

Minutes  
University Academic Support Committee  
February 8, 2017  
3:00 – 4:00 pm --- 406 Wallace Hall

Present – T. Brown, C. Clemenz, S. Doak, W. Ducker, J. Malone, H. McKenzie, A. Peck, T. Skuzinski, K. Smith, R. Sparks (guest), D. Thorp (chair).

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:01 and the agenda was adopted unanimously.

The committee discussed modifying the academic calendar to include a Labor Day holiday. A question arose about the need for spring and fall terms to include an equal number of days. Sparks reported that SCHEV does not require the terms be exactly the same length, but the current calendar criteria mandate equal terms.

Members of the committee expressed support for making Labor Day a non-class day. If the university wishes to keep the terms equal length, the opening of spring term should be delayed one day, but if the university does not insist on equal length terms, the calendar criteria should, be changed to permit that option.

The Chair introduced a motion that the committee supports making Labor Day a non-class day. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

The Chair introduced a motion that the committee supports allowing a difference of no more than one day in the lengths of fall and spring terms. It was seconded and passed by a vote of 9 in favor, 1 opposed.

Sparks explained to the committee that the current calendar criteria call for “two six-week summer terms of 28 class days” and that this will not fit properly with academic practice employed by the medical school, which is to be fully integrated into the university. He suggested a single summer term of 56 class days that be broken into parts as needed by different units. Members of the committee expressed support for such a change in the calendar criteria.

The committee adjourned at 3:58.

Respectfully submitted  
D. Thorp