

**Professional Ethics and Responsibilities Committee (PERC)  
Santa Monica College  
Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, April 28, 2016

3.15pm to 4.15 pm

HSS 261

**In attendance:** Walker Griffy, Chair; Valerie Narey; Brian Rajski; Chau Tran; Lisa Farwell

**Apologies:** Joelle Adams, Secretary; Christopher Stiles

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Public Comments**

**III. Action Items**

**a. Approval of 03/10/15 Minutes**

The committee unanimously approved the minutes.

**b. First read of Textbook Adoption draft**

The Committee reviewed the first draft of a piece for *SMC Ethics* on choosing affordable textbooks. Walker Griffy contextualized the issue by giving some background on the Senate Executive Committee's discussion of web alternatives to textbooks. In addition to suggestions on style and editing, the Committee discussed how new options such as textbook rentals might alleviate some of the problem. The Committee agreed there should be more emphasis on the instructor's responsibility to inform students of cheaper options for acquiring the text. The first read of the draft was approved.

**c. First read of Book Buyer sidebar**

The Committee commented on a draft for a newsletter sidebar by Valerie Narey on textbook buyers. The Committee decided more should be said about how this practice could lead to higher priced textbooks for students. The Committee also had reservations about too directly suggesting using extra textbooks to financially help students. The Committee also debated what one book buyer meant by offering to "scan" a personal library and whether such a practice was ethical. The first read was approved.

**d. RateMyProfessor survey results**

The Committee discussed the results of the RateMyProfessor survey linked to the previous issue of *SMC Ethics*. The committee decided to drop one result due to the low number of respondents. The committee approved the release of the rest of the survey results.

**IV. Final Announcements**

Walker Griffy announced that he will continue as chair of PERC and requested all members of the committee who wished to continue on it next year to notify him.

**V. Adjournment**