## University Senate Meeting

February 6, 2024





**Senators and Deans** 

- Log in to PointSolutions on your mobile device or web browser (<u>https://ttpoll.com</u>).
- Enter the Session ID: spring24
- Click Join Session





Go to **PointSolutions** on a mobile device or at <u>https://ttpoll.com/</u> Session ID: spring24 Quorum: 90

February 6, 2024

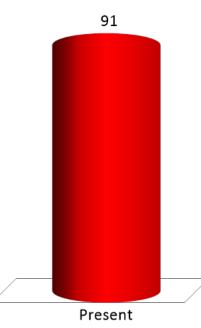
Senators & Deans: Press 1 in PointSolutions to indicate that you are present for quorum purposes.

SESSION ID: spring24

The meeting will start once we reach the Quorum number above.

#### 1. Present







1. Call to Order

2.

Approval of the December 5, 2023 Senate Minutes (Action)

3. Report of the Chair

- One of the priorities for the University Senate Office this coming semester is ensuring that all constituencies across campus maintain proper representation.
- The University Senator's responsibility of attending the monthly Senate Meetings and contributing to the Universitylevel shared governance is vital to ensuring representation of your respective constituencies.

💕 UNIVERSITY SENATI

 As a reminder, in accordance with Article 2.3 of the Bylaws of the University Senate at University of Maryland; standing Senators should not be absent from two or more consecutive University Senate meetings, without submitting an excused absence notification to the University Senate Office.





 If a Senator is found to miss two consecutive senate meetings, the University Senate Office will reach out and inquire if that Senator is able to continue service. This will be an on-going project during the Spring.





- The excused absence form is available on The University Senate Website and included in the Materials email Senators receive each week leading up to, and on the day of, the Senate Meeting.
- We ask that you submit this form if you need to miss a Senate meeting.





 For all our Senators joining us today, thank you! We value your time and sincerely appreciate your continued commitment to our shared governance, and we are making a considered effort to track attendance, starting with today's Senate meeting.





#### Report of the Chair – University Senate Office Staff Update

- I am happy to announce that we have filled the University Senate Administrative Coordinator position.
- Paola Zuñiga started as the University Senate Administrative Coordinator on January 29th, 2024. Paola has already made significant contributions as the Marketing and Growth Lead at Azalio in Rockville, MD.





#### Report of the Chair – University Senate Office Staff Update

 With her extensive experience in coordinating marketing efforts for large-scale events at the University of Maryland and managing special projects at the American Kidney Fund, Paola brings a wealth of expertise in multi-channel marketing, event coordination, and project management.



#### **Report of the Chair – Senate Elections**

- The candidacy period for the staff, student, and singlemember constituency elections for the 2024-2025 Senate ended on February 2, 2024. Elections for these constituencies will begin on February 19, 2024.
- If you are a member of one of these constituencies, we encourage you to vote for your Senators at that time.





#### **Report of the Chair – Senate Elections**

- February 2nd was also the deadline for the Deans to report the results of their faculty elections.
- Newly-elected faculty Senators will be eligible for nomination for our elected committees and councils and leadership positions for the 2024-2025 academic year.





## Report of the Chair – Nominations for Elected Committees & Councils

- The Nominations Committee started its work last week.
- The Committee is tasked with identifying potential nominees for the Senate's elected committees and councils, including;
  - Senate Executive Committee
  - Committee on Committees
  - Athletic Council
  - Council of University System Faculty





#### Report of the Chair – Nominations for Elected Committees & Councils

- Senators will receive an email in the coming days soliciting self-nominations and nominations of their colleagues.
- It is important to continue to have strong nominees running in all of these elections, and I encourage you to consider running or nominating your colleagues for these important positions.





### Report of the Chair – In Memoriam William Montgomery, Past Senate Chair

- I am saddened to share that William (Bill) Montgomery, an esteemed Professor of flute, chamber music, and wind pedagogy until his retirement in 2016, has passed away on December 31, 2023.
- As some of you may know, Bill served as University Senate Chair from 2007-2008, co-chaired the strategic plan committee at the same time.



