

### **THE VIEW ON THE NOTES**

The opinion of the senate is that the notes are too detailed. For this reason, the notes will change to become more in line with “the spirit of the senate.” In other words, instead of moment-by-moment detail the notes will now be much more akin to summaries.

### **THE SCOPE OF J-TERM/EFFECT ON CALENDAR**

The Question:           What should the scope of J-Term be and in what way should the calendar be tweaked?

Thoughts from a previous senate on J-Term:

1. Two weeks after Thanksgiving
2. Go farther past New Year’s
3. What are parameters of summer break?

Various calendars attempted to address these ideas, yet it resulted in arguments about contact hours with students.

In the most recent iteration of the calendar, submitted on December 18, 2010, a proposed 2012-13 calendar was presented (which has been distributed to the faculty senate). It was emailed to the Provost and Sharon Sullivan... The result was that there were concerns about the effects on the staff. In addition, it was determined that it was too radical of a shift to implement.

This means for the current senate (2011/12) that this calendar may not work because the provost also has to consider the effects on housing, athletics, etc. That means before the faculty senate produces this product we need to meet with housing, athletics, etc. to collect the data ourselves in order to write the ideal calendar.

Essentially, what we present to our colleagues for a calendar needs to have unity and the rationale behind it. So, we need to create the calendar and figure out how to link it to J-Term. And as long as we have principles behind it then we can have a leg to stand on when it comes to other program decisions.

Question:           What is the next step for calendar?

We need to figure out how many contact hours we need to have, and what would happen if we tweaked the calendar. This could have ramifications with SACS. Basically, we’re not really sure if SACS is even concerned about our calendar.

Step One:           Meet with Barry Sang about SACS to clarify that organization’s thoughts (if any) on calendar.

**Step Two:** Get a consensus from the faculty about contact hours... Don't talk about it in terms of weeks, talk about it in terms of the number of class days that may change.

Some discussion about how to get the contact minutes to work T/R vs MWF vs SEGS classes and what it would mean for breaks... Essentially, we have to get away from the weeks conversation because this proposal is so very close to matching what we already have.

Question: How do we best address the faculty about the calendar so that we don't get lost in the weeks-conversation?

Perhaps we should do color-coded calendars so that the faculty can see the correlation between old and new calendars.

Sidebar: Drop/Add days this semester were a little off because we started on a Wednesday. It's possible that students can miss four class periods before adding a class. We need to make sure the drop/add timeframe works with the new calendar.

Question about Step Two: What do we want to try and talk about with our colleagues first—calendar and j-term?

Senate's Thoughts: The changes in the calendar are driven by J-Term. That may necessitate a concrete plan for J-Term along with our presentation of a new calendar.

On the other hand, the faculty may like to see the calendar (with a rough sketch of J-Term). That way we can get the faculty to agree to the calendar first, and then come back with a concrete j-term plan.

Question (with ten minutes to go): What should happen next? Should a memo be sent out to our colleagues?

Senate's Thoughts: Should we consult with housing? The Senate President could visit housing and athletics to make sure our ideas are okay.

The Plan: A memo should be written to the faculty senate in which the calendar is sold to the Senate. The senate will then respond to that memo with suggestions. And then a third draft will be written after the pros and the cons are considered.

Question: How does everybody feel about moving J-Term deeper into January?

Senate's Thoughts: Let's discuss that for next meeting because we don't have enough time to discuss it today.