

Survey of Campus Opinions of YRO

Presentation to the Cal Poly Academic Senate
13 Oct 2026

The Survey

- Survey available only to those with a Cal Poly login
- Initially via email to several groups on Sept 30
- 1220 responses as of 2pm Sunday 11 Oct

1. How familiar are you with the proposal for a full summer term, called 'Year Round Operations?' (YRO) *

- ☐ Very familiar; I understand the proposal and what it includes, and/or I have had many conversations with people at Cal Poly about it
- ☐ Somewhat familiar; I am aware that this is planned and I have read a little or discussed it a little
- ☐ Not very familiar; I know this is being discussed, but I don't know much else
- ☐ Unfamiliar; I knew nothing about it until seeing this survey (or links/references to it)

2. Based on everything you've seen, read, heard, and discussed to date what is your feeling about YRO? *

- ☐ Strongly in favor
- ☐ Leaning in favor (eg, I'd still like to know more about the details)
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Leaning against (eg, I could change my mind if there was more information showing substantial benefits)
- ☐ Strongly opposed

3. What College are you in (primary major or primary role) *

- ☐ CAFES (Ag, Food, Env Sci)
- ☐ CAED (Arch Env Design)
- ☐ CENG (Engineering)
- ☐ CLA (Liberal Arts)
- ☐ BCSM (Science and Math)
- ☐ OCOB (Business)
- ☐ Administration
- ☐ Other Unit



4. What is your role at Cal Poly? *

- ☐ Tenure-track faculty
- ☐ Lecturer (FT and PT)
- ☐ Staff-Stateside
- ☐ Staff-Non Stateside (eg, CPP)
- ☐ Administrator/MPP
- ☐ Graduate Student
- ☐ Undergraduate Student
- ☐ Recent Cal Poly graduate (last 2-3 yrs, but still with Cal Poly affiliation)

5. Had you been admitted to Cal Poly for a **either a Fall-Summer track or a Spring-Summer track, BUT NOT a Fall-Spring track**, would you have come to Cal Poly?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Likely yes
- ☐ Unsure
- ☐ Likely no
- ☐ No

* Note: Question was only available to those who identified as students or recent graduates

6. Do you have unanswered questions and/or concerns about YRO?

☐ Yes, many

☐ Yes, a few

☐ No

7. What feedback about YRO would you like to provide to the Administration? This could include opinions, questions, proposed metrics, suggestions for success, etc. (Note: many issues are addressed in [the letter](#))

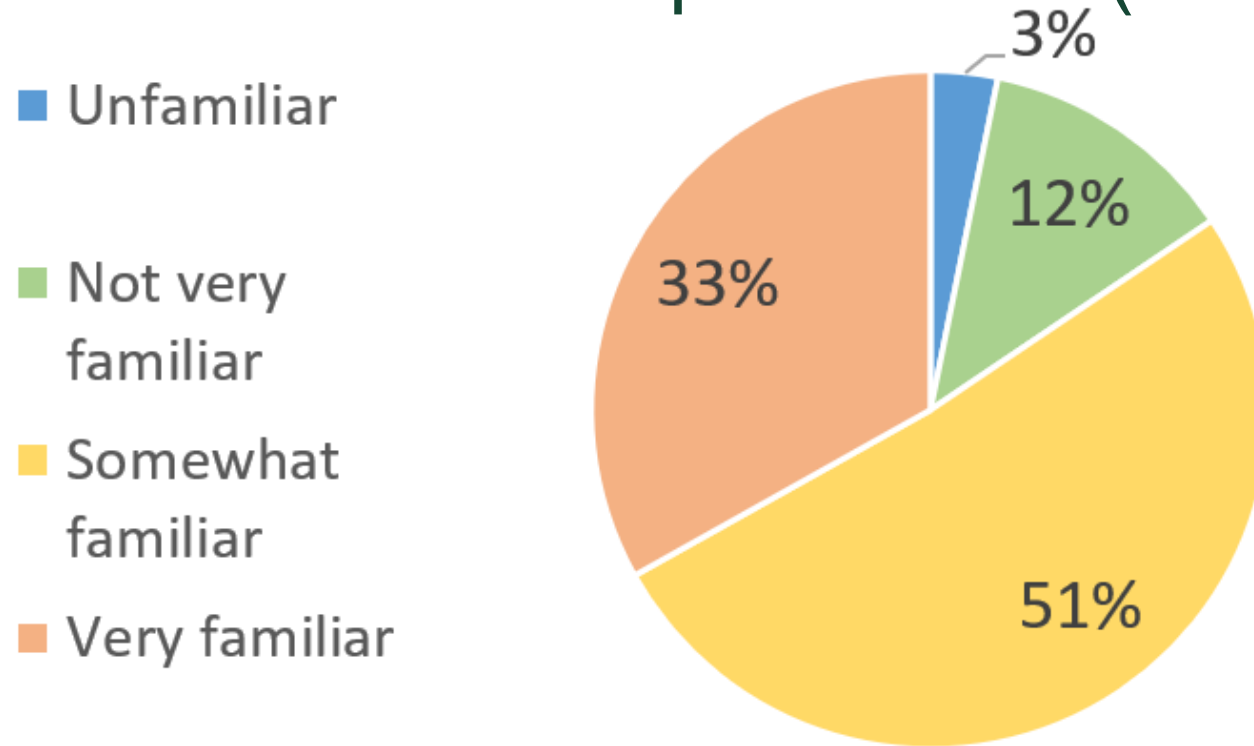
8. Would you be willing to sign [the letter requesting that the Administration pause implementation of YRO?](#)

