

Academic Practice Committee
Annual Report 2007-08

1. The members of the Academic Practices Committee for 2007-08 were:
Chair, Linda Openshaw
Members: Kathryn Jacobs, Brenda Moore & Tara Tietjen-Smith

2. The Committee surveyed the faculty in November 2007 to determine faculty opinions about a change in the university schedule from Monday/Wednesday/Friday class to Monday/Thursday or Tuesday/Friday classes. One hundred faculty members responded. Forty-six percent of the faculty thought classes meeting two days a week was a good idea. However 66% of the faculty felt that a different schedule would work better than the one proposed. Twenty-one percent liked the suggested change, and 18 % disagreed with making a change in the current schedule. Several faculty members suggested that the students should also be asked about the proposed change and student.

In conclusion, the faculty liked the idea of changing to a two day per week schedule but preferred an alternative schedule to the one proposed by the university.

3. The second faculty survey took place in March 2008 during the spring semester. The committee asked the faculty if they were interested in having a fall break at mid-October, and if so what proposed schedule would work best Thursday-Friday, Friday-Monday, or Monday-Tuesday. Ninety-eight faculty members responded. Thirty-four faculty members voted for the Thursday/Friday schedule. Twenty-nine voted for the Monday/Tuesday schedule. Twenty-five voted for Friday-Monday and five voted for no mid-semester break. One faculty member voted for no break if it meant decreased instruction time. Four faculty members wrote in an alternate choice of Wednesday before Thanksgiving off. One faculty member said they had no preference.

In conclusion, the most votes were for the Thursday/Friday schedule.

Reported submitted by Linda Openshaw, Committee Chair 5/1/08