

4-19-2007

## Academic Standards and Calendar Committee Report #2006-07-3.

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/facsen\\_bills](https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/facsen_bills)

---

### Recommended Citation

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate, "Academic Standards and Calendar Committee Report #2006-07-3." (2007). *Faculty Senate Bills*. Paper 1828.  
[https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/facsen\\_bills/1828](https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/facsen_bills/1828)[https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/facsen\\_bills/1828](https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/facsen_bills/1828)

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Faculty Senate at DigitalCommons@URI. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Senate Bills by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@URI. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@etal.uri.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@etal.uri.edu).



Faculty Senate

Serial Number #06-07--32

TO: President Robert L. Carothers

FROM: Michael A. Rice, Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

1. The attached BILL, titled Academic Standards and Calendar Committee Report #2006-07-3 is forwarded for your consideration.
2. This BILL was adopted by vote of the Faculty Senate on April 19, 2007.
3. After considering this bill, will you please indicate your approval or disapproval. Return the original or forward it to the Board of Governors, completing the appropriate endorsement below.
4. In accordance with Section 10, paragraph 4 of the Senate's By-Laws, this bill will become effective May 10, 2007 three weeks after Senate approval, unless: (1) specific dates for implementation are written into the bill; (2) you return it disapproved; (3) you forward it to the Board of Governors for their approval; or (4) the University Faculty petitions for a referendum. If the bill is forwarded to the Board of Governors, it will not become effective until approved by the Board.

April 23, 2007  
(date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael A. Rice  
Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

-----  
ENDORSEMENT

TO: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

FROM: President of the University

Returned.

- a. Approved .
- b. Approved subject to final approval by Board of Governors \_\_\_.
- c. Disapproved \_\_\_.

4/23/07  
(date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

**UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND  
FACULTY SENATE**

**Academic Standards & Calendar Committee  
Report #2006-07-3**

As approved by the Faculty Senate on April 19, 2007

The Academic Standards and Calendar Committee met on March 30, 2007 and addressed a number of items of business brought before it by the Faculty Senate. These items are reported below. Section I contains matters of information. Section II requires action by the Faculty Senate.

**SECTION I - Informational**

**A. Thanksgiving Day Break**

A discussion occurred in response to a memo sent by Vice President Thomas Dougan requesting that the Thanksgiving Recess commence one day earlier so that there is ample time available for students to travel. More information was needed as to the logistics and impact that this change would involve relative to the AY 2009-10, AY 2010-11 and AY 2011-12 calendars. This impact will be researched.

The tabling of this issue until the next meeting of the Committee was discussed, moved, seconded and passed.

**B. Summer Session Calendar**

The Summer Session Calendar was not discussed. Chair Boulmetis will contact Carla Simonini at CCE to inquire about the status of the 2009 Summer Calendar

**C. Length of Add Period**

This issues related to the "add period" referred again to the committee by Drs. Cohen and Rollo-Koster. The committee discussed this matter and again determined that no change to the language of Section 8 was necessary. Instead this was determined to be an issue of application and enforcement of the existing rules.

**D. Dropping a course**

Mr. Humphries brought up an issue related to 8.34.10 Dropping a course. I appears the there is confusion in the language of the policy and that there are actually three concepts in the language related to early drop course. The committee will review the language and recommend changes at its next meeting.

**SECTION II - Requires Approval**

The Academic Standards and Calendar Committee recommends that the Faculty Senate approve the following:

**A. Designate May 1, 2007 as an optional make-up day for missed Friday classes.**

*Background:* In order to allow class work to be made up for those classes that were canceled as a result of the one and one half days classes were canceled this Spring 2007 semester for inclement weather, a discussion occurred to identify a day where faculty for only those classes/ courses canceled by the closure, could be made up. Monday, May 1, 2007 was identified as a day that will count as both a Reading Day and Make-up Day for only those classes canceled.

B. Approve the revised proposed calendar for the 2012-2013 academic year:

**Proposed Calendar - 2012-2013 Academic Year**

**Fall 2012**

**Advising Day** will be on Tuesday, September 4, 2012

**Classes will begin** on Wednesday, September 5, 2012

**Columbus Day classes will not meet** on Monday, October 8, 2012

**Election Day classes will not meet** on Tuesday, November 6, 2012

**Tuesday Classes will meet** on Wednesday, November 7, 2012

**Classes will meet** on Monday, November 12, 2012 (**Veteran's Day**)

**Thanksgiving Day classes will not meet** on Thursday, November 22, 2012

**Classes will not meet** on Friday, November 23, 2012

**Classes will end** on Monday December 10, 2012

**Reading Days** will be Tuesday December 11 and Wednesday December 12, 2012

**Final Exam Days** will be December 13-14, 17-21, 2012.

**Final Exam Make-up Day** will be on Saturday December 22, 2012

**Spring 2013**

**Advising Day** would be on Tuesday, January 22, 2013

**Classes will begin** on Wednesday, January 23, 2013

**Classes will meet** on Monday, February 18, 2013 (**President's Day**)

**Spring Break** will be March 11-15, 2013

**Classes will end** on Tuesday April 30, 2013

**Reading Days** will be Wednesday May 1 and Thursday May 2, 2013

**Final Exam Days** will be May 3, 6-10, 13, 2013.

**Final Exam Make-up Day** will be on Tuesday May 14, 2013 (if needed)

**Commencement Weekend** will be May 18 & 19, 2013

*Background:* There was a discussion regarding the Advising Day for Spring 2013 semester. It was determined that Advising Day needs to occur while the Residence Halls are open. Therefore, Advising Day will occur on Tuesday, January 22, 2013. This requires classes to begin on Wednesday, January 23, 2013 and that classes be conducted on Monday, February 18, 2013 which is a not a State Holiday (President's Day).

