Faculty Alliance

Resolution 2018-01
Establishment of University-wide Non-teaching Days

Whereas, at the April 2014 meeting of the Board of Regents the following revised policy regarding the academic calendar was passed:

A common academic calendar for all university campuses will provide for a fall and spring semester of not less than fifteen weeks of instruction, which may include examination days; start and end dates, recesses, and daily schedules, i.e., course blocks, will be common among all campuses.

Whereas, the imposition of a common academic calendar across the three universities has provided for common start dates, end dates and recesses, it has resulted in unequal instructional hours for many UA courses with specific scheduling requirements; and

Whereas, the Faculty Alliance has succinctly outlined the resultant issues regarding incongruent instructional hours for the relevant courses to the UA Executive Council; and

Whereas, the Faculty Alliance in consultation with the three Faculty Senates has proposed effective and non-disruptive solutions that address instructional hour discrepancies and enable reinstatement of traditionally observed campus events while maintaining instructional hour requirements; and

Whereas, the unilateral decision by the UA Executive Council to adopt a single non-teaching day does not address the underlying issue of instructional hour discrepancies; and

Whereas, the instructional calendar is explicitly listed as the purview of the faculty senate as stated in faculty senate constitutions (UAF Faculty Senate Constitution II.2.J.8, UAA Faculty Senate Constitution Section 2 D, UAS Faculty Senate Constitution 4.A.3.b).

Therefore be it resolved, the Faculty Alliance formally registers objection to the unilateral administrative determination of any non-teaching day and reiterates that, providing instructional hour requirements are met, non-teaching days are at the discretion of the faculty at each university as per their faculty senate bylaws.

Adopted unanimously by the Faculty Alliance on the 13th day of October 2017.

Lisa Hoferkamp, Chair