

Memorandum

To: Bruno Giberti
Academic Senate, Chair

Date: 12/10/2007

From: Andrew Schaffner
Instruction Committee, Chair

Subject: Instruction Committee Fall 2007 Quarterly Report

The Instruction Committee met five times during the Fall. Due to scheduling conflicts, the student representative did not attend any meetings, but was included in all email correspondence.

We considered two primary items of business during Fall quarter described below

Item: WU grade policy.

History: CSU Executive Order 792 provides guidelines for the use of the WU grade, but lacks sufficient detail to prescribe consistent application. Furthermore there is anecdotal evidence suggesting that some failing students are advised to urge faculty to issue WU grades rather than F grades so that the grade will not adversely affect their GPA.

Action: The instruction committee presented a resolution to the Senate to revise the WU policy. After Senate comments, the resolution was withdrawn and a new resolution has been drafted. The new resolution to repeal AS 449 (which allows WUs to be changed to W) will be presented to the Executive Committee in Winter 2008.

Item: ATI comments

History: The CSU has required each campus to develop a plan for Accessibility of Instructional Materials. As part of the consultative process, the instruction committee reviews this plan.

Action: The Instruction committee reviewed the plan and forwarded minor changes to Mary Shaffer.

Item: 2008-2009 Calendar

History: Due to oversights from several parties, the originally approved 2008-2009 calendar placed the week of finals immediately following thanksgiving break.

Action: The instruction committee participated in discussions to address this problem. We recommended to the administration that the original schedule proposed by the Instruction Committee and endorsed by the Senate be adopted. We also committed to provide more details around both our positive and negative calendar recommendations in the future.

Item: 2009-2010 Calendar

History: One of the annual charges of the Instruction Committee is to review and recommend academic calendars.

Action: Three calendars were reviewed. A detailed recommendation was submitted to the executive committee and will be reviewed by the EC in Winter 2008. The details of our proposal can be found in the 11/19/07 IC minutes.