

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

University Standing Committee \_\_\_\_\_ Registration, Records and Calendar \_\_\_\_\_

Academic Year Covered by Report 2022-2023 \_\_\_\_\_

Date Report Submitted 6/19/2023 \_\_\_\_\_

Report Submitted by Tameka Whitaker \_\_\_\_\_

Number of times committee met 3 meetings: 8/31/22; 1/27/23; 2/17/23 \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Chair Elect (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Continue discussion as to whether or not future calendars provide any flexibility if more than one wellness day is determined to be needed.
- Continue discussion regarding a concern with having the term start dates be on Mondays as this provides a short window of time for students and faculty to get issues straightened out prior to the start of classes. Is there flexibility with future calendars to return to Wednesday start dates?

## **SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION ITEMS/ACTIVITIES OF COMMITTEE**

- Fall meeting
  - Key discussion – 2025-2026 Calendar: The Fall ‘25 term starting on Monday, August 18 only provides faculty with one paid contract day before classes begin. Most departments will have faculty meetings and training prior to the term start, leaving 9-month faculty having to do course prep outside of their paid workdays.
  - The contracts for 9-month faculty run August 16 through May 15 every year, regardless of the start and end dates of fall and spring terms. Charles Clift shared Registration & Records, along with HR, had several years ago looked into providing some flexibility with the faculty contract dates. A number of peer institutions and UNC schools do not have a specific contract start date written into their policies, but at NC State the contract dates are so deeply embedded into so many different policies that not enough traction was gained to be able to provide flexibility.
  - The question was raised as to why in Spring ‘26, Spring Break has been pushed forward to 10 weeks into the semester. This leaves little time after the break and considering how a semester is typically structured, is problematic for instructors. Kyle Pysher shared the idea behind the placement of this break is to give students in 8W2 courses at least one full week of class.

- Spring meetings
  - Key Discussion – The Chancellor wants suggestions from the committee regarding incorporating Wellness Days into the next academic calendar due to multiple situations experienced on campus. Two proposed versions were prepared for the committee by Registration & Records. Version #1 included two wellness days: one after Labor Day and second after Fall Break. Version #2 included one wellness day around mid-September.
  - Opinions of the options ranged from having a random day in the middle of the week does not feel like a break to extended breaks would give students better opportunity to travel home.
  - Both proposed versions are able to add the wellness day(s) by removing one or both of the Reading Days prior to final exams. Future calendars proposals could incorporate both wellness and reading days but needing a decision so quickly does not lend to great flexibility.
  - Student feedback was important so a vote was delayed until the topic could be discussed in Student Senate. The feedback from Student Senate unanimously in favor of the one Wellness Day and one Reading Day proposed calendar.
  - Faculty Senate Academic Policy Committee feedback was largely in support or neutral of the proposed calendars. The only negative coming from instructors with concerns about the past wellness day falling on Tues/Thur and causing issues with their class schedule.
  - Committee approved one Wellness Day to be added to each semester of the three year academic calendar (Fall 2023 to Spring 2026).

**RECOMMENDATION FOR REVISION OF CHARGE AND/OR MEMBERSHIP CONFIGURATION (if applicable)**