

Report of the Calendar Committee

Meeting on March 25, 2002

The calendar committee met for the first time this semester. The committee elected a chair (Joel S. Freund) and a Vice-Chair (Doug James). The committee proceeded to discuss a number of different items, some of which had been referred to the committee, including:

- A Fall break motion from Associated Student Government
- B Changing the start time of MWF classes to 8:00
- C Other calendar information
- D future meetings of the committee.

No action was taken on any proposals, but all members were to discuss the Fall break proposal with their respective constituents before the next meeting, which was scheduled for April 15, 2002.

Meeting on April 25, 2002

The first item on the agenda concerned the Academic Festival Week. It seems that the Festival Week occurred one week earlier than it should have. Dr. Nancy Talburt presented the issue of placing the week in the official calendar, and listing the start dates. The following motion was made by Dr. Talburt, was seconded, and then passed by the committee:

Academic Festival Week should be included in the official calendar, and that it will begin on the Monday of the third week of April, but no sooner than April 12, and no later than April 18.

The primary agenda item at this meeting was the ASG proposal for a Fall break. Three students presented information, and the committee discussed several possible options, including:

- A The student proposal of a week break during Thanksgiving.
- B Having class on Labor Day, and taking the Wednesday before Thanksgiving as an official holiday, in lieu of Labor Day. (This option would give a full academic week during the beginning of the semester, when it is most important. In addition, it would permit science and engineering labs to meet during that week, as well as giving a paid holiday on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving.)
- C Declaring the Wednesday before Thanksgiving an academic holiday. (This option would leave Labor Day as a holiday, and would not require staff to take a vacation day on that Wednesday.)

A motion was made to move the Labor Day holiday to the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, allowing for a three-day break with a paid holiday. The motion died for lack of a second.

The following motion was then made, seconded, and passed by the committee:

I move that we equalize the length of the fall and spring semesters to 73 days each by making the Wednesday before Thanksgiving an Academic Holiday. This change will take effect starting with the Fall 2003 term.