



UNIVERSITY OF
**NORTHERN
COLORADO**

Office of the Provost

In spring and summer 2022 a small group of faculty members, staff members, and administrators met to discuss a potential change to course scheduling designed to facilitate student success, faculty professional development, and other aspects of campus life/culture. The group proposed that most classes (scheduled instructional sessions of most types) be scheduled for only Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. This proposal would designate Wednesday as a "University Day" - a day on which events, club meetings, committee meetings, and professional development sessions could be held in the knowledge that there would be few or no conflicts with classes. The proposed scheduling was also aimed at supporting students by providing greater flexibility to allow them to navigate non-college responsibilities.

In fall 2022 input was solicited from a variety of constituents regarding this proposal. The Faculty Senate provided input, including soliciting feedback from faculty members broadly, as well as from students. The proposal was also discussed among other university leadership groups.

Ultimately the discussions led to a lack of consensus for the proposal and for the variety of amended versions of it that arose during the discussions. Given this lack of consensus, we will not be moving forward with the initiative as proposed. Nonetheless, its underlying intent is beneficial to students, and many universities do have schedules that create spaces for non-instructional activities. I anticipate we will re-visit the idea at some point in the future.

Thank you to all who provided input and particularly to the ad hoc working group for their bold and creative ideas.

- **Lyda Fontes McCartin**, Director, Center for the Enhancement of Teaching & Learning
- **Jingzi (Ginny) Huang**, Director, School of Teacher Education, and Associate Dean, EBS
- **Jeri Lyons**, Associate Vice President for Research & Dean of the Graduate School
- **Chelsie Romulo**, Associate Professor, Department of Geography, GIS, & Sustainability
- **Koreen Myers**, Organizational Development Specialist, Human Resources
- **Jim Doerner**, Professor & Chair, Department of Geography, GIS, & Sustainability (now Dean, HSS)

Regards,
Kirsty

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