



VIVA's Proposal for Open and Affordable Course Content

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VIVA helps control the costs of higher education



- The Virtual Library of Virginia (VIVA) is the consortium of the 72 academic libraries within the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- For over 20 years, VIVA has created significant cost savings through cooperative purchasing and resource sharing.



VIVA has demonstrated a cost avoidance of over

\$760,000,000

through group purchases since it began in 1994.



VIVA levels the playing field

- VIVA provides shared access to high quality academic resources.
- The same core collection is available at all of the public institutions.

**175
databases**

**45,000
e-journals**



**35,000
videos**

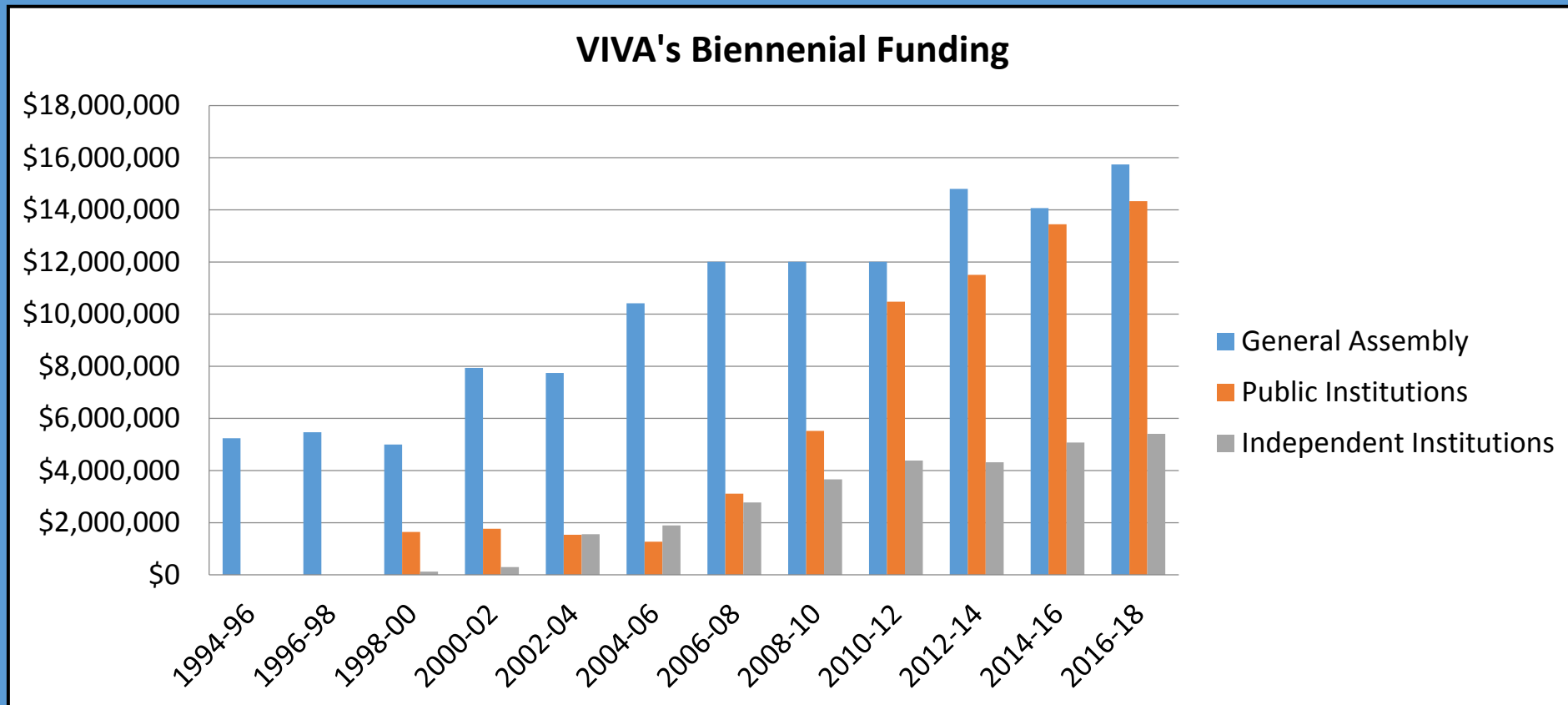
**115,000
e-books**

VIVA resources get extensive use -
over 15,000,000
uses each year.