### Report of the Chair – In Memoriam William Montgomery, Past Senate Chair

- Bill studied flute his whole life and made his New York City debut in a solo recital at Carnegie Recital Hall in 1960 and subsequently performed numerous solo recitals tours in the United States and Europe.
- His former students, many of whom hold positions with universities, conservatories, and orchestras, will remember him fondly.



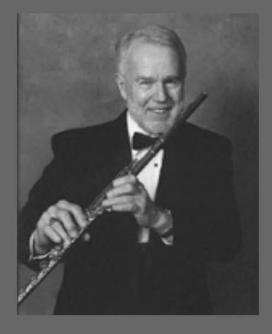


## Report of the Chair – In Memoriam William Montgomery, Past Senate Chair

- Services have not yet been announced by the family however, the obituary can be found on the Lasting Tributes Funeral Home's website.
- The 'In memoriam' slide included today honors his memory and contributions to the campus.







#### Past Senate Chair

## William Montgomery 1934-2023



Listen to JS Bach, Air on a G String as you remember Bill

4.

• On September 11, 2023, the SEC charged the Student Conduct Committee to review the proposal entitled Code of Student Conduct Modification Regarding Housing Termination.





- The proposal states that the revised version of the Code of Student Conduct approved by the SEC in May 2023 inadvertently included language regarding the Administrative Housing Termination process and this language is now in direct conflict with the Department of Resident Life's (DRL) long standing administrative process.
- If not corrected, it would result in a misalignment between the policy and a practice by DRL.





- On September 28, 2023 the Student Conduct Committee began reviewing and discussing the charge and a timeline to complete all of the charge elements.
- Consultations were conducted with the proposer (James Bond), a representative from the Resident Hall Association (RHA), and a representative from DRL and voted to amend the Code of Student Conduct to remedy this issue.





- A copy of the amended changes as approved by the Office of General Counsel were available for today's meeting.
- The amended changes include removing the Code of Student Conduct's authority over the housing termination process.





- Additionally, the revision would allow the Director of Student Conduct to continue to impose a temporary or permanent revocation of housing rights in the rare instance where such revocation is deemed appropriate, but the underlying matter is not being adjudicated under Residence Life's code of conduct.
- The Student Conduct Committee requests that its recommendations be approved.









2 min



#### **Proposal to Amend Senate Document #23-24-05**

• Proposal to amend policy V-1.00(B) University of Maryland Code of Conduct section VII.F.4 to the following:

Violation of Rrules addressing conduct in the residence halls, whether or not such conduct is also subject to proceedings under such residence hall rules and procedures.





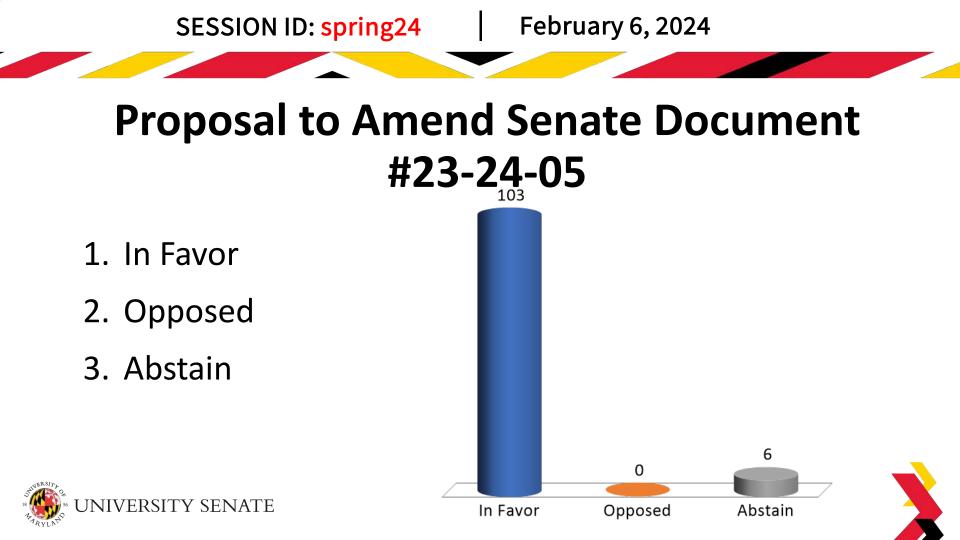


#### **Proposal to Amend Senate Document #23-24-05**

Proposal to amend policy V-1.00(B) University of Maryland Code of Conduct section VII.F.4





