

3-2-21 Academic Calendar Committee

Meeting Date: 3/2/2021 03:00 PM

Location:

[Outlook Item](#)

Invitation Message:

Participants (24) ([Email meeting notes](#))

[Workman, Tamara L](#)

[Reaves, Brian E](#)

[Qin, Jun](#)

[Albert, Gena R](#)

[Dunston, Julie K](#)

[Bennett, Tena M](#)

[Conley-Holt, Jaime B](#)

[Sadeghpour, Amir](#)

[Henson, Harvey](#)

[Bryson, Todd](#)

[Tippy, Caitlin S](#)

[Hunsaker, James A](#)

[Jones-Hall, Jennifer L](#)

[Weems, Joel D](#)

[Ketzle, Amelia B](#)

[Prozesky, Corne](#)

[Sargent, Bridgette L](#)

[Sickinger, Tina M](#)

[Hughes, Harry R](#)

[Sutton, Amanda J](#)

[Bruns, Deborah A](#)

[Chandler, Anne K](#)

[Dilley, Patrick W](#)

[Debbie Bruns](#)

Notes:

Item 1: Minutes from last meeting approved.

Item 2: ACC Overview and Guidelines – Corrections made

Item 3:

1. Academic Calendar 2022-2023 Approved with change to Fall 2022 start date of August 22, 2022.
2. Academic Calendar 2023-2024 Forecasting – April 8, 2024 Solar Eclipse

Fall 2022 start date was changed to allow faculty time to get ready for classes before classes actually start. Pushed this start date back to Aug. 22. We were out of compliance with Faculty Association guidelines, with an Aug. 15 start date (orig. start date).

Next semester need to look at academic calendars for 2023-2024. Have to forecast, especially for int'l students (who need a 5 year plan), but also look at start dates for fall and spring semester so it doesn't push us out too far over for when Registrar's office does end of term processing.

2024 solar eclipse - have conversations begun on event planning for this? Nothing much yet. This time we will not be the point of longest duration in the country this time, so the scientific community likely will go elsewhere. Also, in April, we're not the ideal place to go and guarantee that weather will cooperate, and clouds are a big problem for the eclipse. There will be events going on, but it may not be to the scale of 2017.

If we can't start awarding degrees, we may have to award degrees before we break. Int'l students would have to wait until after winter break to get their credentials. In Option 1 & 2, four weeks is sufficient. Otherwise it pushes too close to summer semester. Four weeks is what's required. Won't push too close to the end of the contract period (May 15). Also with Option 1, our commencement could coincide with local high school commencements on that date. Would high schools plan these out far enough to see if we would be in conflict? CCHS has their graduation at Banterra Center, as well. Julie Dunston to look into local high schools and find out if they might know their projected dates yet. For 2020, it was during that same weekend, but she will check future dates to verify.

Share this document (Attachment 'Academic calendar') with constituency groups and get feedback on preferences between Option 1&2. SCREENSHOT BELOW

