ACTION REQUEST: Approval of Revised Academic Calendar for 2015-2016

The attached calendar for the academic year 2015-2016 has been revised (changes in italics) and replaces the version approved by the Regents in May 2013.

The current 2016 Academic Calendar, while not in violation of university guidelines, raises challenges for students who celebrate certain religious holidays. Winter 2016 final exams and graduation ceremonies are scheduled from Thursday, April 21 through Sunday, May 1, 2016. Passover begins on the evening of Friday, April 22 and ends on Saturday, April 30, 2016. Greek Orthodox Easter (Pascha) falls on Sunday, May 1, 2016.

As a non-religious, public institution the University does not observe religious holidays, however we have made it a practice to make every reasonable effort to help students avoid negative academic consequences when their religious obligations conflict with academic requirements.

Proposed Changes:
- End classes on Monday, April 18, instead of Tuesday, April 19.
- Tuesday, April 19 becomes a study day instead of a class day.
- Wednesday, April 20 becomes an examination day instead of a study day.
- Friday, April 22 becomes a study day instead of a finals day.

Number of Class Days:
- Fall term has 66 days; winter has 68 class days.

Timing of graduation ceremonies will be modified.

I request your approval of this revised 2015-2016 academic calendar, replacing the version approved by the Regents in May 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]
Martha E. Pollack
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

February 2015
Attachments
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN ACADEMIC CALENDAR – REVISED – (Changes in Bold)
ANN ARBOR CAMPUS

FALL TERM, 2015

Labor Day (Holiday) ................................................................. Sept 7, Mon
Classes begin ................................................................. Sept 8, Tues
Fall Study Break ................................................ Oct 19-20, Mon-Tues
Thanksgiving recess, 5:00 p.m .................................................. Nov 25, Wed
Classes end ................................................................. Dec 14, Mon
Study Days ...................................................... Dec 15, Tues & Dec 19-20, Sat-Sun
Examinations ................................................................. Dec 16-18, Wed-Fri
Commencement ................................................................. Dec 21-23, Mon-Wed

66 class days: M=13, T=13, W=14, Th=13, F=13


WINTER TERM, 2016

Classes begin ................................................................. Jan 6, Wed
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (University Symposia/No Regular Classes) ............................ Jan 18, Mon
Vacation begins 12:00 noon ................................................ Feb 27, Sat
Classes resume ................................................................. Mar 7, Mon
University Honors Convocation ........................................... Mar 20, Sun
Classes end ................................................................. Apr 18, Mon
Study Days ...................................................... Apr 19 Tuesday, Apr 22-24, Fri-Sun
Examinations ................................................................. Apr 20-21, Wed-Thurs &
................................................................. Apr 25-Apr 28, Mon-Thurs
Commencement Activities ................................................ Apr 28-May 1, Thurs-Sun

68 class days: M=13, T=13, W=14, Th=14, F=14

**Passover 4/22 – 4/30

SPRING-SUMMER TERM, 2016

Classes begin ................................................................. May 3, Tues
Memorial Day (Holiday) ........................................................ May 30, Mon
Classes end (Spring Half) 5:00 p.m ........................................ June 20, Mon
Study Days ...................................................... June 21-22, Tues-Wed
Examinations ................................................................. June 23-24, Thurs-Fri
Spring Half Term ends .................................................. June 24, Fri
*Registration (Summer Half) .................................. June 28, Tues
Summer Half Term classes begin ..................................... June 29, Wed
Independence Day (Holiday) .............................................. July 4, Mon
Classes end, 5:00 p.m ........................................................ Aug 16, Tues
Study Day ................................................................. Aug 17, Wed
Examinations ................................................................. Aug 18-19, Thurs-Fri
Full Term and Summer Half Term end ................................ Aug 19, Fri

*Students enrolling in Business Administration, Dentistry, Law, Pharmacy, Social Work, and Medicine should check with their respective schools for academic calendar information including registration dates. This calendar is subject to change.

**Jewish holy days begin and end at sundown on the first and last days listed. The University’s policy concerning observance of religious holidays can be found at http://www.umich.edu/~provost/dates/hdaymemo.html

1.28.15