

Philosophy Department Concerns/Questions about Winter Intersession

We understand that Bill (Moseley) asked for department-specific concerns/questions. The only department-specific concern we have is regarding how changes to the Academic Calendar would impact dual-enrollment classes, since we have faculty currently in a few high schools.

The following questions/concerns from my department are not department-specific; they are general questions/concerns about changes to the Academic Calendar. However, I feel I would be negligent as a Senate representative if I did not relay these questions/concerns from my department to you:

- If this is motivated by biology and pre-nursing programs--concerns we put a lot of weight on--why is the solution not an emergency hire of 3-4 new tenure lines in Biology, starting in Spring? Biology has long had too few seats in their classes (impacted). I've had numerous students stay at BC another year to do a Bio major. So let's hire, even with the crazy budget and enrollments.
- If the issue is lab space, rather than faculty, to increase sections, then why isn't the solution to offer considerably more sections in summer over the same 6-week timeline we're considering for Winter? They can't possibly have all of their fall and spring labs full in summer can they? This would then impact only their faculty, not the entire college.
- While we have no evidence of the following, we're still seriously concerned with our students (many of whom are parents) having fall and winter schedules that are this out of alignment with their kids schedules (K-12). For parents who go to school, K-12 schools function as their day care in addition to their children's education. We are hugely concerned about the possibility of this change actually decreasing FTES by preventing parents from attending our classes when their kids are not in school.
- Will students be surveyed on these proposed changes, and how much weight will we give student voices as a whole, rather than focusing the needs for Bio/Chem classes?

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to express our concerns and receive your input and feedback.