

OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES AND LOW-COST TEXTBOOKS: EQUITABLE ALTERNATIVES FOR STUDENTS



An Open Educational Resource:

1. Is no-cost and

Low-Cost textbooks:

**Both our local Senate
and the ASCCC call for
identification of course**

Advantages of Low-Cost textbooks:

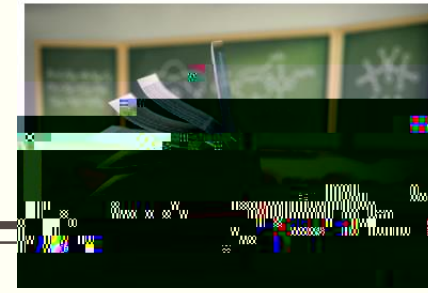
Low-Cost textbooks are often accessible;

Low-Cost textbooks can be less expensive than printing OER materials;

The Low-Cost textbook model is self-sustaining and does not have to rely on rounds of grant funding. The financial incentive affects updates of Low-Cost materials as well.



Challenges to overcome:



High textbook costs create barriers to education for our student demographic, which is inequitable;

Hartnell College is not in strict compliance with state and federal laws regarding the publication of textbook costs in the online schedule;

The bookstore (Follett) is profit motivated and this creates issues with textbook co

A screenshot of a student information system interface. The title bar reads "SEARCHABLE STUDENT INFORMATION". Below the title bar, there is a search bar with "18,135 Students" and a "Go" button. The main content area displays a table of demographic data. The table has columns for race/ethnicity, gender, age, and other categories. The data is presented in a grid format with percentages and counts. The "Age" column is highlighted in blue.

Race/Ethnicity	Percentage	Gender	Age Group	Percentage
African American	2.2%	Female	Less than 20 years old	45.0%
American Indian/Alaska Native	0.4%	Male	20 to 24 years old	54.7%
Asian	2.6%	Unknown	25 to 29 years old	0.3%
Hispanic	2.7%	Age	30 to 34 years old	24.3%
White	60.1%	Less than 20 years old	35 to 39 years old	28.9%
Two or more Races	1.6%	20 to 24 years old	40 or more years old	2.5%
Unknown	0.1%	Unknown	Unknown	5.6%

OER and Low-Cost resources support equity for students:

Statistical analysis reveals that textbook prices are a significant educational barrier for all students, with a **disproportionately negative effect** among racial/ethnic minorities, low-income students, and first-generation college students.

It is **Hartnell College's responsibility** to remove any unnecessary financial barriers to academic success, and to

Data for race, low-income and first gen comparisons:



Student survey results, 161 responses (2022):

31.4% of students pay \$200 for textbooks each semester, and 82.6% also have to purchase a textbook supplement;

