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Cawthorn Scheduling

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Senate Executive Committee Request Form

SEC via campus mail: PO Box 8033-1

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Request for Information

9/14/2020

SHORT TITLE:**(Please provide a short descriptive title.)**

Spring Semester Schedule Changes





QUESTION(s):**(Please state your request or requests in question form as concisely as possible.)**

Question:

Why are we being asked to radically alter the spring schedule?

RATIONALE(s):**(Please explain why this issue is one of general concern for the Faculty Senate or for the University and not a matter concerning only an individual college or administrative area. Please note what other, if any, attempts you have made to garner this information before submitting this request to the Faculty Senate.)**

We are being asked with little warning and no input to radically alter the spring schedule. This includes changing all classes before 5 pm on MWF to 50 minute sections, having 85% of classes be in the f2f format, teaching in the evenings, and teaching on Saturdays (perhaps grad classes specifically). Is there evidence to support this change? Attendance in my own f2f classes currently is extremely poor. For example, last Thursday in one of my classes 2 out of 24 attended in person, 40 were on Zoom, and another 30 were not present. The 30 that were missing did not contact me regarding illness, etc. I have heard similar examples from other colleagues. Students are not making the effort. How is changing the schedule going to solve this and their dislike of being online? We will remain socially distanced, so classes will continue to be taught in subsections.

If you have an attachment, press the button below to attach to form and send. Click here to attach a file Click here to attach a file Click here to attach a file Click here to attach a file

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Note to faculty users: Double-check your data before submitting, because the data cannot be edited afterward

SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTION

9/14/2020 

Response:

Approved 

Executive Committee Response:

Sent to Carl Reiber, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs. Dr. Reiber took this and additional questions and answered all through this response and again at the Faculty Senate meeting on 17th. The Office of the Provost recently shared some scheduling advice, guidelines and recommendations along with the larger university scheduling guide. These recommendations were intended to help schedulers imagine new opportunities for the Spring 2020 schedule. As part of this, we added some new times later in the day to allow schedulers to immediately take advantage of additional instructional spaces. While we recognize that this would present a change to a small percentage of our classes, the potential benefits of opening our schedule are clear. This addition allow us to: · respond to the repeated observations from faculty, especially from the Armstrong and Liberty campuses, that later offering provides more opportunities for working and non-traditional students. · respond to expressed faculty needs; the additional times provide opportunities for faculty needing to provide child, elder, or family care. · lessen the density of campus in instructional spaces throughout the day. We already have a small number of departments using similar additional time-slots, and these additions will allow more students and faculty the same benefits.