

Recommendations of Senate Rules and Elections Committee

Background:

In previous actions across a number of years, the University Senate has adopted new policies for the academic University Calendar. These policies are:

- (A) establishing a Winter Intersession,
- (B) establishing a single twelve week Summer Session and
- (C) establishing a new (additional) Fall Semester academic holiday period.

The Senate Council tasked the Senate Rules and Elections Committee (SREC) with codifying into Section 2 of the University Senate Rules these calendar policies, including addressing the matter of naming of two academic holiday periods now occurring in the Fall Semester. The SREC incorporated these new calendar policies as shown in the attached revised Section 2 (see yellow highlights). (The SREC also used the opportunity to make clarifying edits/reorganization of material in Section 2, which are also shown in 'track changes' red/blue on the attached).

The SREC found that incorporation of these previous Senate actions into Section 2 caused several issues to arise that the SREC considers are 'substantive policy,' beyond the editorial codification/clarification charge of SREC. Specifically,

- (1) Considering that the previous four week Summer 'Term' no longer exists, the SREC found it helpful for the Senate Rules globally to redefine the calendar word 'term' to collectively refer to the Fall and Spring Semesters, the single Summer Session, and the Winter Intersession.
- (2) Because there now exist two academic holiday periods in the Fall Semester, the SREC recommends that the first (occurring near midterm) be officially named "Fall Break" and the second (occurring near the University Thanksgiving Holiday) be officially named "Thanksgiving Break."

SREC Recommendation:

- (1) That the University Senate approve the above recommended redefinition of the calendar word "term" (to be codified in both Section 2 and Glossary).

SREC Recommendation:

- (2) That the University Senate approve the above recommended names for the two Fall Semester academic holiday periods.

Section 2. Rules Relating To The Academic University Calendar

The University Senate shall adopt policies for the University Calendar. The Registrar shall implement these policies and shall submit to the Senate Council a calendar three years in advance of fall registration, based upon SR 2.1 and 2.2 below. Upon approval by the Senate Council, the proposed calendar will be provided to the University Senate. If at least three Senators object to the proposed calendar within ten (10) days of circulation, then it shall be placed on the Senate agenda for action. In the absence of such objection, the calendar approved by the Senate Council shall be adopted. [US: 9/13/76]

2.1. CALENDAR POLICIES

2.1.1 ORGANIZATION OF ACADEMIC YEAR

The academic year shall consist of ~~two semesters~~ a Spring Semester and a Fall Semester, each lasting 15 instructional weeks, an ~~Eight~~twelve-Week-week Summer Session, ~~a Four-Week Summer Term, and a Fall Semester beginning in time to permit completion prior to the official late-December holiday break~~ and a Winter Intersession.

In the University Senate Rules, the word "term" in reference to the academic University Calendar means collectively both the Spring and Fall Semesters, the Winter Intersession, and the Summer Session.

All grades for each course shall be due in the Office of the Registrar three (3) days after the final examination is administered for that course. (See SR Error! Reference source not found..)

~~2.2~~2.1.2 TIMING OF TERMS

~~2.2.1~~2.1.2.1 Fall Semester

The Fall Semester shall begin in time to permit completion prior to the official late-December holiday break.

When Labor Day falls on September 1 or 2, classes will start on the Monday before Labor Day. When Labor Day falls on September 3, 4, 5, 6, or 7, classes will start on the Monday 14 days before Labor Day. The last day of classes will be on a Friday. Final examinations will run for ~~5~~five days, Monday through Friday. Final examinations for weekend classes will be administered the weekend before this ~~5~~five-day period. [US: 12/10/84; US: 3/20/95; US: 4/9/2001]

The Spring Semester classes will start on a Wednesday approximately 26 days after the last day of final examinations for the Fall Semester. When the Fall Semester starts on the Monday before Labor Day, the subsequent Spring Semester will begin on January 14, or 15. When the Fall Semester starts a week earlier, the Spring Semester will start on January 9, 10, 11, 12, or 13. The final day of classes will be a Friday. Final examinations will run for five days, Monday through Friday. Final examinations for weekend classes will be administered the weekend before this five-day period. [US: 3/20/95; US: 4/9/2001]

2.2.2.12.1.2.3 ~~Eight Week~~ Summer Session

The Summer Session will be scheduled so that classes begin on the Tuesday following May Commencement and last for twelve instructional weeks. [US: 3/20/95]

2.1.2.4 Winter Intersession

The Winter Intersession shall begin the Monday following the end of the Fall Semester and end with final exams on the day before the start of the Spring Semester. [US: 04/09/2007]

2.1.2.5 Summary

Labor Day	Fall Sem. begins	Spring Sem. begins	Eight Week Summer Session begins
September 1	August 27 <u>25</u>	January 14	May 10 <u>June 11</u> (June 10 in leap years)
September 2	August 28 <u>26</u>	January 15	May 11 <u>June 12</u> (June 11 in leap years)
September 3	August 22 <u>20</u>	January 9	May 5 <u>June 6</u> (June 5 in leap years)
September 4	August 23 <u>21</u>	January 10	May 6 <u>June 7</u> (June 6 in leap years)
September 5	August 24 <u>22</u>	January 11	May 7 <u>June 8</u> (June 7 in leap years)
September 6	August 25 <u>23</u>	January 12	May 8 <u>June 9</u> (June 8 in leap years)
September 7	August 26 <u>24</u>	January 13	May 9 <u>June 10</u> (June 9 in leap years)

~~1. THE FOUR WEEK SUMMER TERM BETWEEN THE CLOSE OF SPRING SEMESTER AND THE BEGINNING OF THE EIGHT WEEK SUMMER SESSION SHALL BE PROVIDED.~~

2.1.3 ACADEMIC HOLIDAYS

"Academic Holiday" means that neither classes are held, nor are assignments made due, on the academic holiday.