VIVA's budget



- The General Assembly provides 45% of VIVA's funding (\$7,902,363 in FY18), with the remaining 55% (\$9,922,631 in FY18) coming from member institutions.





A Proposal for Open and Affordable Content



The costs of textbooks and course materials are significant

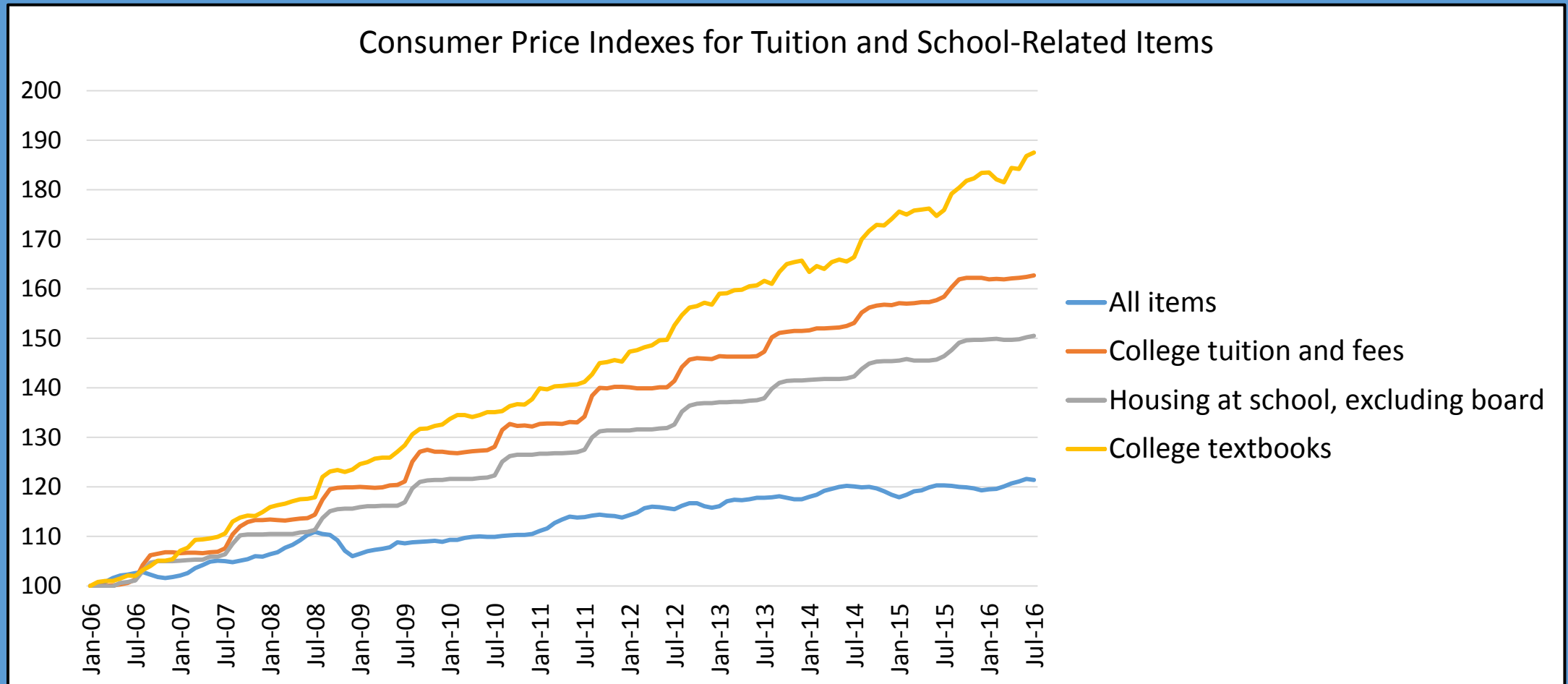
The average student needed to budget

\$1,230 - \$1,390

for textbooks and course materials in 2016-17.

