



Resolution 25-04

“e-Bookworm”

Authored by:	Andres Morales, Chidera Nwankwor, Anari Machungo
Sponsored by:	Andres Morales, Anari Machungo,
Date Submitted:	1/21/25
Date Considered:	3/4/25
Committee:	Academic Affairs
Whereas:	The rising cost of textbooks and course materials places a significant financial burden on students, limiting their ability to access essential educational resources and succeed academically; and
Whereas:	undergraduate students at UTA spend an average of \$1,000-\$1,240 annually on textbooks, a cost that could be significantly reduced through affordable alternatives such as e-books and open educational resources (OER); and
Whereas:	digital resources, including e-books, support diverse learning needs through features like adjustable text sizes and interactive tools, fostering inclusivity and academic success for UTA students; and
Whereas:	UTA currently has an OER department which specializes in partnering with faculty to create free or affordable materials tailored to their classes; and
Whereas:	professors, Faculty and Instructors who are partnered with the OER department are given an incentive to write their own affordable or no cost textbook for funding up to \$10,000.00 through a University-sponsored grant; and
Be It Therefore Resolved That:	the university should promote the adoption of low cost and no cost resources by engaging with faculty to encourage their use in curricula and by providing students with accessible and cost-effective learning materials to improve academic success; and
Be It Further Resolved That:	professors, Faculty, and Instructors be encouraged to write their own no cost or affordable textbooks through OERs to provide for their classes.



**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON
STUDENT GOVERNMENT
ROUTING SLIP**

RESOLUTION NUMBER 25-04

Title: e-bookworm

Date Passed: 3/18/2025

Votes For: 25 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: 0

COMMENTS BY THE SPEAKER OF THE SENATE:

After much communication and interviews with employees that oversee the OER process and have knowledge of it, the committee amended and passed the resolution. This resolution works towards improving a process that many students are reliant on to assist in their academics. This resolution has no cost burden, and the library has been working towards a similar process for faculty, professors, and instructors to be encouraged to implement and provide OER's to their classes. With sufficient research and a recommendation that is inherently beneficial to the school community, the general passed this resolution unanimously.

COMMENTS BY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF STUDENT GOVERNANCE:

Sent to Student
Body President:
Date:

COMMENTS BY STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT:

Sent to University
Administrator:
Date:

COMMENTS BY UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATOR:

Returned to Student Government: _____ (Date)

Final Action: _____



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON STUDENT GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION SUMMARY

RESOLUTION NUMBER 25-04

Title: e-bookworm

Date Passed: 3/18/2025

RECOMENDATIONS

The student body recommends to the university that the promote the adoption of low cost and no cost resources by engaging with the faculty to encourage their use in curricula. These low cost and no cost resources are also known as OER's which the student body have been experiencing a lack thereof as most instructors or professors would sometimes not list such access to resources, hence, the student body recommends that the university encourage these instructors work along with the OER department to provide the necessary resources for students.

STUDENT NEED

The student has been experiencing a lack of accessible resources (OER's) a require this resource in order to properly pursue their academics. Furthermore, OER relieves the financial burden on students who do not have the necessary funds to obtain resources such as textbooks for their classes. The student body requires instructors, faculty, and professors to work with the OER department to better assist student in pursuing their academics as the have an efficient resource to access free and or low-cost textbooks for their courses.

PROCESS

This resolution came up multiple times as two of our senators had submitted similar resolutions. In order to not be repetitive, I combined the two resolutions and introduced it to the academic affairs committee. The committee was highly interested in this resolution and conducted thorough research to understand the underlying issue with the OER's and determine if there needs to be either improvements or an increase access to these resources. After this research the committee amended and passed this resolution which the general body unanimously passed.

RESEARCH

The committee conducted research by reaching out to administration and other institutions that provide OER's. The committee emailed and contacted Follett Higher Education which gave unput and answered our questions regarding OER's and how the system works. This led the committee to meet with Paul Beaulieu and interview them with how the bookstore provides OER's and how can this resolution better suit the needs for students who are experiencing any difficulties with OER's. Moreover, the committee interviewed and met with Megan Zara, OER librarian, and John Wang, Dean of Libraries, who helped the committee get a better understanding of how our OER department works along with what they provide to the student. This meeting helped the committee as it shared insight on where the OER department needed

support.

