

Resolution of the Florida Gulf Coast University Faculty Senate on Material and Supply Fees.

Whereas Florida statute 1009.24(14[i]), and Board of Governors Regulation 7.003(7), allows University Boards of Trustees to authorize “material and supply fees to offset the cost of materials or supplies that are consumed in the course of the students’ instructional activities, excluding the cost of equipment emplacement, repair, and maintenance;” and;

Whereas Florida Gulf Coast University has put in place an informal moratorium of material and supply fees at Florida Gulf Coast University which prevents assignment of fees to new or existing courses, and does not allow fees to be raised to keep pace with inflation and rising cost of consumables and;

Whereas this moratorium has forced the reallocation of consumable funds from courses with existing fees to support unfunded or underfunded courses and;

Whereas this policy has negatively impacted student success by lowering the quality of course content, altering course outcomes, and hindering the development of new and innovative courses and;

Whereas, faculty are fully aware of the debt burden students accrue during their time in higher education, and, faculty do everything in their power to keep those costs at a minimum and;

We the faculty assert these fees are critical to a successful educational experience and therefore:

We resolve that the President of Florida Gulf Coast University and the Board of Trustees lift the moratorium on material and supply fees and allow the respective colleges, departments, and programs to establish and maintain appropriate fees.