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Academic Calendar 11-2-2009

Submitted by Patricia Humphrey

11/2/2009

Discussion:

With the potential for major changes to the academic calendar, including standard class times, I request the Senate discuss and give input to the current proposals. The Calendar Committee will be having another meeting November, 19, however, the information current as of November 2 will be posted by Ginger as an addition to this discussion request.

Rationale:

Calendar changes by BOR and the proposal of Maymester, as well as class time changes impact all faculty.

Response:

Discussion Item: Academic Calendar Pat Humphrey (COST): "The Board of Regents has changed the earliest start date/latest end date, so there actually is some leeway in terms of scheduling semesters. There's a potential to get rid of the old Monday/Wednesday afternoon hour-and-fifteen minute classes and make Monday/Wednesday/Friday 50 minute classes. There's also a potential for a Maymester idea, a three-week mini semester, which, as Mike Deal indicated to us, was primarily intended for things like short-term study. [The committee asked her to bring] "this to the SEC and the Senate itself to get some input before the Calendar Committee reconvenes . . .this Thursday. . . . I don't know what our agenda is for Thursday's meeting. I believe it's probably just further discussion based on what kind of input and

feedback we've gotten. I do know that the George-Anne, in an article last week, said that a final decision wouldn't be made until sometime in the spring semester."

Bruce Grube (President) noted that whatever is decided must go through the Enrollment Management Council. Enrollment management "is a very intricate process and it seems like we zero in on some things without realizing that you have tails off into lots of other parts of the University and into how we manage credit hours and class schedules."

Michelle Haberland (CLASS) said that faculty in the college she represents are in favor of keeping as many hour-and-fifteen sessions or classes as possible.

Mark Welford (COST) said it was important to keep Monday/Wednesday classes, as many students miss class on Fridays in Monday/Wednesday/Friday classes.

Kent Murray (CLASS) said quite a few of his colleagues also support the Monday/Wednesday hour-and-fifteen minute classes, and he indicated that the university also needs Fridays to have meetings, without having some scheduled meeting times that conflict with classes.

Clara Krug (CLASS) asked whether the faculty would "be forced to adopt the Monday/Wednesday/Friday afternoon classes because of the surge in enrollment and the lack of classrooms available to meet student needs if we don't use the Monday/Wednesday/Friday afternoons?"

Gary Means (Provost) said: "In our process at looking at options we're really trying to look at a number of venues and what the impact would be. Certainly as we look out, and again, this calendar is for next year's calendar. We are two years out and beyond, and so the notion of classroom space may well be an issue for us, so that was one of the reasons we were trying to look at some other options of freeing up some classroom space, and moving into some of the time on Friday afternoon to at least pick up some other classes. Also the issue of evening classes [is included in] that too, but it is part of what I think we're going to have to be looking at." He added that the committee is "probably a couple of months away from anything coming up."

Attachments:

[USG Policies-Comparison](#)

[Academic Year End Start Dates](#)

[Fall 2012 w Fall Break-Spring 2013](#)

[Proposed Summer 2011 4 Day Class Week](#)

[Standard Class Meeting Times 15 min revised 2-04-2005 Proposed](#)

[Standard Class Meeting Times Current](#)