

Senate Calendar Committee

Wednesday 18 October, 2 p.m., Zoom

Attendance: Richard Charnigo (chair), Karen Clancy, Christine Harper (ex-officio), Rosie Lanphere, ToniMarie Marchioni, Nicky Lewis, Roger Brown (guest)

1. The Senate Calendar Committee (SCC) received a request from the Senate Rules and Elections Committee (SREC), via the Senate Council, to consider whether it makes sense to have prep days for summer session in a manner similar to that for fall and spring semesters. Roger Brown, chair of the SREC, attended this portion of our meeting as guest and presented the concern that there doesn't seem to be a clear pedagogical rationale for, e.g., including prep days in a course scheduled in the last four weeks of summer session versus excluding prep days from a course scheduled in the first four weeks of summer session. The SCC identified three possible recommendations to Senate Council for moving forward: (a) preserving the status quo, with prep days at the end of the summer session; (b) having prep days be class-specific, such as each class having X prep days immediately before its final examination, with X determined by the number of weeks the class meets; or, (c) omitting prep days from summer session altogether. Each of the options has a liability: for (a), what the SREC identified; for (b), the possibility of confusion among students and faculty, since such a change would be at variance with current policies for fall and spring semesters; and, for (c), not giving students some protected time to prepare for their final examinations. The SCC clearly leaned toward option (b) at the meeting, but discussion will be ongoing.

2. The SCC was asked to review omnibus calendars for academic years 2024-25 and 2026-27, the latter being regarded as tentative, for the University generally and for programs in Medicine, Pharmacy, Dentistry, and Law. The SCC reviewed the calendars, identified several corrections, and raised a couple of questions. Since the time of the SCC meeting, the corrections have been made, and the questions have been addressed. Once these calendars receive endorsement from the SCC (a process being carried out after the meeting by electronic correspondence), the calendars will be forwarded to the Senate Council.