TERM	EVENT	Approved 2020-2021	Adjusted 2020-2021 COVID-19	APPROVED 2021-2022	Forecasting 2022-2023	Forecasting 2023-2024	Forecasting 2024-2025 Option 1	Forecasting 2024-2025 Option 2
Summer Inters.	BEGIN	Mon 05/11/2020		Mon 5/10/2021	Mon 5/9/2022	Mon 5/5/2023	Mon 5/13/2024	Mon 5/13/2024
	Memorial Day	Mon 05/25/2020		Mon 5/31/2021	Mon 5/30/2022	Mon 5/29/2023	Mon 5/27/2024	Mon 5/27/2024
	END	Fri 06/05/2020		Fri 6/4/2021	Fri 6/3/2022	Fri 6/9/2023	Fri 6/7/2024	Fri 6/7/2024
		-4 WEEKS-		-4 WEEKS-	-4 WEEKS-	-4 WEEKS-	-4 WEEKS-	-4 WEEKS-
Summer	BEGIN	Mon 06/08/2020		Mon 6/7/2021	Mon 6/6/2022	Mon 6/12/2023	Mon 6/10/2023	Mon 6/10/2023
	Independence Day	Fri 07/03/2020		Mon 7/5/2021	Mon 7/4/2022	Tue 7/4/2023	Thu 7/4/2024	Thu 7/4/2024
	Finals begin	Thu 07/30/2020		Thu 7/29/2021	Thu 7/28/2022	Thu 8/3/2023	Thu 8/1/2024	Thu 8/1/2024
	Finals end	Fri 07/31/2020		Fri 7/30/2021	Fri 7/29/2022	Fri 8/4/2023	Fri 8/2/2024	Fri 8/2/2024
	END	Fri 07/31/2020		Fri 7/30/2021	Fri 7/29/2022	Fri 8/4/2023	Fri 8/2/2024	Fri 8/2/2024
	Commencement	None		None	None	None	None	None
		-2WEEKS-		-2WEEKS-	-2 WEEKS-	-2 WEEKS-	-2 WEEKS-	-2 WEEKS-
Fall	BEGIN	Mon 08/17/2020		Mon 8/16/2021	Mon 8/15/2022	Mon 8/21/2023	Mon 8/19/2024	Mon 8/19/2024
	Solar Eclipse 2017	None		None	None	None	None	None
	Labor Day	Mon 09/07/2020		Mon 9/6/2021	Mon 9/5/2022	Mon 9/4/2023	Mon 9/2/2024	Mon 9/2/2024
	Fall Break begins	None		None	None	None	None	None
	Fall Break ends	None		None	None	None	None	None
	Veteran's Day	Wed 11/11/2020		Thu 11/11/2021	Thu 11/11/2022	NA	Mon 11/11/2024	Mon 11/11/2024
	T'giving Break begins	Sat 11/21/2020		Sat 11/20/2021	Sat 11/19/2022	Sat 11/18/2023	Sat 11/23/2024	Sat 11/23/2024
	T'giving Break ends	Sun 11/29/2020		Sun 11/28/2021	Sun 11/27/2022	Sun 11/26/2023	Sun 12/1/2024	Sun 12/1/2024
	Finals begin	Mon 12/07/2020		Mon 12/6/2021	Mon 12/5/2022	Mon 12/11/2023	Mon 12/9/2024	Mon 12/9/2024
	Finals end	Fri 12/11/2020		Fri 12/10/2021	Fri 12/9/2022	Fri 12/15/2023	Fri 12/13/2024	Fri 12/13/2024
	END	Fri 12/11/2020		Fri 12/10/2021	Fri 12/9/2022	Fri 12/15/2023	Fri 12/13/2024	Fri 12/13/2024
	Commencement	Sat 12/12/2020		Sat 12/11/2021	Sat 12/11/2022	Sat 12/16/2023	Sat 12/14/2024	Sat 12/14/2024
Winter Inters.	BEGIN	Mon 12/14/2020		Mon 12/13/2021	Mon 12/12/2022	Mon 12/18/2023	Mon 12/16/2024	Mon 12/16/2024
	END	Sun 01/10/2020		Sun 1/9/2022	Sun 1/15/2023	Sun 1/12/2023	Sun 1/12/2025	Sun 1/12/2025
		-4 WEEKS-		-5 WEEKS-	-4 WEEKS-	-5 WEEKS-	-4 WEEKS-	-5 WEEKS-
Spring	MLK Jr. Day	Mon 01/18/2021	Mon 01/18/21	Mon 1/17/2022	Mon 1/16/2023	Mon 1/15/2024	Mon 1/20/2025	Mon 1/20/2025
	BEGIN	Mon 01/11/2021	Tue 01/19/2021	Tue 1/10/2022	Tue 1/17/2023	Tue 1/16/2024	Tue 1/21/2025	Mon 1/13/2025
	Spring Break begins	Sat 03/06/2021	None	Sat 3/5/2022	Sat 3/11/2023	Sat 3/9/2024	Sat 3/15/2025	Sat 3/8/2025
	Spring Break ends	Sun 03/14/2021	None	Sun 3/13/2022	Sun 3/19/2023	Sun 3/17/2024	Sun 3/23/2025	Sun 3/16/2025
	Honors Day	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
	Finals begin	Mon 05/03/2021	Mon 05/03/2021	Mon 5/2/2022	Mon 5/8/2023	Mon 5/6/2024	Mon 5/12/2025	Mon 5/5/2025
	Finals end	Fri 05/07/2021	Fri 05/07/2021	Fri 5/6/2022	Fri 5/12/2023	Fri 5/10/2024	Fri 5/16/2025	Fri 5/9/2025
	END	Fri 05/07/2021	Fri 05/07/2021	Fri 5/6/2022	Fri 5/12/2023	Fri 5/10/2024	Fri 5/15/2025	Fri 5/9/2025
	Commencement	Sat 05/08/2021	Sat 05/08/2021	Sat 5/7/2022	Sat 5/13/2023	Sat 5/11/2024	Sat 5/17/2025	Sat 5/10/2025