Source: CollegeBoard, Trends in College Pricing, Average Estimated Undergraduate Budgets, 2016-17

The increasing cost of textbooks outstrips other college cost factors



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Textbook costs have a significant impact on student success

In your academic career, has the cost of required textbooks caused you to:

Not purchase the required textbook	67%
Take fewer courses	48%
Not register for a specific course	46%
Earn a poor grade	38%
Drop a course	26%
Fail a course	20%

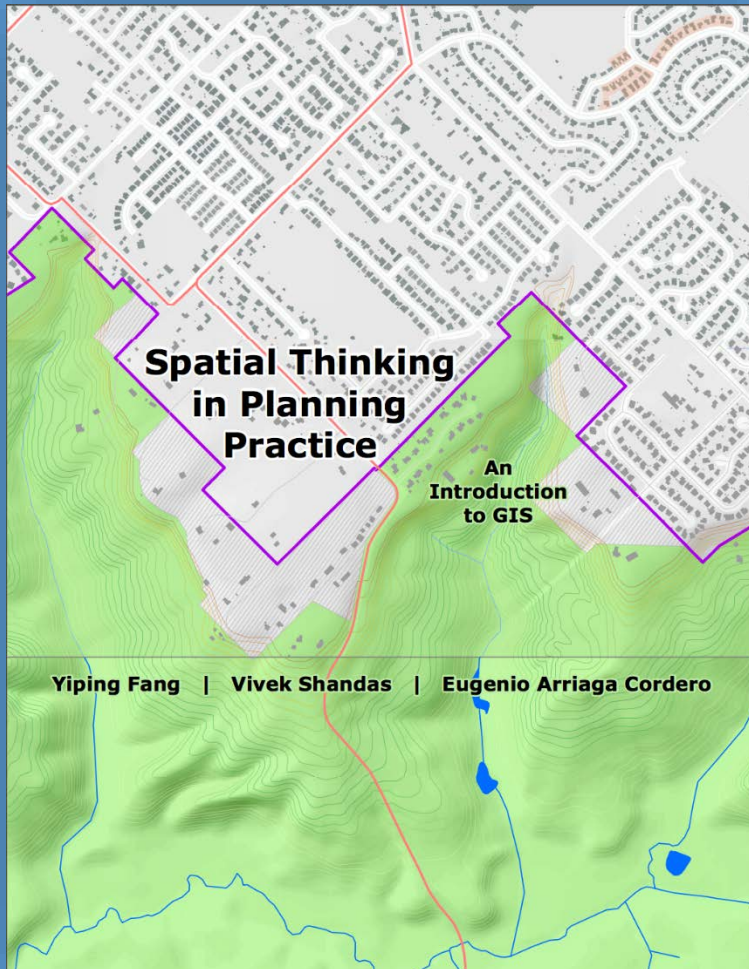
Source: 2016 Florida Student Textbook and Course Materials Survey

What is Open and Affordable Course Content?

