



## POLICY 9.22

### POSITION

#### *E-text Choice and Cost Savings Sharing*

#### POLICY RESPONSIBILITY

Council

#### POLICY

WHEREAS AUSU believes that our members should receive a quality education that is competitive in its use of educational technologies, course and program offerings, and student service;

WHEREAS AUSU is supportive of the provision of electronic materials for our members, but is concerned that the current e-text program does not provide adequate choice for students on what form of textbook is best for their learning style or budget;

WHEREAS AUSU has received a very high volume of member concerns and complaints about key features of the e-text program, particularly in regards to lack of choice in product use and sharing of cost savings with students;

WHEREAS AUSU members have expressed concerns that courses using e-text and traditional text have the same material resource fee;

WHEREAS AUSU has advocated for choice since the very being of the e-text initiative;

WHEREAS choice is defined by AUSU in this case as:

any option that allows students to select a traditional or electronic version of a textbook (assuming the book is available in both formats); with a corresponding difference in material resource fee as charged to students.;

**The position of AUSU is that Athabasca University should always give students a choice in text book format and that any cost savings associated with the use of e-text should be passed on to the student.**

#### POLICY HISTORY

Original Approval Date: November 12, 2015

Last Review Date: August 8, 2017 (informal)

Review by Date: August 2018