Campus Administrative Policy Statement

Title: Fall Semester Break
Source: Office of Academic and Student Affairs
Prepared by: Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs
Approved by: Mark Alan Heckler
Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs
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A. Introduction

The University of Colorado at Denver uses an academic year calendar where the Fall Semester starts on a Monday in August, the Spring Semester starts on the Tuesday after Martin Luther King’s Birthday holiday, and both semesters end on a Saturday/Sunday. Under this calendar, the Fall and Spring Semesters have a different number of class meetings, with the Fall Semester longer than the Spring Semester. The spring semester includes a one-week break.

Modifying the current 17-week Fall Semester at CU-Denver to include a week-long Fall Break (1) makes the spring and fall semesters equal in meeting pattern—a 17-week semester with one full week and one Monday of break; and (2) satisfies the CCHE guidelines for contact time for all regular class meeting patterns.

B. Policy Statement

Effective with the Fall Semester 2004, the CU-Denver academic calendar shall be modified to include a week-long Fall Break during the week in November in which Thanksgiving falls. As with the Spring Break, during the Fall Break the University is open but classes do not meet.

C. Implementation

It is essential that the Deans inform and remind faculty of this policy and instruct them to include the Fall Break in course syllabi. Deans must also ensure that the CCHE guidelines for contact time are maintained for all courses as a result of this change in the academic calendar. Alternate class meeting patterns must be adjusted to ensure compliance with CCHE guidelines for contact time.