









My Report

Last Modified: 02/23/2012

1. My role in the IPFW Community is:

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Administrative		27	6%
2	Faculty		213	46%
3	Staff		56	12%
4	Student (Graduate Student)		12	3%
5	Student (Senior)		38	8%
6	Student (Junior)		37	8%
7	Student (Sophomore)		43	9%
8	Student (Freshman)		39	8%
	Total		465	

Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	8
Mean	3.64
Variance	4.93
Standard Deviation	2.22
Total Responses	465

2. I am pleased / satisfied with:

#	Question	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Responses	Mean
1	the semester calendar (15 + 1 weeks) currently being used.	22	28	74	199	134	457	3.86
2	the current form of "fall break"	21	49	92	172	117	451	3.70
3	the current form of Thanksgiving break	17	20	61	213	143	454	3.98

Statistic	the semester calendar (15 + 1 weeks) currently being used.	the current form of "fall break"	the current form of Thanksgiving break
Min Value	1	1	1
Max Value	5	5	5
Mean	3.86	3.70	3.98
Variance	1.12	1.23	0.96
Standard Deviation	1.06	1.11	0.98
Total Responses	457	451	454

3. It is important that our academic calendar contain:

#	Question	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Responses	Mean
1	a full 15 contact weeks of classes/semester	19	31	92	160	150	452	3.87
2	a full week for final exams	8	22	62	176	190	458	4.13
3	two-hour final exam periods	10	35	90	151	171	457	3.96
9	at least two full weeks from the end of the fall semester until the beginning of the spring semester	5	6	30	114	304	459	4.54
5	a full week for spring break	6	5	51	147	246	455	4.37
6	an end for the spring semester by 1st week of May	7	23	134	141	152	457	3.89
7	current 50, 75, and 150 minute/week classes	14	24	131	187	101	457	3.74
8	two six-week summer sessions	15	31	178	130	100	454	3.59

Statistic	a full 15 contact weeks of classes/semester	a full week for final exams	two-hour final exam periods	at least two full weeks from the end of the fall semester until the beginning of the spring semester	a full week for spring break	an end for the spring semester by 1st week of May	current 50, 75, and 150 minute/week classes	two six-week summer sessions
Min Value	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Max Value	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Mean	3.87	4.13	3.96	4.54	4.37	3.89	3.74	3.59
Variance	1.17	0.88	1.08	0.59	0.68	0.96	0.93	1.02
Standard Deviation	1.08	0.94	1.04	0.77	0.83	0.98	0.96	1.01
Total Responses	452	458	457	459	455	457	457	454

4. I am open to alternative semester calendar formats that would include:

#	Question	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Responses	Mean
1	a repackaged schedule of classes within a (14 + 1) semester	55	63	128	140	67	453	3.22
2	a mid-semester week-long fall break (even if it meant starting the fall semester earlier)	87	102	90	127	51	457	2.90
3	a fall schedule that would begin after Labor Day yet still finish in mid-December (even if it meant sacrificing "fall break")	66	114	94	122	62	458	3.00

Statistic	a repackaged schedule of classes within a (14 + 1) semester	a mid-semester week-long fall break (even if it meant starting the fall semester earlier)	a fall schedule that would begin after Labor Day yet still finish in mid-December (even if it meant sacrificing "fall break")
Min Value	1	1	1
Max Value	5	5	5
Mean	3.22	2.90	3.00
Variance	1.48	1.70	1.64
Standard Deviation	1.22	1.30	1.28
Total Responses	453	457	458

