Course Schedule Recommendations for Shared Governance Feedback

Working Draft | September 28, 2026

Purpose and Context

The Shared Governance Task Force is asked to review possible revisions to the current course schedule which lacks standard start times and is a source of concern because it presents academic challenges for students, faculty, and staff. In response to the identified concerns and documented difficulties in scheduling courses, the task force is working to gather feedback on the effort to draft a course schedule policy and on the potential revisions to our current course schedule, including options that provide 15-minute passing periods between classes. The task force includes representatives from the Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, Student Government Association, Graduate Council, and academic colleges. Representatives are asked to consult with their respective constituencies and bring forward feedback for consideration at the task force's October meeting.

The schedules below are working drafts rather than final recommendations. They reflect alternatives developed through conversations with faculty members, department chairs, and academic leaders. Feedback is requested on the advantages, limitations, and potential unintended effects of each option. Additional schedule proposals are also welcome. Related transportation considerations, including possible Gus Bus adjustments, remain part of the discussion.

Emerging Areas of Agreement

- A 15-minute passing period has received support in discussions to date and is presented here for broader review.
- Consistent class start times are essential and improve clarity and predictability for students, faculty, and staff.
- A reasonable degree of consistency across the week is desirable, while recognizing that programs and academic units have different instructional needs.

Questions Requiring Further Discussion

- How should 50-minute Monday/Wednesday/Friday classes be coordinated with 75-minute Monday/Wednesday and Tuesday/Thursday classes?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of using 75-minute periods for Monday/Wednesday/Friday courses beginning in the afternoon?
- How might each proposal affect student access, room utilization, laboratory and clinical courses, transportation, faculty and staff responsibilities, and the scheduling needs of individual academic units?
- Which elements of the proposed schedules require greater clarity or additional detail?
- Are there other schedule configurations the task force should evaluate?

Proposal A: Standard 50-Minute MWF Pattern

Maintains 50-minute MWF classes throughout the day.

Monday/Wednesday/Friday	Monday/Wednesday	Tuesday/Thursday	Once weekly: M, T, W, Th, or F	Monday-Friday
50-minute	**75-minute**	**75-minute**	**150-minute**	**50-minute**
8:00-8:50 a.m.	8:00-9:15 a.m.	8:00-9:15 a.m.	8:00-10:30 a.m.	8:00-8:50 a.m.
9:05-9:55 a.m.	9:30-10:45 a.m.	9:30-10:45 a.m.		9:05-9:55 a.m.
10:10-11:00 a.m.				10:10-11:00 a.m.
11:15 a.m.-12:05 p.m.	11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.	11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.	11:15 a.m.-1:45 p.m.	11:15 a.m.-12:05 p.m.
12:20-1:10 p.m.				12:20-1:10 p.m.
1:25-2:15 p.m.	12:30-1:45 p.m.	12:45-2:00 p.m.		1:25-2:15 p.m.
2:30-3:20 p.m.	2:00-3:15 p.m.	2:30-3:45 p.m.	2:30-5:00 p.m.	2:30-3:20 p.m.
3:35-4:25 p.m.	3:30-4:45 p.m.	4:00-5:15 p.m.		3:35-4:25 p.m.

Proposal B: Mixed MWF Pattern

Uses 50-minute periods in the morning and 75-minute periods beginning at 12:30 p.m.

Monday/Wednesday/Friday	Monday/Wednesday	Tuesday/Thursday	Once weekly: M, T, W, Th, or F	Monday-Friday
50-minute morning; 75-minute afternoon	**75-minute**	**75-minute**	**150-minute**	**50-minute morning; 75-minute afternoon**
8:00-8:50 a.m.	8:00-9:15 a.m.	8:00-9:15 a.m.	8:00-10:30 a.m.	8:00-8:50 a.m.
9:05-9:55 a.m.	9:30-10:45 a.m.	9:30-10:45 a.m.		9:05-9:55 a.m.
10:10-11:00 a.m.				10:10-11:00 a.m.
11:15 a.m.-12:05 p.m.	11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.	11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.	11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	11:15 a.m.-12:05 p.m.
12:30-1:45 p.m.	12:30-1:45 p.m.	12:30-1:45 p.m.		12:30-1:45 p.m.
2:00-3:15 p.m.	2:00-3:15 p.m.	2:00-3:15 p.m.	2:00-4:30 p.m.	2:00-3:15 p.m.
3:30-4:45 p.m.	3:30-4:45 p.m.	3:30-4:45 p.m.		3:30-4:45 p.m.

Proposal C: Alternative MW Sequences

Separates the previously overlapping MW periods into two distinct sequences for review. The two MW columns are alternatives and would not be used together.

Monday/Wednesday/Friday	MW Alternative 1	MW Alternative 2	Once weekly: M, W, or F	Tuesday/Thursday	Once weekly: T or Th	Monday-Friday
50-minute	**75-minute**	**75-minute**	**150-minute**	**75-minute**	**150-minute**	**50-minute**
8:00-8:50 a.m.	8:00-9:15 a.m.	8:00-9:15 a.m.	8:00-10:30 a.m.	8:00-9:15 a.m.	8:00-10:30 a.m.	8:00-8:50 a.m.
9:05-9:55 a.m.	9:30-10:45 a.m.			9:30-10:45 a.m.		9:05-9:55 a.m.
10:10-11:00 a.m.		10:10-11:25 a.m.				10:10-11:00 a.m.
11:15 a.m.-12:05 p.m.	11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.		11:15 a.m.-1:45 p.m.	11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.	11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	11:15 a.m.-12:05 p.m.
12:20-1:10 p.m.		12:20-1:35 p.m.		12:30-1:45 p.m.		12:20-1:10 p.m.
1:25-2:15 p.m.						1:25-2:15 p.m.
2:30-3:20 p.m.	2:30-3:45 p.m.	2:30-3:45 p.m.	2:30-5:00 p.m.	2:00-3:15 p.m.	2:00-4:30 p.m.	2:30-3:20 p.m.
3:35-4:25 p.m.	4:00-5:15 p.m.	4:00-5:15 p.m.		3:30-4:45 p.m.		3:35-4:25 p.m.

Proposal D: Nonoverlapping MW Sequence

Uses a single MW sequence and avoids overlapping MW periods.

Monday/Wednesday/Friday	Monday/Wednesday	Once weekly: M, W, or F	Tuesday/Thursday	Once weekly: T or Th	Monday-Friday
50-minute	**75-minute**	**150-minute**	**75-minute**	**150-minute**	**50-minute**
8:00-8:50 a.m.	8:00-9:15 a.m.	8:00-10:30 a.m.	8:00-9:15 a.m.	8:00-10:30 a.m.	8:00-8:50 a.m.
9:05-9:55 a.m.			9:30-10:45 a.m.		9:05-9:55 a.m.
10:10-11:00 a.m.	10:10-11:25 a.m.				10:10-11:00 a.m.
11:15 a.m.-12:05 p.m.		11:15 a.m.-1:45 p.m.	11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.	11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	11:15 a.m.-12:05 p.m.
12:20-1:10 p.m.	12:20-1:35 p.m.		12:30-1:45 p.m.		12:20-1:10 p.m.
1:25-2:15 p.m.					1:25-2:15 p.m.
2:30-3:20 p.m.	2:30-3:45 p.m.	2:30-5:00 p.m.	2:00-3:15 p.m.	2:00-4:30 p.m.	2:30-3:20 p.m.
3:35-4:25 p.m.	4:00-5:15 p.m.		3:30-4:45 p.m.		3:35-4:25 p.m.