## 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

**Therefore:** Be it further resolved, that a 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:** "Therefore 4" – College Hour October 7, 2004

"Therefore 3" – Spring Break October 7, 2004
"Therefore 2" – 17-Week Semesters November 18, 2004
"Therefore 1" – Add 1 week to semesters November 4, 2004
"Therefore 5" – Summer course offerings November 18, 2004

Final Action: "Therefore 4" December 2, 2004

"Therefore 3" December 2, 2004

"Therefore 2" Withdrawn December 2, 2004
"Therefore 1" Failed December 2, 2004
"Therefore 5" Withdrawn December 2, 2004

**Disposition:** "Therefore 4" introduced for action as SP05-A: College Hour Committee which was

approved by the Senate on April 21, 2005.