5. If you would like to make additional comments, please use the space below.

Text Response
I think that we should think about alternative ways to offer courses, provide opportunities for flexibility as a way to do what is best for specific courses, while not setting up too many barriers. On the other hand, we must have a plan for holding all faculty (whether do alternative schedules or not) accountable for measuring student learning at rigorous levels.
Alternate Fall Break so that it doesn't always fall on Mon. -Tues.
Also to consider would be "January terms" or other mechanisms for short, concentrated courses. These might be very attractive to adult students and/or corporate sponsorship and enrollment.
I don't have an opinion on any of this yet, as I just started working here recently.
I do not like the final schedule. The website that lists when finals are is very confusing and every semester there are students that arrive to my classes the week of finals late because they do not understand the meeting time. I feel that finals should be one hour not two. Also, it was my understanding that you had to meet with your class on finals week. However, I have heard multiple times this semester that students did not have to meet and did not have a final during finals week.
The long spring break seems to increase 'spring fever' in students and some faculty once they return.
I think coming into campus for only one 50 minute three times a week is a waste of time and fuel. I prefer two or three longer classes.
Is a shortened semester helpful to those areas such as nursing and accounting which really have no leeway? Unless you can have a separate program for certain majors, I don't see how you can speed up the academic year. I don't believe a fall break is needed, and I totally disagree with the lack of academics during the few days prior to Thanksgiving--can you go back and fix what has happened to that partial week? If not, you might as well declare that to be the fall break.
It would be nice if fall finals could occur 1 week earlier due to all of the pressures, events, and responsibilities of Christmas time.
It is difficult to respond to these items out of context. Each proposed change would affect other aspects of the calendar (i.e. trade-offs), but there is no explanation of what that might be or what the rationale might be for each of the proposed alternatives (e.g., is there research to suggest why these alternatives might be better?). Given those limitations, it is hard to see how the results from this survey will be useful.
a1 week before finals
I would love to see math classes be on a MWF or 5 days a week at lower class times to let the material really set in and provide us with more time and chances to ask questions and completely understand the work!
i am really satisfied with the current two-session compresses summer sessions and am adamant about not wanting any change to that. So the best thing to do since the current work was finished is leave everything as is. Thanks for asking, put no changes please. Mark
I think the setup with the schedule is nice. As being a student both at IU for 4 years and now here at IPFW for 5 I have enjoyed how the calendar years have always been about the exact same. I would not change a thing as the breaks are nice exactly where they are within the academic calendar.
End weekend college and put those resources into the Monday-Friday schedule.
For most of the classes I've taken, I can't imagine a week less of lectures. I think that professors have just the right amount of time to go at a pace that most people can follow, if they had to rearrange their lectures to fill a smaller amount of time I think that people who are doing only average or poorly would not be able to keep up and there would be more people who fail the classes.
Liked the idea of intersession classes that my Mom described when she attended IPFW (in the 70's). Class met for 2 1/2 hours daily for 3 weeks. Has anything like that been considered?
Sacrificing a full week of classes by going to a 14+1 schedule would greatly hamper many areas of instruction and lab time. With the current rules regarding the week before finals, it would be even more detrimental. I am strongly against shifting/changing our current calendar for a multitude of reasons.
I am pretty open to change, but I look forward to "fall break". It lets me relax a little bit after taking four to five exams.
I believe that a week long spring break is necessary, and I also believe a longer fall break would really help students who are having trouble keeping up with all their work. I found the fall break quite helpful for catching up on homework and studying, and a longer break would help even more. I am also appreciative of the two week break for Christmas. Students who have been working hard all semester need to be able to relax and de-stress before starting the spring semester. The current two week break also gives them a chance to be with their families for a while over Christmas.
The mid semester break is much needed! midterms in every class have students stressed and are just like final exams so a break is essential
please schedule final exams during each class's scheduled class period. for example, a 9am class mwf should have a final at 9 am on one of those days. The same goes for tuesday thursday classes
I actually do not like the 2+ week break between the semesters. I am one of the few lucky students who just attend college and are able to not have to work. I have a horribly long few weeks between classes that I don't get GI bil benefits, meaning I lose housing allowance money for 2-3 weeks between semesters and have to use student loans to cover the costs during that period. I wish classes ended the week of finals and started up again the next week so there was no 2-3 week break. I very strongly wish the spring break was the SAME time as the local community schools breaks. I know a very large amount of students have children, when there are two separate spring breaks between IPFW's and the public school system, it makes it so the parents are unable to do anything due to their children having class and when the kids have their spring break, it puts a financial burden on the parents working around a baby sitter that school normally would take care of.
Moving Fall Break to the week of Thanksgiving to give the entire week of Thanksgiving off.
Shortening the semesters is not a good idea as it would mean putting more pressure on professors to teach more in less time and that in turn means more work on us students when we are already pushed to our limits as everything already stands. One suggestion I do have is extending our winter break to at least a month instead of having barely 3 weeks off and I don't think most students would complain about starting the Spring semester a week or so later and having it end a little later in May if it meant having extra time after Fall semester ends. And if your plans are to make IPFW's semesters more in schedule with FWCS I would say that is not a good idea unless you are also going to implement their snow policy. Closing IPFW campus only when there is a certain level snow emergency is not working because some students cannot reach campus when the roads are really bad and punishing us students for having to miss because we refuse to take our lives in our hands and drive treacherous roads is not right and should be changed.
I like the way the calendar year is set up now. The idea of starting fall a little earlier to get a week off for fall break is an interesting idea. It would give students a little more time to finish up papers and projects during that week and spend time with family also if they must travel for Thanksgiving. Otherwise, I am very satisfied with the calendar year as it is.
I can't find the calendar itself, just the link to this stupid survey
I'm open to the 14+1 schedule "repackaging" as long as we don't lose any class time with the professors. Don't shorten the amount of time we're in class!!!!!!
I would like to see more hours added to the final test exam. Plus you need to add more minutes to be at least an hour long each class per week. Plus online classes should have the same breaks (fall, thanksgiving and spring) as the students that go to class in person.
It would be nice if we had more days off during Spring, even if it means going an extra week into May. There are so few days off and holidays, compared to Fall, that it really tends to wear students out with "the daily grind".
I believe the break between fall and spring semesters (i.e. the one over Christmas) should be longer. I think it gives the students more time to decompress especially going from exams straight into the festivities of Christmas and New Years. An extra week to recover from the craziness of that time period would be much appreciated.
I am a returning student trying to finish my Elementary degree. I am a parent and I work full time in an elementary school. As I approach my last couple of classes, I am finding it difficult to find the evening classes that I will need in order to complete my degree. As more and more people are returning to school, I am wondering why it is so hard to find evening classes. I have talked to several other students here at IPFW who are in the same situation. I enjoy going to IPFW, but might have to transfer in order to complete my degree.