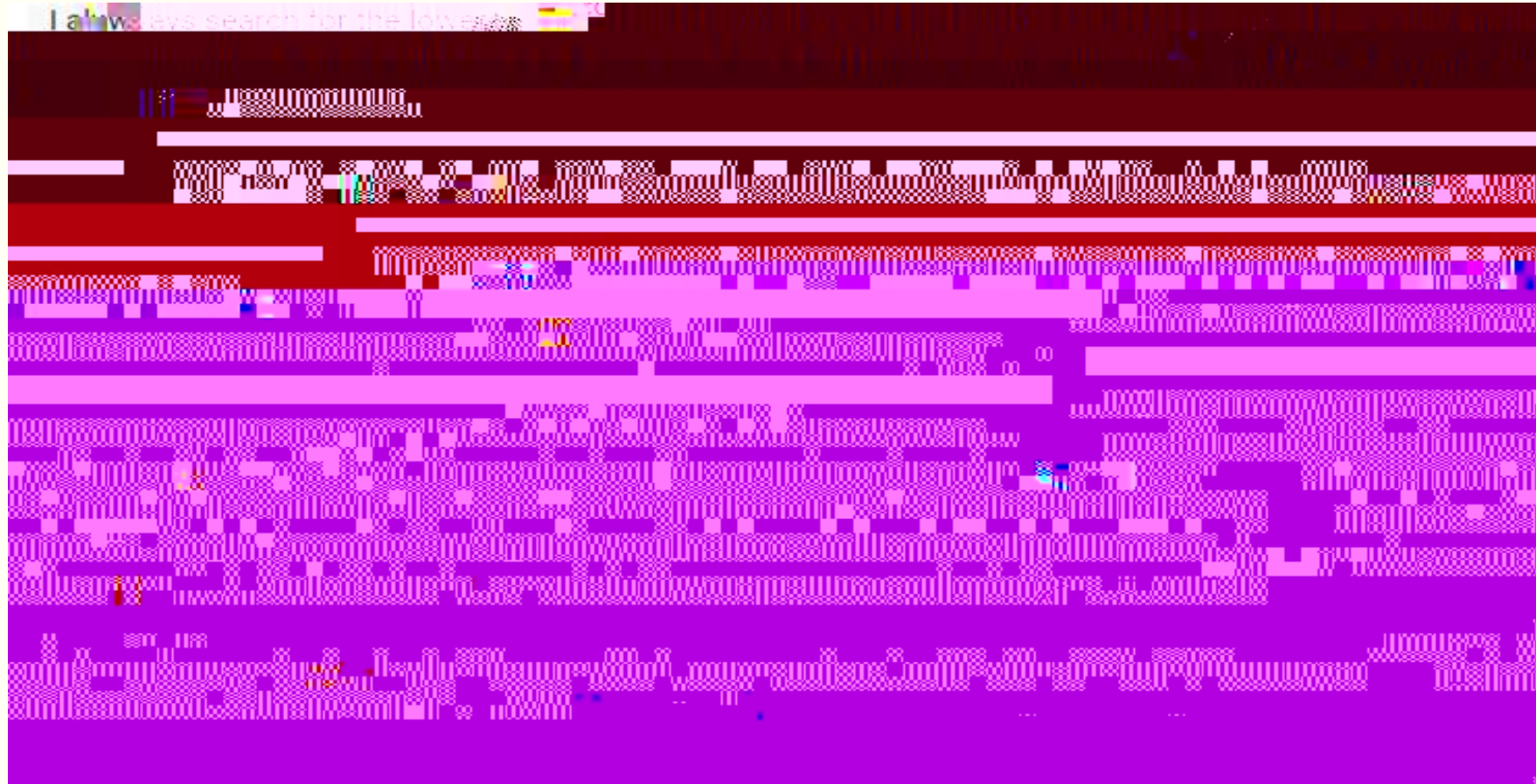
29.8% of students have dropped a class because they could not afford the textbooks;

41.6% of students have avoided carrying a full load (12 units) because they could not afford the textbooks;

96.3% would choose a course that adopted a free or Low-Cost textbook over a course that did not;

64% of students say it is **not easy** to find courses that adopted free or Low-Cost textbooks in the online course schedule.

Student survey comments:



Faculty Affordable Textbook Adoptions Survey Data (Disaggregated)

