

Referendum Question No. 1
Princeton University Undergraduate Student Government
Special Referendum—January 2015

Condensation (Ballot Question)

Shall the undergraduates (1) call on the faculty and administration to provide for a 3-week winter recess during the 2015-2016 academic year and future academic years; and (2) direct the USG Senate to collaborate with undergraduates, faculty, and administrators to pursue such duration for winter recess?

Explanation

The purpose of this referendum is to express that the undergraduates call on the faculty and administration to provide for a 3-week winter recess during the 2015-2016 academic year and future academic years. Furthermore, this referendum is to direct the USG Senate to collaborate with undergraduates, faculty, and administrators to pursue this duration for winter recess.

Currently, the faculty establishes the parameters for the academic calendar, including parameters governing when recesses are held and when the academic year begins and ends (*Rules and Procedures of the Faculty* ch. I (2012) [hereinafter *Rules*]). Under these current parameters, winter recess during the 2015-2016 academic year is scheduled to be for 2 weeks instead of 3 weeks.

The Faculty Committee on Classrooms and Schedule arranges the academic calendar in accordance with the calendar parameters (*Rules* ch. II, § D(2)(l)), but the faculty may amend the calendar parameters if the faculty first discusses it at a prior faculty meeting (*Rules* ch. II, § C(2)(j)).

Reasons for maintaining a 3-week winter recess include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) international students, students who live far away from New Jersey, and students from lower-income backgrounds retain the ability to spend more time with their families and friends at the same fixed cost of travel; (2) students would have more time to complete classwork and write essays before reading period; and (3) seniors with January thesis deadlines retain 1 additional week to work.

Digest

- **Section 1** expresses that the undergraduates call on the faculty and administration to provide for a 3-week winter recess during the 2015-2016 academic year and future academic years.
- **Section 2** directs the USG Senate to collaborate with undergraduates, faculty, and administrators to pursue such duration for winter recess.
- **Section 3** directs the Executive Secretary of the Senate to transmit an official copy of this resolution to certain University officers.

The following is the full text of the referendum measure.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT OF PRINCETON UNIVERSITY



PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

Referendum Resolution 1-2015

Referendum Question No. 1 (Special Referendum, January 2015)

Submitted by the SENATE OF THE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Resolution

Calling on the faculty and administration to provide for a 3-week winter recess during the 2015-2016 academic year and future academic years; directing the USG Senate to collaborate with undergraduates, faculty, and administrators to pursue such duration for winter recess; and for other purposes.

Whereas under the *Rules and Procedures of the Faculty*, the faculty establish the parameters governing the academic calendar and have the authority to amend such parameters;

Whereas under the existing calendar parameters in the *Rules and Procedures of the Faculty*, the 2015-2016 academic year is scheduled to have winter recess for 2 weeks instead of 3 weeks; and

Whereas reasons for maintaining a 3-week winter recess include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) international students, students who live far away from New Jersey, and students from lower-income backgrounds retain the ability to spend more time with their families and friends at the same fixed cost of travel;

(2) students would have more time to complete classwork and write essays before reading period; and

(3) seniors with January thesis deadlines retain 1 additional week to work:
Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the undergraduates of Princeton University,

SECTION 1. FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATION.

The undergraduates call on the faculty and administration to provide for a 3-week winter recess during the 2015-2016 academic year and future academic years.

SEC. 2. USG SENATE.

The undergraduates direct the Senate of the Undergraduate Student Government to collaborate with undergraduates, faculty, and administrators to pursue a 3-week winter recess during the 2015-2016 academic year and future academic years.

SEC. 3. TRANSMITTAL OF RESOLUTION.

The Executive Secretary of the Senate shall transmit an official copy of this resolution to each of the following University officers:

(1) President Christopher L. Eisgruber '83, President of the University.

(2) Provost David Lee '96 '99, Provost of the University.

(3) Vice President Cynthia Cherrey, Vice President for Campus Life.

- (4) Dean Valerie A. Smith, Dean of the College.
- (5) Dean Deborah A. Prentice, Dean of the Faculty.
- (6) Professor Elizabeth M. Armstrong *93, Chair of the Faculty Committee on Classrooms and Schedule
- (7) Ms. Polly W. Griffin, Registrar and Secretary of the Faculty Committee on Classrooms and Schedule.

Approved _____, 2015.

*Executive Secretary of the Senate,
Undergraduate Student Government.*