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August 18, 2008

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**How Students Might Help the Open Textbook Movement**

Dear Mr. McNealy:

We recently learned of your vision and passion to create open, online textbooks. Would you have a half-hour to meet to discuss how we might help your efforts?

We are a group of thousands of students on 30 California campuses working to make college in California more affordable. We have infrastructure support from the Greenlining Institute, a multi-ethnic policy organization based in Berkeley.

Because so many students have difficulty affording outrageous textbook prices, last year we organized students statewide to pass AB 1548, a textbook pricing transparency bill. By the time AB 1548 was signed into law, it was so distorted by pressure from the textbook lobbyists that we had dropped our sponsorship.

We want textbooks to go the way of Encyclopedia Britannica. We are willing to be the foot soldiers in this effort online and on campuses all over the state. Please let us know how we can help you – organizing students, lobbying legislators, blogging, spreading the word online, or whatever else.

We look forward to meeting with you.

Sincerely,

Valeria Fike-Rosales Lead Student Organizer	Ami Patel New Tech Organizer	Wan Nguyen Research Coordinator
Hilda Morales Greek System Outreach Director	Michael Gallin Community College Lead Organizer	Chris Vaeth UC/CSU Outreach Director

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Black Economic Council  
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California Journal  
California Rural Legal Assistance  
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Greater Phoenix Urban League  
Hermandad Mexicana Latinoamericana  
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KHEIR Center  
La Maestra Family Clinic  
Mabuhay Alliance of San Diego  
Mexican American Grocers Association  
Mexican American Political Association  
Minority Business Council  
Mission Language & Vocational School  
NaFFAA  
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