## EC Response to Maximum number of units during Winter intersession

## February 20, 2013

Discussion:

* Shouldn’t count/use legal holidays – Christmas and New Years
* Concerned about providing an online course during a time when support not traditionally available.
	+ Assume IITS and Library primary areas affected
	+ Is it fair to expect staff/faculty in support areas to make themselves available over the holiday period even if Extended Studies supports?
	+ Can’t expect faculty to work during holiday.
		- They shouldn’t have to work
		- Is it OK to work during this time under contract rules?
		- Does it undermine union issues concerning workload?
		- Counter argument – many of these faculty depend on the extra pay intersession provides. Is it right to deny them this income?
* One faculty members experience with providing a 3 unit course over 14 days was that it actually took more time than that with grading, etc.
* Need to consider ethical issues
	+ Can a full course really be offered in such a short time?
	+ Can we really provide a proper learning experience in a short time?
	+ Shouldn’t apply 19/15 calculation to such a short time. The resulting number of hours required per day is unrealistic.
* 14 calendar days means 16 hours of work required every day. Is that really reasonable. What’s the floor as far as number of hours/day and number of days/week?
* Should there be limits on the number of units faculty can teach? CoBA does specify a limit.
* How much of an economic impact would eliminating intersession cause?

Recommendations:

* For face-to-face consider counting the days in December after grading and before the holiday starts.

Requests for additional information:

* APC should determine a reasonable maximum work day for students. What’s the floor as far as number of hours/day and number of days/week.
* What do other campuses do? How do they manage to find time for intersession? Why does it work for them?
* Determine how much of an economic impact would eliminating intersession cause. Gather a couple of years of information on our intersession enrollment. Breakdown by colleges or departments. Be sure to count the classes that actually made rather than the total offered.
* Survey faculty as to their experiences in teaching intersession. Might try to ask questions in a way to separate financial need as reason for doing from actual experience in teaching such courses.