Item 4: Final exam schedule is available on Registrar's website. Scheduling office publishes that week 3 of every semester. It's rare when we get past census data b/c that final exam schedule is produced from actual enrollment data. Used to have it developed by faculty. Takes registration data and pushes it through an algorithm that reduces the number of conflicts for students. Students used to end up with 3-4 finals on same day, back-to-back. Concerns have been greatly reduced (-80%?) so this is seen as successful.

Item 5: Jennifer Jones-Hall not present so this item cannot be decided. Fall break - discussion about going back to this rather than Thanksgiving break. 3 years ago, when we changed and looked at constituents' response, there was about a 50/50 split on opinion between the two. Faculty & staff were all over the place on opinions. (What are Civil Service preferences?) Dean of Students' concern is that when there are such long periods without a break, there are more Saluki Cares reports that need response. When students leave for T-day, they have finals very soon after. Most students leave Tuesday night. Fall break often fell in Homecoming week, which seems like a problem. Any adjustment to this wouldn't start until at least 2023 but more likely 2024. If there is any data available about how this impacts various things like student performance, etc., that would be very helpful. What other things might we do to take the pressure off? I.e., have "Spirit Day" the Friday before Homecoming rather than have classes. (Planning a Spirit Week during spring session to replace spring break.) Any other suggestions or ideas for how to break up the semester if we keep Thanksgiving break? Some students come back and have already checked out for the semester b/c Christmas break is coming up. We have

to have a minimum number of days of instruction per year. We could also consider moving to the quarter system (10 weeks) to provide more frequent breaks than the semester system (14 weeks). Or look at a 17 week semester and be able to accommodate extra time off (more frequent breaks). All those changes would probably have to go through governance to make sure everyone had a voice and we covered all our bases. Some universities are extending the length of classes to reduce the number of actual weeks required but are still providing the same overall amount of instruction. This kind of change would take a lot of planning and would probably be about a two-year process. (Any Civil Service feedback on these possibilities?)

Item 6: Carried over from the last couple of agendas. Three calendars: Administrative Holiday calendar - oversight is on administrative side of the house; identifies paid holidays and when we observe them, etc. Mainly to do with staff, not academics. Academic calendar - when does academic semester begin and end. Guidelines are related to ensuring that we have instruction hours accounted for. Registration calendar - return to tuition and fees assessment, establishing deadlines for being able to drop a class with full refund, when registration opens for next term, etc. Is there a logical way to combine these for the university community's consumption? Do we feel like we need to address this right now? If not, we can take this item off the agenda. Some of the confusion could be cleared up on the respective web pages which explains more about what they are and cross-referenced them. The administrative calendar is reflected on the registration calendar. For example, if it's a year that we have a veterans' holiday observed, the registration calendar will reference that.

Item 7: Any new discussion items? No

Item 8: Meeting schedule

(Civil Service Council - My term ends before Fall 2021 meeting - who will that be? Does CSC have a replacement lined up?)