- ☐ Yes with my name, position, and department/college
- ☐ Yes anonymously
- ☐ Yes, I already signed myself before seeing this form
- ☐ No

For those signing the letter, Questions 9, 10, 11, requested:
Name (or anonymous), Role, and Dept/Unit

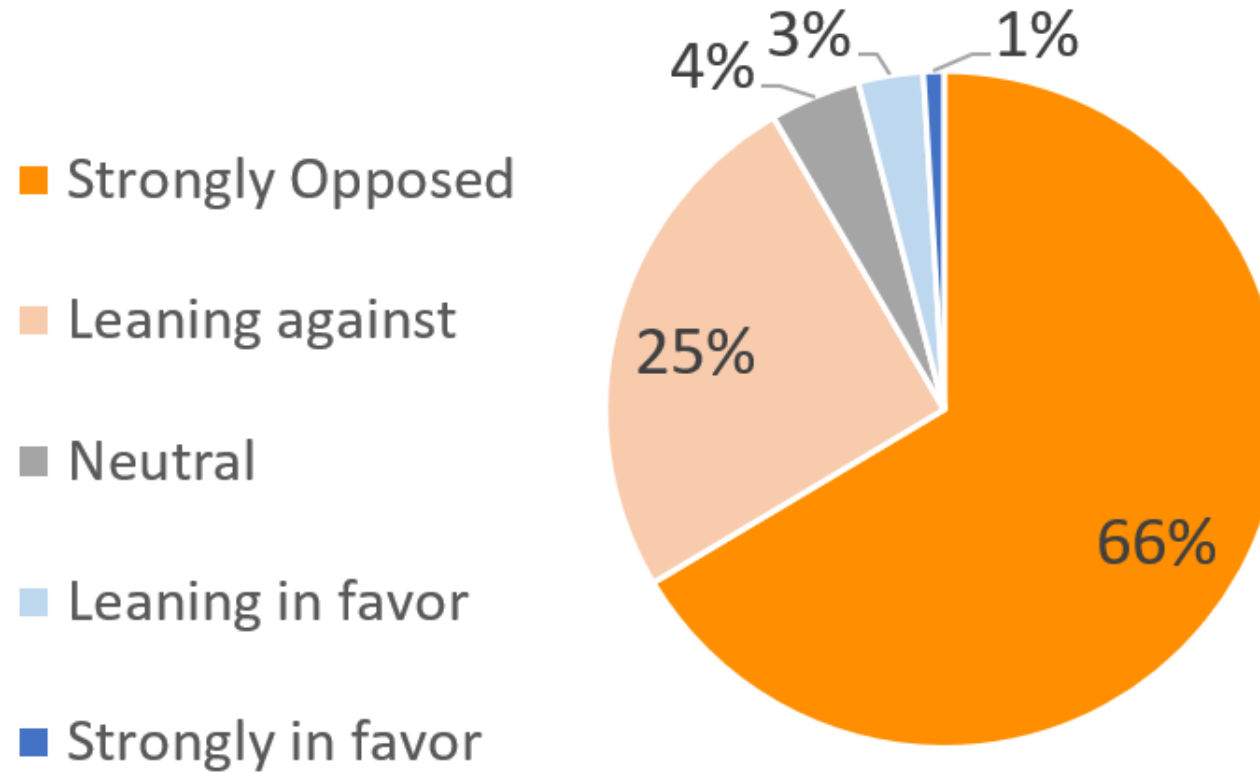
Question 1:

