

## **RESOLUTION**

### **Recommended changes to academic calendar**

1. Given the benefits of a six-day examination period in Fall and Spring Terms, the fact that only two examination slots are now scheduled on the seventh day, and the fact that the normal scheduling of Tuesday and Thursday classes does not use the TR 10-10:50 and TR 1-1:50 time slots, we recommend that the practice of scheduling final exam slots for the time periods TR 10-10:50 and TR 1-1:50 be discontinued.
2. We recommend that the final examination period for the regular Fall and Spring Terms consist of six days, beginning on a Monday and ending on a Saturday.
3. We recommend that classes for each regular Fall and Spring Term begin on a Wednesday and end on a Friday. With holidays for Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and the day after Thanksgiving, each Fall Term will contain 45 MWF class meetings and 30 TR meetings. [This is the minimum required to attain the SACS mandated 2250 contact minutes per semester for a three credit-hour course.] With holidays for Martin Luther King's birthday observance, Spring Break, and Honors Day, each Spring term will contain 45 MWF class meetings and 31 TR meetings.
4. We recommend that classes for each Spring Term begin on the first Wednesday following January 4 and that classes for each Fall Term begin on the first Wednesday following August 19. [When January 4 is on as Wednesday, the official celebration of the Sunday New Year's Day is Monday which would leave only Tuesday, Jan. 3 for testing, orientation, etc. This Fall schedule allows for a minimum of four business days between the last day of examinations and Christmas Day, for the collection, processing, and mailing of grades.]
5. We recommend that Interim Term and Summer Terms be scheduled so that the week following the completion of second Summer Term's examinations is free.
6. We note that with the elimination of the seventh day of examinations, the Interim Term/Summer Term schedule can begin either on the Monday immediately following the completion of the Spring examination schedule or one week later. We recommend that the positioning of this block take into account not only the established bounds of the University's Fall and Spring Terms but also the dates for the opening and closing of elementary and secondary schools both locally and throughout the state. If both positions work effectively, we recommend the earlier to extend the August break.
7. We recommend that , when semester schedules are solicited, departments be informed of the examination schedules for those semesters, so faculty may take this information into account as they see fit in selecting times for their classes.

8. We recommend that, in the second Summer Term, classes not be ended at 5 PM on the last class day (Thursday) and that examinations not be scheduled for that evening. [Doing so blocks out evening classes which need the Thursday time to make up their required duration. There are only five examination slots scheduled and these can easily be accommodated on Friday and the first two slots on Saturday. (This is not a problem for the first Summer Term because classes end on a Friday and there are no scheduled Friday classes to conflict with Friday exams.)]

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