I think 8 week summer classes would be nice. Fall break is not really necessary.

We most definitely need a longer break between fall and spring semesters. An additional week (three instead of two) would be heaven. I don't mind going later into May.

The current semester of 15+ is too long. Our December holiday break is also far too short—much shorter than most universities.

I actually am not a fan of the time of Spring Break. Maybe it is a college thing, but the beginning of March is still winter for a lot of places. I know we get out earlier than most places, but it's still a bit of an off-putter for me.

I do not want to go to a trimester system unless there was a provision for the summer term to be considered a full funded term for financial aid. Also, trimester credits and semester credits are different and transferring/exchanging between schools could be very difficult for IPFW students.

I think that a shorter semester by one week or two would be nice. I think that Chem 111 & 112 lectures, along with BIOL 203 & 204 could meet once a week, instead of twice a week. Many students that take Chem 112 take BIOL 204 and would find the once a week lectures helpful & much easier for scheduling. I hope that once a week lectures are considered, especially with the many students that live off campus that commute to study at IPFW. With rising prices of gas, I think it would be economically helpful as well as more convenient to schedule. The professors may even find they like it as well.

Starting after Labor Day is very important. Ending by the first week of May is equally important.

I feel that the fall semester currently has the appropriate break time, with a total approximating one week (fall break + Thanksgiving break).

The one major change that I would like to see is an extension of winter break. As a faculty member our current winter break does not offer an opportunity to do productive research. Almost as soon as the fall semester ends, on-duty week begins.

Not clear what a repackaged schedule would mean or look like. It would be nice for breaks to coincide more closely to the Allen county school districts' calendars.

I would like to see us abandon the "dead week." This encourages students to sleepwalk their way through the last week of classes: they are lax about attendance, too. Eliminate it.

