

**Modesto Junior College
Academic Senate
Resolution SP04-K
Changes to Compressed Calendar**

- Proposed by:** Ad-Hoc Compressed Calendar Committee
- Whereas:** The current 16-week calendar has polarized the faculty, and
- Whereas:** The perceived stress levels on campus have increased significantly because of the calendar change, and
- Whereas:** A shorter semester and a relatively short break between fall and spring semesters allows less time for professional development, program review and design, and extra-curricular activities, which are essential academic functions of the faculty, and
- Whereas:** Subject matter coverage in some areas has decreased with the current calendar, and
- Whereas:** Many faculty have a strong preference for allowing MWF and daily classes, as well as setting aside a College Hour across campus, both of which are effectively precluded by the current calendar, and
- Whereas:** A desirable feature of the current calendar, which should be maintained, is the option of block scheduling patterns, leaving Fridays flexible for academic and professional needs, and
- Whereas:** The current calendar has caused a significant disproportionate impact on the teaching and scheduling of many remedial, sequenced, and laboratory courses, and
- Whereas:** The professional opinion of the instructors in some disciplines is that more class sessions are pedagogically appropriate for particular courses, and
- Whereas:** The most desirable academic calendar would best accommodate the inherent and desirable diversity of academic goals, programs and teaching styles at Modesto Junior College,
- Therefore:** **Be it resolved,** that Modesto Junior College should increase the length of the fall and spring semesters by one week each, and
- Therefore:** **Be it further resolved,** that block scheduling (MW/TTh) and MWF/MTWThF scheduling patterns be viewed as equally valid, equally effective, and equally possible in these 17-week semesters, with faculty encouraged to employ whichever scheduling pattern is most effective for instruction in their own discipline, and
- Therefore:** **Be it further resolved,** that the break provided between fall and spring semesters be at least three weeks, and preferably four weeks long, and

Therefore: **Be it further resolved,** that a (non-Friday) College Hour be established, during which scheduling of classes is strongly discouraged by both faculty and administration, and

Therefore: **Be it further resolved,** that summer course offerings at Modesto Junior College should continue to expand and develop, as they are currently, with course lengths ranging from as little as one to as many as twelve weeks in duration, thereby allowing faculty as much creativity, academic freedom, and personal preference as possible to meet their own and their students' needs.

First Reading:

Final Action:

Disposition: