

Bookstore Committee Annual Report 2023 – 2024

Elected members:

- Nicole Cooke School of Information Science (2025)
- Monica Colón-Aguirre School of Information Science (2025)
- Sabrina Habib School of Journalism & Mass Communication (2026)
- Fang Meng (Chair) School of Hospitality and Tourism Management (2024)
- Susan Rathbun-Grubb School of Information Science (2024)
- Stacy Winchester Library Digital Resources (2026)

Appointed members:

- Gracie Auld College of Information & Communications
- Alexander Barth Department of Biological Sciences

The Bookstore Committee met virtually via MS Teams during the 2023-2024 academic year and discussed other issues as they arose via email.

Meeting dates:

- October 2, 2023
- October 30, 2023
- March 20, 2024

On September 19, 2023, several faculty members (including two members of the Bookstore Committee) were invited to attend the focus group at the Russell House regarding the Barnes and Noble’s “First Day Complete” program.

Bookstore Committee Chair Fang Meng received emails from the USC faculty members regarding their questions and concerns on this program. The Bookstore Committee had a meeting on October 2, 2023 to discuss this matter and generated a list of key points of the “First Day Complete” program.

Fang Meng made a presentation on the Faculty Senate meeting on October 4, 2023 and requested faculty senators to share the information with their unit colleagues and to collect questions/feedback. The Bookstore Committee communicated with Wayne Otten (Chair of Faculty Senate) about the possible ways to gather feedback from the USC faculty and students.

On October 30, 2023, the Bookstore Committee had a meeting with Joseph Fortune, Director of Revenue Contract Management and Support, who coordinated the “First Day Complete” Program with Barnes and Noble representatives. Bookstore Committee

members asked more questions about this program. Fang Meng shared all the email feedback received from USC faculty members with Joseph Fortune and Wayne Outten.

Barnes and Noble representatives presented the “First Day Complete” program in the Faculty Senate Meeting on November 1, 2023, followed by Q&A. Fang Meng continued the email correspondence with faculty members who raised questions/concerns afterwards.

On November 22, 2023, Wayne Outten announced the decision letter from Provost Arnett that the University of South Carolina will not participate the Barnes and Noble “First Day Complete” program. Bookstore Committee Chair shared this information accordingly.

On March 20, 2024, the Bookstore Committee had a meeting with the University Bookstore manager Sarah Polley regarding the textbook adoption and due date timing. The Bookstore Committee has Stacy Winchester as the new chair for the academic year 2024-2025.