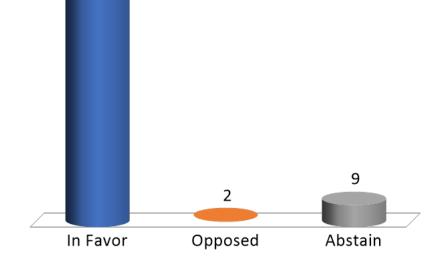




2 min



- 1. In Favor
- 2. Opposed
- 3. Abstain





5.

Revision to the College of Agriculture & Natural Resources Plan of Organization (Senate Document #23-24-10) (Action)

#### Revision to the College of Agriculture & Natural Resources Plan of Organization (Senate Document #23-24-10) (Action)

- The University Plan requires that all Colleges and Schools be governed by a Plan of Organization. These Plans must conform to provisions and principles set forth in the University's Plan, the Bylaws of the University Senate, the Policy on Shared Governance in the University System of Maryland, and best practices in shared governance.
- Revisions to these Plans must be reviewed and approved by the Elections, Representation, & Governance (ERG) Committee, the Senate, and the President.





#### Revision to the College of Agriculture & Natural Resources Plan of Organization (Senate Document #23-24-10) (Action)

- The College of Agriculture & Natural Resources (AGNR) submitted minor revisions to its Plan of Organization to the University Senate Office for review in May 2023.
- Article 11 of the Plan of Organization for Shared Governance provides provisions for the review of College, School, and the Library Plans of Organization every ten years.





• A provision in The Bylaws of the University Senate, Appendix 7, Section 3 allows a College, School, or the Library with a recently approved Plan of Organization to submit additional minimal or technical amendments to the Senate within one year of final approval by the University President.





 The revisions undergo an expedited review process by the Senate ERG Committee, and by the Faculty Affairs Committee if appropriate. The provision allows any initial implementation issues of a newly approved Plan of Organization to be addressed.





 Based on that Bylaws provision and the nature of the AGNR Plan revisions the ERG Committee conducted a focused review of only the proposed revisions. The AGNR Plan of Organization will remain on its 10-year review cycle with a full comprehensive review to occur in 2032.





- The ERG Committee noted the minor revisions to the AGNR Plan of Organization only applied to the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Respect (DEIR) Council.
- A change was made for a more inclusive tenure-track faculty membership composition by allowing tenure-track faculty to be included instead of just tenured faculty.





- Revisions clarified the total faculty members on the DEIR Council and clarified that the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station (MAES) DEIR member could be either a faculty or staff member.
- It was explained to the committee, the revisions addressed implementation issues identified when AGNR initially convened the DEIR Council. The revisions to the Council were needed to enable it to function more effectively.



- The ERG Committee approved the minor revisions of the Plan by vote on October 13, 2023, and by an email vote that concluded on December 21, 2023.
- The AGNR College Assembly approved the revised version of its Plan in a college vote concluding on November 27, 2023.





• The ERG Committee moves that the College of Agriculture & Natural Resources Plan of Organization be approved by the University Senate.







Agenda

## 5. Revision to the College of Agriculture & Natural Resources Plan of Organization (Senate Document #23-24-10) (Action)

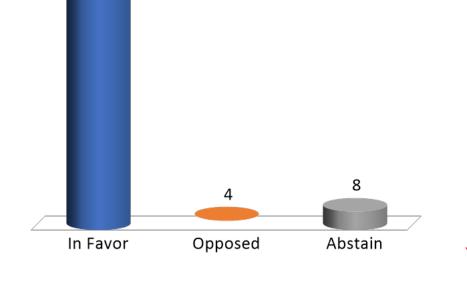




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#### Revision to the College of Agriculture & Natural Resources Plan of Organizațion (Senate Document #23-24-10) (Action)

- 1. In Favor
- 2. Opposed
- 3. Abstain





## Agenda

6.

