



DATE: December 3, 2013
 TO: Faculty Department Chairs
 FROM: Julie Thompson, AFA President
 Warren Ruud, AFA Chief negotiator
 RE: Compressed Calendar Discussions

After nearly four years of research and discussion, AFA and the District are nearing the decision point on whether the college should implement a compressed academic calendar.

Background

In Fall 2008, AFA and the Academic Senate formed the Compressed Calendar Task Force. The task force began its work in Spring 2009 (The task force’s mission statement may be viewed at http://www.santarosa.edu/afa/senate_home.shtml .) In Fall 2010, the District joined the task force, and in 2011, the task force entered its next phase as an AFA/District negotiations task force. This task force disbanded in 2012, and its final report is available at http://www.santarosa.edu/afa/senate/CCNTF_Report.pdf.

In Spring 2012, the Academic Senate held an open forum to discuss “the unique opportunities and challenges that a compressed calendar poses for various departments on campus.” Departments were invited to submit positions on whether the District should move to some form of a compressed calendar. The summary of these positions from the senate website is given in Table 1 below.

<i>Position For</i>	Art, Behavioral Sciences, Communication Studies, English, Library Sciences
<i>Position Against</i>	Chemistry, Health Sciences, Life Sciences, Mathematics, Music
<i>No Position Submitted</i>	Agriculture/Natural Resources, Applied Technology, Business Administration, Child Development, College Skills, Computer Studies, Consumer & Family Studies, Counseling, Culinary Arts, Disability Resources, Earth & Space Science, English as a Second Language, Industrial & Trade Technology, Interdisciplinary Studies, Kinesiology Athletics & Dance, Modern & Classical Languages, Public Safety, Social Science, Theatre Arts

Table 1: Department Positions on Compressed Calendar

What's Next?

Whether AFA takes a proposal for a compressed calendar to the negotiations table depends upon a clear consensus of the faculty to do so. At this point, the Academic Senate has chosen to conclude its role in the college-wide discussion on whether a compressed calendar should be pursued as a goal. Based on that decision by the Senate, AFA is looking for input from faculty through their departments. It is AFA's intention to determine the compressed calendar issue this academic year.

A number of departments have taken a position on the compressed calendar options. For those departments that haven't, AFA is asking that the chairs initiate discussions in their departments with the goal of developing a department position. We are hoping to collect positions from all departments by February 1, 2014.

If you would like one of us to visit your department meeting to answer questions about compressed calendar issues, contact the AFA office ([All.Faculty.Association](#)).