

MEMORANDUM

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| ATTENTION | Senate | DATE | July 30, 2020 |
| FROM | Peter Tingling | | |
| | Chair, Senate Calendar Committee | | |
| RE: | Revision to Academic Dates 2020/2021 | | |



At its meeting of July 30, 2020, the Calendar Committee reviewed the attached request for revision of the 2020/2021 academic year.

The committee was asked to look at revising the previously approved schedule for 2020/2021 to move the Fall 2020 Convocation ceremony dates from October 8 & 9, 2020 to October 22 & 23, 2020.

The rationale for this request is to allow for preparation for the virtual ceremony and to provide students with the best graduation experience possible.

The Calendar Committee approves and recommends to Senate the following:

MOTION:

"That Senate approve the revised schedule of academic dates for the Fall 2020, moving the Fall 2020 Convocation ceremony from October 8 & 9, 2020 to October 22 & 23, 2020."

MEMORANDUM

ATTENTION Calendar Committee **DATE** July 30, 2020
FROM Gloria Chu, Director, Ceremonies and **PAGES**
Events
RE: Fall 2020 Convocation Ceremony - Date Change Request

Plans are now underway for the Fall 2020 Convocation ceremonies and it is clear that this convocation ceremony will be a virtual event. To that end, we are requesting a change of date for Fall Convocation from Oct. 8 & 9 to Oct. 22 & 23, 2020.

The rationale for this change of date request is as follows:

- Fall Convocation has traditionally been held the week before Thanksgiving; however, with the current situation, it is not critical that Fall Convocation is held in early October.
- Moving the date later will allow more time between the date that Senate awards degrees and the convocation ceremony date.
- These new dates are proposed to assist with overall planning and to allow time to address the following challenges:
 - Delayed submission of grades, as experienced in the Spring 2020 term.
 - Administrative challenges, due to the short turnaround time between Senate and the convocation ceremony. Moving the date will allow more time to review and process graduation applications which may be delayed.
 - Degrees awarded by executive action at the October Senate meeting would be included in the convocation ceremony.
- Moving the Fall 2020 convocation ceremony dates will allow for a better student experience by providing more time to prepare celebration materials for graduates.

The President, Chancellor, Vice-President, External Relations, Vice-Provost, Students and International/Registrar, Student Services, Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies and the Deans have all been informed of this proposal and are in support of moving forward with the date change.

Thank you for your assistance, and please feel to reach out to us if you need any further information.

Sincerely,

Gloria Chu (Director) and Sue Porter (Senior Associate Director)

cc. Joanne Curry
Kris Nordgren
Rummana Khan Hemani