RESULTS

The Academic Affairs Committee felt that this resolution would assist the OER department in encouraging faculty, instructors, and professors increase access to low-cost or no cost textbook resources for their students. (7-0-0)

The Student Senate found that the committee conducted adequate research and noticed that the OER is working towards increasing their accessible resources, so in turn the general body would like to lend a hand in their efforts and give their support. (25-0-0)

CERTIFICATION

Resolution 25-04 was passed by the Student Senate on March 4th , 2025, under the procedure given by Section 3.2 of the Bylaws.

Be it therefore resolved that this matter be delivered to the Student Body President for enactment in accordance with Article 1, Section 1.4 of the Constitution for the Student Community at The University of Texas at Arlington.

Gaven Lopez

Speaker of the Senate Printed Name

Gaven Lopez

Speaker of the Senate Signature

Resolution Report

This is a report on the votes made in the committee on the amendment and passing of the resolution and the reasoning behind the members' votes.

On March 4th, 2025

The committee deliberated on Resolution 25-04 "E-Bookworm", after conducting an appropriate amount of research for the resolution to be implemented. This resolution asks to

The reasons and rationale in favor of passing this resolution included the following:

- The Library and OER have already been working on expanding access
- Affordability for textbooks fosters a more inclusive learning environment
- This program will require no cost burdens for the students

The reasons and rationale against passing this resolution included the following:

- This resolution requires confidence from faculty to follow through
- This resolution fails to address profit-focused professors

The [portion amended] was amended to state **Whereas UTA currently has an OER department which specializes in partnering with faculty to create free or affordable materials tailored to their classes; and whereas Professors, Faculty and Instructors who are partnered with the OER department are given an incentive to write their own affordable or no cost textbook for funding up to \$10,000.00 through a University-sponsored grant;** Be it therefore resolved that the university should promote the adoption of **low cost and no cost resources** by engaging with faculty to encourage their use in curricula and by providing students with accessible and cost-effective learning materials to improve academic success; and be it further resolved that **Professors, Faculty, and Instructors be encouraged to write their own no cost or affordable textbooks through OERs to provide for their classes**] and the votes are indicated below.

The amendments were passed with unanimous votes indicated below:

· Senator Machungo voted:	YES
· Senator Syed voted:	YES
· Senator Taylor voted:	YES
· Senator Clayton voted:	YES
· Senator Duncan voted:	YES
· Senator Morales voted:	YES

After making the desired changes, the committee then moved to vote on this resolution after...

This resolution was passed with unanimous votes as indicated below:

· Senator Machungo voted:	YES
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Senator Syed voted:	YES
Senator Taylor voted:	YES
Senator Clayton voted:	YES
Senator Duncan voted:	YES
Senator Morales voted:	YES

With quorum met, the resolution was advanced with the support in-favor by the Academic Affairs committee to the speaker for it to be possibly addressed as Unfinished Business in the next General Body meeting on March 18th, 2025

Report written by Academic Affairs Chair, Austin Palacios



Senator Name: ANDRES MORALES

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON
STUDENT GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE VOTING SLIP**

Resolution #: 25-04

Committee: *Academy C*

Meeting Date: 03 / 05 / 23

Voting For:

Voting Against:

Additional Comments:

VOTE:

For: Against: Abstain:

Against: _____ Abstain: _____

Committee Chair Signature

Vote verified on 3 / 6 / 25 by Parliamentarian.



Senator Name: Samuel Duncan

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON
STUDENT GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE VOTING SLIP

Resolution #: 25 - 084

Committee: Academic Affairs

Meeting Date: 03 / 05 / 25

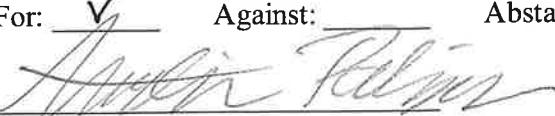
Voting For:

The amending of the resolution in order for greater specificity within the initial resolution. It'll allow for a smoother transition from committee to the Senate

Voting Against:

Additional Comments:

VOTE: For: ✓ Against: _____ Abstain: _____

Committee Chair Signature 

Vote verified on 3 / 6 / 25 by Parliamentarian.



