

B-3 Student Life Committee, 2017-18 Annual Report

Anna Gál, Chair

The Student Life Committee had meetings in November, February and in March. The November meeting focused on brainstorming about various ways the committee could be helpful to students on campus. At the request of the student members of the committee, in the February meeting we started to discuss how the delay in submitting textbook selections to the coop by faculty causes a significant financial burden on students. After gathering more data from the coop, in the March meeting we discussed how to raise more awareness among faculty about the importance of submitting textbook and course material selections on time.

Here is a short summary of the main points of our discussions. The issue seems to plainly be that faculty are not aware of the negative financial implications of the delay in submitting textbook information. First, when textbook selections are submitted late, students and the coop alike are unable to search for the best prices and end up paying higher prices for the same materials. Second, when required course materials are not submitted in a timely manner, the coop is unable to verify if a textbook will be used in the future and therefore are unable to offer significant value for a book a student may be trying to sell to them.

We reached out to the Faculty Council to consider this in a general Faculty Council meeting. Due to scheduling issues, this could not be done in the current semester. We hope to continue discussing this in the next year and finding effective ways to raise faculty awareness of this problem.