

## Follett Inclusive Access Committee (FIAC)

### Report for October 2021

On July 28, 2021, the Faculty Senate Executive Committee constituted an ad hoc Follett Inclusive Access Committee to explore and consider the viability of implementing Follett's ACCESS program at the University of Louisville. The charge of this committee is to assess the cost-saving potential of Follett's ACCESS program on our students' textbook purchases. If the program would result in cost savings for our students, the committee will work to determine how this program could be implemented and to make a final recommendation regarding the adoption of this option. Options like Follett's ACCESS program support student success and help our students with debt. Dale McIntosh (Business Senator) and Sally Mollsberger (Non-Senator) are co-chairs of the ad hoc committee.

The ad hoc committee convened its first meeting with the selected committee members on Thursday, September 9, 2021, to discuss its charge, concerns, and next steps. The committee co-chairs committed to meeting with Follett, other selected schools and set a follow-up meeting for Follett to speak to the committee.

The committee co-chairs had an initial meeting with two representatives (Shane Zaleski and Amy Turpin) from Follett on Friday, September 24, 2021, to share the committee's charge and discuss the next steps. Follett shared the names of three regional institutions that are using a form of Follett's ACCESS program. Bellarmine University and Kentucky State University have a complete campus-wide implementation at their schools. The University of Cincinnati implemented a modified version of Follett ACCESS focused on high enrollment STEM courses, similar to the model the University of Louisville may consider.

Dale McIntosh had a meeting with Neal Stark and Mark Solomon from the University of Cincinnati on Wednesday, October 6, 2021, to discuss their experience in implementing Follett ACCESS at their institution. For the AY 19-20, UC had approximately 70 courses enrolled in the program comprised of approximately 16,000 unique students. The tangible savings to students equated to approximately \$1.05 Million. They recently rewrote a new 10-year contract with Follett and focused on materials costs to carve out Follett ACCESS on commissions. When asked about using Follett Access for OER, UC suggested that we consider doing it later rather than sooner because of the lack of "tangible" cost savings. They approximated about 80% of their inclusions were from publisher courseware, approximately 15% came from non-courseware, and the remaining were print adoptions.

On Friday, October 15, 2021, Shane Zaleski (Follett) and Amy Turpin (Follett) met with ad hoc committee members to hear some of the concerns and questions related to a Follett ACCESS program. Committee members expressed additional concerns about working with Follett to ensure student success. The next steps are to convene another meeting with the committee to identify potential courses for inclusion in a potential implementation. Additionally, the committee will generate a potential list of functional area representatives from non-academic units that will be vital to launching any form of an implementation.

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Once the committee identifies a potential list of targeted courses and functional area representatives, the committee will report back to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee (XC) the results of the meetings. After that, the Faculty Senate XC can put forward a resolution to the full Senate that the University should move ahead with a partial implementation of Follett's ACCESS program.