

TO: The University Senate
FROM: Educational Policy Committee
SUBJECT: Change to Academic Regulations and Procedures on Academic Year and Calendar
DISPOSITION: University Senate for Action
REFERENCES: Purdue University Academic Regulations

RATIONALE: There are two pieces to this policy change, one, to change the configuration of summer modules and two, to update commencement to reflect the change in the summer ceremony from Sunday to Saturday. This latter change occurred about 5 years ago by Presidential action but was never formalized in the regulations.

Currently, around 85% of summer courses are taught during a 4-week (Maymester) or an 8-week term. This proposal adds flexibility to the summer calendar by permitting courses to be taught as part of: 1) a 4-week/8-week summer calendar, 2) or a 6-week/6-week summer calendar, or 3) by other approved configurations. Option 3 formalizes the current practice of allowing variable calendar course offerings as long as the course meets the requirements of a credit. The chief benefit of these changes is to recognize that the pedagogical needs of certain classes may require 8 weeks, while providing the opportunity to offer new programs that can assist with student success.

One key example of a 6-week summer session is a “bridge” program offered to incoming freshman that can help prepare them for the academic rigor of Purdue. A 6-week term is preferable to the current 8-week term because incoming Purdue students from high schools on the East and West Coasts of the US, as well some international students, graduate from high school too late to start the 8-week summer term.

A second reason for 6-week terms is, as in the academic year, financial aid may be contingent upon attaining full time status. The Purdue definition of full time status for students during summer term is six credits (http://www.purdue.edu/registrar/Students/Academic_Status.html). As a general rule, most students can only complete one class during Maymester, and thus are not eligible for any financial aid. Moving to two 6-week terms would mean that more students would at least have an opportunity to create a workable schedule that qualifies for financial aid.

Current	Proposed
Academic Regulations and Procedures	Academic Regulations and Procedures
Academic Year and Calendar	Academic Year and Calendar
<p>A. Academic Calendar (University Senate Document 90-30, April 22, 1991)</p> <p>1. The academic calendar shall consist of two 16-week semesters and three four-week summer modules. In each semester session, classes shall begin with the first instructional period of the first day.</p> <p>a. The calendar for students enrolled in</p>	<p>A. Academic Calendar (University Senate Document 90-30, April 22, 1991)</p> <p>1. Courses are scheduled during the academic year and summer session. The academic year calendar shall consist of two 16-week semesters. Summer session(s) may be one 4-week and one 8-week or two 6-week or other configurations as approved by the Provost's Office. three four-week In</p>

the fourth year of veterinary medicine will comprise 12 blocks of approximately one month duration. The starting dates for the blocks will be chosen so that the end of the 12th block coincides with the end of the second semester (University Senate Document 73-15, March 18, 1977).

b. The second semester for fifth-year pharmacy students will begin on the first Monday in January and end the 18th following Saturday. During this semester, each of these students will be scheduled for two six-week externships and one three-week clerkship.

2. The first semester shall begin on either the third or fourth Monday of August, be in recess Monday and Tuesday of the eighth week, and Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of Thanksgiving week, and classes will end on the 17th following Saturday, which shall not occur after the 20th day of December. The second semester shall begin on either the first or second Monday of January, which shall not occur prior to the seventh day of January, be in recess during the tenth week, and end on the 17th following Saturday (University Senate Document 96-4, February 17, 1997).

3. The summer session shall begin on the next Monday following the spring commencement and will comprise three four-week modules. Courses may be scheduled during any one or any combination of modules throughout the 12-week period. There shall be no classes on Memorial Day, the last Monday in May, or on July 4, nor on the nearest class day when July 4 is not a regular class day.

4. Faculty shall enter grades as completed, but no later than 5 p.m. on the second working day after the end of the respective academic term.

5. Commencement will be held as follows:
First Semester: first Sunday following the end of the first semester; Second Semester: next subsequent weekend after the end of the second semester; Summer Session: first Sunday following the end of the last summer module.

6. The faculties at regional campuses shall be free to establish their own calendar dates.

each semester session, classes shall begin with the first instructional period of the first day.

2. ~~three four-week summer module(s)~~. In each semester session, classes shall begin with the first instructional period of the first day.

a. The calendar for students enrolled in the fourth year of veterinary medicine will comprise 12 blocks of approximately one month duration. The starting dates for the blocks will be chosen so that the end of the 12th block coincides with the end of the second semester (University Senate Document 73-15, March 18, 1977).

b. The second semester for fifth-year pharmacy students will begin on the first Monday in January and end the 18th following Saturday. During this semester, each of these students will be scheduled for two six-week externships and one three-week clerkship.

3. The first semester shall begin on either the third or fourth Monday of August, be in recess Monday and Tuesday of the eighth week, and Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of Thanksgiving week, and classes will end on the 17th following Saturday, which shall not occur after the 20th day of December. The second semester shall begin on either the first or second Monday of January, which shall not occur prior to the seventh day of January, be in recess during the tenth week, and end on the 17th following Saturday (University Senate Document 96-4, February 17, 1997).

4. The summer session shall begin on the next Monday following the spring commencement and will be comprised of **one 4-week and one 8-week, or two 6-week module(s) or other configurations as approved by the Provost Office** ~~three four-week~~. Courses may be scheduled during any one or any combination of modules throughout the 12-week period. There shall be no classes on Memorial Day, the last Monday in May, or on July 4, nor on the nearest class day when July 4 is not a regular class day.

<p>C. Summer Sessions Work</p> <p>Regular work offered in the summer sessions shall be equivalent in method, content, and credit value to the work of the academic year, regular class and laboratory periods being increased proportionately. Four summer sessions may count as one year of residence</p>	<p>5. Faculty shall enter grades as completed, but no later than 5 p.m. on the second working day after the end of the respective academic session term.</p> <p>6. Commencement will be held as follows: First Semester: first Sunday following the end of the first semester; Second Semester: next subsequent weekend after the end of the second semester; Summer Session: first Sunday Saturday following the end of the last summer module.</p> <p>7. The faculties at regional campuses shall be free to establish their own calendar dates.</p> <p>C. Summer Sessions Work</p> <p>Regular work offered in the summer sessions shall be equivalent in method, content, and credit value to the work of the academic year, regular class and laboratory periods being increased proportionately. Four summer sessions may count as one year of residence</p>
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Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Purdue University Senate Educational Policy Committee,

Teri Reed-Rhoads
Chair, Educational Policy Committee
Purdue University Senate

Approving:

Danita M. Brown
James R. Daniel
Jennifer L. Dennis
Frank J. Dooley
Teresa Taber Doughty
Peggy A. Ertmer
Evangeline Flick
Christine A. Hrycyna
Harold P. Kirkwood
Robert A. Kubat
Martin A. Lopez-de-Bertodano
Craig L. Miller
Lindsey Payne
Kyle Pendergast
Teri Reed-Rhoads
Thomas H. Siegmund
A. Dale Whittaker

Disapproving:

Absent: