



A/P Academic Calendar Committee

The following is information from the Academic Calendar committee that met this summer prior to my appointment to this committee. Their work must be done in a timely manner to make recommendations to the Provost, since this is not a decision making body. In making their recommendations, the following is required:

- Fall semester cannot begin before August 16
- There must be 4 weeks between fall and spring semesters
- There must be 4 weeks between spring and summer semesters
- There must be 2 weeks between summer and fall semesters
- There must be 73-74 days (plus exam week) during fall and spring semester
- There must be 37 days in summer session

Views have been expressed that a fall break needs to be reinstated for student stress. Other issues include how to address the calendar when there are 2 Monday holidays in a semester, which is problematic for classes that meet only once a week, or lab sections. In addition to the requirements, there are traditional courtesies to consider, including:

- Veterans day when it falls within a work week
- Placing spring break after week 6, and expectation of local public school systems
- Consideration that University offices (student services, parking, housing, advising) must work Saturday (~12K) if fall starts on a Monday
- Religious observances of major holidays
- Breaks need to be long enough to allow field research to be scheduled
- Anytime the University closes, residence halls close and students must vacate so multiple closures are complicated
- Need to maintain a travel day before Thanksgiving, as students will leave anyway

Modifications to the FY12 schedule to add a short Fall break and a shorter Thanksgiving, and following the same plan for '13 and '14.

We do not know if these recommendations will be implemented, as the Chancellor is determining whether furlough days will be necessary next year.

Respectively submitted by  
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