Coordinating spring break with local school districts would be nice for those who have kids

Put our Spring Break with local school districts for the sake of families

I would like to see trimesters

a longer winter break give us time to better prepare for spring semester.

I think we need to move toward more 75 minute classes. I have a TR class and attendance is pretty good. The same class on a MWF schedule somehow is easier to skip Attendance on Fridays is a problem ... somehow when the baseball team is gone on Friday it is easier for others to be absent as well. What about a MW and TR with Friday (or Wednesdays) being for more hybrid courses, online courses and intensive things? I would use Fridays as online time with the MWF classes if we had adequate TA and/or tech support.

Most class meetings prior to Labor Day have marginal impact. All of August should be part of 'summer break'. Classes could be repackaged (minutes per meeting &/or meetings per week) to provide same contact time in fewer weeks between Labor Day and Christmas. The science faculty have historically opposed such alternatives due to the "number of labs"; we need to get creative and move beyond this obstructionist anchor.

The 15-week semester format works well as it is. Faculty members would need to completely readjust their courses if they were required to hack out a week from each one. That is something they don't need to do even if they had time to (which they don't). In short, altering the 15-week schedule is a tremendously bad idea.

As a tenure-track faculty member, I need the time during the break between fall and spring to catch up on pending projects, planning for the spring classes and summer research. This is the time I would use to propose projects, seek funding, work on IRB proposals... etc. Two weeks during the holidays is not enough. I am sure I share this with most faculty: December break is not really a break but rather a time to do uninterrupted work. This is why I plead that the semesters be shorter than what they currently are.

Two weeks between fall semester and spring semester is not long enough. As a faculty with two extended families outside the region, I can't possibly visit family for the holidays and still prepare for the start of spring semester. Break between semesters should be a full three weeks, with the semester starting after MLK day. This would also eliminate the stuttered start to the semester caused by MLK day.

14+1 semester means changing the outcomes of some accredited programs. For example we schedule labs once a week due to the length of labs (usually 3 hours) and availability of labs.

Sounds like some folks are seeking to reduce their workload with these suggestions!

Hated this winter break with two partial weeks.

what are the options for a change to the quarter system or to a modified quarter system???

I have always thought it would be nice to schedule classes on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday during summer sessions, rather than Monday, Tuesday, Thursday. Just an idea.

17 weeks is too long. Does IPFW have in writing the required contact hours (or objectives for online courses) that justify a 3-credit hour course? I do not believe there is a policy stating that 45 contact hours = 3 credit hours. Aren't IUB's contact hours 38, to equal 3-credits, and PUWL's 42?

I think in order to be competitive with local and national colleges/schools, we need to look at accelerated scheduling as well.

I would like greater flexibility in scheduling classes that meet once a week in regards to both time of day and duration of class meetings. I would be open to restructuring how and when classes meet, but still would like the 15 weeks of time to devote to developing course content/learning experiences for students. If you teach on Saturday, the current fall schedule isn't great because you miss the second week of class due to Labor Day and then you also miss again during Thanksgiving break.

I think that our current schedule works just fine. Purdue and IU have adapted schedules that are closer to ours, so we must be doing something right.

Would like trimesters like Purdue also maybe.

I am open to new ideas. If students would like a different schedule, it is ok with me

Our current Fall Break does not allow enough time for students who live far away to get home at Thanksgiving and back. Many of the Eastern universities start after Labor Day.

It would be nice to have spring break broken up into two pieces, so there would be two short breaks instead of one full week. It is hard to know what to do with spring break as it is now. It isn't spring yet, and there's nothing to do but work. We call it "Winter Work Week".

Have a dead week/ a no contact week before Finals week. It becomes extremely stressful trying to study for finals then to get homework assignments on top of having the final.

For me, Fall Break is useless. It is more of an annoyance than anything because the semester is just getting in the swing of things and then we have a few days off. Any breaks less than 1 week are not helpful to me. I think that we should incorporate a longer break during the summer by ditching the fall break and starting school after Labor Day.

