7,500	10,000	2,500								
<p>If your 2016-17 budget request is different than the current year please explain: Additional funds will allow the Library to increase the number of textbooks purchased and the number of students served.</p>										



To: Instructionally-Related Activities Committee

From: George Wrenn, Collection Development Librarian

Date: March 22, 2017

Subject: Request for IRA funding for Library Textbooks on Reserve Program

The Library's Textbooks on Reserve Program has been funded through IRA for the last two years (\$7,500 each year). We are requesting \$10,000 this year to allow the Library to continue this popular program for a third year and increase the number of students and courses served.

Rationale for the Program

Dean Cyril Oberlander noted in an email to library staff in September 2016:

During fall 2015, a small survey of HSU students (n=309) found that 65% of students did not buy a required textbook at times because of its cost, and as we know from a [2014 study](#)¹ of 2,039 students from 150 university campuses across the county; 94% of students who didn't purchase their textbook were concerned it would hurt their grade in a course, and nearly half said the cost of textbooks impacted how many/which classes they took each semester. Of our HSU students surveyed, almost 23% of students did not take a class or dropped a course because of textbook costs.

The Library's Textbooks on Reserve Program was created to provide students with free access to physical textbooks, allowing them to save on the cost of their education. It provides textbooks for a variety of courses taught in CNRS, CAHSS and CPS, and makes it possible for many students to attend classes they might otherwise be unable to afford.

Evidence of Success

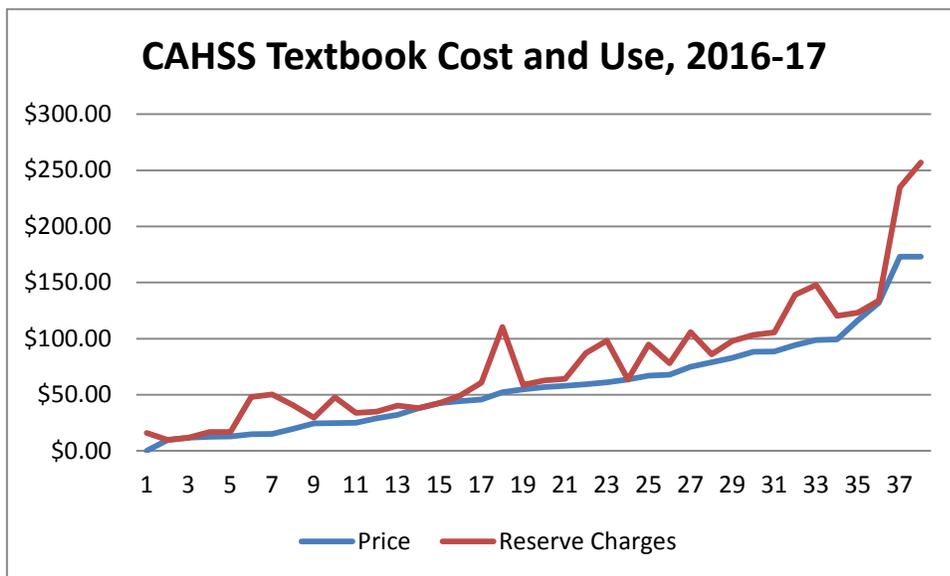
Students make very heavy use of course materials in the Reserve Collection. Overall Reserve circulation (of IRA-funded, non IRA-funded and donated or loaned materials) is 21,849 through February of the 2016/17 fiscal year. Reserve circulation exceeds the circulation of materials in the main library collection. IRA-funded textbooks are in high demand. To date in 2016/2017, average IRA-funded textbook use (30.5 uses per title) exceeds the average use of all items on Reserve (18.11 uses per title).²

¹ Senack, Ethan. "Fixing the Broken Textbook Market: How Students Respond to High Textbook Costs and Demand Alternatives." (2014). US Public Interest Research Group, retrieved from <http://www.uspirg.org/>.

² Statistics on overall Reserve circulation are two weeks behind IRA-funded textbook circulation.

	IRA-Funded Items on Reserve	All Items on Reserve	Main Collection
Number of Items (as of March 21)	76	1,206	455,283
Count of Charges	2,318 (July 2016-March 17, 2017)	21,849 (July 2016-Feb. 2017)	20,098
Cost Per Use (\$7,500 allocation)	\$3.23	NA	NA

Library circulation data shows that demand for IRA-funded textbooks is largely driven by cost. The higher the cost, the more frequently a textbook is checked out. For example, in The College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, IRA textbook use increases as cost goes up:



Highly-used textbooks for 2016/17 include:

Title	Cost	Uses
Environmental Hydrology / Andrew Ward	\$119.50	256
Earth : portrait of a planet / Stephen Marshak	119.95	206
Cell : a molecular approach / Geoffrey M. Cooper, Robert E. Hausman	\$136.00	197
Business, government, and society : a managerial perspective : text and cases / John F. Steiner, George A. Steiner.	\$203.36	120

Principles of finance with Excel / Simon Benninga	\$90.53	99
Hotei encyclopedia of Japanese woodblock prints / Amy Reigle Newland, editor	\$172.98	84
Brock biology of microorganisms / Michael T. Madigan ; John M. Martinko ; Kelly S. Bender ; Daniel H. Buckley ; David A. Stahl	\$154.49	81

The Library also has direct feedback from students, gathered in March 2017, regarding the Textbooks on Reserve Program. Their responses are overwhelmingly positive. Please see the attached: Student Voices.

