

Textbook Equity at UNI:

Faculty Innovation & Student Success

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Faculty Accomplishment	Year(s)	Student Savings
Free textbook adoptions	2016-22	\$1.5 million
	2022	\$380,055 (3,250 students)
Free textbook adoptions in UNIFI: 33 sections	2022	\$199,148
Open textbook authoring: 10 books by 21 UNI faculty	2022-24	\$414,030 per year

Student Success

"You are helping students who are struggling to attend college more than you realize."

-Textbook Equity
Student Advisory Board member

Impact of affordable materials:

- Improved or similar **learning outcomes**, particularly for:
 - Pell-eligible
 - Non-white
 - First-generation
 - International students
- Increased **course completion** and **credit accumulation**
 - Decreased course withdrawals
- Improved **student engagement**
- Empowering **instructor innovation**
- Improved student **belonging & wellness**

Student Experiences

UNI students:

- share books (**61%**).
- avoid purchase of required texts (**48%**).
- change sections or avoid registering for a specific course/section due to textbook costs (**29%**).
- have earned a poor or failing grade due to textbook costs (**23%**).
- have dropped a course or taken fewer courses due to textbook costs (**19%**).

April 2021; n= 688

Methodology

2023 data forthcoming

Academic Freedom and Course Materials

Cost to Students. What do students consider affordable? Should we auto-bill?

Least savings:
Commercial texts,
print or digital

Most savings (free):
Open Educational Resources
(OER), library content

Usage Rights. Are materials downloadable, available immediately & in perpetuity, printable, shareable, customizable, free from personal data sharing?

Least open:
Commercial texts,
print or digital

Most flexible/open:
OER

Services & Support

Direct Faculty Support (FY 2022 & 2023)	Student Savings per Year	Return on Investment (ROI)
\$140,000	\$297,090	195%

- **New this year!** Paid course redesign to transition to free
- Customized lists of free materials for any course
- Assistance using library content
- Assistance creating ebooks from adaptable or UNI-created content
- Support for student publishing
- Guidance for departments wishing to explore Zero Textbook Cost majors/programs/pathways