



November 19, 2018

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** District Board of Trustees

**FROM:** Jim Murdaugh, President 

**SUBJECT:** Textbook Affordability: Amendment to Laboratory/Course and Distance Learning Fees for Spring 2019 to Support Open Education Resources (OER)

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### Item Description

This item references proposed laboratory/course and distance learning fees for Spring 19.

### Overview and Background

Florida Statutes 1009.22(9) and 1009.23(12) states that each *Florida College System institution board of trustees is authorized to establish user fees such as laboratory fees, duplicating/photocopying fees, testing fees, etc.* State Board Rule 6A-14.054 also states that each board of trustees may establish user fees in addition to tuition fees for services that incur costs. Such user fees shall not exceed the cost of the goods or services provided and shall only be charged to students receiving those goods or services. User fees are different from the state authorized fees that are charged per student per credit hour such as a financial aid fee, capital improvement fee, student activity fee, and technology fee.

TCC is proposing to eliminate the textbook for MGF1106, Math for Liberal Arts course, and replace it with an Open Educational Resource. This is a mathematics state core class that is taken by approximately 886 students per semester. The \$15 fee will cover the cost of the platform that is used to host the open resources for the course. This platform will replace the \$137.75 textbook cost. This is a cumulative cost savings of \$108,756.50 for our students in one semester, and \$326,269.50 in one academic year.

### Past Actions by the Board

The Board approves these fees annually.

### Funding/Financial Implications

The fees to be charged to students are visible to students in the course schedule. The College's budget for the Spring 2019 year will incorporate collection of fees approved by the Board.

### Staff Resource

Feleccia Moore-Davis

**Recommended Action**

That the Board approves the laboratory/course fees and distance learning fees as presented and direct staff to conduct an assessment of fees to identify opportunities to reduce student cost.