Textbook Selection and Outreach

Criteria used to select textbooks for reserve include cost and course enrollment. Courses with high-cost textbooks and high enrollment are prioritized. The Library's textbook acquisitions represent a tiny fraction of the titles offered each semester through the Bookstore. Textbook purchasing easily could consume the limited funds budgeted for purchasing physical material in other library collections. New editions of textbooks sometimes are issued on an annual basis, adding to the cost of maintaining a current textbook collection.

Faculty requests are also considered when purchasing textbooks, although the Library receives more requests than it can fill. Library outreach efforts have been successful in soliciting faculty suggestions for purchase and donations of materials. Unfortunately, the Library is unable meet current demand and expects demand to increase as the Program becomes more widely known.

Conclusion

The Library wants all students to have access to the textbooks they need, and for many that means Textbooks on Reserve. With the funding provided through Instructionally-Related Activities, we will continue a well-received program that contributes to academic success by lowering the cost of an HSU education.

HSU Student Voices: written comments received in March 2017 thanks to Access Services:

“Using textbooks on reserve has actually pushed me to study more efficiently, since I only have the book for 2 hours. I plan my homework and time accordingly and it works out well! It is hard sometimes, since I’d rather be in the comfort of my own home doing readings or assignments, but being at the Library so often & for so many hours at a time studying has improved my understandings of the course more so than if I was rent/own the book. With the extra \$\$, I have more left in savings to pay my rent/tuition/grocery bill! This experience has motivated me to be a better learner.”

Adriana Valentin Psychology Junior

“This is the first semester in my college experience in which I decided to not rent or buy books for my classes due to lack of money. I live on campus, so I thought I’d just have to go to the Library and use the books on reserve. This was a great decision because of two reasons 1) I saved over \$300 by choosing not to rent/buy books and 2) It motivates me to come to the Library more often to get my work done. I learn the material better when I study in the quiet zones in the Library, but I almost never made myself go to the Library because I had my books at home so I rarely found a reason to go. But now now that I use the books on reserve more often and spend more time in the Library, I’ve even noticed that my grades have improved. I’d definitely keep using the books on reserve for the remainder of my college career.”

Anonymous - Psychology Junior

“We need more books on reserve! Having books that pertain to the classes we’re taking has been very beneficial in my experience. Whenever I checkout a book on reserve, I’m forced to stay at the Library to get my work done within the time allocated. This has allowed me to get my work done at school, and maintain my academic success. Also, it saves me a lot of money.”

Janay Lee - Communication Senior

“RESERVE TEXTBOOKS ARE LIFE!!! Being a science major sucks when it comes to textbooks. Mostly each class has a required textbook that is worth \$100 or more. I enjoy having reserve books because I save money, my backpack is lighter and life is just easier! Also having reserves in the Library is beneficial especially when I forget my textbooks.

Sineva Hosea - Cell/Molec. Biology Junior

“I’m very thrifty when it comes to buying textbooks. If I can’t rent or buy them used off of Craigslist/used bookstore, I usually just go without. The only reason I’ve been able to pass classes w/o buying the textbook is with the Library reserve copies. They are a lifesaver & very convenient. It’s also nice not having to carry around huge textbooks on my back all day. Thanks!”

Anonymous Geology Junior

"This program has gotten me through college without it I would probably not have the good grades I do, or the scholarships I got because of those good grades."

Anonymous Sophomore

"I was able to do my homework! Two semesters ago, I was taking a Dance class and during that time I was under a lot of financial pressure, so I had to save every penny and reserve textbooks helped me! The required text was on reserve."

Mario Sanchez

"Textbooks on reserve made it far easier to find the books we needed for our group project. We appreciated the ease-of-use and it made it easy for us to get our project done and find relevant information."

Anonymous Freshman

"Textbooks on Reserve saved me \$300 on a book I've only had to use once. Thank you."

Anonymous -
Wildlife Junior

"This program is both invaluable & efficient. Thank you for your help, if it came down to it, I would contribute to crowdsourcing for textbooks."

Seth Pate - Economics Senior

"Having textbooks on reserve saved me \$240 on one book this semester. Thank You."

Anonymous - Wildlife Freshman

"The reserve system is awesome. It helps students save money they might need for food or rent while reducing paper usage and preventing even more money from going to publishers that exploit us. Please continue this program."

Anonymous - English Junior

"The Reserve program helped me avoid paying for books and afford rent. I literally use it all day everyday."

Amanda - Psychology Junior

"I am a student who focuses on-campus more and having books on reserve is so convenient, so I don't have to carry a lot of books to school. Also helps me save some money and use that money for food."

Nancy Charro - ERE Senior

"Buying textbooks for science or math classes is outrageous. I am asked to buy two or three just for STEM classes a semester, and they are impossible to pay for. Using Textbooks on Reserve has saved me on many occasions."

