

Brothers, Sheila C

From: Timoney, David M
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2015 7:56 AM
To: Witt, Don; Cooper, Sean R; Herbst, John; Hippisley, Andrew R; Brothers, Sheila C; drew26elisabeth@aol.com; Ellis, Janie
Subject: Senate Rule 5.2.4 Proposal
Attachments: Senate Rule 5.2.4 Changes.docx

With the December commencement becoming increasingly popular, there is a suggestion to move the location of it from Memorial Coliseum to Rupp Arena. With this possible move, the Graduate and Professional ceremony would be at 10 AM and the Undergraduate ceremony would be at 3 PM. Here are the participation numbers for the December commencement over the past 5 years:

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Undergraduate	511	647	726	654	846
Graduate	116	145	147	112	110
Masters		83	76	61	63

As a result of the proposed new times and location of the ceremonies, there is a small possibility that time conflicts may occur for graduating students with previously scheduled final exams. However, for the past few years, the Registrar's Office has purposely scheduled "non-standard" exam times on the Friday afternoon of the fall semester final exam week:

Semester	Timeslot	Exam	# of Sections	% of Overall Offerings	Enrollment
Fall 2013	1:00 P.M.	Classes which meet first on Tuesday or Thursday at 4:00 P.M. OR 4:30 P.M.	88	1.58%	1,320
Fall 2013	3:30 PM	Classes which meet first on Monday, Wednesday or Friday at 5:00 P.M.	98	1.76%	1,493
Fall 2014	1:00 P.M.	Classes which meet first on Tuesday or Thursday at 5:00 P.M.	36	0.63%	517
Fall 2014	3:30 PM	Classes which meet first on Monday, Wednesday or Friday at 5:00 P.M.	33	0.58%	813
Fall 2015	1:00 P.M.	Classes which meet first on Monday, Wednesday or Friday at 4:00 P.M.	170	2.98%	2,198
Fall 2015	3:30 PM	Classes which meet first on Monday, Wednesday or Friday at 5:00 P.M.	36	0.63%	597

This has allowed the majority students and faculty to leave campus a few hours early. Consequently, these "non-standard" exam times also greatly reduce the possibility of final exam conflicts for graduating students. Here's the level impact for the 1 PM and 3:30 PM Friday final exam timeslots for Fall 2015:

Semester	Timeslot	Exam	# of Sections	100 -200 Level	300 - 400 Level	500 and Higher
Fall 2015	1:00 P.M.	Classes which meet first on Monday, Wednesday or Friday at 4:00 P.M.	169	77	32	60

Fall 2015	3:30 PM	Classes which meet first on Monday, Wednesday or Friday at 5:00 P.M.	45	10	12	23
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With that being said, there's still nothing in the Senate rules that states a student would be able to reschedule their final exam due to a conflict with a commencement ceremony. The only two listed reasons as to why a student may reschedule a final exam during final exam week are: 1) if a student has more than two final exams on one date (5.2.4.7) and 2) if a student has two final exams scheduled for the same time (5.2.4.8). Attached, please find an amendment to Senate rule 5.2.4.7 which states, "Any student that has a conflict with a University sanctioned commencement ceremony may reschedule their examination with consultation with their class instructor, for another time during the final examination period". This amendment would eliminate the possibility of a student having an exam conflict with a commencement ceremony. Please review, and let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Sean Cooper
Senior Associate Registrar

John Herbst
Executive Director, UK Student Center

David Timoney
Associate Registrar

Don Witt
Associate Provost