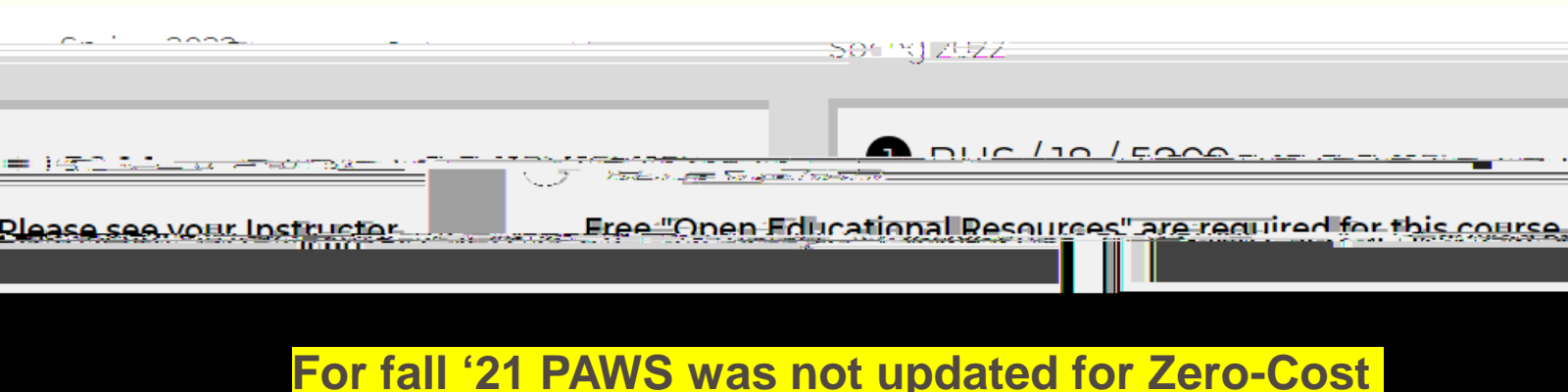
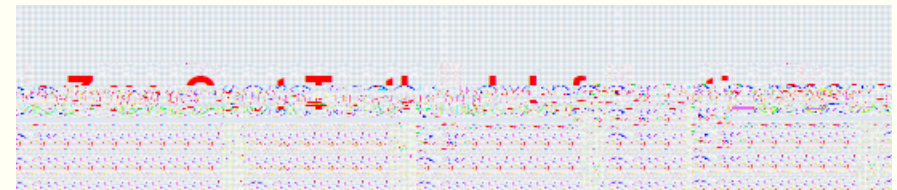
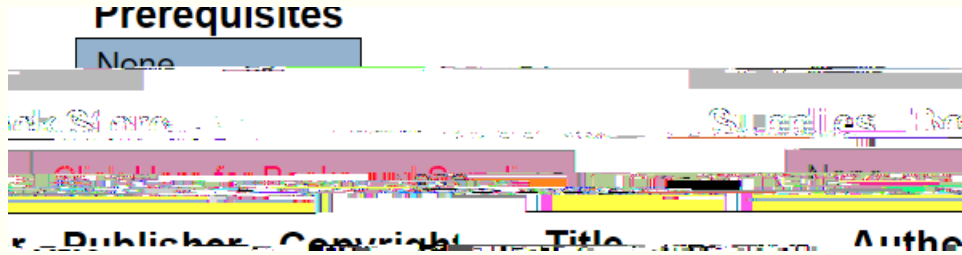
1. ADJ \$513,181
2. BUS \$408,400
3. MAT: \$186,555
4. BIO \$66,575
5. EGN \$40,600
6. COM \$33,486
7. ECE \$33,000
8. MUS: \$21,600
9. PSY: \$17,850
10. HIS: \$16,640
11. ART \$12,600
12. ENG \$2,500

\$1,352,987.00!!

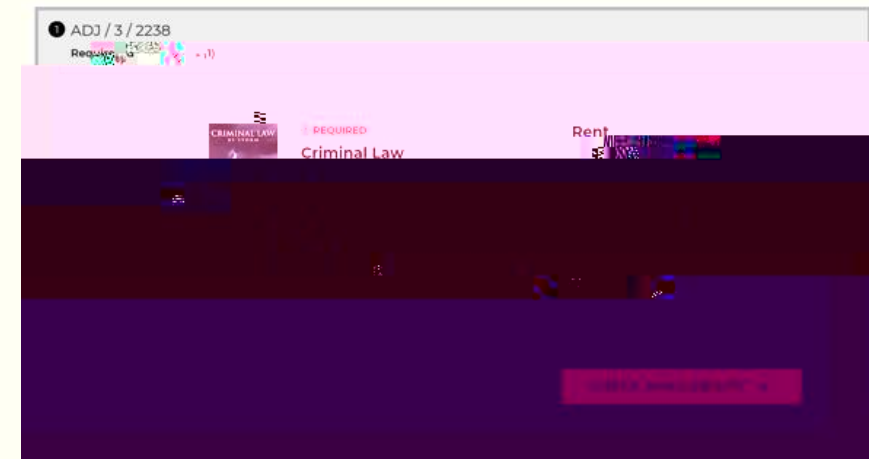
Current situation with PAWS and ZTC/Low-Cost sections:

PAWS ZTC:

