

S1StaffUnsure

The February break should be timed or coordinated with the K-12 school districts to observe President's Day. Spring break is too late.

I prefer to align Cornell's calendar as much with the Ithaca City School District's as possible.

This doesn't seem to be much of a change and winter break doesn't seem to be necessary.

Later February break is better for students.

The late spring break issue needs to be fixed. It is too late. The February break is an unnecessary break. Forget the February break and move spring break to mid-to-late March like in prior years!

The current February does not seem to be a problem so maybe it does not need to be changed. The unusually placed spring break is not addressed and maybe it should be. The exceptionally long winter break is not addressed.

I don't think there needs to be 2 breaks in the spring semester and I would like to see graduation date moved.

If childcare issues are truly of concern, please make those spring vacation weeks consistent with local school district calendars. I actually prefer the weeks to not be consistent with our peers because travel (air) prices tend to be lower. I like the idea of a Commencement held BEFORE Memorial Day.

Just not sure this changes things enough. The delay for February break is good - but the rest seems unnecessary.

I would eliminate the February break altogether instead of moving it a week later. What do our peer schools do?

It never helps to arbitrarily have days off near but not on a holiday (February)

I actually like the variation of the spring calendar, but the late spring break during peak university business (all of April) is rough. Why not switch the spring break into early March and have a day or two break later in the spring?

Cornell's spring breaks need to coincide with the local school district breaks to minimize stress (both financial and time constraints) on staff, faculty, and student parents.

Commencement is still too late, should be no later than 3rd week in May. Gaining 1 day at the beginning of the semester is of uncertain value. To subscribe to a model where we knowingly "live with an unusually placed spring break" effectively leaves us where we are today - no gain from that decision.

Childcare difficult

Childcare issues caused by the early break would complicate staffing without sufficient benefit to class scheduling.

although I agree that the study period seems very long, the two day break in February lines up to the local academic community, so students at surrounding schools are on a similar schedule *and* the local primary/secondary schools, so this lines up for faculty and graduate students. the week difference raises a number of issues for our entire community, for very little return.

I don't see the advantage to moving February break at the expense of creating childcare days as well as depriving parents of being able to spend time off with their children.

The newly proposed spring date will create more difficulties for Cornell staff and for student families. My suggestion: start classes on the Monday and the break may not seem so "early." Another option would be to only give one day, "president's day," for the spring break.

I had a long post on the website with a plan that combine the best elements of S1 and S3, I think. The good part of S1 is not starting too early in January (January 29 is too late, however). Instead of starting on a Wednesday, start on Monday, which gives you two extra days of class in January from the current schedule if you start the week of January 22. Then, those two extra days can be given back to students in February as their "break". Put this break on President Day's weekend to make employees happy who have kids in local schools. This would give 4 full weeks between the first day of classes and "February break weekend". If you wish to squeeze out a few more days of class, then start the Feb break on Thursday after President's Day, with classes back in session on Monday (roughly February 26-28th). This would still give employees time off during "local school break" (which lasts all week). But I

suspect many employees might prefer the current Monday-Tuesday off from classes arrangement (which includes President's Day). Probably would be 50-50, perhaps. Either way, you'd have 4 to 4.5 weeks before a break occurs and I think that's not too short. Then, it's another 4 weeks (roughly) to the longer spring break, which should really go back to last week of March. April is starting to be too late for any sort of break. April should be 4 weeks of class, or 5 weeks, until the first week of May when classes end and finals should begin then (after Slope Day weekend). Then, 1.5 weeks of finals, with 3 days for Senior Week, and Commencement occurring on the third weekend of May (weekend before Memorial Day weekend). This would appease those who want Memorial Day weekend off.

I don't like the unusually placed spring break.

Important for child care reasons to have Feb. break where it is; better to have spring break at same time as everyone else.

Any option that keeps spring break 10 weeks into a 15-week term does not seem student-focused.

Moving the Feb break doesn't make any sense

I don't think moving the break a week later helps anyone really. Doesn't help staff who previously would have had schedules more aligned with family calendars.

As a department manager (and father of young children), i really think you need to keep the February break as is. There are MANY staff members and faculty who plan far in advance to take their families on vacation that week, since it aligns with the local schools.

I think keeping the Spring Break more consistent with other schools is a good idea.

Not a significant change.

not much of a change.

Students have repeatedly told me that the February break is not a good "break". Start the semester earlier and get rid of the Feb. break. End the semester earlier, also.

For staff with children, the spring break does not line up with the public school system breaks making it difficult to take time off), and commencement weekend still falls on Memorial day - which make it very difficult for staff.

still and odd schedule: better to coordinate with local school districts for breaks so staff, faculty and students with children can have same time off

This is the worst option as there are no "wins" except maybe the reduced study/exam time. Have to deal with inequity in Monday class days, childcare days, weird break dates and an April break that isn't as beneficial to students at the March break.

It's good to coincide February break with President's Day weekend. I believe the schools do that. So it will be easy for faculty and staff with children to have the break then.

Feb break is fine where it is. Just reduce study week

Moving the Feb break adds extra burden on faculty/staff who need to take off days during public school break.

February break is unnecessary.

By moving the February break, you create child care issues for many...but add no real value in doing so. Is the study/exam period ineffective as is or is it just different than our peers? If change is being sought as a way to improve something for the students...it's something to consider...if it's just a means to put us more on the same timeline as some of our peers, I have to question the validity.

Students need every study day they can get.

Doesn't do much to delay Feb break by one week, and better to have it coincide with president's day/week holiday.

No alignment with local public school calendars; CU breaks not only affect students but also professors

Spring term starts too late Neither Feb nor April break aligns with children's holidays creating additional stress for

families

If the only thing really changing is the Feb break that really hurts parents that work and study at Corne since their children are on break.

