

Chabot-Las Positas Community College District

Office of Educational Services & Student Success

Meeting Notes

Alternative Academic Calendar Committee (AACC)

Thursday, December 14, 2023

11:30 A.M. - 12:45 P.M.

Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85048994849>

Committee Members in Attendance:

(Chabot College) Jason Ames, Safiyyah Forbes, Patricia Shannon, Rob Yest, Megan Parker, Noell Adams

(Las Positas College) Nan Ho, Joel Gagnon, Scott Miner, Dana Nakase, Craig Kutil, Jason Maxwell, David Rodriguez, Isabella Qiu

(District Office) Theresa Fleischer Rowland, John Mullen (Consultant), Liem Huynh, Estella Sanchez

Committee Members Not in Attendance: Paulette Lino, Theresa Pedrosa, Dale Wagoner, Bruce Griffin

Others in Attendance:

Laura Albers (Guest), Joanne Bishop, Virginia Criswell, Brian Goo, Heather Hernandez, Mary Johnston (Guest), Matt Kristscher, Andrea Migliaccio, Jonah Nicholas, Dionicia Ramos, Kristen Whittaker

Agenda

1. Welcome, Review where we are with the Process of Recommendation, Future Meeting/s and Modality
2. Report Outs
3. Data and Evidence Discussion
4. Closing with Next Steps

1. Welcome, Review where we are with Process of Recommendation, Future Meeting/s and Modality – Theresa Fleischer Rowland

Discussion

Theresa began the meeting by reviewing the meeting agenda. She then spoke about the role of the Committee and explained the process of making a recommendation to the Chancellor regarding the next phase of a compressed calendar. This includes a shift to meeting frames and modality.

Conclusion

The committee made suggestions for future meetings to be held face-to-face and slightly longer than the current 75 minutes. The meeting moved to Agenda Item 2.

Action items

No Action.

2. Report Outs – Jason Ames

Discussion

- A representative from the Classified group reported that in November, they passed a resolution opposing the implementation of a compressed calendar. The Classified group wanted to wait for more data and research regarding the impact on students and other employees, such as Classified Professionals.
- A member of the committee reported that during an Academic meeting, it was mentioned that the Classified Senate opposed the compressed calendar.

Conclusion

During the meeting, the leadership of the Classified group was asked whether there had been any change in their decision to pass a preemptive resolution. They responded that it is on the meeting agenda to gather opinions and have a discussion. The meeting moved on to Agenda Item 3.

Action items

Jason to provide feedback from Chabot's Academic Senate meeting at the next AACC meeting.

3. Data and Evidence Discussion – Jason Ames

Discussion

Jason asked the Committee to share their opinions and thoughts on the data and evidence received from KNow Research.

- A member of the Committee reported that during a Senate meeting, Know Research's data was presented, indicating that the majority of faculty and students supported a compressed calendar. The committee member requested an explanation regarding the data. After analyzing the data, Know Research found that 47% of employees were appealing, 18% were neutral, and 35% were unappealing. For students, the numbers were 38% appealing, 34% neutral, and 23% unappealing, with 5% indicating that they don't know.
- A member of the Committee asked KNow Research if they had any experience in conducting educational research on learning and pedagogy, as most of their background seemed to be in marketing research. KNow Research responded by stating that 90% of their projects are social sciences research, largely within the education space. They primarily work on K-12 surveying projects but also do other projects at the university level focused on diversity, equity, and inclusion. Additionally, they conduct a lot of workplace surveys.
- A Committee member requested clarification from KNow Research on the data presented to the Focus group, which showed that 34% of the participants were neutral or did not have an opinion. The Committee member wanted to know more about the discussion that took place. KNow Research explained that the participants discussed how a compressed

academic calendar would affect them, who would benefit from it, and who would not. They also talked about how the calendar would fit into their enrollment decisions. The conversation then shifted to evaluating schools in general and reviewing sample calendars. KNow Research provided examples of how a compressed calendar would differ from the current calendar, including a breakdown of a week's schedule and a comparison of classes from the business administration calendar.

- A Committee member asked for further clarification regarding a previous discussion on lab courses. The topic of discussion was whether or not 2 to 6 activities would be removed if the lab courses were moved to a compressed calendar. However, it was not specified which courses, course content or departments/programs would be affected. Response was provided by another Committee member indicating that 2 weeks of instruction for biology and chemistry 2 to 6 labs would be removed from both. Some labs are dedicated to exams for students to have 2 hours and 50 minutes for exams and doesn't know if those departments might consider moving exams to lecture times, to accommodate for the loss of labs or if the current model would continue, which would mean the loss of several hands-on labs for students.
- A Committee member inquired about the representation of student learners who participated in the survey. KNow Research addressed this concern by directing the committee member's attention to slides 36, 37, and 38, which showed the demographics of the 908 students who participated in the survey. The data provided great representation from subgroups, which helped to provide subgroup data for caregivers, underrepresented groups, students with long commutes, and students taking labs.

Conclusion

The committee had extensive discussions about the overwhelming amount of data received from the survey and held further discussions on lab hours. Next, a Committee member requested that a few Classified members attend the next Faculty Senate meeting to hear the positive aspects of moving to a compressed calendar, rather than the negative aspects. Similarly, a Classified member requested to hear the negatives of the move from Administrators and Faculty, not just the positives. After this discussion, the meeting proceeded to Agenda Item 4.

Action items

KNow to covert all written text responses into a response ID.

4. Closing with Next Steps – Theresa Fleischer Rowland

Discussion

During the closing remarks, Theresa emphasized the significance of the process and the careful attention given to responding to the members' requests. She concurred with the Committee's assessment of the volume of data received and expressed her anticipation for the next meeting after everyone has had sufficient time to review the data.

Conclusion

Theresa thanked the committee for sharing their different perspectives and expressed her appreciation before concluding the meeting.

Action items

Due to the large amount of data that still needs to be analyzed and processed, the Committee had no objections to postponing a recommendation to the Chancellor until early in the spring semester and to work on scheduling one or two additional meetings in the Spring of '24.