

Forming a Task Force to Study the Status of Fall Recess in the Academic Calendar

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1** The joint task force of the Academic Senate of California State University, Dominguez Hills and the Office of Faculty Affairs & Development be formed to research and provide guidance regarding California State University, Dominguez Hills (CSUDH) Academic Calendar.
- 1.2** The task force gather and evaluate information relevant to evaluating the current practice of a four-day weekend for Thanksgiving versus other potential configurations which might be more appropriate.

2.0 Co-Chairs

- 2.1** The Chair of the Academic Calendar Working Group co-chair the task force.
- 2.2** A Member of the Senate Executive Committee be appointed to serve as the other co-chair.

3.0 Task Force Representatives

- 3.1** The task force includes one (1) representative from each of the following:
 - 3.1.1** Central Academic Affairs (The Provost's Office)
 - 3.1.2** A staff person representing Academic Programs
 - 3.1.3** The Registrar's Office
 - 3.1.4** The Financial Aid Office
 - 3.1.5** Associated Students Inc.
 - 3.1.6** College of Continuing and Professional Education
- 3.2** Two (2) faculty representatives elected by the Academic Senate

4.0 Stipend

- 4.1** Non-tenure track faculty who serve on the task force receive a stipend for their service.

5.0 Responsibility

- 5.1** The task force prepare a written memo to present to the Academic Calendar Working Group with its findings and recommendations by the end of the Spring Semester, 2023.
- 5.2** The task force convenes before March 01, 2023; and provides the final report and recommendations to the Academic Senate by the regular meeting on May 10, 2023.

6.0 Rationale

- 6.1** The Academic Calendar for CSUDH traditionally has a four-day weekend for the Thanksgiving holiday. While many of our sister campuses do the same, some have a full week “fall recess” including Thanksgiving. Most of the local K12 districts around CSUDH have the week off. Some faculty find that there would be pedagogical advantages to using the “fall recess,” and see this as an equity issue for students and faculty who care for children in the local school districts.
- 6.2** It would be a rather significant change to go from one model to the other as the Academic Calendar takes input from many sources, external requirements and guidelines set by the CSU Chancellor’s Office.
- 6.3** A full report explaining the information considered and the reasoning behind the final recommendation, along with any notes the task force finds regarding the calendar production process can guide the committee in its production of future academic calendars.

Approved: Dr. Michael E. Spagna, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Date: March 27, 2023