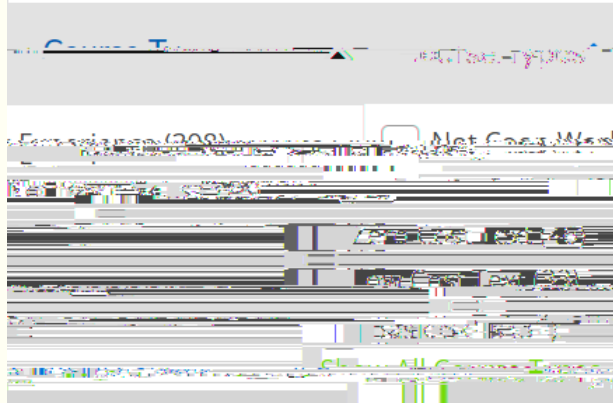
This ZTC list is dated spring '20



For fall '21 PAWS was not updated for Zero-Cost textbooks



Current situation with PAWS self-service and ZTC/LCT sections:



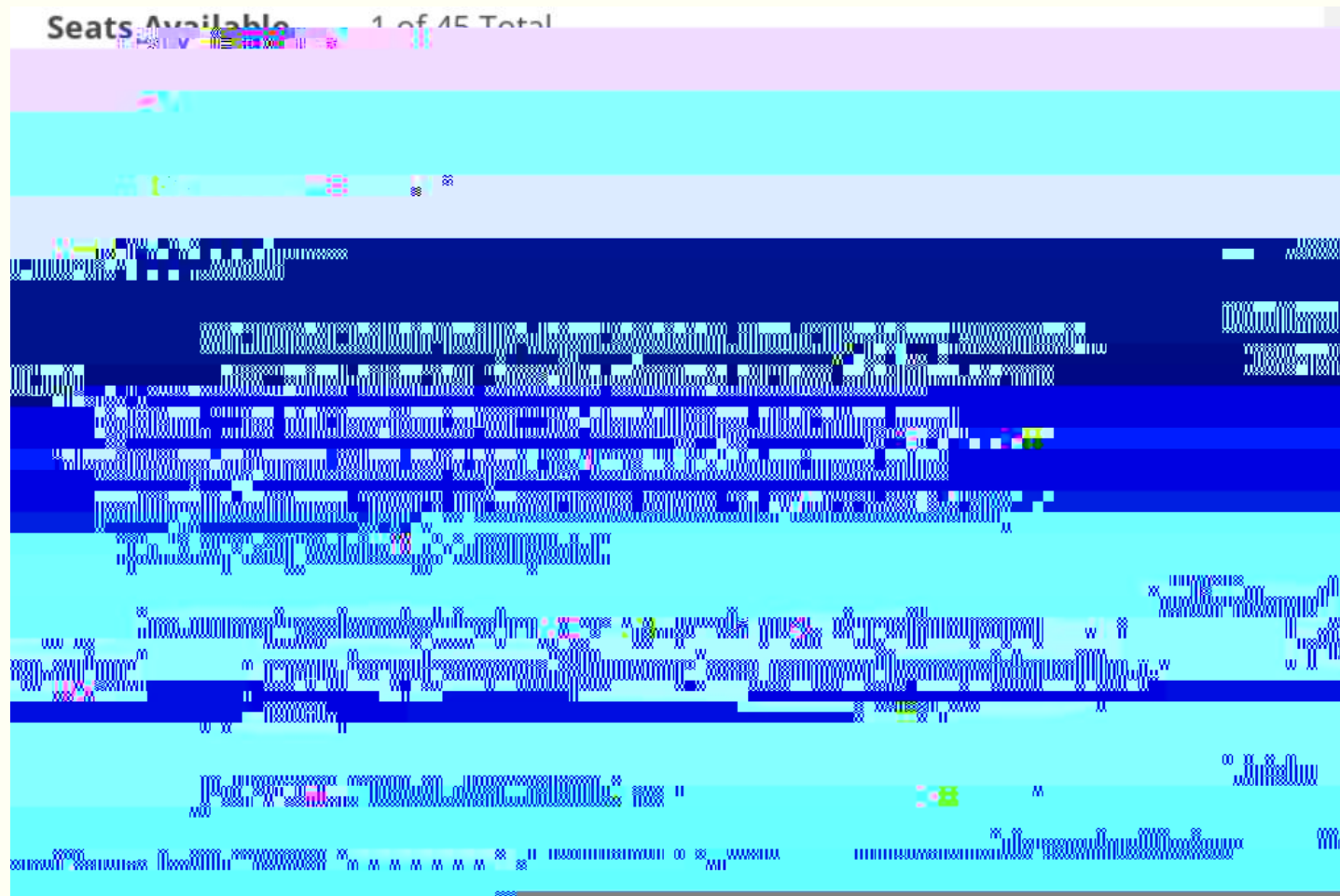
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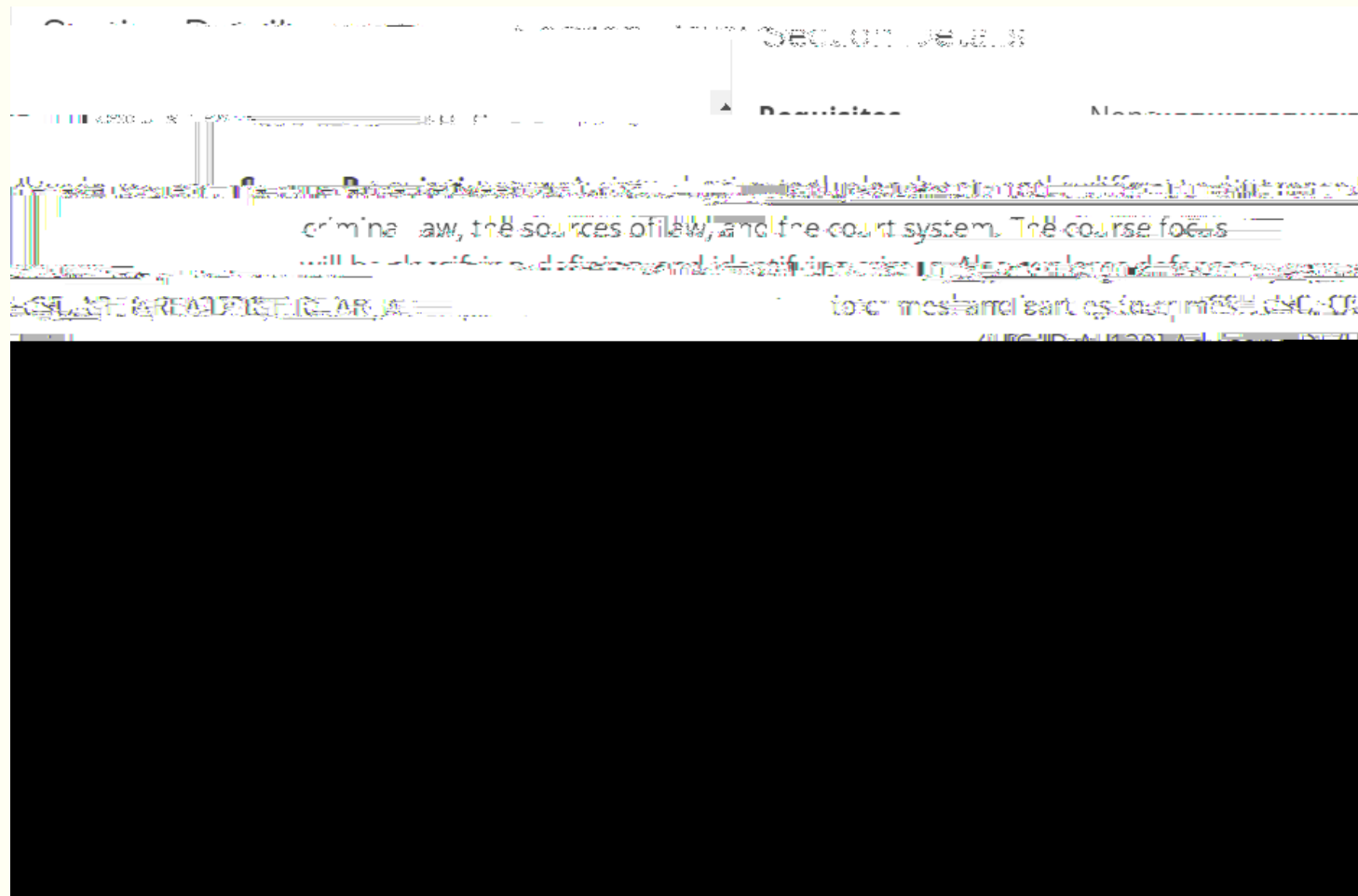
View Available Sections for BUS 19

