



Pasadena City College
1570 East Colorado Blvd., U-248
Pasadena, CA 91106
(626) 585-7261
facultyassociation@gmail.com

August 28, 2012

To the Pasadena City College Board of Trustees:

We are writing to you to make an urgent and formal request to postpone any vote to change the academic calendar per the agenda of the August 29, 2012 board meeting.

The Faculty Association (FA) urges that you maintain the essential integrity of the shared governance and contractual processes. We want to assure you that the FA is committed to consensus building, full disclosure, and collegial ethics that serve the most number of students following the most pedagogically sound educational practices.

In that regard, the current calendar is the result of an impressive year-long deliberation in which all positions were vetted.

After months of meetings with extensive input from all constituent groups, the College Calendar Committee (co-chaired by Vice President Robert Bell and Senate appointed Krista Walter) passed the calendar; it was considered and passed by the Academic Senate; it was approved by the College Council; it was signed off by the FA; and finally, as recommended by President Rocha, it was approved by your vote. The process was rooted in full consensus building, and it must be emphasized that any drastic change would undermine the stability of the college and negatively affect thousands of students, and hundreds of faculty and staff.

Thus the current calendar, including fall, winter, spring and summer sessions was established through a collegial process that included all constituent groups—faculty, staff, and students. Formal consultation with leadership of the Associated Students and informal input from students college-wide reveal a compelling support for the current calendar.

As leaders of the FA, we urge you to postpone your vote on a unilateral change in calendar. Your unilateral decision would set into motion a number of disturbing consequences:

- 1) A violation of shared governance and deliberative process.
- 2) A violation of contract, effectively, an unfair labor practice.

- 3) A woefully disruptive action that would undermine both student success *and* access, causing academic regression for thousands of students.
- 4) A significant loss of institutional credibility in the community.
- 5) A loss of confidence in the Board's willingness to hear our collegial voices.
- 6) A questioning of why such an action of enormous repercussions should be taken at the very end of summer and early fall when most faculty and students have been away from campus.

Sincerely,

Leadership Board
Pasadena City College Faculty Association