

## Perspectives on Accelerated Intersessions

### From Financial Aid:

- There are not five weeks between Fall and Spring semesters, which means we would have overlapping terms, which federal financial aid and veterans' benefits will not cover.
- Violation of federal financial aid policies could jeopardize the college's ability to disburse aid in the future. It could also jeopardize students' ability to receive financial aid in the future.

### From the Veterans Resource Center:

- For a winter term, students using Post 911 GI Bill will need to take 4 or more credits to make full-time housing requirements. This will mean a student may have to take 2 classes during this term.
- They will be required to have 1 class face-to-face/C19 code to keep full-time housing requirements.
- Most vets are non-traditional students, this can be difficult during the holiday season in managing family affairs and education expectations.
- Summer session that has traditionally been a mixture of fully online, minimal hybrid, & few face-to-face/C19 code, it is at least a lengthier 3-month time period with 2 sessions in the Summer term. There are some face-to-face/C19 coded classes to keep benefits.

### From Admissions and Records:

- The winter term would also require its own set of Clearinghouse and NSLDS enrollment reporting which is not something currently set up for Admissions and Records to do.
- This is essentially a workload issue when Admissions and Records already has staffing and workload issues for Fall, Spring, and Summer.
- There is also a general concern about whether the benefits of a winter session would outweigh the costs. With nothing to really go on and no idea if there is any actual and significant interest from students in having a winter term, Admissions and Records is not inclined to support the proposal and would prefer that any new additional "boutique": or short-term course offerings be worked into the existing fall, spring or summer terms.

### From Counseling:

- Any student taking a Winter class would need to see a counselor to be sure they understand the undertaking including how many classes they have already taken on the 150% course payout for financial aid (financial aid can only pay for up to 150% of courses leading to a degree) as well as the new compliance rule where only classes on a student's degree pathway are eligible for aid. Note: even if a student is not a current recipient of aid, they could become eligible at any point in their college career. This is an increasing likelihood given the current economic situation particularly in our service communities.
- Students must be advised about the intensity of an accelerated course (16 weeks into 3 -- think half of summer) taken during the holidays.
- Given the timeframe for Winter registration, will students actually meet the prerequisites and placement for the course (the added issue would be if the pre-req is taken during fall -- what if the student does not pass? Grades probably won't come out in time, etc.).
- Students could affect their spring schedule and thus their graduation timeline if they fail a winter-term foundational course like ENG 100, which is a basic prerequisite for other classes.
- Counseling like all other offices is severely short of personnel. The state's possible retirement incentive coupled with the hiring freeze could take our numbers desperately low from 14 to maybe 10. Moreover, if the rumored 11- to 9-month proposal turns out to be fact, summer duties would be folded into the 9-month academic calendar.
- How would furloughs, rumored to be taken during breaks, affect student support for these courses? Instructional faculty would be likewise touched.
- System is also asking Counseling to consider a case-management-like system meaning a student COULD be tied to a specific counselor. Currently, students are free to see whomever has an opening thereby expediting advising. This change would increase the student-to-counselor ratio as even students who do not actively seek out counseling would now need to be contacted, found, and hopefully seen. Or, at the very least, slots normally free for walk-ins or self-sign up might be taken. The ultimate effect would be to slow down advising as students would have to wait for their specific counselor to have an opening.

### From Recruitment

- Our recruitment duo go out and talk with returning as well as first-time potential students. The push for Winter would coincide with that of all-important fall of the following academic year. The addition could cripple our ability to compete with other campuses for traditional May graduating students.

- Given that we are an open door campus with traditional, vet, and returning students, recruiters assist students from application through registration. They do not have the personnel to provide this service for a winter term.

#### **From New Student Orientation (NSO):**

- All first-time Leeward students need to go through onboarding -- applications, health clearances, NSO, ISA (formerly NSA), transfer review, placement testing. Would they be able to get immunizations, health records, financial documents; have transcripts sent and evaluated if enrolled outside of the UH system; meet with a counselor; take and meet placement thresholds; etc. in time?

#### **From Health Center:**

- All incoming students would need to be cleared for TB and provide immunization documentation for MMR, Varicella, and Tdap.

#### **From Early College:**

- Early College (EC) students would face even more navigational challenges than they currently do. By contract between HIDOE and UH, EC students have the right to take any class offered.
- Student acceptances are activated and de-activated every term because their enrollment is not constant. The **overlap** may cause issues.
- Students apply for spring in September with all documents due in November. With an added term, they would need to keep track of not just what term they're looking at, but also what classes and when.
- The start of Winter term may overlap with finals week of HIDOE's second quarter.

#### **From Administration:**

- Besides the above issues, there is also a concern about appropriate staffing of counselors and other necessary support services during the winter recess given the governor's announced furloughs.
- Leeward would be out of alignment with other campuses.

**From Student Government:**

- Dubious interest in an intersession to offset costs. Students want a break from school, too.