Section	Location	Textbook	Meeting	Days	Time
2022 - 5/21/2022	Distance Education, Internet INT	Legal Environment of Business	Storm, L		0 1/24/
	Dist-Ed Lecture: Asynchronous				

Herbert Cortez helped fix PAWS self-service to designate course sections that have adopted Low-Cost textbooks:



PAWS Self-Service does not comply with federal law requiring textbook costs to be disclosed in the online course schedule:



Suggested improvements to planning process (Deans/ITR):

1. Add a line to the scheduling spreadsheet for textbook adoption, either ZTC or Low-Cost;
2. Allow faculty to “opt out” of designated ZTC or Low-Cost textbook adoption instead of having to “opt in” every semester;
3. Bookstore database created.



Bookstore issues:

Federal updates:

House and Senate lawmakers have reintroduced the [Affordable College Textbook Act](#), a bill to expand the use and awareness of open educational resources at college and university campuses. Congress also approved the long-awaited fiscal year 2022 spending package, which includes \$11 million in new funding for the [Open Textbook Pilot](#) grant program.



Governor Newsom has made \$115 million available to support lowering textbook costs for students:

ASCCC keeps a track of colleges that are not in compliance with existing legislation. There are many that will be made available to...
...change the...
...and laws relating to textbooks and materials fees. At a minimum, this would mean...
...regarding...
...California's law...



Resolution 21-3 (approved 12/14/21):

Ensures academic freedom in textbook adoption;

Supports faculty adoption of lower-cost textbooks and resources;

Insists on designation in the online schedule of Zero-Cost and Low-Cost adoptions;

Voices approbation of the development of both ZTC and Low-Cost Degrees and Certificates.



2021 ASCCC resolutions relating to OER/LCT:

A resolution is the opinion of the State or Local Senate;

Develop Statewide Recommendation for Definition of Low-Cost Course MaterialsFall 2021;
Resolution Number 3.04

Zero Means Zero Textbook CostFall 2021; Resolution Number 3.05

System-Level Zero-Textbook-Cost ResourcesFall 2021; Resolution Number: 7.01

Local Senate Policies Regarding Textbook AdoptionFall 2021; Resolution Number: 17.01

Developing an Anti-Racism, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Curriculum Audit ProcessSpring
2021; Resolution Number: 9.05

Advocate for Development of a ZTC Data ElementSpring 2021; Resolution Number: 11.02

