Graduate Professional Council
University of Missouri

Resolution 0809-10

A Resolution Against the Current Faculty Council’s Process for Setting the Academic Calendar

PURPOSE: To declare that the Graduate Professional Council is opposed to the Faculty Council’s recommendation to begin Finals Week on Friday and continue it through Thursday of the next week without the involvement of students’ opinions.

Whereas, the current Academic Calendar designates the Friday before Finals Week as “Reading Day,” and

Whereas, in the Faculty Handbook under the Academic Calendar: Article I states that “a calendar for each academic year will be prepared by a calendar committee, which will be the Academic Affairs Committee of the Faculty Council. The committee will, during the fall semester, propose the calendar that will become effective two years later. During its deliberations, the Calendar Committee will seek the advice of the Undergraduate Dean’s Group and the Missouri Students Association. Finally, the calendar will be brought to the Faculty Council for discussion and action. Once approved, the proposed calendar will be submitted to the Chancellor for forwarding through the President to the Board of Curators”, and

Whereas, the Graduate & Professional students represent both the faculty and students views of the University of Missouri campus, and

Whereas, students should have the opportunity to voice their opinion about the Faculty Council’s changes to the Academic Calendar, and

Whereas, GPC agrees that the overlap between Finals Week and the Commencement schedule needs to be reconciled, however these changes would substantially reduce Undergraduate, Graduate and Professional students’ abilities to prepare for Final Exams.

Whereas, the recommendation passed by the Faculty Council on Thursday, February 26th 2009, recommends changes to the Academic Calendar that would move the first day of finals to Friday, thereby eliminating the use of Saturday and Sunday for tests preparation, and

Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Graduate Professional Council that on the behalf of students, GPC strongly suggests that the Faculty Council seek the opinions of the students before submitting a Resolution that would eliminate Saturday and Sunday for exam preparation, and
Therefore, The Graduate Professional Council strongly advocates a graduate/professional and MSA representative being included in the Calendar Committee to represent the interests as students, as well as faculty, of the University of Missouri, and

Therefore, Be It Further Resolved that all proposed changes to the Academic Calendar be vetted through both the Graduate Professional Council and the Missouri Student Association for consideration before being submitted to the Board of Curators.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alaine Arnott
GPC President
Sarah Symonds
GPC Vice President

Leslie Rill
GPC Treasurer
Elizabeth Roberts
GPC Programming and Publicity

Jennifer Holland
GPC Secretary
Maggie Schlarman
GPC State Issues Coordinator

Karen Kraus
GPC National Issues Coordinator