COMMITTEE: Calendar

MEETING DATE: December 6, 2000

PERSON PRESIDING: John Crammer

REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Mary Farwell, Roger Rulifson, Robert Caprio, Charles Calhoun

STUDENT MEMBER IN ATTENDANCE: Michael Aho

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Don Neal, Chuck Hawkins, Bill Clutter, Trenton Davis, Belinda Patterson (for Bob Denney)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Manny Amaro, Bob Morrison

John Crammer convened the meeting at 3:30 PM December 6, 2000 in Raul 106. Roger Rulifson moved, Charles Calhoun seconded, approval of the minutes of the October 18, 2000 meeting as modified; motion passed. Charles Calhoun moved, Robert Caprio seconded, approval of the minutes of the November 15, 2000 meeting; motion passed.

Manny Amaro, representing Housing and the Startup Committee, attended the meeting to give reasons for objecting to the Monday start day for the proposed Fall semester. He distributed a handout summarizing his concerns. Five years ago, when the semesters went to fifteen weeks, he was promised that the Fall semester would never start on Monday. There are 5,000 students to check into residence halls, and it takes two days to settle students and get them ready for classes. Orientation needs to be done. Faculty will not be present to help register on the weekend. A good thing about moving people into residence halls on the weekend is that parking is available.

Bob Morrison mentioned that having convocation on Monday is a good way to get the year started. For new faculty members, this is a very good opportunity. It would not work well to have convocation on Friday of the week before classes—convocation would be diminished. In the past it was said that fewer days at beginning of term is better from the police department’s experience. Amaro pointed out that this is a myth, police records show that the following weekend is when the problems start. Chuck Hawkins mentioned that extending the summer is good for the budget (there is less expense when students aren’t here). Construction will be a problem, so again the longer summer break is better. Crammer mentioned that a Wednesday start date will push the exams to December 18 which may cause difficulties for turning in grades before Christmas. Also, we may want to look at contingency plans for make-up days.

Amaro noted that most of our sister institutions open on weekends, our returning students come in on Sunday. It was suggested that a compromise would be to start classes on Tuesday. Morrison said that starting on Tuesday would be fine, as long as convocation is the same week.

The committee considered ways to modify the Fall semester calendar to have classes start on Tuesday. We could change to having some exams on Saturday and commencement on Sunday afternoon. Alternatively, we could eliminate Reading Day. The makeup day could be the Tuesday after Labor Day; the last day of class (Tuesday); or Tuesday during Thanksgiving week. Schedules for the Fall semester will be cancelled August 9. The consensus was to use Tuesday, September 3 as a makeup day and have Saturday exams.

The next meeting will be during the week of January 22, 2001.

Meeting adjourned at 4:35.