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	67

My Report

Last Modified: 03/13/2012
Filter By: Report Subgroup

1. My role in the IPFW Community is:

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Administrative		0	0%
2	Faculty		213	100%
3	Staff		0	0%
4	Student (Graduate Student)		0	0%
5	Student (Senior)		0	0%
6	Student (Junior)		0	0%
7	Student (Sophomore)		0	0%
8	Student (Freshman)		0	0%
	Total		213	

Statistic	Value
Min Value	2
Max Value	2
Mean	2.00
Variance	0.00
Standard Deviation	0.00
Total Responses	213

2. I am pleased / satisfied with:

#	Question	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Responses	Mean
1	the semester calendar (15 + 1 weeks) currently being used.	8.61%	7.18%	11.00%	37.80%	35.41%	209	3.84
2	the current form of "fall break"	5.37%	11.22%	20.49%	32.68%	30.24%	205	3.71
3	the current form of Thanksgiving break	5.83%	4.85%	15.05%	39.81%	34.47%	206	3.92

Statistic	the semester calendar (15 + 1 weeks) currently being used.	the current form of "fall break"	the current form of Thanksgiving break
Min Value	1	1	1
Max Value	5	5	5
Mean	3.84	3.71	3.92
Variance	1.51	1.36	1.21
Standard Deviation	1.23	1.17	1.10
Total Responses	209	205	206

3. It is important that our academic calendar contain:

#	Question	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Responses	Mean
1	a full 15 contact weeks of classes/semester	6.16%	6.16%	17.54%	29.38%	40.76%	211	3.92
2	a full week for final exams	1.89%	6.60%	14.15%	33.49%	43.87%	212	4.11
3	two-hour final exam periods	2.84%	8.53%	19.43%	31.75%	37.44%	211	3.92
9	at least two full weeks from the end of the fall semester until the beginning of the spring semester	0.94%	0.94%	4.25%	18.87%	75.00%	212	4.66
5	a full week for spring break	1.44%	1.44%	10.58%	28.85%	57.69%	208	4.40
6	an end for the spring semester by 1st week of May	1.42%	7.08%	33.02%	27.83%	30.66%	212	3.79
7	current 50, 75, and 150 minute/week classes	4.74%	6.64%	25.59%	41.23%	21.80%	211	3.69
8	two six-week summer sessions	3.81%	7.62%	45.71%	21.90%	20.95%	210	3.49

Statistic	a full 15 contact weeks of classes/semester	a full week for final exams	two-hour final exam periods	at least two full weeks from the end of the fall semester until the beginning of the spring semester	a full week for spring break	an end for the spring semester by 1st week of May	current 50, 75, and 150 minute/week classes	two six-week summer sessions
Min Value	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Max Value	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Mean	3.92	4.11	3.92	4.66	4.40	3.79	3.69	3.49
Variance	1.38	1.01	1.17	0.48	0.71	1.01	1.07	1.05
Standard Deviation	1.18	1.00	1.08	0.69	0.85	1.00	1.04	1.03
Total Responses	211	212	211	212	208	212	211	210

4. I am open to alternative semester calendar formats that would include:

#	Question	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Responses	Mean
1	a repackaged schedule of classes within a (14 + 1) semester	18.66%	17.70%	22.49%	23.92%	17.22%	209	3.03
2	a mid-semester week-long fall break (even if it meant starting the fall semester earlier)	27.36%	20.28%	19.34%	22.64%	10.38%	212	2.68
3	a fall schedule that would begin after Labor Day yet still finish in mid-December (even if it meant sacrificing "fall break")	17.84%	24.88%	19.25%	24.41%	13.62%	213	2.91

Statistic	a repackaged schedule of classes within a (14 + 1) semester	a mid-semester week-long fall break (even if it meant starting the fall semester earlier)	a fall schedule that would begin after Labor Day yet still finish in mid-December (even if it meant sacrificing "fall break")
Min Value	1	1	1
Max Value	5	5	5
Mean	3.03	2.68	2.91
Variance	1.86	1.85	1.75
Standard Deviation	1.36	1.36	1.32
Total Responses	209	212	213