

## Textbook Adoption Criteria

December 6, 2010

1. For students in multi-section courses that are delivered in two parts (e.g. CHEM 101 and CHEM 102), there is a need for consistency and a common experience. Pursuant to this, there can only be one required textbook used for each first-year Physical Science course.
2. The textbook that is approved by the committee must be used for a minimum of three years or until the current edition expires.
3. All instructors must use the textbook that has been selected by the textbook adoption committee.
4. Experimental or pilot books cannot be used as a required text. In order to be considered, independent of the author, the textbook must have gone through an external peer review process similar to the procedure publishing houses use to vet their texts.
5. Official textbook adoption should proceed at the discretion of the selection committee.
6. Each of the three disciplines will maintain its own standing textbook adoption committee. It will be the responsibility of each committee to develop processes for the selection of committee members and to create short lists of admissible texts that satisfy the criteria contained within this document.
7. Supplementary material such as workbooks, course notes, solutions manuals, laboratory manuals or software can be used along with the official departmental textbook. These materials must have been thoroughly checked by external reviewers such that students are not given the task of uncovering the errors for the author.
8. For all one-hundred level courses, whenever possible, the cost should be an important factor in the textbook adoption decision.
9. *[the obvious extension] Only the required textbook can be used as the textbook for the course.*

█ note: neither Higgins or Hilts were prepared to say that there wouldn't be a simple addition in a few months:

9. *[the obvious extension] Only the required textbook can be used as the textbook for the course.*

This addition would effectively kill any opportunity for MacEwan Physical Sciences faculty to develop and test instructional material at MacEwan.

Hilts acknowledged as much by telling the committee, during the first meeting, that they had to do this because of █ and his textbook. During the departmental meeting, Hilts begins discussions with, "The reason for this is because of problems we have had in Chemistry for the past 1.5 years ..." (At the recommendation of my colleagues, I left at this point.)

Questions:

1. Why only first-year? why not 200+ level multi-section courses.
3. Jonathan doesn't use the 'required' 200-level organic text.
4. MacEwan faculty are not competent peer reviewers?
7. MacEwan faculty are not competent peer reviewers? Currently, MacEwan laboratory manuals and Rob's workbooks cannot be used if this policy is introduced.
9. Neither Hilts nor Higgins were willing to state that this wasn't under consideration. Evidently, the TAC is the first step to killing the █ project.

According to committee members,

- the first draft (from the dean(?)) gave the dean veto power over the selection committees
- The presented Criteria was not what was approved by the Committee! Apparently, points were add or modified at the request of the Dean *after* the committee

Rob Chairs this committee, but is in a conflict of interest since he has a solution's manual and two workbooks. This policy should be applied to all of Arts and Science, or else it is blatantly targetting my developing textbook.