

CEPP Minutes

Feb 1, 2023 @ 2:30-3:30pm
Library 213

Attendees: Adrian Bautista, Lisa Jackson-Schebetta, Emilka Jansen, Nick Junkerman, Michael Orr, Mahesh Shankar, Kelly Sheppard, Bob Turner, Leigh Wilton

Scribe: Nick Junkerman

Meeting started at 2:32pm

1. Chair welcomed Dave DeConno for a discussion about:
 - a. the possibility of developing academic calendars seven years out
 - b. the Thanksgiving Break Question™
2. DeConno explained to the committee that, to meet NYS contact hour requirements, we need an absolute minimum of 26 2-day/week class meetings and 38 3 day/week class meetings. He tries to schedule 27 and 39, respectively, as a cushion for snow days and other unforeseen cancellations.
3. Each calendar needs to be counted out day by day—there's no formula. DeConno was willing to do that work seven years out, but concerned about people making plans around distant calendars, and they being upset when they had to change.
4. He also outlined the central Thanksgiving constraints—the fall semester is squeezed between the end of track and the Christmas holiday (and its travel season).
5. Committee asked if research had been done about the various impacts of changing the schedule—general sense was that our information was mostly anecdotal, but based on years of careful consideration of the problem.
6. DeConno noted that we can make Thanksgiving break work some years but not others, and that changes from year to year tend to make people upset. He reported no concerns from the registrar about remote learning days on Thanksgiving week—does not violate NYS contact hour policy.
7. DeConno and CEPP discussed the possibility of posting an FAQ on the registrar's website about how scheduling decisions are made, the constraints that make Thanksgiving break such a challenge, etc.

Meeting concluded at 3:30pm.