

The Associated Students of the California Maritime Academy

A Resolution Affirming the Validity of Digital Textbooks in Modern Education

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- **WHEREAS**, The Associated Students of The California Maritime Academy (the Association) is the officially recognized voice for the cadets of the California Maritime Academy; and,
- **WHEREAS**, The authority of the Association shall be vested in its Executive Officers and in the A.S. Council; and,
- **WHEREAS**, The Association has long supported those effective teaching methods, technologies, and policies which are of greatest educational and financial benefit to the students they represent; and,
- **WHEREAS**, Digital editions of textbooks increase course material accessibility for students, especially those with impairments, by featuring lighter weight, scalable print, high contrast, text-to-speech conversion, and ease-of-operation; and,
- WHEREAS, The lower cost of acquiring a full or rental digital edition from a campus bookstore or publisher makes owning or using reference materials, and the overall cost of education, more achievable for those who are financially challenged; and,
- **WHEREAS**, The Association supports and looks towards implementing environmentally friendly options and alternatives to conventional resources; and,
- **WHEREAS**, Digital copies of textbooks have dramatically less environmental impact as they are paperless and do not require manufacturing or shipping; and,
- **WHEREAS**, The use of technology has become an integral part of our education and the industries for which we prepare; and,
- WHEREAS, The responsible use of digital editions does not violate current or future standards of Academic Integrity, and further enhances them by decreasing the need to share books; and,
- **WHEREAS**, The appropriate use of display devices is the responsibility and privilege of the cadet, with appropriate supervision from instructors; and,
- **WHEREAS**, The increasing availability of digital editions from sources such as our bookstore, library, and publishers has led to dramatically increased demand for these resources; and,
- **WHEREAS**, Faculty acceptance of the use of digital editions is currently inconsistent and varied; therefore be it.
- **RESOLVED**, That the Associated Students of the California Maritime Academy, in recognition of the increased levels of technology becoming present in today's classrooms and businesses, herewith and henceforth hold that digital editions, and the appropriate use of the electronic devices which display them, are valid and acceptable reference materials in any academic context where traditionally published materials are currently permitted and/or required; and be it finally,
- **RESOLVED**, That full and true copies of this document be produced and distributed widely, including, but not limited to, CMA President Thomas Cropper, Provost Gerald Jakubowski, Academic Dean Dr. Nael Aly, Vivienne McClendon, Academic Department Chairs, the Faculty of the California Maritime Academy, and the cadets of The California Maritime Academy.

Passed and Adopted, this 27th day of January, Two Thousand and Fourteen, by a unanimous vote