Senator Name: Carson Clayton

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON
STUDENT GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE VOTING SLIP

Resolution #: 2504
Committee: Academic Affairs
Meeting Date: 03/04/25

Voting For: Amending

After the presentation we realized we need to
to not only broaden what we are asking for
but also remove points that were unnecessary
Specifically us partnering with publishers & what
the University has the power to approve of.

Voting Against:

Additional Comments:

VOTE: For: ✓ Against: _____ Abstain: _____

Committee Chair Signature Austin Palacio

Vote verified on 3/16/25 by Parliamentarian.



Senator Name: Annemarie Nafus

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON
STUDENT GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE VOTING SLIP

Resolution #: 2504

Committee: Academic Affairs

Meeting Date: 03/04/2024

Voting For:

We specified and condensed the amendment, allowing for any questions or misunderstandings to be clarified

Voting Against:

Additional Comments:

VOTE: For: 1 Against: _____ Abstain: _____

Committee Chair Signature Austin Palacio

Vote verified on 3/6/25 by Parliamentarian.



Senator Name: Juveria Syed

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON
STUDENT GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE VOTING SLIP

Resolution #: 25-04

Committee: Academic Affairs

Meeting Date: 03/04/25

Voting For:

- Specified OER by broadening what is included
- Added "no cost" and "low cost" to establish the monetary details
- Added #1000 grant information

Voting Against:

Additional Comments:

VOTE: For: ✓ Against: _____ Abstain: _____

Committee Chair Signature Amber Valenzuela

Vote verified on 3/16/25 by Parliamentarian.



Senator Name: Anari O. Machungo

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON
STUDENT GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE VOTING SLIP

Resolution #: 25-04

Committee: Academic

Meeting Date: 03/04/2025

Voting For:

- Polished the resolution language.
- Removed unnecessary information from the resolution.
- Mentioned specifics including what the resolution is for.

Voting Against:

Additional Comments:

VOTE: For: ✓ Against: _____ Abstain: _____

Committee Chair Signature Austin Palince

Vote verified on 3 / 6 / 25 by Parliamentarian.



Senator Name: Phoenix Taylor

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON
STUDENT GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE VOTING SLIP

Resolution #: 25-04

Committee: Academic Affairs

Meeting Date: 03/04/25

Voting For:

the amendments made the resolution more specific in areas that it was lacking in previously.

Voting Against:

Additional Comments:

VOTE: For: ✓ Against: _____ Abstain: _____

Committee Chair Signature Autotin Palmer

Vote verified on 3/6/25 by Parliamentarian.



Senator Name: Carson Clayton

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON
STUDENT GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE VOTING SLIP

Resolution #: 25-04
Committee: Academic Affairs
Meeting Date: 03/10/25

Voting For:

This Resolution asks for the right things & we can utilize this Resolution to better our campus

Voting Against:

Additional Comments:

VOTE: For: X Against: _____ Abstain: _____

Committee Chair Signature Amber Brown

Vote verified on 3/10/25 by Parliamentarian.



Senator Name: Samuel Duncan

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON
STUDENT GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE VOTING SLIP

Resolution #: 25 - 04

Committee: Academic Affairs

Meeting Date: 03 / 04 / 25

Voting For:

This bill allows for the implementation of more OR OER's which I believe will be a great service to students especially those who would have no access to this resource otherwise.

Voting Against:

Additional Comments:

VOTE: For: ✓ Against: _____ Abstain: _____

Committee Chair Signature Austin Palmer

Vote verified on 3 / 16 / 25 by Parliamentarian.



