



Title: **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AFFORDABLE TEXTBOOKS**

Sponsored by: **Jason Padvorac** (ASUW), **Jake Faleschini** (President), **Sarah Reyneveld** (Vice President), **Lindsay Morse** (Secretary), **Kristian Anderson** (Art History), **Trond Nilsen** (Industrial Engineering), **Shawn Mincer** (Social Work), **Charles Plummer** (Earth and Space Sciences)
Written by: **Jason Padvorac** (ASUW)

Resolution Number: 02.09-10

WHEREAS the escalating cost of conventionally produced and distributed textbooks well outpaces inflation, and shows every sign of continuing; and

WHEREAS students are facing increased financial stress from similarly escalating tuition rates, transportation costs, and housing expenses; and

WHEREAS the University Book Store buyback program can dramatically reduce the cost of conventional textbooks for students when faculty readopt textbooks, but is heavily curtailed when faculty members adopt the newest editions of textbooks as soon as they are released; and

WHEREAS new models are emerging that have potential to restructure the textbook industry and lead to systematic affordability;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:

THAT the University Book Store and proactive faculty be commended for their work to select and deliver textbooks at an affordable price; and

THAT the University Book Store be commended for reducing the net cost of educational materials through the customer rebate program; and

THAT UW faculty be encouraged to use earlier editions of textbooks, and only adopt new editions in the case of actual pedagogical improvement and not merely aesthetic rearrangement; and

THAT UW faculty be encouraged to take a leadership role in embracing more affordable and more effective models for the textbook industry; and

THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Faculty Senate Chair Bruce Balick, UW Book Store CEO Bryan Pearce, and Vice President and Vice Provost for Student Life Eric Godfrey.

Presented to GPSS for approval on December 2, 2009.

Unanimously approved on December 2, 2009.