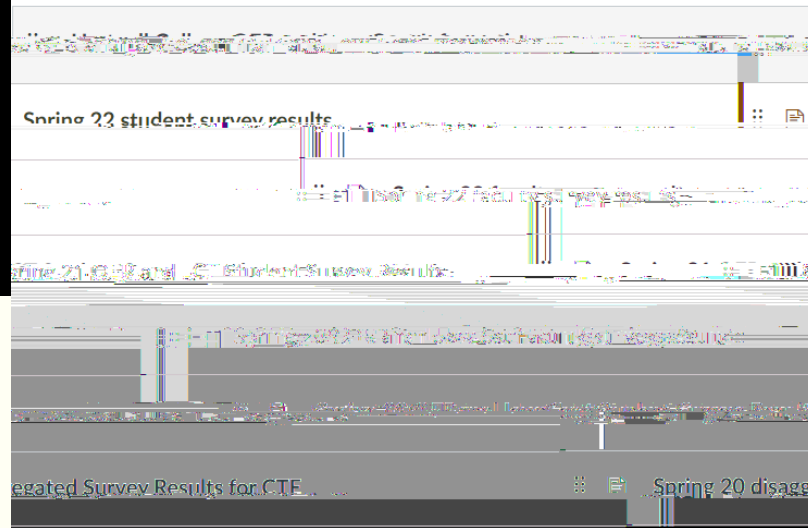
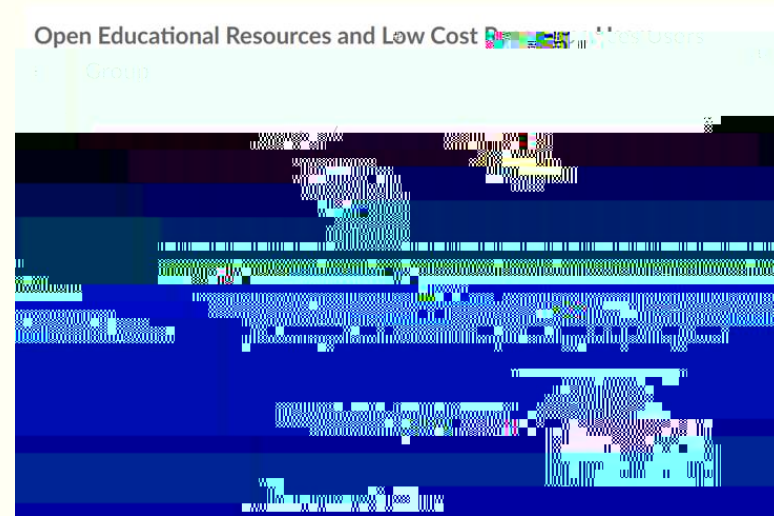
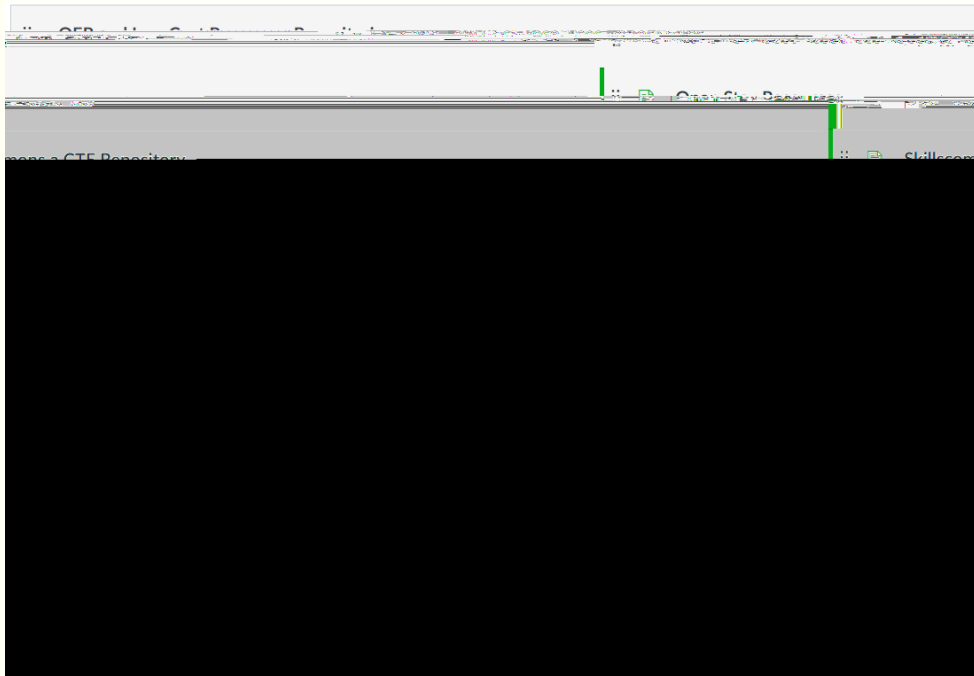
Advocate for On-Going Funding for the ASCCC Open Educational Resources InitiativeSpring
2021; Resolution Number: 11.03

Ensure Compliance with Required Instructional Materials RegulationsSpring 2021; Resolution Number: 11.04

Institutionalizing Open Educational ResourcesSpring 2021; Resolution Number: 13.01

OER and Low-Cost Canvas shell (faculty only):

Email Lisa Storm for the code to join!



Wrap up, suggestions, and questions!

Coming soon!

1. **Web page with Affordable Textbook Options;**
2. **Hands on help for faculty anytime you need it! Just email me;**
3. **Hopefully the class “OER**