* If an Instructor has made an assignment due on an academic holiday, then it actually is not due until classes begin after the end of the academic holiday. [SREC: 11/22/2012]

~~National Official University~~ holidays ~~occurring during the period when classes are normally in session which~~ that shall be treated as academic holidays are Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, the day following Thanksgiving Day, Martin Luther King's Birthday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, the late December holiday period, and Election Day in presidential election years. When Independence Day falls on Saturday or Sunday, the preceding Friday or the following Monday shall be an academic holiday. [US: 4/25/88]

The Wednesday immediately before Thanksgiving Day ~~is designated as the Fall Academic Thanksgiving Break. No classes will be held, which is an academic holiday.~~ [US: 12/11/95; US 4/9/2001; US: 5/7/2007]

~~The Monday and Tuesday that begin the ninth week from the start of the University Calendar Fall Semester are designated the Fall Break, which is an academic holiday. The Friday, Saturday and Sunday after Thanksgiving Day are academic holidays. [US: 4/9/2001]~~

The tenth week of the Spring Semester shall be utilized each year as the ~~spring~~ Spring Break, which is an academic holiday. [US: 4/25/88]

~~2. ALL GRADES SHALL BE DUE IN THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR THREE (3) DAYS AFTER THE FINAL EXAMINATION IS ADMINISTERED. (SEE SR 6.4.6.)~~

2.1.4 SPECIAL CALENDARS FOR PARTICULAR COLLEGES

Due to special scheduling considerations in the Colleges of Medicine, Pharmacy, Dentistry and Law, special calendars may be adopted for these colleges. These colleges shall prepare calendars at least three years in advance, forwarding them to the Registrar to be presented to the University Senate Council, along with the University Calendar, for processing as per SR 2. Such calendars shall conform with the University Calendar as nearly as possible. [US: 4/9/2001]

The College of Pharmacy may offer a 15-week Summer Semester.

* ~~“Academic Holiday” means that neither classes are held, nor are assignments made due, on the academic holiday. If an Instructor has made an assignment due on an academic holiday, then it actually is not due until classes begin after the end of the academic holiday. [SREC: 11/22/2012]~~

~~2.3. TIMING OF SEMESTERS~~

~~2.3.1 FALL SEMESTER~~

~~When Labor Day falls on September 1 or 2, classes will start on the Wednesday before Labor Day. When Labor Day falls on September 3, 4, 5, 6, or 7, classes will start on the Wednesday 12 days before Labor Day. The last day of classes will be on a Friday. Final examinations will run for 5 days, Monday through Friday. Final examinations for weekend classes will be administered the weekend before this 5 day period. [US: 12/10/84; US: 3/20/95; US: 4/9/2001]~~

~~2.3.2 SPRING SEMESTER~~

~~The Spring Semester classes will start on a Wednesday approximately 26 days after the last day of final examinations for the Fall Semester. When the Fall Semester starts on the Wednesday before Labor Day, the subsequent Spring Semester will begin on January 14, or 15. When the Fall Semester starts a week earlier, the Spring Semester will start on January 9, 10, 11, 12, or 13. The final day of classes will be a Friday. Final examinations will run for 5 days, Monday through Friday. Final examinations for weekend classes will be administered the weekend before this 5 day period. [US: 3/20/95; US: 4/9/2001]~~

~~2.3.3 EIGHT WEEK SUMMER SESSION~~

~~The Eight Week Summer Session will be scheduled so that classes begin no earlier than June 5th or later than June 12th. [US: 3/20/95]~~

SUMMARY

Labor Day	Fall Sem. begins	Spring Sem. begins	Twelve Week begins
September 1		January 14	
September 2		January 15	
September 3		January 9	
September 4		January 10	
September 5		January 11	
September 6		January 12	
September 7		January 13	

2.4.2.2. DEVIATION FROM APPROVED CALENDAR

An adopted calendar can be changed only by action of the University Senate with the following exceptions:

1. In emergency situations this power is delegated to the Senate Council, with reporting to the University Senate.
2. Minor changes in a University Calendar may be made by the Senate Council, upon recommendation of the Registrar, and with the further provision that the Senate Council report any such changes to the University Senate.
3. The President of the University may select one day each semester and one day in the summer to use as a Presidential Convocation.

2.5.2.3. CALENDAR POLICY REVIEW

The Senate Council or an ad hoc committee designated by it shall review the University Calendar policy at least once a year and recommend to the University Senate any modifications deemed desirable to meet changing needs.

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For Senate Rules Glossary (Section 9 of Senate Rules):

~~**9.17 TECHNICAL COURSES AND PROGRAMS [US: 2/10/2003]**~~

~~Technical courses and programs are those leading to a two-year Associate of Applied Sciences degree, or academic certificate and direct placement in the workforce.~~

[SREC Note: the above is a relic provision from when the Community College System was a part of the University of Kentucky. The phrase "Technical Courses and Programs" no longer occurs in the University Senate Rules.]

9.17 Term

In reference to the academic University Calendar, "term" means collectively both Spring and Fall Semesters, the Winter Intersession and the Summer Session.