

16 Week Calendar Task Force Kick Off

November 8, 2022



Purpose

- Bring forward a recommendation for a 16 week calendar model

History

- Significant campus interest for many years
- Several previous attempts by Calendar Committee
- No clear process for a major college redesign
- Two Leadership Retreats pre-pandemic
- Concerns and questions amassed
- Cal Poly confirms move to 15+1 calendar

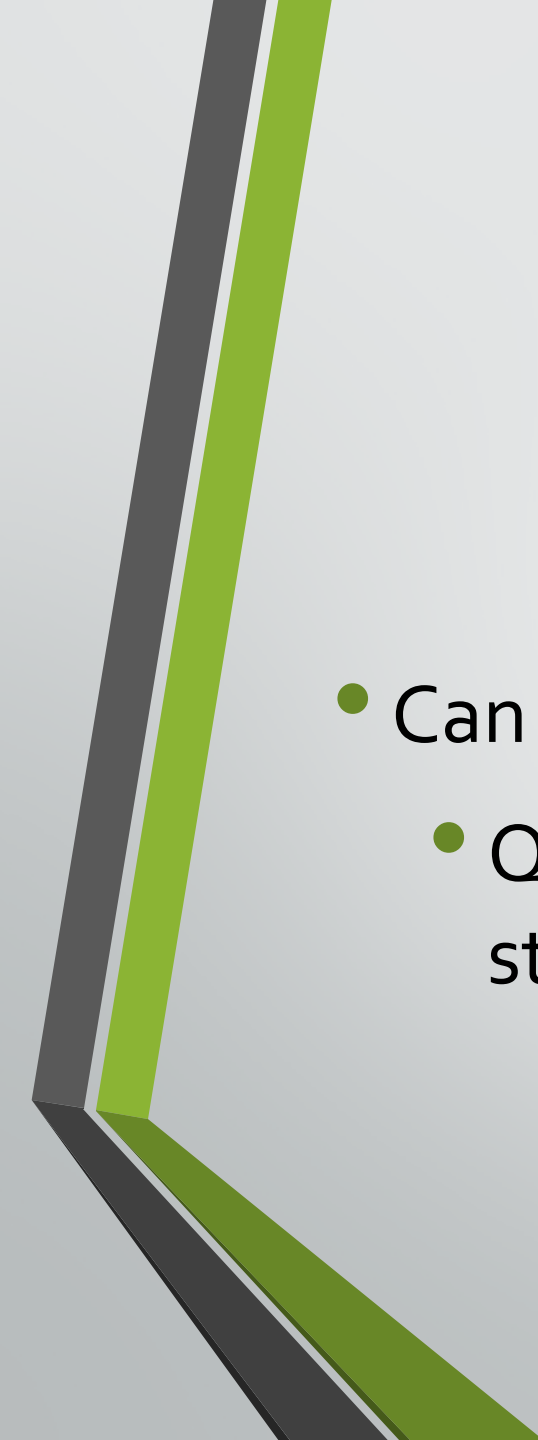


Minimum Requirement for Adoption

- Neutral to positive net impact on FTES
- Broad support of the campus community

Essential Elements


- Unified class start times
- 16 week summer to support pre-nursing, STEM, and CE programs
- 4 and 8 week compressed class options
- Robust summer schedule
- Effective early alert and holistic support model (Student Success Teams)





Questions from Leadership Retreat


February 7, 2020


- Can we survey our students and ask what they want?
 - Question the assumption that students didn't want to stay longer in classes?


- 
- If Saturday is instructional, will student services be required to be open?
 - Can we explore starting later in the spring and ending late?
 - What would shorter course pathways within our current schedule look like; many six-week courses with block start/end time like first 6-wk (1 course), second 6-wk (1 course) > for students – would take 1-wk 9+9 time, third 6-wk (1 course)

- 
- Can we fit in a winter intersession to make-up loss?
 - How might a compressed calendar at 16.5 or 16 weeks impact first-call classroom assignment for each division?
 - Will we coordinate with high schools?
 - How do we accommodate programs that have facility constraints – Saturday?

- 
- Can we reduce FLEX contract to allow compressed calendar?
 - Why is finals week a special schedule?
 - Can we push finals week back, e.g., Wednesday to Wednesday?
 - Can we explore a trimester/annual schedule with summer part of the load?

- 
- Is it possible to do a 6-week DE intersession that encompasses Christmas, i.e., starts prior to, but ends after fall semester
 - What would be the benefit of fewer FLEX days (pending negotiations)?
 - What are the negative consequences of fewer FLEX days?
 - If we move to a 16-week TLM, can same programs such as nursing remain in a longer term.

- 
- Are there programs for which a compressed calendar does not work other than Nursing?
 - What is classroom space impact?
 - What is the impact of pre-requisites with winter intersession?
 - What has been the impact on schools who have gone to a 16-week calendar - - Is there concrete data available on student success?

- 
- Who makes the final decision?
 - Have any schools that have had compressed calendars gone back to a standard 18-week.
 - Do we need standardized start/end dates for DE - - Summer (my experience with poor student success; students not realizing when their DE class starts.)

Concerns & Suggestions from CCFT

- Start fall term 1-2 weeks later in Aug but end prior to Dec 25
- End spring prior to Memorial Day weekend
- Avoid too many Monday Holidays
- With 5 flex days (3 before fall term, 2 before spring term), how do class lengths need to be adjusted for FTES purposes?
- What is the impact on FTES assuming enrollment is unchanged?

Concerns & Suggestions from CCFT

- Including plans for winter intersessions causes discussions to get off track, maybe build that after the 16 week schedule gets established?
- Block scheduling becomes problematic with longer class/lab periods being 3.1 or 3.2 hrs long.
- Flex days need to be outside of instructional term
- First day of instruction and finals week should each start on a Monday, not mid-week
- A 16+16+16 trimester system has advantages and some significant challenges. Perhaps explore after a more typical 16 week schedule gets established?



Next Steps

- Draft an instructional calendar and table of course times for campus community consideration
- Gather campus feedback
- Adjust/revise/amend as appropriate
- Launch governance review
- Bring recommendation to the Board of Trustees



Thank you!

Dr. Jill Stearns, Superintendent/President