Anonymous - Zoology/Applied Math Sophomore

"I walk to school everyday to save money and stay healthy. Textbooks on reserve mean I don't have to ruin my back."

Anonymous - Biochemistry Junior

"This program saved me so much money! I can't remember the last time I purchased a textbook for school. Using textbooks on reserve is a great resource that the Library provides."

Anonymous - Child Development Senior

"Textbooks on Reserve are nice because I don't have to carry the textbook too and from school. They also make it easier because sometimes I have a different edition or book than the one my professor wants me to have so I can easily do the readings assigned. I'm also a science major and science textbooks can be very expensive so it helps to not have to buy every textbook for every class."

Isadora Mack -Biology Senior

"Reserve textbooks make a HUGE difference to me as a student. It saves me literally hundreds of dollars a year for books I often have no interest or purpose keeping or using more than a few times. It also helps me on those days I forgot a book at home or can't carry them all at once, It had made a very significant difference on my financial status & lifestyle as a student who relies on financial aid."

Rosa Hernandez - LSEE Senior

"Books are incredibly expensive & with the rising tuition I definitely will not be able to afford them (I can't even with the tuition as it is). I come to the Library every day to use textbooks on reserve,"

Anonymous - Physics Junior

"I cannot afford to buy textbooks for the past two years. I check out books from reserve for my classwork."

Anonymous - Sociology Senior

"By having different textbooks on reserve I'm able to save a lot of money. I'm already paying a lot in tuition, I don't want to spend more on textbooks."

Jennifer Zaria - Business Junior

Yes, we need books on reserve! Poor college kids need all the help they can get!"

Spencer Riffle Senior

"I really enjoy textbooks on reserve because they save me money, and they make coming to the library easier and more accessible for underprivileged students."

Ashley Salgads Biology Junior

"Coming from a hispanic background, it's hard to ask or buy books for classes. I don't ask my parents to help me because I understand it's not easy so I push myself to work and even with that - I don't have enough money to afford all the textbooks I need for class. The textbook on reserve helps a lot!!! I'm always in the library checking out the books I need. It's sooooo helpful!!! It would be nice if we were able to reserve more books because I know sometimes I had to wait for a specific book to be checked back in. It will help a lot and awesome if the library carried more books for students who can't afford the textbooks they need."

Jenny Trujillo Sophomore Zoology

"It makes it easier to study while away from home, since books can be heavy to lug around campus and makes spontaneous studying a lot easier. I couldn't buy a textbook, since they are super expensive, which is a problem on its own, but it was very difficult to be able to do my assignments on my own since I would have to be with friends and peers who had the book, and it would be rather easy to get distracted."

Anonymous Junior Social Work

"This is the first semester I haven't bought textbooks and primarily using books on reserve. I fully support this movement. I am poor and have to eat beans."

Anonymous Junior Ecology

"A big difference because I am poor and can't afford anything... when it is on reserve, it helps me out a lot."

Anonymous Junior Ecology

"Reserving books is very useful and has affected my education in a very positive way, when the book is too expensive, it helps to know that I can borrow it from my school's library."

Anonymous Senior Music

"I get to do my homework at the Library and don't spend as much money on the book."

Maria Perez - Computer Science Junior

"My books are heavy. Reserve books minimize my daily burden."

Tony S. Physics Senior

"It makes packing for school much easier knowing the textbook is available at the Library."

Anonymous - Psychology Senior

"Reserve books help a lot. Many books are heavy and even if I have a copy at home, it's very helpful to have one on reserve at school. Makes studying easier and accessible reserves books are a much needed resource."

Anonymous Psychology / Mathematics Senior

"Who wants to spend a lot of money on books when you can save that much by using the Library?"

Christian Hernandez - Env. Science Junior

"I signed up late for a class and for the first few weeks didn't have a textbook, which was very annoying - and the Library didn't have a reserve book either. Please get reserve books! Thanks."

Anonymous - Botony Junior

"Digitize/Thumb-drive all text books."

Anonymous

Having books on reserve has saved my family and I the burden of having to come up with extra funds to buy textbooks. I have been able to pay for food or tuition

Sabina Coronado-Biology Senior

I have saved so much money by being able to reserve books instead of purchase them: Especially for classes that just have one chapter a week! I am so grateful that a few of my teachers have donated personal copies for their students to use. Book sharing for the money saving, sustainable student.

Casey Park-Wildlife Biology Senior

College Textbooks are expensive and a majority of the time we do not use it. Therefore textbooks on reserve help so much and also so we do not carry around books that hurt our backs.

Emily-Marine Biology Junior

It is amazing how the school has textbooks on reserve. We all know about the rising costs of college and reserve textbooks is wonderful to keep the cost of my education down.

Jean Reynolds-Environmental Science Junior

As a student that pays for his education like several others, books can be expensive. When it comes to food or rent vs. a textbook, I am going with living standards. So, textbooks on reserve are an extreme necessity for me. It allows me to save some money and be forced to use resources like the library for my education

Thomas Dominguez-Criminal Justice Senior