

Policy on faculty authored instructional materials

Preamble: ♦ The University, through its internal Audit has identified the need for a Policy regarding faculty-authored material required for student purchase. In the spirit of shared governance, the University requested that the Senate develop and forward such a Policy. ♦

If a majority of the Senators voting are in favor of the Policy, it will be forwarded. ♦ If a majority of the Senators voting are opposed to the Policy, the responsibility to develop the needed Policy will be assigned elsewhere.

Selection and production of instructional materials by faculty is essential to providing quality instruction. ♦ The freedom to choose instructional materials is central to the principle of academic freedom. ♦ Auburn University encourages faculty to publish instructional materials through reputable publishers that are marketed and used nationally. ♦ If such materials produced by a faculty member are appropriate for use in the faculty member's classes and if the sale of such materials produces financial gain for the faculty member or his immediate family, faculty may (a) assign the material and choose not to accept financial gain that might result from royalties or other income generated by the sale of such materials by students enrolled in the faculty member's class, or (b) turn the decision for selecting teaching materials over to an alternate responsible entity (e.g. a department chair or a departmental committee) qualified to determine if the materials are appropriate.

The production of instructional materials such as workbooks, answer sheets, or custom texts intended for use either exclusively or primarily at Auburn University shall be considered part of the faculty member's assigned duties. It is expected that such shall be provided to the student at ♦ departmental or university expense, or at most, the cost of reproduction through a commercial reproducer.