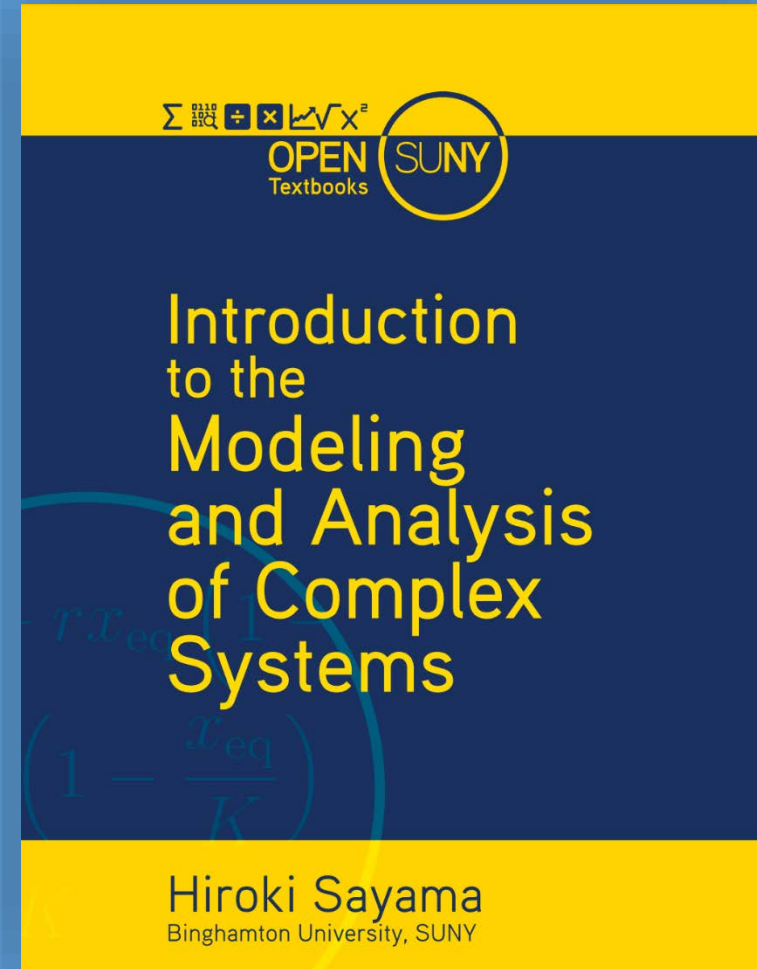
- Open course content: course materials that are in the public domain or with an intellectual property license that allows free use, modification, and redistribution.
- Affordable course content: course materials that are low cost or no cost to the student.