February break needs to match with Presidents day so that it works for staff with kids in school

as a staff member who has to work memorial day, i don't like the extended semester

The President's Day holiday should be included in the February Break.

Moving the February break by one week does little to address the real issues.

I just don't see enough change

Thursday start dates makes first week a "waste" week and disadvantages courses that meet on Mon/Wed.

It is good to have at least some of the winter break correspond with ICSD break- and President's day- the rest of the U.S.

Starting on W instead of Th seems to make sense since many classes are MWF or TTh... also the study day in the middle of finals week is a good break.

Not much change from the current calendar and does not move commencement away from the holiday weekend

I think the winter break is a little too long. It would be more helpful to start the semester earlier and end earlier. Students would have more time over the summer for internships and jobs. Winter break is typically too short for these activities so the time would be better used in the summer.

does not address any of the important problems with the Spring Calendar; doesn't really change anything

Graduation too late.

There is a two day shift in the S1 option - this doesn't really benefit anyone. I do agree with the not having a study period in the middle of the final exam period. The two-day February break has not served students well. I've heard it actually adds stress to students.

Maintains the unnecessary February break

S1 is very similar to current Spring Calendar and I don't see any improvements

starts late, spring break is way too late in semester,

I don't really understand the point about "preparing dorms for graduation." Is this why move-out has to be so far in advance of commencement? The spring break is too late. I have no idea why we need a senior week at all, but it's convenient to scheduling meetings and workshops then for those that faculty and staff that "have to" still be around. I don't really see why our graduation is on Memorial Day weekend - it is a significant hardship on staff, and frankly everyone. (The comments from faculty on the calendar discussion website were shockingly insensitive to this point.) How is this proposal an improvement at all? On the plus side, it doesn't mess with length of winter and summer break unduly.

February break is nationally recognized holiday

I do not think it adds anything to delay the Feb. break by a week. I think it is important to have that extra study day that allows a brief break after four days of exams.

The students will be more upset by the oddly placed spring break where they won't be able to interact with other college kids while out enjoying themselves. Also the change in feb. break causing issues with child care can be an issue for many staff members and hurt the quantity of staff that can be available to work.

Looks like a wash to me. One week's difference on February break isn't a significant one.

Disagree with concept of February break. Why not move single spring break back a week or two?

I don't think S1 makes that large of a difference. I do think that having commencement Memorial Day weekend is not ideal for students, families, and locals since the traffic is just horrendous. Also, a lot of Cornell employees have to work Graduation, and they aren't able to make family plans because it falls on the same weekend every year.

Don't like pushing finals back so much. There are a lot of summer programs that start early or even in May. Having the classrooms free is important.

As staff, it's helpful for the student break to line up with what tends to be a long/weekend and holiday (even though it's not a Cornell holiday). I'm neutral on the length of study/exam period.

I think the February break is hard on staff.

The February break should be eliminated. I hear from instructors that it is difficult to plan around, and students don't seem to find it necessary.

the February break change is inconsistent with local schools, so creates child care challenges

February break should coincide with local public school holidays.

spring semester should start earlier in the week to allow for more class meeting times.

Don't think students will like their spring break that deviates from other colleges.

S1 doesn't seem that much different.

Feb break should be aligned with national holidays

These are pretty marginal changes and they just don't seem to matter much.

Essentially the schedule is massaged by 1 day and the movement of the February break. Commencement is still much later than peers.

Commencement too late; I like an earlier start in January

Think this adds more problems than it solves

Keep February break as it is. The change disrupts employees for childcare. Also, many people are off on Presidents Day including parents and younger siblings of college students which makes this a nicely timed break for everyone involved.

Commencement on memorial day weekend is too late in my opinion

The February break doesn't coincide with public school vacations, some faculty/staff will not be able to use the public school break for time with their families.

Why not Spring Break the Thurs / Fri of the current week it is scheduled. This avoids 'day care issues' yet makes it later. Cutting down on exam days makes sense, eliminating study day in between doesn't. Having been a former student, that day is needed.

Commencement over memorial weekend is terrible, this does nothing to solve that.

don't need two breaks

Childcare

Not much difference between the two

Graduation should move off of Memorial Day

More child care days

President's Day is a Federal Holiday - banks and schools are closed. It doesn't make sense to be on holiday at a time when other businesses and schools are open.

I never have really like Commencement on Memorial Day weekend.

I'd hate to see a change to the February break that puts more of a burden on employees who have to provide childcare for extra days.

I don't see the point

"Senior Days" are a waste of calendar time; will cause week 6 withdrawal processing to happen while students are not on campus

The actual calendar doesn't have a substantial amount of change, but increases the amount of time students are on campus between end of exams and commencement, which could increase risk of health/safety incidents.

Working Memorial Day weekend again!

This version does not solve many of the spring calendar issues. Moving Feb break is a bad idea for staff and faculty. Senior days are a waste for most of the university. Only privileged students have the means to participate. Commencement is not moved.

No added value.

negligible differences

There is not much difference between the two options.

Feb break is too early and not needed, Spring break is too late

The semester still has a very late start date. February break now is out of alignment with the public school break, so makes no sense. Spring break remains much later than all other schools. I like the day earlier move-out, which is helpful to the staff cleaning and preparing the residence halls.

Not that much of a difference and altering the Feb break now means that there is no break alignment between Cornell and ICSD.

Starts too late and the intersession is too long.

i think the current spring schedule is fine. matching feb break to ICSD is desirable for students, staff, and faculty with kids

Winter break is too long. The new calendar does not improve this.

The start date is still late; the February break is still in place; commencement/end of semester is still late.