

To: The University Senate
From: The Purdue University Senate Educational Policy Committee
Subject: Proposal to Introduce 4-Week January Term (JTerm) to Academic Calendar
Reference: <https://www.purdue.edu/provost/documents/cwc-j-term.pdf>
Disposition: **University Senate for Discussion and Adoption**

Rationale: Purdue University has explored/discussed the concept of a “Winter Session” at various points over time. Students and instructors have expressed interest in this idea in the past. However, the University has never formalized the idea of a winter term. Students and instructors have continued to inquire about the possibility of this Winter Session.

In response to this interest, Purdue University academic Deans re-energized and developed the idea as an innovation for the post-COVID-19 period. After discussion, the Deans believed a “Winter Session” could be an opportunity for academic innovation, enhance the curriculum with creative, immersive educational experiences, and promote student success.

In fall and spring 2020-2021, a working group composed of students, staff, and faculty was formed to explore the idea of a Winter term. In consultation with the EPC, the group created a winter term proposal, where details of a January Term or “J Term” are outlined (<https://www.purdue.edu/provost/documents/cwc-j-term.pdf>).

Senate committees such as Educational Policy, Faculty Affairs, and Student Affairs discussed this proposal’s details. These details have also been the subject of a community-wide live discussion on Thursday, February 25, 2021.

Proposal: The Purdue University Senate supports the continued study of a January term that maximizes the benefits and opportunities available to students, faculty and staff.

The University Senate looks forward to working closely with the January Term Working Group to develop the current proposal-draft further, for potential implementation of a January Term

during the 2022-2023 winter session.

Committee Votes:

<u>For:</u>	<u>Against:</u>	<u>Abstained:</u>	<u>Absent:</u>
Erik Otárola-Castillo			
Li Qiao			
Thomas Brush			
Donna Ferullo			
Jennifer Freeman			
Nan Kong			
Eric Kvam			
Vanessa Quinn			
Libby Richards			
John Sheffield			
Todor Cooklev			
Thomas Siegmund			
Lisa Welp-Smith			

Students

	<u>Against:</u>	<u>Abstained:</u>	<u>Absent:</u>
<u>For:</u>			
Mili Jha			
Hannah Walter			
Pratik Kashyap			

Advisors

	<u>Against:</u>	<u>Abstained:</u>	<u>Absent:</u>
<u>For:</u>			
Keith Gehres			
Jeffery Stefancic			
Jenna Rickus			