

From: Rai, Sanjay K
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2020 12:39 AM
Subject: Updates & Discussion

Thank you for participating in today's Academic Affairs advisory council meeting. As you heard, the decisions that have been made about the academic calendar took into consideration many factors, including MHEC requirements for minimum 150 instructional days and the P&P requirement of 195 fiscally accountable days. A more important consideration was for faculty and students to have a clear understanding of when instruction will end so that they can plan accordingly.

Knowing that this extraordinary situation may require students to complete alternative assessments and that these may take faculty longer to grade, we decided to extend the final exam period to the last two instructional weeks of the spring semester to provide flexibility for students to complete their work and faculty to determine the appropriate final grade.

The adjusted academic calendar is as follows:

May 2: Instruction for Spring 2020 end

May 4 through 13: Assessment period for Spring 2020. This will be a time for faculty to work with students to assist them in completing final projects or exams. This is also time for faculty to determine final grades for students. Faculty will set whatever schedule is appropriate to complete this work.

May 14 through 22: Non-instructional duty days. If we are still not able to convene physically, these days may be used for virtual discipline meetings, trainings, awards announcements, or any other professional activity that might be appropriate for virtual delivery. As previously announced, there will be no Commencement exercises.

May 22: Official end of the academic year

There will likely be some students who will need additional time beyond the academic year to complete their work, for a variety of reasons. Many of these students may be planning to transfer, and they are required to provide transcripts to their transfer institutions immediately following the spring semester. To assist these students, a cadre of faculty (depending on how many students are there) from each discipline group will be provided ESH during the weeks of May 25 through June 5 to work with these students to complete their course. The deans will be charged with selecting the faculty members, who will likely be full-time faculty members who have served as course or discipline coordinators during the academic year. ESH will be paid as per the contract formula for tutoring: 1 ESH = 30 hours.

ATPA coaching ESH is not available to full-time faculty members.

On June 8, Summer Session I will begin. This will be a 5-week session and will be online-only. It will run through July 10.

On July 11, Summer Session II will begin. This will be a 6-week session and we plan to include both online and in-person courses. It will run through August 21.

On August 24, faculty will report to back to work for professional week, and the new academic year will begin.

These are extraordinary circumstances, and this adjusted academic calendar reflects our commitment to supporting faculty and students in completing the spring and summer sessions in the most academically and physically responsible way possible.