How familiar are you with the proposal for a full summer term, called 'Year-Round Operations?' (YRO)



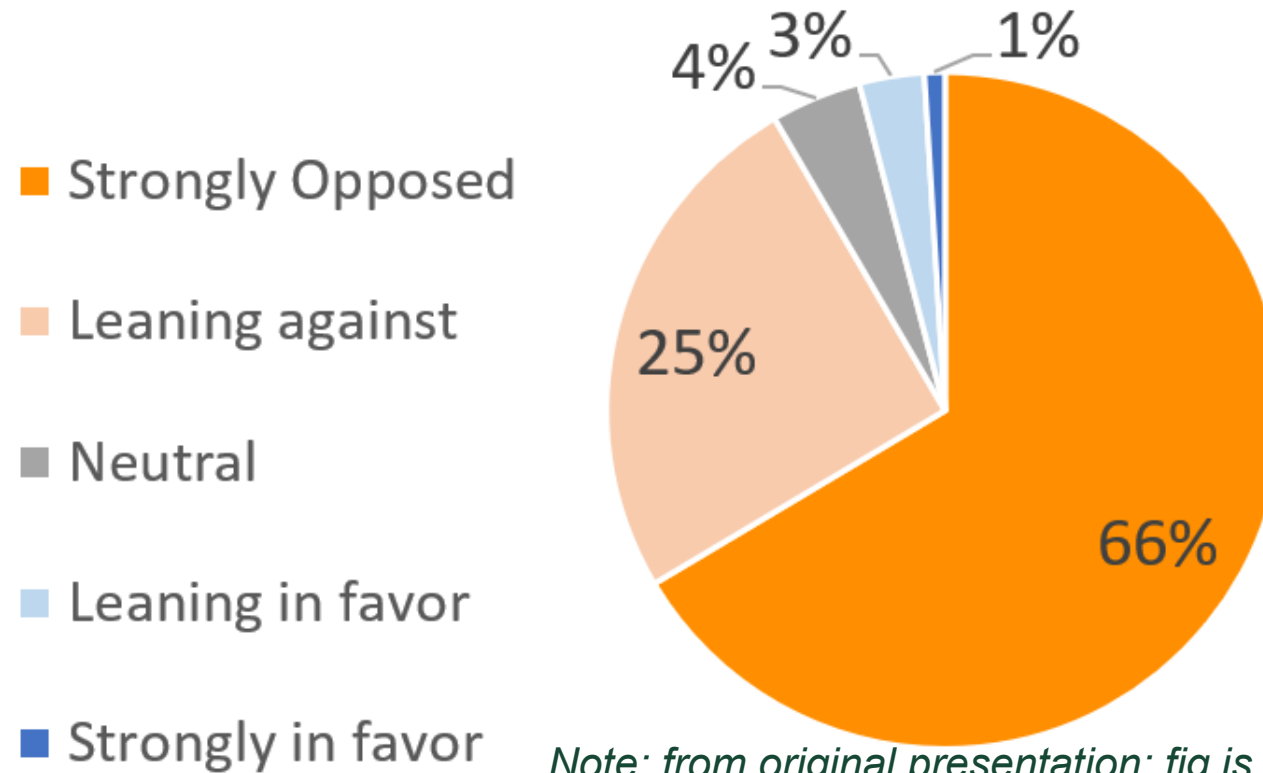
84% self-reported as somewhat familiar or very familiar with the proposal

Question 2: Based on everything you've seen, read, heard, and discussed to date what is your feeling about YRO?



