

Garry,
As our faculty senator, you have encouraged us to bring issues to you regarding problems we have on campus, so I wanted to bring this to you.

I have 88 students enrolled in Writing 1230. I require a textbook for the class. It is a fairly common text that many in our department use: Writing in the Disciplines. Several students emailed me over the past few days asking how they can do the work I've assigned since they could not get the textbook at the UCA bookstore because they are sold out. (The bookstores off campus have the books, but students are ordering them with our bookstore).

I polled my students informally today. Nineteen of my eighty-eight students were unable to get the textbook before class today. They have ordered the books and expect to have them before Friday.

I have spoken with the bookstore in the past, and they have told me that they only order a percentage of the books that we give them because many students go off campus to purchase books. I can understand the logic, but semester after semester, my students are waiting for a week after class begins (or more) to be ABLE to purchase textbooks. I think a larger percentage of our first year students use the book store on campus, and I would like to see them accommodate that.

One young woman came up to me after class when I said I was going to contact my faculty senator about the issue to tell me that she has only been able to get one of the books she needs so far, and she preordered hers because she did not want there to be any issues.

I appreciate your attention.