Open textbooks are increasingly available

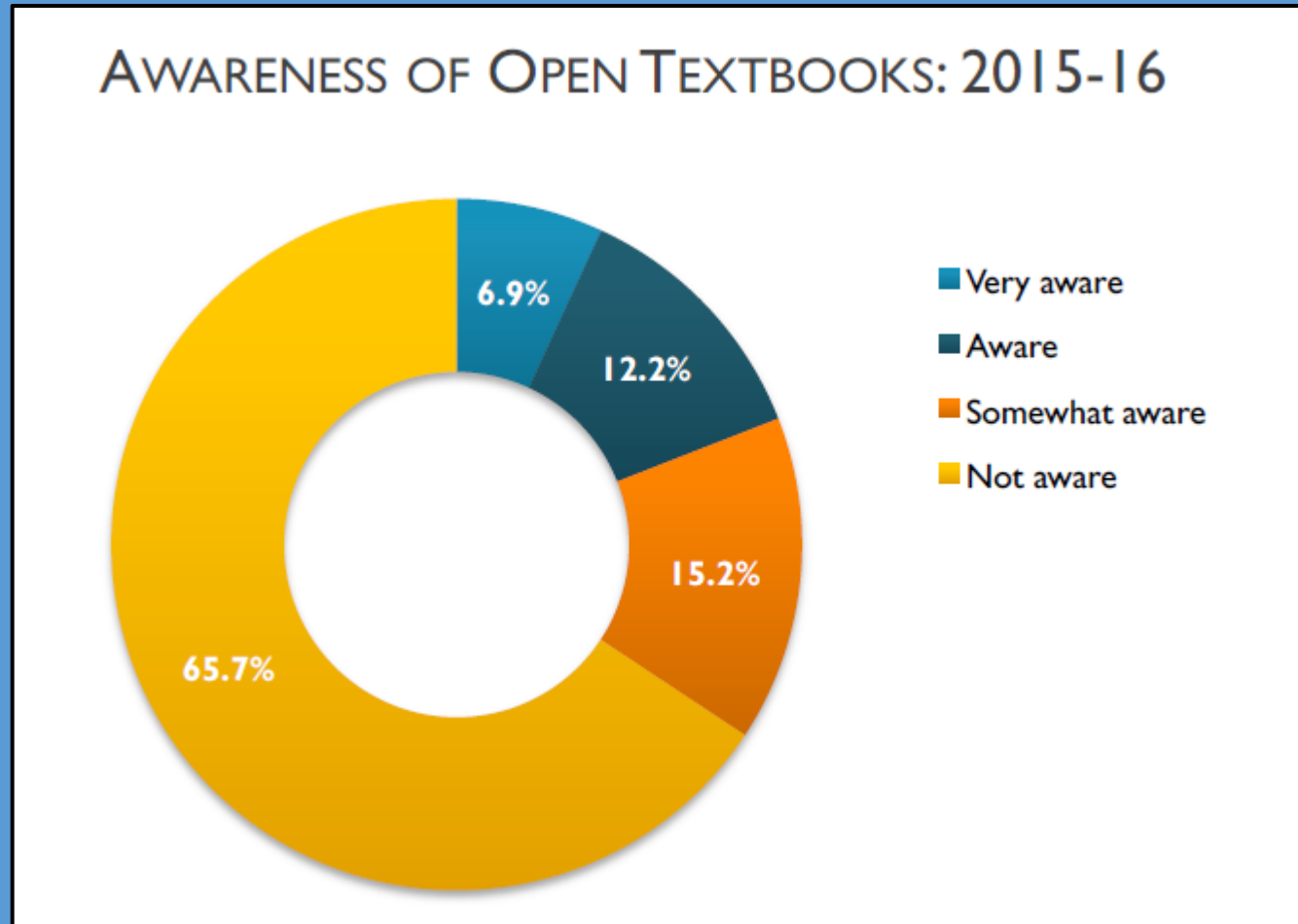


Created at Portland State University



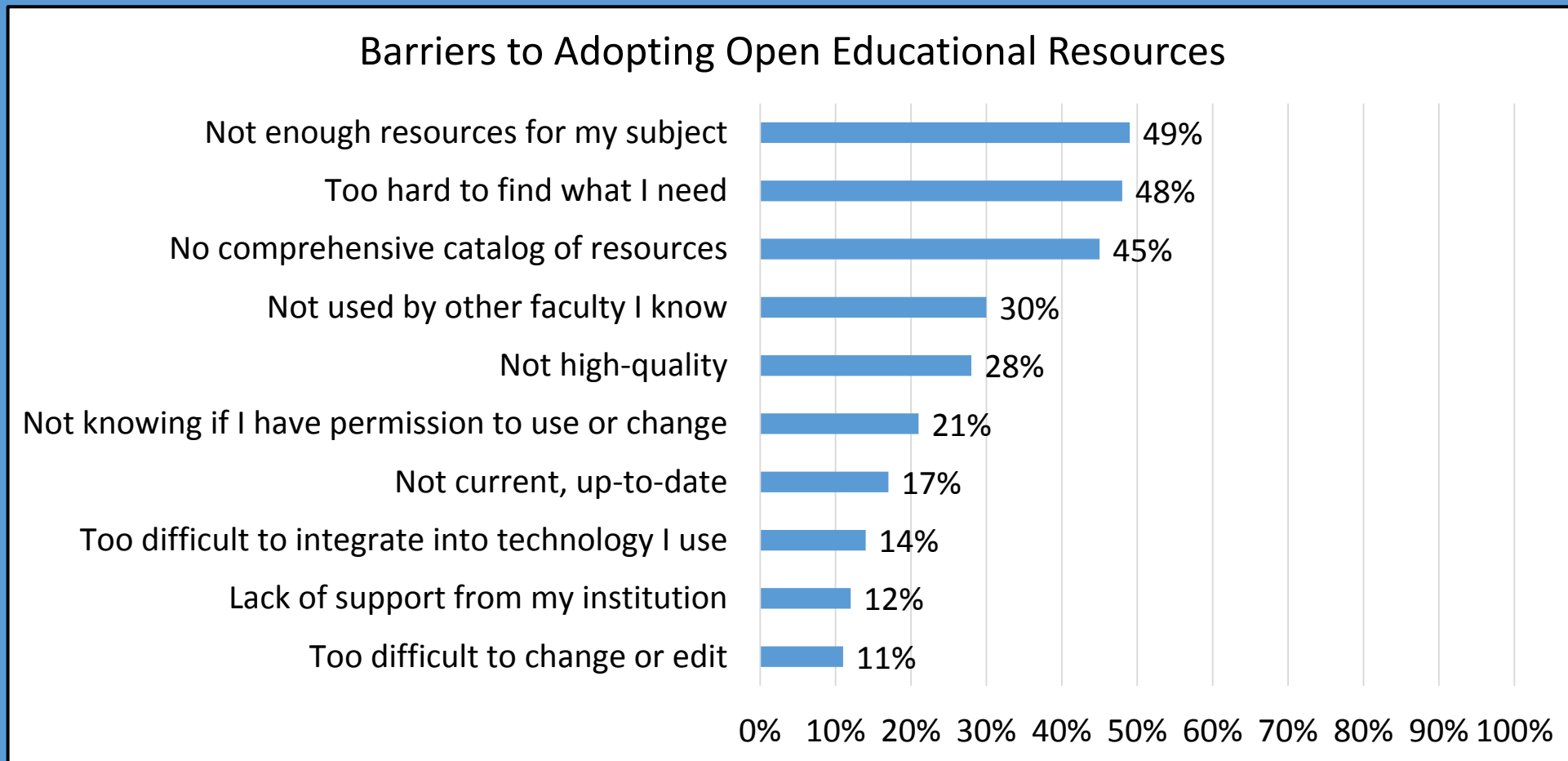
Created at SUNY Binghamton

Do faculty members know about open textbooks?



Source: Opening The Textbook: Educational Resources in U.S. Higher Education, 2015-16

There are barriers to adopting open textbooks



Source: Opening The Textbook: Educational Resources in U.S. Higher Education, 2015-16

There are important benefits to adopting open textbooks in addition to the cost savings

- Student engagement increases
- Faculty have more control over course materials and can tailor them to class-specific needs
- Instructors have the freedom to rethink courses with a more outcomes-centered approach



There is power in a statewide approach

- Affordable Learning Georgia: An investment of \$2,000,000 over three years created over \$26 million in student savings.
- Affordable Learning LOUISiana: An investment of \$145,000 created over \$1 million in student savings.