91% leaning or strongly opposed; 4% leaning or strongly in favor

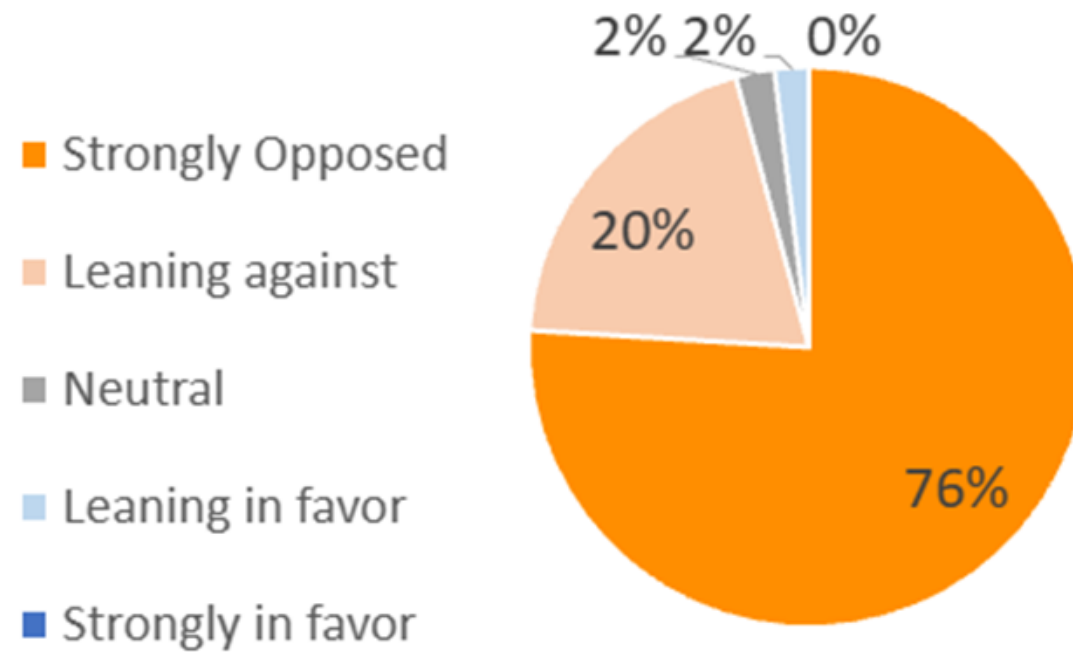
Question 2: Feelings about YRO (Undergraduate students only; N=753)



Note: from original presentation; fig is incorrect. Next slide is corrected

95% leaning or strongly opposed; 0 responses strongly in favor

Question 2: Feelings about YRO (Undergraduate students only; N=753) *CORRECTED AS OF 10/14 1pm with 807 responses*



95% leaning or strongly opposed; 0 responses strongly in favor

Question 2 & 3: Feelings about YRO by College

Opinion	CENG	BCSM	CLA	CAFES	CAED	OCOB	Grand Total
Strongly in favor	2	1	3	3		2	12
Leaning in favor	5	5	16	2	4	4	38
Neutral	9	16	13	2	4	5	53
Leaning against	101	80	56	25	24	10	307
Strongly opposed	320	211	104	89	37	28	810
Grand Total	437	313	192	121	69	49	1220

Opposed	96%	93%	83%	94%	88%	78%	92%
In Favor	2%	2%	10%	4%	6%	12%	4%
Neutral	2%	5%	7%	2%	6%	10%	4%

* Grand Total includes 39 combined responses from 'Other Unit' and 'Administration' (not shown)

