

# Campus Feedback

Draft Three Symmetrical Term/YRO  
AY Calendar Proposals for  
2027-28, 2028-29, 2029-30.

Academic Senate Instruction Committee - October 20, 2026



**CAL POLY**

# The Summer 2026 YRO Academic Calendar Workgroup found ...

---

Both proposed frameworks support year-round operations beginning in Fall 2027

## OPTION 1

Three symmetrical 14+1-week semesters across 2027–28, 2028–29, and 2029–30.

## OPTION 2

Three symmetrical 15+1-week semesters across the same three academic years.

This option left no breaks between terms and, in some years, requires grades due on December 24.

**The Summer 2026 YRO Academic Calendar Workgroup found the 14+1 week three symmetrical term/YRO calendar the preferable option compared the 15+1 week option for three symmetrical terms.**

Workgroup recommendation: adopt the 14+1 week term calendars if Cal Poly proceeds with a three symmetrical term AY calendar in 2027–28.



# What the Campus Calendar Feedback Suggests ...

---

The 14+1 week model is the most feasible of the two YRO options, with important limitations

## Relative improvements

- Equal-length terms
- Retained five-day Fall and Spring breaks
- More reasonable than the 15+1 alternative for YRO operations

## Persistent limitations

- Short and inequitable transitions between terms
- No consecutive mid-summer break
- Weekend workday concerns
- Continuous instructional cycle strains faculty, staff, and students

**Feedback treats 14+1 as the better symmetrical term/YRO calendar option, not as support for moving this option in 2027–28.**

# No support for three symmetrical term/YRO calendar in 2027–28

---

## The central finding

**Faculty, staff, and students expressed little to no support for adopting a year-round operations model on the proposed 2027–28 timeline.**

---

### RECURRING CONCERNS and UNRESOLVED QUESTIONS

Feedback repeats concerns from the prior three calendar proposals and cites unresolved questions about the accelerated implementation timeline.

### READINESS

Constituencies reported that the case for accelerating YRO has not been compellingly communicated and readiness for 2027–28 has not been demonstrated.

# Conditions of Concern

---

Feedback emphasizes day-to-day impacts alongside technical calendar feasibility

## Faculty

- Short transitions between terms
- Weekend workday expectations
- Continuous instructional cycle

## Staff

- Compressed transition periods
- Sustained operating demands
- Uneven effects across tracks

## Students

- Short breaks between terms
- No consecutive mid-summer break
- Track differences in 2028–29 and 2029–30

---

**The feedback calls for evaluation of operational impact, not only alignment with CSU and Cal Poly calendar criteria.**

## Between-term transitions remain uneven

Table 1 from the Instruction Committee memo, applicable to 2028–29 and 2029–30

| Transition      | Students | Faculty | Scheduled faculty workdays  | Mid-semester break                |
|-----------------|----------|---------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Fall / Spring   | 3 weeks  | 15 days | 4 workdays + 2 holidays     | Fall: 5 days<br>Spring: 5 days    |
| Spring / Summer | 1 week   | 5 days  | 4 workdays                  | Spring: 5 days<br>Summer: 3 days* |
| Summer / Fall   | 1 week   | 5 days  | 4 workdays + 2 weekend days | Summer: 3 days*<br>Fall: 5 days   |

\* Summer holidays: Memorial Day, Juneteenth, and July 4.

**The schedules differ substantially by track in 2028–29 and 2029–30.**

# Implementation context and readiness

---

The feedback places the proposed calendar change within the broader semester-conversion transition

## PREVIOUS ASSURANCE

In November 2024, President Armstrong communicated a 15+1 Fall/Spring academic year with a compressed summer schedule for the first two years of semesters.

## CURRENT CONDITIONS

- Feedback cites the rigor of semester conversion, Maritime Academy integration, and a semester curriculum launch only midway through its first term.
- The feedback is consistent with the view that the timeline is premature and does not allow enough time for thoughtful and appropriate curriculum revision (and many other things) so soon after semester launch.

**Respondents do not see a demonstrated case for accelerating the three symmetrical term/YRO calendar implementation for 2027–28.**

The proposed change also departs from the prior expectation of a later YRO implementation.



# ASIC Assessment of the Feedback Supported Preferences

---

## Assessment

**A symmetrical 14+1 calendar is the most reasonable three symmetrical terms/YRO framework. The campus feedback does not support starting it in 2027–28.**

---

## Feedback Supported Preference

**Continue the 15+1 Fall/Spring academic year with a compressed summer session.**

This recommendation reflects the consensus summarized in the campus feedback: calendar feasibility alone does not establish readiness for YRO implementation.

- Stop Here



# Areas of Consensus – Demonstrate Readiness

Adequate transitions and sustainable workloads

Academic quality and equitable student opportunities

Resources for staffing, facilities and curriculum redesign

Clear implementation plans and substantive consultation

## Time Between Terms

# As few 1 non-work days plus weekend work days.

- Respondents describe lack of meaningful faculty downtime after grading at transitions surrounding beginning and end of summer term.
- Preparation, laboratory setup and prerequisite clearance compete for limited time.
- Support Staff need time to prepare for the next term and coverage that allows vacation.
- Faculty and students on tracks that include Summer term face shorter transitions than those on the Fall-Spring track.

# Request for Equitable Student Pathways

Comparable access to major courses, advising and research across enrollment patterns

Internship and professional-school application schedules that work with summer enrollment

Housing, campus community and support services throughout the year

Clear student assignment policies and direct student input

# Requests for for Operations and Equity

Publish a funded plan for staffing, cooling and maintenance access.

Clarify lecturer protections, teaching assignments, off-term service and evaluation processes.

Ensure comparable course access, research, advising and housing across student pathways.

Preserve necessary short summer sessions and clarify fees and financial-aid implications.

# Request for Consultation and Assessment

Respond publicly to major concerns and include direct student input.

Explain any departure from earlier calendar commitments.

Track student learning, retention and wellbeing alongside workload and financial performance.

Define corrective actions if the operating model falls short.

# Request for Curriculum Readiness

Adaptation varies by program. Some courses can adjust readily, while sequences require substantial redesign.

Departments may need to revise content, prerequisites, laboratories and learning objectives.

Service-course changes require coordination with the majors that depend on them.

Faculty request time, compensation and established curriculum review procedures.

# Feedback Consensus on Timing

Retain the existing calendar for 2027–28 while establishing requirements for a later transition.

Complete coordinated curriculum review and preserve required approval stages.

Resolve credential clinical hours and required learning experiences before implementation.

Determine equitable breaks for actual grading, term preparation and student transition processes (advising, prerequisite checks, APDQ).

# Potential Benefits

Equal-length terms can simplify course planning across the year.

Respondents value retained Thanksgiving and spring breaks.

Some Statistics comments favor faculty flexibility in choosing teaching terms.

Some respondents see YRO as a way to expand enrollment within space constraints.

Supportive comments also identify unresolved workload and implementation concerns.