- The College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences proposes to establish a Master of Science in Quantum Computing.
- This program currently exists as an iteration of the Master of Professional Studies program, but the college would like to convert this program to a Master of Science program.





- As background, the Master of Professional Studies programs were first approved in 2005, when the University System of Maryland Board of Regents and Maryland Higher Education Commission approved an expedited review process for master's and graduate certificate programs that respond quickly to the changing market needs of working professionals.
- New iterations, once approved by the Senate PCC committee, only need approval from the University System of Maryland Chancellor.





 A limitation of offering this program as a Master of Professional Studies iteration is that all Professional Studies iterations must use the same generic Federal code, called the Classification of Instructional Programs, or CIP (pronounced SIP), code, rather than a CIP code that accurately describes the specific content of the program.





- The Master of Professional Studies' generic CIP code prevents international students studying here on F1 visas to remain in the country longer after graduation. International students who graduate from STEM programs may stay in the United States two years longer than those in non-STEM programs.
- If this program were a Master of Science program, it would be able to use a STEM CIP code.





- Three other proposals to convert existing Master of Professional Studies programs to stand-alone Master of Science programs for the same reason were approved by the Senate last fall.
- The current 30-credit curriculum and all other aspects of the program will remain the same, other than the degree award.





- The program will continue to provide students with foundational, practical, and theoretical topics of quantum computing.
- Participants will discover current state-of-the-art quantum computing technology and areas of application, while also exploring its origins, evolution, and possible future states of this technology.





- The program will be offered both in-person and in an online format.
- The proposal was approved by the Senate Programs, Curricula, and Courses Committee at its meeting on December 1, 2023.
- The Program, Curricula, and Courses Committee requests that the proposal to establish a Master of Science in Quantum Computing be approved.





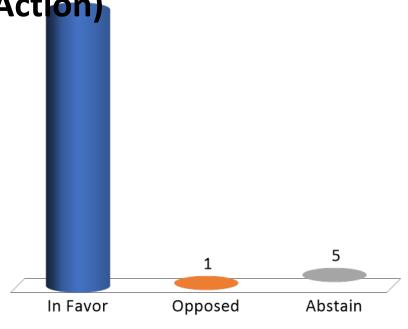






SESSION ID: spring24

- 1. In Favor
- 2. Opposed
- 3. Abstain





## Agenda

7.

- The College of Behavioral and Social Science's Department of Government and Politics proposes to establish a Bachelor's Program in International Relations.
- The department currently offers a bachelor's program in Government and Politics with an International Relations concentration (established in 2016), which the proposed program would replace.





- The department surveyed students enrolled in the concentration and found that more than 85 percent thought a major in international relations is preferable to a concentration.
- Students will take a core class in international political relations (GVPT200) and more specialized courses on specific topics, including conflict, political economy, international organization, and comparative institutions.





- Majors will also take courses in statistics and political methodology in order to attain competence in data analysis.
- All majors will be required to attain basic proficiency in a foreign language, and will be encouraged to take advantage of experiential learning opportunities, such as study abroad, internships, and research assistantships.



- As is this case with the Government and Politics major, the new major will have both a Bachelor of Arts option and a Bachelor of Science option, with students in the Bachelor of Science option taking more advanced coursework in data analytics and political methodology.
- The department expects to be able to offer the program with existing resources because the International Relations concentration already exists in the current Government and Politics major.



- The proposal was approved by the Senate Programs, Curricula, and Courses Committee at its meeting on November 3, 2023.
- The Program, Curricula, and Courses Committee requests that the proposal to establish a Bachelor's Program in International Relations be approved.







Agenda







#### Motion to Send Back to Committee

In Favor

Opposed

Abstain

63 1. In Favor 2. Opposed 43 3. Abstain 19

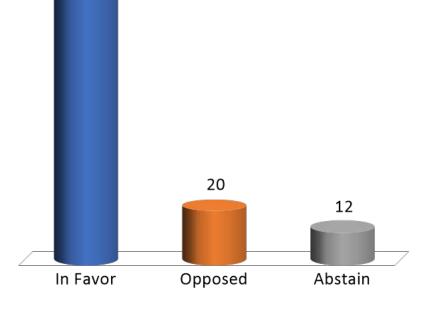




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- 1. In Favor
- 2. Opposed
- 3. Abstain





## Agenda

8.

