

Faculty Senate Academic Calendar Subcommittee Annual Informational Report

Chair: Samantha Meenach (COE)

Members: Eliane Aberdam (A&S), Bill Gordon (A&S), Sarah Amin (CHS),
Laura Meyerson (CELS), Michelangelo La Luna (A&S)

November 21, 2019

Previous Activities (2018-19)

(Full description in October 17, 2019 report presented at the rescheduled October 24th meeting)

- September 20, 2018: ACLU proposal of Election Day off and FS discussion; request to Provost to declare 11/6/18 a university-sanctioned event
- October 28, 2018: Subcommittee met to discuss Election Day and number of days of finals; Provost declined 11/6/18 request
- January 24, 2019: FS discussion of Columbus Day versus Indigenous Peoples' Day; Subcommittee looking into shortening final exam period; 2024-25 Academic Calendar approved

Previous Activities (2018-19), Continued

- February 21, 2019: Election Day versus Veterans Day presentation; suspension of University Manual to allow time to change 2020-2021 calendar to have Election Day off; presentation by Senator Meenach of changing final exam from 7 to 6 days and exams from 3 to 2 hours; Accelerated online 2021-22 and 2022-23 calendars approved
- March 21, 2019: Motion to remove requirement of weekday reading day approved; Motion to decrease final exam days from 7 to 6 days approved; Revised 2020-2021 calendar incorporating these changes approved
- April 18, 2019: Committee reported that survey about final exams will be conducted to implement changes in Fall 2021

Current Activities (2019-2020)

- September 2019: Survey went out to students and faculty regarding changing final exams from 3 hours to 2 hours
- October 24, 2019: Proposal to revise minimum number of days for final exams from 6 to 5 days and final exam length from 3 to 2 hours was approved by FS
- October 31, 2019: Subcommittee met to revise 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24, and 2024-25 calendars to reflect final exam changes; approved 2025-26 academic year calendar
- November 7, 2019: C&S approved revised calendars, 2025-26 calendars, and Summer 2024 and 2025 calendars (approved by subcommittee in spring 2019)

Current Activities (2019-20)

- University Manual 4.28 was revised and sent to CBUM for approval so that section 4.28 matches the portions of section 8 regarding the Academic Calendar Subcommittee
- Guidelines were created for the committee and new chair

Upcoming Activities

- All required calendar approvals are complete for 2019-20
- Future changes may occur regarding online program calendar approval and timing due to the launch of URI Online