


**MEMORANDUM**

To: Faculty Senate Executive Committee

From: Elizabeth S. Chilton, Provost and Executive Vice President 

Subject: Adjustment to Spring 2021 Academic Calendar

Date: September 24, 2020

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In follow-up to my conversation with Dr. Dave Turnbull (Chair, Faculty Senate), I am writing to ask the Faculty Senate to consider a proposal to change the academic calendar for Spring 2021 for the WSU Pullman campus.

The Provost's Office would like to propose that the WSU Pullman campus start two weeks later and eliminate spring break. We could also consider have one day off in March—that combined with Martin Luther King Jr. Day and President's Day would give a few short breaks. Mary Wack (Vice Provost for Academic Engagement and Student Achievement) has assured me that this will still fulfill the requisite number of weeks per accreditation standards. Dr. Wack is available to answer questions on this front.

Below are reasons for this request:

- It will allow for time for a staggered move-in and testing/quarantining protocol.
- It will give us an opportunity to potentially adjust to changing federal decisions about allowing remote instruction
- Eliminating spring break will minimize further exposure for our students to individuals outside the campus.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this important request. Please note, we are hoping to have a decision regarding Spring 2021 for the WSU Pullman campus communicated no later than October 15, 2020. As such, an expedited review and response will be sincerely appreciated.

Cc: Laura Hill, Senior Vice Provost  
Mary Wack, Vice Provost for Academic Engagement and Student Achievement  
Kristina Peterson-Wilson, Chief of Staff, Office of the Provost