- The School of Public Health proposes to establish a Department of Global, Environmental, and Occupational Health from its existing Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health (MIAEH) (pronounced MY-AH, like the name Maya).
- MIAEH has functioned independently as a departmental unit within the School of Public Health for more than 16 years.





- Being officially designated as an institute rather than a department has forced the unit to contend with distinct disadvantages:
- First, the unit's status as an Institute requires that all faculty tenure homes must be in another department (in this case, the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics), making the Approval, Promotion, and Tenure (or APT) process problematic.





 When a faculty member is ready to be considered for promotion, APT processes are confounded by the fact that all these functions are held separately within MIAEH and yet, another academic unit, which is in a different academic discipline, is charged with reviewing and making the first level decisions.





- Second, MIAEH's status as an institute has made it difficult to attract new faculty and leadership. Two prior national searches for a MIAEH Director did not succeed because finalists expressed discomfort with MIAEH not having departmental status.
- Third, that status as an institute has made it difficult to recruit graduate students given that comparable units in other accredited Schools of Public Health are typically departments.





- In spite of these fundamental challenges, MIAEH has excelled in research, scholarship, and academic excellence as an independent unit in the School of Public Health, effectively operating as a de facto department and fulfilling all departmental academic, research, and service functions.
- MIAEH is financially independent with its own state budget (including faculty lines) and external research funding.





- MIAEH offers two independent graduate degree programs, a graduate concentration, and a post-baccalaureate certificate program, and provides the advising and mentoring to support these programs.
- The unit will also be the academic home of the new Global Health major and the new Environmental Science and Policy specialization in Environmental Justice.





- The transition from MIAEH to the Department of Global, Environmental, and Occupational Health will require no additional human, fiscal, or physical resources.
- The proposal was approved by the Senate Programs, Curricula, and Courses Committee at its meeting on November 3, 2023.
- The Program, Curricula, and Courses Committee requests that the proposal to establish a Department of Global, Environmental, and Occupational Health be approved.









# 8. PCC Proposal: Establish a Department of Global, Environmental, and Occupational Health (Senate Document #23-24-23) (Action)

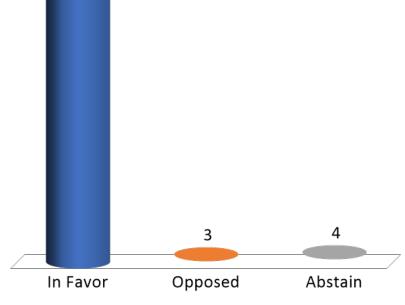
2 min



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#### PCC Proposal: Establish a Department of Global, Environmental, and Occupational Health (Senate Document #23-24-23) (Action)

- 1. In Favor
- 2. Opposed
- 3. Abstain





# Agenda

9.

Special Order **Elizabeth Beise** Professor and Associate Provost *Considerations for a Possible Fall Break* 

# Considerations for a Fall Break

Betsy Beise, Senior Associate Provost

University Senate | Feb 6, 2024



# Fall Break Work Group Spring 2023

University Senate Academic Procedures and Standards Committee, December 2022:

*The committee recommends the University explore the benefits and complications of adding a fall break...* 

Work group convened and charged by Provost Rice, March 2023

- Betsy Beise
- Adrian Cornelius
- Chetan Joshi
- Lisa Kiely
- Amy Karlsson

- Michael Montague-Smith
- Autumn Perkey
- Michael Votta
- Aiden Wechsler
- Kathleen Perry







# **Issues Considered by the Work Group**

- Calendar impact (including Schedule of Classes)
- Special challenges (labs, studios, performance)
- Length and timing
- Regulations on Contact Hours
- Peer practices (Big10, USM)
- Impact on students who may not be able to travel, and the units that support them