Senator Name: Athenemarie WAFOR

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON
STUDENT GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE VOTING SLIP

Resolution #: 2504
Committee: Academic Affairs
Meeting Date: 03/04/25

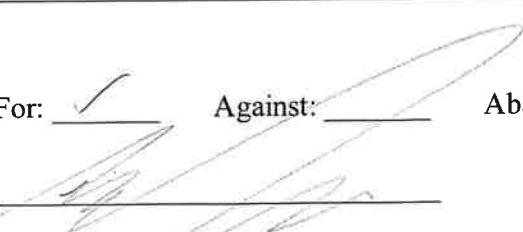
Voting For:

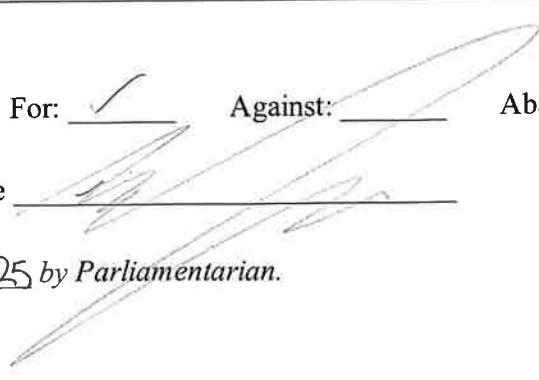
Books and materials can be a substantial cost for students. By passing this resolution, affordability and accessibility would be possible for a plethora of students aiding in making the path for secondary education easier for all

Voting Against:

Additional Comments:

VOTE: For: ✓ Against: _____ Abstain: _____

Committee Chair Signature 

Vote verified on 3/6/25 by Parliamentarian. 



Senator Name: Phoenix Taylor

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON
STUDENT GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE VOTING SLIP

Resolution #: 25-041
Committee: Academic Affairs
Meeting Date: 03/04/25

Voting For:

This resolution is a huge step forward in clearing more DER's, having equitable access to the plant of the conversation, and helping make UTA more affordable.

Voting Against:

Additional Comments:

VOTE: For: _____ Against: _____ Abstain: _____

Committee Chair Signature Austin Palacio

Vote verified on 3/6/25 by Parliamentarian.



Senator Name: Anari O. Machungo

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON
STUDENT GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE VOTING SLIP

Resolution #: 2S-04
Committee: Academic
Meeting Date: 03/04/2025

Voting For:

This is a huge step forward in making learning more affordable for students and also a huge step forward in adopting digital materials which is the current trend in the world

Voting Against:

Additional Comments:

VOTE: For: ✓ Against: _____ Abstain: _____

Committee Chair Signature Austin Palau

Vote verified on 3/6/25 by Parliamentarian.



Senator Name: Juveria Syed

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON
STUDENT GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE VOTING SLIP

Resolution #: 25-04

Committee: Academic Affairs

Meeting Date: 03 / 04 / 25

Voting For:

Passing the amended resolution 25-04

Voting Against:

Additional Comments:

VOTE: For: ✓ Against: _____ Abstain: _____

Committee Chair Signature Austin Palacio

Vote verified on 3 / 6 / 25 by Parliamentarian.



Senator Name: ANDREA KENT

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON
STUDENT GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE VOTING SLIP

Resolution #: 25-01

Committee: Academic

Meeting Date: 03/05/25

Voting For:

PASS THIS BILL
Provides students more access
to education & gives them better
paydays. Students love classes

Voting Against:

Additional Comments:

VOTE:

For: ✓ Against: _____ Abstain: _____

Committee Chair Signature _____

Vote verified on 3/6/25 by Parliamentarian.



Outlook

Re: Partnership Inquiry regarding E-books and OER's

From Clayton, Carson <cxc7683@mavs.uta.edu>

Date Tue 2/11/2025 8:19 AM

To Follett Higher Education Group <support@folletthighereducationgroup.zendesk.com>

Cc Lopez, Gaven <gaven.lopez@uta.edu>; Student Government <studentgovernment@uta.edu>; Palacios, Austin Elijah <aep6870@mavs.uta.edu>; Nwankwor, Chidera <cxn2878@mavs.uta.edu>; Nwankwor, Chidera <chidera.nwankwor@uta.edu>; Ressl (he, him, his), Seth A <seth@uta.edu>

1 attachment (141 KB)

Resolution 25-04 e-Bookworm (1).pdf;

To whom it may concern,

I would like to first introduce myself, my name is Carson Clayton and I am a member of the student government for our UTA campus. Recently our team cam across a resolution we would like to see implemented in our campus however before we move forward with this project we need to gather the necessary information to find out the feasibility of our resolution. I have attached the resolution bellow so anyone can review it and suggest changes.

