

BC Winter Intersession Task Force

Academic Senate Comments, Concerns, and Questions and Feedback

General Pros and Cons

- Benefit part-time student who can take courses year-round
- Benefit students on a fast track to degree completion
- High-Unit majors may be able to complete requirements more quickly
- Transfer students may be able to complete goals more quickly
- More potential for noncredit courses to prepare students and support students between semesters

- Rushed decision (prior to Task Force)
- Lack of daycare for students with children
- Historically, BC moved to 16-week calendar to start after school started
 - o Feasible offerings for courses with prerequisites would continue to be limited
 - o Students failing courses will have limited time to re-enroll in the course especially with impacted courses being full by the time they can register
- Not received well by other campuses
- Faculty burnout from teaching all year
- Similar to a quarter system which many institutions are moving away from
- Misalignment with TK-12 calendars making scheduling for students with parents unfeasible and lower overall enrollments/FTES
- Enrollment uncertainties
- (CSEA, Scheduling, A&R, Financial Aid) Extra work for scheduling, admissions and records, and other classified
- (CSEA) Impact on Classified Staff without their input (prior to Task Force)
- (CCA) Chair Compensation for scheduling winter intersession
- (A&R, Financial Aid) 1 week is insufficient time to roll grades for departments that offer courses year round

Data Requests

- Pilot program attempts
 - o Biology, 6-week/5-week intersession overlapped into the spring, anecdotally similar success rates to summer
 - o Education, professional development classes, Bridge to BC, Bridge to Online Learning
- (Biology Dept) List of options has Biology tried, including their previous pilot of winter intersession
- (CCA & CSEA) CCA and CSEA unions be in negotiations every step
- (OEI) 6-week, 5-week, 4-week, 8-week success/completion/retention data for various types of courses, including STEM and those with labs
- (OEI) Evidence of bottlenecks and specifically address them
- (OEI) success/completion/retention data for 8-week course currently offered

- (OEI?) Data to support the need for a Winter Intersession that changed the entire calendar
- (OEI?) success/completion/retention data from other colleges with winter intersession
- All faculty survey – focus of those questions with district in mind (Drea, Ann, Joe, Nick)
 - o BIOL B32 & B33 most impacted, which ed plans require, can these be revised
 - o Can other Life Science Lab courses help address the bottlenecks?
- SGA survey – focus of those questions with district in mind

General Questions

- (?) Can Winter Intersession be reserved for impacted classes only?
- (?) Is there any discussion about aligning with CSUB winter intersession?
- (?) What resources/support services will be available to students?
- (A&R, Financial Aid) How many classes/units would a student be eligible to take? If it is one class, will that be worthwhile?
- (Bio Dept) Could Biology increase their courses size?
- (CCA & CSEA) How long does the Union anticipate it will take to negotiate workload issues surrounding a Winter Intersession? The answer can inform the “when” in implementation.
- (Moseley) Will Ad Astro help solve scheduling issues and bottlenecks without the intersession?
- (OEI) Are there bottlenecks beyond Biology? With new labs and campuses, can that bottleneck be addressed?
- (SGA survey) What is the anticipated student demand?
- (STEM pathway) Should the focus be on recruiting and hiring Biology/STEM faculty instead?

Answered Questions:

- Can one (or more) departments be on their own calendar/schedule? **Technically yes, but not recommended**
- Will teaching winter intersession courses be voluntarily and are there faculty willing to teach courses? **YES, per contract**
- Which other departments will benefit from winter intersession? (eligible for load deficiency? - CCA) – ***can* be done, but should not be seen as a benefit, need agreement**

Department/Program Specific Concerns and Questions

- Athletics: interfere with season/games, grass fields need time for rest, restoration, and maintenance, gym floors need yearly maintenance which happens during winter break, changing the spring end date will not allow recovery time for sports that have 6-week summer training, main source of funding (camps) would be lost, coaching contract days will need to be adjusted to add extra days, late summer sessions would interfere with students transferring to new teams
- Counseling/Library/Success Center(s): workload will be impacted and will need time to negotiate and plan
- Dual Enrollment/Early College: recruitment period may be lost depending on the calendar change and decrease in completion rates, calendar may misaligned depending on the option selected
- English: ENGL B1A, Many students struggle during 16-week semester. Will the intersession benefit them? How?

- Inmate (Rising) Scholars Program: MOUs need may need to be addressed to change dates
- Library: would have to rely on Adjuncts during intersession, orientations likely not available, classified staff and unpaid days off a year do not align
- Music: orchestra and choir performances and fundraising will be negatively impacted if the fall semester ends early, starting fall/spring semester later may not allow for competition and festival participation, performance seasons may be cut short
- Nursing: courses will need a curriculum revision and board approval to offer VN or RN courses during an intersession, summer blocking/scheduling
- Radiologic Technology: changing start/end of Spring/Fall impact mandatory summer schedules accreditation review would be required for a change in academic calendar year
- Rural: building utilization may not be available, timing of harvest seasons in the late summer/early fall
- Smaller Departments/Programs: Rely on adjuncts and will not have adequate staffing
- STEM: too 'heavy' for students to succeed in short period with Holidays

- Non-Instructional: extra work days, time-off schedule,