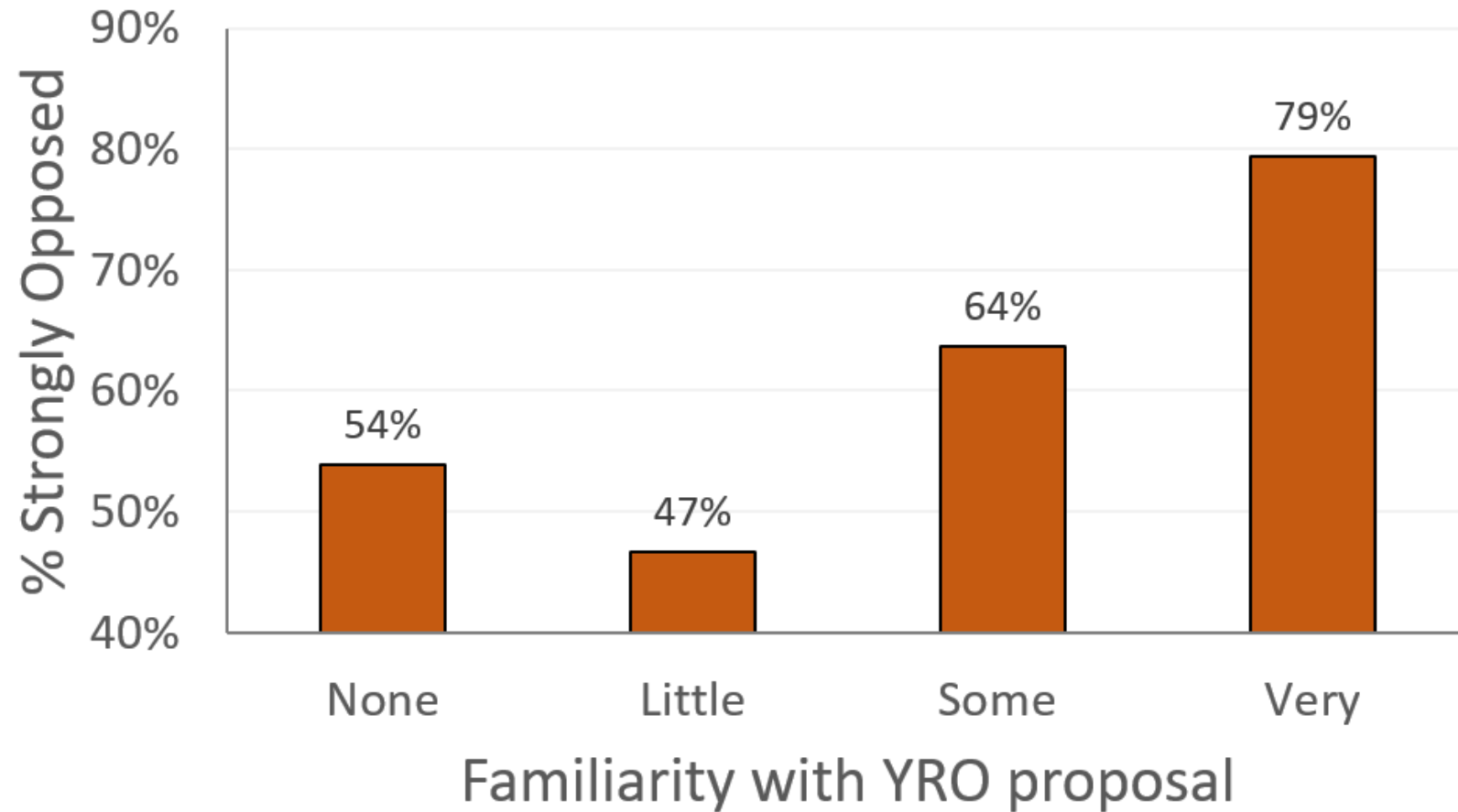
Questions 2 & 4: Feelings about YRO by role

Opinion	Undergrad	TT Faculty	Lecturer	Staff-Stateside	Grad Student	Grand Total*
Strongly in favor		8	3			12
Leaning in favor	16	10	10			38
Neutral	18	16	18	1		53
Leaning against	154	85	34	15	13	307
Strongly opposed	565	125	51	29	22	810
Grand Total	753	244	116	45	35	1220

