

RESOLUTION
Instructional Course Scheduling Structure
(Passed by the Faculty Senate, November 30, 2006)

RESOLVED: That the Faculty Senate of CSU, Northridge urges earliest adoption by Academic Affairs of the recommendation contained in the "Report of the Ad Hoc Group to Recommend Course Scheduling Alternatives" that the scheduling of 3-unit C1-C6 courses be based on a Monday/Wednesday and Tuesday/Thursday schedule with Friday as a block day.

RATIONALE: During the summer of 2005 the Provost formed an Ad Hoc Group to study the possibility of alternative course scheduling structures. Their August 24, 2005 report states three key reasons for moving 3-unit C1-C6 courses away from the existing one-hour three-days-a-week schedule:

- 1) "student learning in some courses is best accomplished with longer time blocks",
- 2) the use of technology in classrooms, while efficient, can be time-consuming for set-up at the beginning of class periods,"
- 3) "movement to a two-day-a-week schedule for much of our student population may be highly desirable in order to balance university life with work and home life."

The report also notes that six of the seven community colleges local to CSUN currently schedule their courses on a two-day-a-week basis. Designating Friday as a "block day" opens up the opportunity for creative scheduling of courses to attract students unable to come two or more days a week to a course, courses that could meet on Friday/Saturday and course sessions best presented in a single large time block.

The Educational Resource Committee of the CSUN Faculty Senate, after reviewing the findings of the report and the results from the surveys requested by the report, concurs with the recommendations of the ad hoc group. ERC wishes to stress the need to maintain the dual evening structures currently in use: 1) a 4-7 pm block followed by a 7-10 pm block for Education courses, and 2) a 3:30-5 pm block followed by 5:30-7 pm and 7-10 pm blocks for traditional evening students.

The Alternative Scheduling Report and Survey can be found at:
http://www.csun.edu/senate/alternative_scheduling.html