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Textbook and Course Materials Cost Impacts on University of Northern Colorado Students Survey Questions

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Open Education Leadership Program 2017-18

OER Survey Instruments

Submitted by: Jen Mayer

5/11/18

Textbook and Course Materials: Costs and Impacts on Students at the University of Northern Colorado

Jen Mayer, Head of Library Research Services, University of Northern Colorado Libraries, 2018

OER Survey cover sheet

Dear UNC student:

I am asking for your participation in a study investigating the amount of money you spent on textbooks and course materials and how the cost of textbooks and course materials impacts you. The purpose of this study is to gain UNC student insights on this issue.

This survey is voluntary and participation will be considered as consent. No personally identifying questions will be asked within the survey. You may choose not to participate, and you may withdraw at any time. In addition, you may choose not to answer any questions with which you are not comfortable. There are no known risks nor any direct benefits for participation, and there is no penalty for choosing not to complete the survey. Anonymous results are expected to be disseminated professionally and publicly in the form of presentations, a report, and a peer-reviewed journal article.

Your participation should take approximately 10 minutes.

Follow the link to the survey here: url

All data collected will be handled ethically and the survey has Institutional Review Board approval by the University of Northern Colorado. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this study, please contact jennifer.mayer@unco.edu

Thank you for your input,

Jen Mayer, MLIS, MA, Head of Library Research Services, UNC Libraries

Student OER survey questions

Q1 How much did your textbooks cost (in US dollars) for the spring 2018 semester?

A1: 0-100; 101-200; 201-300; 301-400; 401-500; 501-600; 601 or more

Q2 What percentage of your textbook costs were covered by financial aid during the spring 2018 semester?

A2: Do not receive financial aid; covered no textbook costs; covered all textbook costs; covered less than 25% of textbook costs; covered 26-50% of textbook costs; covered 51-75% of textbook costs; covered 76-99% of textbook costs

Q3 Excluding textbooks, how much did you spend in US dollars on required course materials for the spring 2018 semester (handbooks, guides, course packets, and other print or digital learning materials?)

A3: 0-100; 101-200; 201-300; 301-400; 401-500; 501-600; 601 or more

Q4 What measures have you taken to reduce your required textbook costs?

A4 I do not attempt to reduce textbook costs; Buy used copies from the campus bookstore; Buy books from a source other than the campus bookstore; rent digital textbooks; Buy lifetime access to a digital version of a textbook; Rent only the digital textbook chapters needed for the course; Rent printed textbooks; Use a copy from the campus library; Share books with classmates; Sell used books; Did not buy some or all of my textbooks

Q5 In your academic career, has the cost of required textbooks caused you to:

A5 Take fewer courses; not register for a specific course; drop a course; withdraw from a course; earn a poor grade because I could not afford to buy the textbook; fail a course because I could not afford to buy the textbook; Other (please describe)

Q6 Indicate your level of agreement with the following statement: "Textbook costs have become a serious affordability barrier to me as a University of Northern Colorado student."

A6 Completely agree; Somewhat agree; Neutral; Somewhat disagree; Completely disagree (Spilovoy)

Q7 What degree are you seeking?

A7 Bachelor's, Master's, Doctorate, Other (please specify)

Q8 What is your class ranking?

A8 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior, Master's student, Doctoral student, Other (please specify)

Q9 What is your major area of study?

A9 Behavioral Sciences, Business, Education, Health Sciences, Humanities, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences, Visual and Performing Arts, Other (please describe)

Q10 Please share any additional comments on the cost of textbooks here (optional):

A10 Open textbox

Survey questions adopted from:

[Florida Virtual Campus. \(2016\). 2016 Florida Student Textbook & Course Materials Survey. Tallahassee, FL](#)

Spilovoy, T. (2017). WCET Open Educational Resources in Colorado

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