ACTION REQUEST: Approval of Academic Calendar for 2008-2009

The following principles influence the academic calendar on the Ann Arbor campus:

- The number of class days in the fall term should be as close as possible to the number of class days in the winter term. Fall 2008 has 67 class days and Winter 2009 has 69 days.

- Classes should not begin before September 1. Starting classes in August would lead to significant problems for both students and faculty.

- Fall classes begin on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in September, to ensure starting after Labor Day. Winter classes start the first Wednesday after the first Monday, in order to start after January 2nd.

- Spring break should fall on the eighth week of winter term so that schools and colleges have the option of completing seven-week mini-courses before break.

- The term end date in both the fall and winter is the Tuesday of the 15th week, followed by a single study day before exams start on Thursday and Friday. Exams continue to through the Thursday of the 16th week.

The attached calendar has been shared with many faculty and administrative groups and meets the established criteria.

I am writing to request its approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward M. Gramlich, Interim Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

May 2006
Attachment
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN ACADEMIC CALENDAR
ANN ARBOR CAMPUS

FALL TERM, 2008

*Registration (for students not pre-registered) ........................................ Aug 29, Fri
Labor Day (Holiday) ................................................................................. Sept 1, Mon
Classes begin ......................................................................................... Sept 2, Tues
Fall Study Break .................................................................................... Oct 20-21, Mon-Tues
Thanksgiving recess, 5:00 p.m. ................................................................. Nov 26, Wed
Classes end ............................................................................................ Dec 9, Tues
Study Days ............................................................................................. Dec 10, Wed & Dec 13-14, Sat-Sun
Examinations .......................................................................................... Dec 11-12, Thurs-Fri &
................................................................................................................. Dec 15-18, Mon-Thurs
Commencement ..................................................................................... Dec 14, Sun

67 class days: M=13, T=14, W=14, Th=13, F=13
**Rosh Hashanah 9/29-10/1; Yom Kippur 10/8-10/9; Hanukkah 12/21-12/29

WINTER TERM, 2009

*Registration (for students not pre-registered) ........................................ Jan 5, Mon
Classes begin ........................................................................................ Jan 7, Wed
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (University Symposia/No Regular Classes) .... Jan 19, Mon
Vacation begins 12:00 noon ................................................................. Feb 28, Sat
Classes resume ...................................................................................... Mar 9, Mon
University Honors Convocation ........................................................... Mar 15, Sun
Classes end .......................................................................................... Apr 21, Tues
Study Days ............................................................................................ Apr 22, Wed; Apr 25-26, Sat-Sun
Examinations ......................................................................................... Apr 23-24, Thurs-Fri &
................................................................................................................. Apr 27-30, Mon-Thurs
Commencement Activities .................................................................. May 1-3, Fri-Sun

69 class days: M=13, T=14, W=14, Th=14, F=14
**Passover 4/8-4/16

SPRING-SUMMER TERM, 2009

*Registration (Full Term and Spring Half) .............................................. May 4, Mon
Classes begin ......................................................................................... May 5, Tues
Memorial Day (Holiday) .......................................................................... May 25, Mon
Classes end (Spring Half) 5:00 p.m. ......................................................... June 19, Fri
Study Days ........................................................................................... June 20-21, Sat-Sun
Examinations .......................................................................................... June 22-23, Mon-Tues
Spring Half Term ends ........................................................................... June 23, Mon
*Registration (Summer Half) ............................................................... June 26, Fri
Summer Half Term classes begin .......................................................... June 29, Mon
Independence Day (Holiday) ................................................................. July 3, Fri
Classes end, 5:00 p.m. ........................................................................... Aug 14, Fri
Study Day ............................................................................................... Aug 15-16, Sat-Sun
Examinations ........................................................................................ Aug 17-18, Mon-Tues
Full Term and Summer Half Term end .................................................. Aug 18, Tues

*Students enrolling in Business Administration, Dentistry, Law, Pharmacy, Social Work, and Medicine should check with their respective schools for academic calendar information including registration. 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
Regents Meeting, May 2006

Background for Academic Calendar 2008-2009

Holiday Issues
There are no conflicts with religious holidays in this calendar.

Spring Break
The spring break in 2009 falls as it traditionally has on the eighth week of the winter term. The Ann Arbor Public School District often tries to coordinate its Spring Break with that of the University, but the school system does not yet have a contract for 2009.

Number of Class Days
Fall term has 67 days; winter has 69 class days. This is within the acceptable range of 67-69 class days per term.

Frequently Asked Questions
This calendar reflects the tradition of starting the Tuesday after Labor Day in order to allow time for a two-day study break in October.