The main reason for this email is to get a few questions answered for our upcoming meeting that were suggested by our committee members.

- **What is the current process for obtaining e-books and OER's and how is it different from obtaining physical copies of the books?**
- **Does the bookstore currently offer OER's and if not would the bookstore consider offering OER's?**
- **What would it cost the University to offer the following scenarios:**
 - Only offering online resources and no longer providing physical materials for students for all classes excluding situations where physical materials are necessary? Ex: Chemistry Lab Book
 - Only offering Physical resources and no longer providing online resources excluding situations where online materials are necessary?
 - Offering both online and physical materials sufficient that every student would have the ability to choose whether to utilize an online or physical resource for any class excluding situations where the preference is not possible?
- **Why is there an expiration date on most Online Resources like textbooks and what is the standard designation expiration for when said resource can no longer be utilized?**
- **What are our current partners for our online resources for e-books and OER's and what companies do we not partner with and why?**

When it is possible I would like to meet with someone from the UTA bookstore to get these questions answered and so that I can easily ask follow up questions and obtain clarification when necessary.

Thanks,
Carson Clayton

682-552-8274

[External]
Hello Carson,

Thank you for reaching out to Follett Higher Education, we truly appreciate hearing from you.

I have sent you this email in regards to our call just now as you had some questions for your local bookstore and for Follett which would require me to escalate this so that efficient answers are provided to you.

Please provide us with your email response including these questions that you have for us.

Best regards,
Anil Barker
Customer Support, Follett Higher Education



Fw: UTA Student Government *Resolution 25-04 e-bookworm*

From Machungo, Anari Onyonka <axm3335@mavs.uta.edu>

Date Fri 2/7/2025 8:19 AM

To Palacios, Austin Elijah <aep6870@mavs.uta.edu>; Lopez, Gaven <gaven.lopez@uta.edu>; Student Government <studentgovernment@uta.edu>; Nwankwor, Chidera <chidera.nwankwor@uta.edu>

Response from the library dean

Best regards,



Machungo, Anari
Student Government Senator
College of Engineering
Email: axm3335@mavs.uta.edu

From: Wang, Zheng <zheng.wang@uta.edu>

Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 3:25 PM

To: Machungo, Anari Onyonka <axm3335@mavs.uta.edu>

Subject: Re: UTA Student Government *Resolution 25-04 e-bookworm*

Dear Anari,

I appreciate the opportunity for further partnership. As outlined in the Texas Education Code, library fees are designated for library resources and relevant services. Since my arrival, we have been strategically aligning our resources toward collections, programs, and services. We view the Student Government as a vital partner in this journey, and I would love to learn more about the resolution and its next steps.

In the meantime, I will need to gather specifics to address some of your questions from my colleagues. At a high level, we license and purchase e-books from various publishers and provide Open Access e-books to students and faculty whenever available at no cost. When permitted by copyright, we also digitize high-value, high-risk, and high-demand materials. Additionally, we operate a course reserve service to circulate copyrighted materials for students enrolled in specific courses.

If I understand the resolution correctly, it focuses on textbooks and course reading materials. We also manage an Open Educational Resources (OER) program, which collaborates with faculty to develop free and low-cost learning materials. You can learn more about it: <https://libraries.uta.edu/dept/oerds>.

Our overarching goal is to systematically enhance the affordability of student learning. The library's above initiatives play a key role in this effort, and we are actively seeking synergies among partners to maximize the impact of these services. The timing of this resolution is excellent, and I look forward to learning more about it.