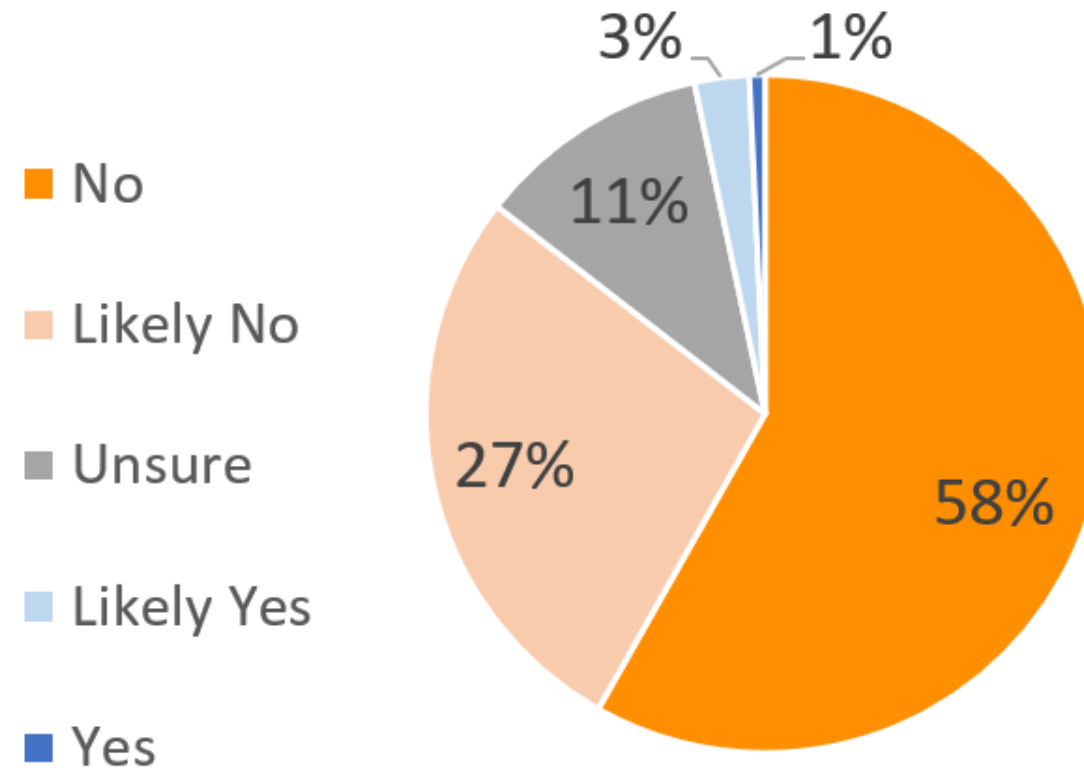
Opposed	95%	86%	73%	98%	100%	92%
In Favor	2%	7%	11%	0%	0%	4%
Neutral	2%	7%	16%	2%	0%	4%

* Grand Total includes 27 combined responses from 'non-stateside staff,' 'recent Cal Poly graduate' and 'Administrators' (not shown)

Questions 1 & 2: Feelings about YRO by familiarity with YRO



Question 5: Would students have come to Cal Poly if offered admission for Fall-Summer or Spring Summer (N=801)?



>85% No or Likely No; <4% Yes or Likely Yes

Other Questions

- 1124 people have signed the letter, including:
 - ~750 Students
 - >200 TT Faculty
 - ~100 Lectures
 - ~50 Staff
- 661 people had many unanswered questions
- 298 had a few unanswered questions
- 738 people left written feedback

Feedback

- **Rushed, opaque process**
Limited justification, transparency, and shared governance
- **Student equity at risk**
Unequal access to internships, courses, housing, and support
- **Campus community disrupted**
Clubs, teams, cohorts, and student life would be fragmented
- **Faculty and staff strain**
Workload, compensation, retention, and burnout concerns
- **Academic and operational gaps**
Course sequencing, instructional time, staffing, facilities issues remain unresolved
- **Infrastructure and community capacity**
Excessive heat, housing, parking, and SLO impacts require clear plan

(Summary generated by ChatGPT; asked to distill feedback, then shorten to 6 bullets)

Conclusions

Survey clearly demonstrates:

- Substantial, campuswide opposition to implementation of YRO at the present time
- Concerns expressed in comments reflect the letter and those expressed to Administration in multiple ways over the last several years; all request a pause and reevaluation of YRO
- Letter has been signed by over 1100 people
- Opposition strongest from students, including compelling evidence that Cal Poly students are not interested in a YRO format

This has happened before

2019–25

UNSW (Sydney) — 6 years before YRO failed

Consultation called **“woefully inadequate”**; a 5,000-response survey was withheld (>90% critical). A 2023 review found **“significant workload and anxiety issues for both staff and students.”**

Survey parallels: rushed, opaque process · faculty and staff strain

1961–65

Florida state universities — 4 years before YRO failed

Faculty not consulted before adoption; teaching loads up 25% for an 11% raise; **“no new curriculum adapted for the shorter 12-week term.”**

Survey parallels: rushed process · workload and compensation · instructional time and sequencing

1960–65

University of Pittsburgh — 5 years before YRO failed

“Rash moves without total planning for budget, space, and curriculum”; summer enrolled about half of the other terms; \$15M deficit, chancellor resigned.

Survey parallels: rushed process · students not interested (>85% would not have come on a summer track)

Sources: Honi Soit ([2019](#), [2025](#) citing the 2023 UNSW calendar review); [Times Higher Ed 2025](#); [Hofstra review of calendar research, ERIC ED 056 646 \(1971\)](#); [Michigan Daily 1965](#)

Slow the rush for YRO

For more information:



Take a survey
(Cal Poly login required):