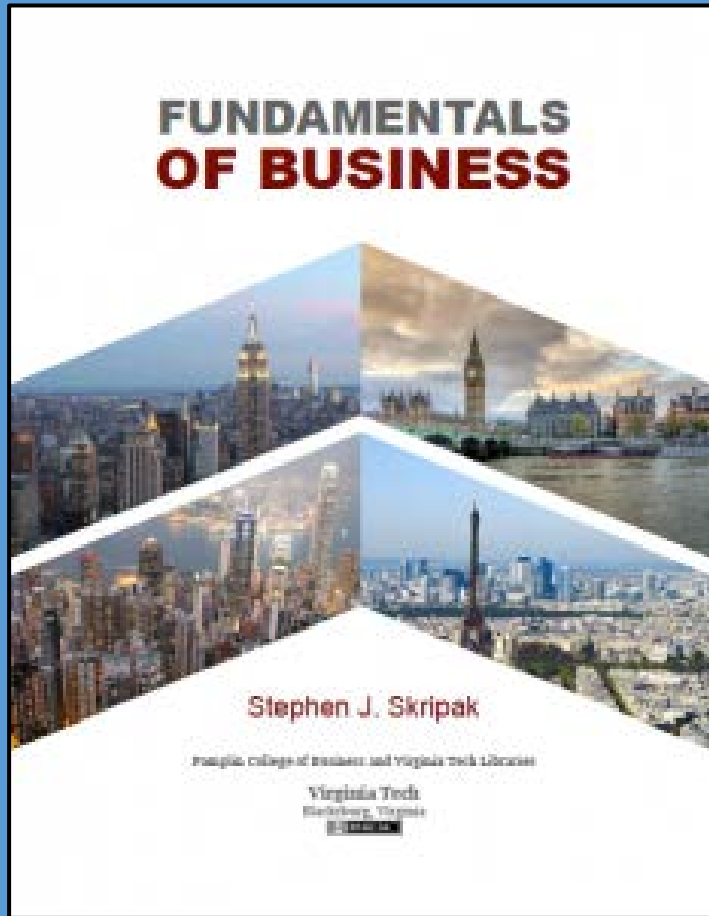


Virginia institutions are focused on this issue

- Tidewater Z-Degree and Virginia Community College Zx23 have created degree programs with no textbook costs.
- Virginia State University has pioneered shifting a business curriculum to open source textbooks.
- Many institutions, such as the College of William & Mary, George Mason University, and Virginia Commonwealth University, have provided faculty grants to explore, create, and adopt open course content.



Virginia institutions have created open textbooks



Published August 30, 2016.

Stephen J. Skripak at VT created this with assistance from VT Libraries.

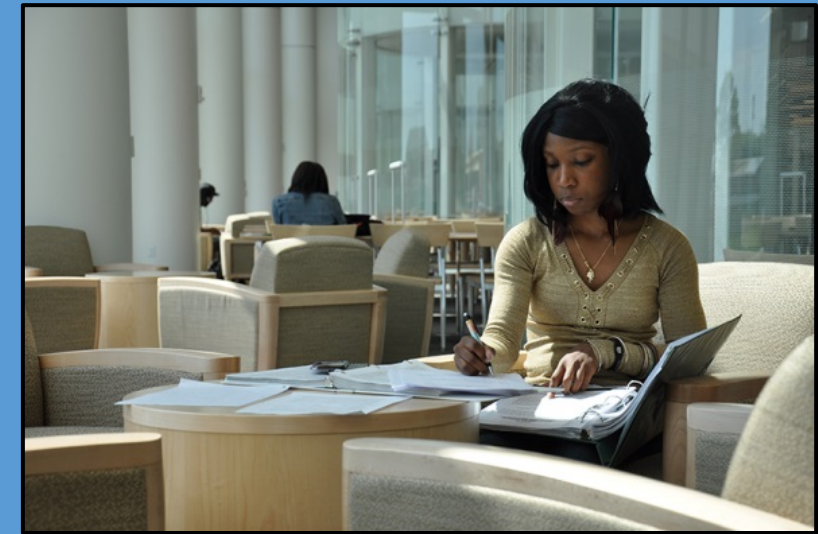
This introductory level course averages 14 sections and 700 students each year at VT, and other institutions have adopted it as well.

Print-on-demand copies are available at the cost of manufacturing.

VIVA Open Textbook Network pilot



- Four System Leaders and 31 Campus Leaders trained through the program in 2016-17.
- 37 workshops conducted for 358 faculty from 25 Virginia colleges and universities.
- 7 spring adoptions with 100 more anticipated this year.



Total investment in 2016-17: \$24,000

Estimated student savings for 2017-18: \$200,000



VIVA is proposing to build on this successful model

- Expand the Open Textbook Network pilot.
- Provide course redesign grants for faculty.
- Create a central portal for faculty to select affordable textbooks.
- Hire central staff to coordinate and assess the program.



Proposed investment for the state: \$600,000