

Academic Calendar Resolution

WHEREAS, the Faculty Senate of Bowling Green State University is charged with overseeing the academic charter (IV.f.b.2.6) of the institution and offering advice and recommendation to the Administration, and

WHEREAS, the academic calendar is the framework upon which instruction is delivered and is of premiere importance to the work of the Committee on Academic Affairs (CAA), and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Department of Higher Education mandates the number of minutes of instruction required of institutions granting college credit hours via Ohio Administrative Code 3333-1-02-(B.13), and

WHEREAS, the Senate of the Undergraduate Student Body on April 16th 2018 adopted a resolution "Formally Advising the University to Act on Credit Hour Discrepancies Found in Ohio [Administrative] Code 3333-1-02," and

WHEREAS, the primary responsibility for the development and maintenance of the University's academic programs belongs to the faculty, and

WHEREAS, the faculty of Bowling Green State University utilize their academic freedom in delivering instruction within the boundaries of the academic calendar, and

WHEREAS, the reworked academic calendar is a shared concern among faculty and student constituency groups, especially with regard to its requirement of make-up for any missed formal instruction minutes off the course grid, and

WHEREAS, the reworked academic calendar for Fall 2018 does not afford the minimum number of contact minutes, as mandated by the Ohio Department of Higher Education, for every scheduled course; thereby limiting the contact minutes between faculty and students, and

WHEREAS, reduction in contact minutes between faculty and students impacts academic freedom and student achievement, and

WHEREAS, the academic calendar directly impacts the ability of program faculty to meet accreditation criteria, educational objectives and outcomes, and the preparation of students for the workforce.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate of Bowling Green State University pledges to work collaboratively and collegially with all constituencies in preserving the academic freedom of faculty and furthering the academic achievement of all students.

AND LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate strongly recommends the Administration of Bowling Green State University specifically identify courses that are not

meeting mandated criteria and commit to more closely work with all constituencies of the institution (specifically including, the Faculty Senate, which is the representative academic body of the University faculty, and academic departments) to develop an academic calendar that allows each individual course to meet minimum contact minutes as mandated by the Ohio Department of Higher Education. Moreover, for good practice, the academic calendar developed should marginally exceed the minimum contact minutes so that reasonably likely events that lead to reduced formal instructional contact, such as a Level 3 weather driving restriction, do not jeopardize the educational objectives and outcomes of each course.