# **Concerns Identified**

- Lab courses that meet once per week, but run most days of the week, risk losing an entire week. Chemistry is most impacted. Lab courses that involve animals may have associated time constraints due to preparation of the animals.
- Concern about "learning loss" if days added to Thanksgiving week.
- Adding a break to the 12-week calendar is nearly impossible (relevant for some graduate professional programs). Programs that use the 7-week "sub-term" calendar may end up with awkward break in sub-term.
- Instructors may be tempted to "load up" assignments just prior to break to make up for lost time.
- In some years, adjustments will be needed in summer to accommodate a fall break.
- Disruptions to onboarding and orientation schedules, faculty hiring, impacts on summer internships





# **Calendar Process**

- UMD proposes two six-year calendar options to USM a few years in advance, that other USM campuses review and follow. This was last completed in 2019 for 2022-2028 academic years. We anticipate the next exercise sometime in 2024.
- Calendars repeat every 7 years.
- State regulations require 75 class days (45 MWF, 30 T-Th).
- USM policy III-5.00 start before Labor Day, end by Dec 23.
- Federal Regs allow more flexibility, using "commonly accepted practice".
- Final exams require 7 calendar days, plus one Reading Day.
- Various student & admin services need prep time between semesters (esp summer/fall).
- Note: Weds before Thanksgiving became a "no-class" day in 2016.







## Among 17 peers and regional campuses

- 12 have a fall break (either October or Thanksgiving week)
- 13 (including UMD) have no classes on Weds before Thanksgiving
- 4 use full Thanksgiving week as a break
- 7 have a 2-day break in October
- 8 have no Reading Days
- 11 have both a summer and winter session
- All but 1 hold classes on Election Day
- All but 2 start well before Labor Day (half start more than 1 week before)







# Fall 2025-2027

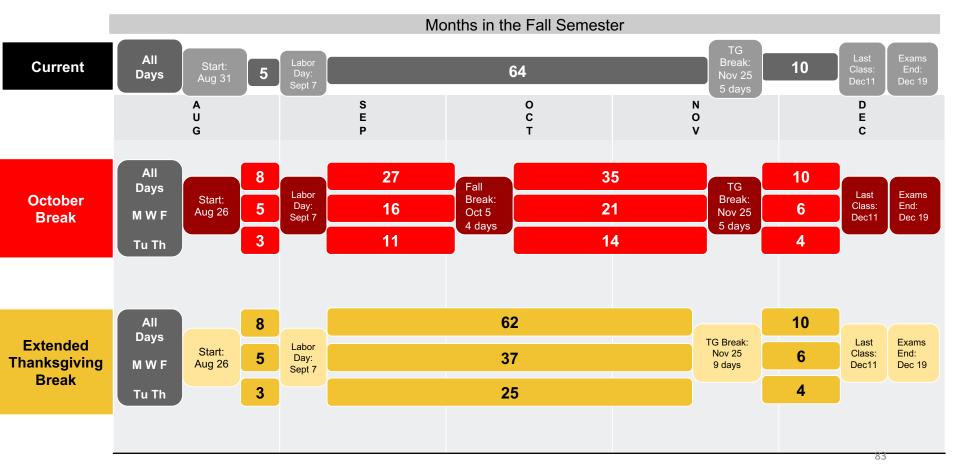
- Fall 2025 start AT THE EARLIEST
- Use Mon/Tues before Indigenous Peoples' Day (Columbus Day)
- Move Fall semester start earlier to accommodate two break days end date remains the same.
- Prioritize time between Summer/Fall (typically 7-9 days) over time between Spring/Summer (typically 5 days).
- Change summer terms (and sometimes spring semester) as needed to provide needed days between terms.
- Academic and administrative units will need time to prepare for the change, particularly in laboratory and performance-based courses (one fewer 5-day week relative to current schedule).





