

OHLONE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Trustees
FROM: Douglas Treadway
DATE: October 26, 2005
SUBJECT: Academic Calendar Change

There has been considerable interest in exploring a change in our academic calendar from the current 18 week format to a more condensed format of 16 or 15 weeks (the 16 week format is the norm nationally in higher education). It has been past practice at Ohlone College for the UFO to delegate to the Faculty Senate the consultation with the administration on the development of the academic calendar. During 2004-05, the Faculty Senate worked with the College Council to form a study group of faculty and staff to explore the calendar change idea in earnest. The study group gave its report to the Faculty Senate at the end of the Spring 2005 semester.

The full Faculty Senate voted overwhelmingly in August 2005 to support the development of a condensed semester format and gave a strong indication of the preference to begin in Fall 2006. This prompted more intense exploration of the pros and cons of the 16 vs. 15 week formats. After additional review and two college forums, the Faculty Senate conducted a vote of the faculty and 82% expressed preference for the 16 week format.

A significant change in a college's term length needs to be approved by the Chancellor's Office prior to implementation. Given administrative support of the Faculty Senate proposal, a formal Letter of Intent was sent from Dr. Treadway to the Chancellor's Office as soon as the Faculty Senate's vote was determined to be in support of the 16 week term. Our goal is to implement the change as of the Fall 2006 semester. The formal proposal to the Chancellor's Office has now been prepared and is attached for the Board of Trustees' review and approval. The effects of the calendar change need to be negotiated with UFO, CSEA and SEIU.

RECOMMENDATION:

The President/Superintendent recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the Academic Calendar Change proposal to the Chancellor's Office and to authorize the President/Superintendent to pursue negotiations of effects with the UFO, CSEA and SEIU.

Attachments