Best,

John

From: Machungo, Anari Onyonka <axm3335@mavs.uta.edu>

Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 at 8:28 PM

To: Wang, Zheng <zheng.wang@uta.edu>

Cc: Palacios, Austin Elijah <aep6870@mavs.uta.edu>, Lopez, Gaven <gaven.lopez@uta.edu>, Student Government <studentgovernment@uta.edu>, Nwankwor, Chidera <chidera.nwankwor@uta.edu>

Subject: UTA Student Government *Resolution 25-04 e-bookworm*

Dear Zhang,

I hope this email finds you well. I am reaching out to you on behalf of the **student government here at UTA** to inquire about the library's processes and strategies related to e-books and the potential for new partnerships. Specifically, I would appreciate any insights on the following:

1. Could you share the **library's processes for obtaining e-books**, including any steps involved in converting physical books into digital formats?
2. Could you provide an overview of the **library's current partnerships** related to e-book acquisition and access?
3. With this resolution, would the library be open to **collaborating** with the organizations and partners mentioned within it?
4. Lastly, what would it **cost** the library to provide free e-books to the entire university community?

I greatly appreciate your time and consideration in addressing these questions. Your insights will be invaluable as we explore ways to enhance access to digital resources for our students and faculty. Find attached a copy of the resolution.

Thank you in advance for your response.

 [Resolution 25-04 e-Bookworm.docx](#)

Warm regards,



Machungo, Anari
Student Government Senator
College of Engineering
Email: axm3335@mavs.uta.edu



Outlook

Resolution 25-04 "e-Bookworm" OER meeting main points

From Machungo, Anari Onyonka <axm3335@mavs.uta.edu>

Date Wed 2/26/2025 8:00 AM

To Palacios, Austin Elijah <aep6870@mavs.uta.edu>

Cc Lopez, Gaven <gaven.lopez@uta.edu>; Student Government <studentgovernment@uta.edu>; Nwankwor, Chidera <chidera.nwankwor@uta.edu>

Hope you are well. Here is the summary of the main points I heard from the meeting with the OER director on Friday. She will be in our next committee meeting to discuss more.

1. OER- Faculty chooses materials and can make modifications.
2. The Library gives grants to faculty on OER.
3. Inclusive access is managed by departments/provost.
4. The library cannot get more deals on e-books.
5. There is a state freeze on increasing school fees.
6. McGrawhill, Cengage and similar are not likely to work with the library.

Warm regards,



Machungo, Anari
Student Government Senator
College of Engineering
Email: axm3335@mavs.uta.edu

Bookstore is powered by follett. They are run by another organization that connects them with the University. Greg Hladik Executive Director of Auxiliary Services. (day to day contact with library)

- 1) Ebooks can be obtained from the bookstore/website/amazon or any other ecommerce retailer. OER's when they are digital can be obtained through Canvas or through link in the course syllabus. Sometimes materials are included within the fees and they are a separate line item fee.
 - Inclusive access saves anywhere between 10 and 40 percent materials are included.
 - Equitable access is a program in which all materials and supplies are included in tuition or as a course fee with everything being provided at a reduced price. Where you may pay an additional 30\$ per credit hour (varies by university)

For Chem 1441 (Labflow simulator, Alex software, Printed Text book, Lab Manual)

280 traditional

220 inclusive

120 equitable

Staggering it in would be better.

- 2) OER's are free. There is no reason for the University to provide that if it is already free. American YAWP by Locke is an example of an OER. If you want print then you need to buy it. History 1301 and 1302
- 3) Instructors have academic freedom to choose which materials and textbooks are required for their course. So there is no way that the book store could help with offering different e-course material if the instructor or professor chooses course material that is incompatible with ebooks. They offer it for those that can offer it. President
- 4) Publishers make the decisions regarding when the expiration happens. The people that the Bookstore works with are 120, 180, 360, lifetime depending on how much you want to pay or what is offered\ Expiration does not start until you open the book. I may need to get more information about the subscription.
- 5) We do business with like 900 publishes
McGrawhill, Cengage, Pearson, Elesvier that do digital

Jessica Mclean Director of Open Educational Resources

I have reviewed the contents

