

University of Arkansas Associated Student Government

Fall Break Counterproposal Number 1

Introduction

Since many resolutions supporting a Fall Academic Break have passed through the Associated Student Government throughout the years and there continues to be wide support from the student body to enact a Fall Academic Break, ASG respectfully requests consideration to enact a Fall Academic Break.

Overview

Fall breaks are common at other universities similar to the University of Arkansas including:

Auburn University (Nov. 19-23,2001, Week for Thanksgiving)

Cornell University (Oct. 8-9, 2001, Mon./Tues.)

Georgia Tech (Oct. 15-16, 2001, Mon./Tues.)

Kansas State University (Oct. 19, 2001, Friday)

Rice University (Oct. 15-16, 2001, Mon./Tues.)

University of Georgia (Oct. 25-26, 2001, Thurs./Fri.)

University of Kansas (Oct. 18-19, 2001, Thurs./Fri.)

University of Kentucky (Oct. 5, 2001, Friday)

University of Mississippi (Nov. 19-23,2001, Week for Thanksgiving)

University of New Mexico (Oct. 11-12, 2001, Thurs./Fri.)

University of Tennessee (Oct. 11-12, 2001, Thurs./Fri.)

West Virginia University (Nov. 19-23,2001, Week for Thanksgiving).

We are proposing to extend Thanksgiving vacation to a whole school week rather than just Thursday and Friday. This extended vacation should be optional for faculty and staff and/or additional paid vacation days.

Passage of this Fall Academic Break would give a well needed vacation to the students of the University of Arkansas. It would also better accomodate out of state students so they can travel home for Thanksgiving. An additional break would lower the stress levels of the students and make them happier and more productive. Passage of this break would show that University of Arkansas is in fact a student-oriented institution. Also, students that feel that they have a voice in their school's policies report that they are more satisfied with their school and their education. All of these should improve students' enjoyment of their education, their opinion of the University, and possibly bolster retention rates. It would also make the University of Arkansas a more appealing option to out of state students.

Request for Official Response

We have found, as ASG Senators, that the lack of vacation time in the fall semester is a significant issue with the students of the University of Arkansas. It is widely felt that the Faculty Senate, the Staff Senate, and the Administration of the University of Arkansas

should take steps to provide a fall break for the students. We feel that a serious consideration of this issue is long overdue and we respectfully request consideration of this proposal and the presentation of your official response by the end of the month of February.

