

ACADEMIC
AFFAIRS

Office of the Provost
and Vice President

Anne M. Kress, Ph.D.

Robertson Administration Bldg
F-255
3000 NW 83rd Street
Gainesville, FL
32606-6210

Office 352-395-5843
Fax 352-395-7362

anne.kress@sfcc.edu



Academic Foundations

Academic Technologies

Center for Instructional Design

Educational Centers

Honors

Institutional Effectiveness,
Research & Planning

International Education

Lawrence W. Tyree Library

Liberal Arts & Sciences

Technology & Applied
Sciences

Economic Development



September 25, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: Faculty

FROM: Anne Kress

SUBJECT: Textbook Buyers on Campus

My office has now been contacted by faculty from various departments who are concerned about solicitations from vendors seeking to buy examination copy textbooks. Faculty have been contacted in person and via email, and in turn, they have sought some clarification from my office regarding the practice. This memo is to serve as guidance for faculty who might be approached by textbook buyers.

Locally, the Santa Fe College Rules Manual has two rules that specifically address the issue of conducting business on campus:

- 2.10 / Dissemination of Information on College Premises
The rule includes the following statement: “Commercial Activities: Commercial solicitation or sales are prohibited. Group presentations or demonstrations for commercial purposes in public areas are also prohibited.”
- 6.4 / Use of College Facilities
The rule includes the following statement: “However, College facilities will not be made available to persons from within or outside of the College for programs or activities: . . . 6) intended for the purpose of earning a personal profit . . .”

In both cases, the Rules preclude commerce.

The issue of selling desk copies has also reached the attention of the Florida legislature. This past legislative session, Florida passed a bill aimed at addressing textbook affordability (HB 603); the bill went into law as of July 1, 2008 (F.S. 1004.085). In part, it placed restrictions on the sale of sample textbooks:

- (2) An employee may receive: (a) Sample copies, instructor copies, or instructional materials. These materials may not be sold for any type of compensation if they are specifically marked as free samples not for resale.

This statement is unequivocal as regards this class of faculty desk copies. Selling such texts is now against Florida law. You can find the entire text of the new law in the Florida Statutes online (see the quick link at <http://tinyurl.com/4c3uhn>). The new statute (1004.085) also includes a prohibition against accepting “any payment, loan, subscription, advance, deposit of money, service, or *anything of value*” in return for adopting a textbook (emphasis mine).

I hope this memo provides the required clarification. Please contact me with any questions.