**Recommendations C and D become effective beginning in the fall 2007**

\*C. Amend section 8.26.13 as proposed

**ORIGINAL**

**8.26.13** Faculty members bear responsibility for the evaluation of students and their professional judgment in this regard is to be respected. Undergraduate and graduate students who object to a recorded grade in a course should discuss the matter initially with the instructor. If the issue remains unresolved, students should make their case in writing to the instructor's department chairperson or immediate administrative supervisor. If the chairperson/supervisor thinks the appeal has merit,

\*Changes to sections 8.26.13, 8.52.20 and 8.52.21 become effective beginning in the fall 2007.

she/he should so inform the instructor. If this still fails to produce resolution, the chairperson/supervisor should refer the matter to a departmental or college appeals committee for a recommendation. (The latter would be appropriate in colleges lacking departments; otherwise, the case would go to a departmental committee. For petitions concerning grades, appeals committees at both levels shall include a faculty member from a closely allied department or discipline.) If, after investigating the appeal, the committee concludes that compelling reasons exist to modify a grade, it will give the instructor a written explanation of its decision and ask that person to make the change. If the instructor still declines, he/she must provide the committee with a written explanation of the reasons for refusing. If, after considering the instructor's explanation, the committee agrees unanimously that it would be unjust to let the original grade stand, it may recommend to the chairperson/supervisor that the grade be changed over the instructor's objection. The chairperson/supervisor will then initiate the change, notifying the instructor, the student, the instructor's dean, the student's dean, and the Office of Student Affairs of this action. The only exception to these guidelines shall be in cases where the instructor can no longer be consulted (e.g., that person has died or moved to an unknown address). In these circumstances, the appropriate chairperson/supervisor can act in the stead of the absent instructor and modify a student's grade if a departmental or college appeals committee unanimously recommends such action in writing. In general, grades under appeal should not be considered when evaluating students for continuance in an academic program or for scholarship eligibility. (See section 8.56.10 concerning time limits for changes to recorded grades. Regarding cases involving cheating and plagiarism, see sections 8.27.10 through 8.27.21. For cases involving harassment/discrimination, see University Manual Appendix G, Policy #85-1.)

## PROPOSED

**8.26.13 (changes in BOLD)** Faculty members bear responsibility for the evaluation of students and their professional judgment in this regard is to be respected. Undergraduate and graduate students who object to a recorded grade in a course should discuss the matter initially with the instructor. If the issue remains unresolved, students should make their case in writing to the instructor's department chairperson or immediate administrative supervisor. If the chairperson/supervisor thinks the appeal has merit, she/he should so inform the instructor. If this still fails to produce resolution, the chairperson/supervisor should refer the matter to a departmental or college appeals committee for a recommendation. (The latter would be appropriate in colleges lacking departments **or where department faculty have voted to delegate the authority to a college appeals committee.** For petitions concerning grades, appeals committees at both levels shall include a faculty member from a closely allied department or discipline.) If, after investigating the appeal, the committee concludes that compelling reasons exist to modify a grade, it will give the instructor a written explanation of its decision and ask that person to make the change. If the instructor still declines, he/she must provide the committee with a written explanation of the reasons for refusing. If, after considering the instructor's explanation, the committee agrees unanimously that it would be unjust to let the original grade stand, it shall **direct** the chairperson/supervisor that the grade be changed over the instructor's objection. The chairperson/supervisor will then initiate the change, notifying the instructor, the student, the instructor's dean, the student's dean, and the Office of Student Affairs of this action. The only exception to these guidelines shall be in cases where the instructor can no longer be consulted (e.g., that person has died or moved to an unknown address). In these circumstances, the appropriate chairperson/supervisor shall act in the stead of the absent instructor and modify a student's grade if a

\*Changes to sections 8.26.13, 8.52.20 and 8.52.21 become effective beginning in the fall 2007.

departmental or college appeals committee unanimously recommends such action in writing. In general, grades under appeal should not be considered when evaluating students for continuance in an academic program or for scholarship eligibility. **The filing of the appeal must occur within two semesters following the issuing of the grade.** (See section 8.56.10 concerning time limits for changes to recorded grades. Regarding cases involving cheating and plagiarism, see sections 8.27.10 through 8.27.21. For cases involving harassment/discrimination, see University Manual Appendix G, Policy #85-1.)

*Background:* Several problems were identified during the 2006-07 academic year as implementation of section 8.26.13 began. At the request of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, the committee discussed issues related to the wording of 8.26.13 Grade Appeals Procedures.

\*D. Amend sections 8.52.20 and 8.52.21:

"... at least one semester ...." Must be changed to "... at least two semesters ...." in both of those sections.

*Background:* See item C above.

\*Changes to sections 8.26.13, 8.52.20 and 8.52.21 become effective beginning in the fall 2007.