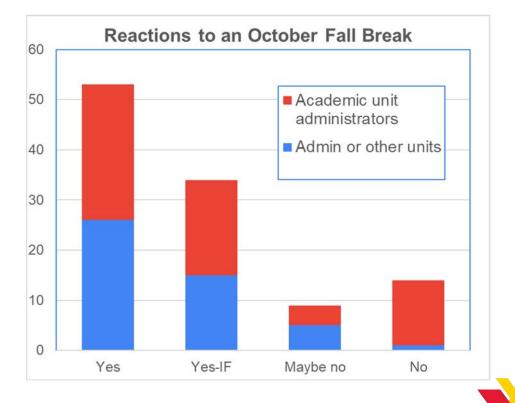


#### Fall 2026: Current vs October vs Thanksgiving



### Reactions to a possible Fall Break

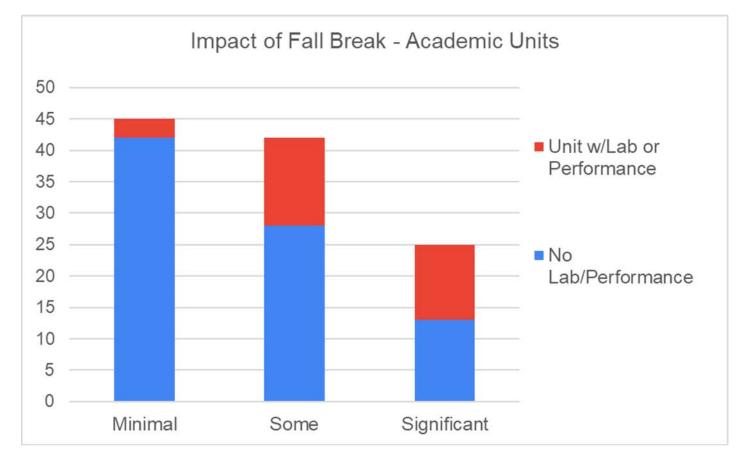
Yes	I see a Fall Break as a beneficial change to the fall academic calendar
Yes-IF	As long as there is enough time to prepare, I see a Fall Break as a beneficial change to the fall academic calendar
Maybe no	I have hesitations about implementing a Fall Break, it may impact my unit in unfavorable ways
No	I do not see a Fall Break as a beneficial change to the fall academic calendar







#### Fall Break impact – all responses from Academic Units



### **Impact: Concerns Raised**

Laboratory / Performance Implications

- Number of 5-day weeks reduced from 13 to 12
- Time-critical processes disrupted (bacteria growth, animals)
- Production schedules for performances

Instructional Implications

- Timing relative to mid-term exams and break creep
- Monday-only classes significantly impacted
- Possible conflicts with summer internship schedules Unit Operational Implications
  - Orientations, faculty and student onboarding
  - Some units impacted by major conference schedules
  - Family care, summer leave, faculty contracts, alignment with public school calendars
- Fall Break not considered a holiday extended to faculty and staff **Facilities/Administration** 
  - Residence Halls
  - Time for major facilities renovations







### **Reactions and Impact: Beneficial and Manageable**

This measure is responsive to students and their needs

- Through discussions with faculty and staff, both groups see the benefit to students outweighing any inconveniences for faculty and staff. Both groups see students, especially freshmen and transfer students benefiting.
- Given the apparent strong desire for it by students, I think we should be responsive and implement it.
- A fall break is necessary. For whatever reasons (and there are many) the time between summer and Indigenous People's Day is long--intellectually, emotionally, physically.
- If we can get this to the finish line, I know it will be a great support to the mental health of our students. I speak with a lot of parents and needing a fall break is probably the number one piece of feedback I get in those conversations.

Units are able to plan ahead

- If we knew before we planned our season it would be easier to incorporate the break into our plans.
- This would mean rearranging my course schedules. But I don't see it as disruptive or negative if I am given sufficient time to prepare. I think it would be nice to have a break.
- With enough notice, our fall recruitment and retention plans could be adjusted.

#### **Overall positive sentiments**

- I strongly urge the University to adopt this measure.
- I think the benefits of this break would be worth any adjustments we need to make.
- A "no-class" break during that period may free up time for staff to focus on administrative work.
- I am STRONGLY in favor of a fall break. This would really help campus mental health.
- Thank you for giving this needed conversation attention.



Most non-student facing units reported that they support the calendar change and their unit would not be detrimentally impacted.



Agenda

# 9. Special Order: Considerations of a Possible Fall Break





# Agenda

New Business
Adjournment

# Thank you for attending!

NI CONTRACTOR