

The University Senate of Michigan Technological University

Proposal 1-24

Amending the Scheduling of Spring Break in Senate Procedure 101.1.1

(Voting Units: All)

Submitted by: Ad-hoc Academic Calendar Committee

I. Introduction

The scheduling of dates in the academic calendar is regulated by [Senate Procedure 101.1.1: Guidelines for an Academic Calendar of 14 Weeks](#). According to the Spring semester guidelines, “Spring break will be for one week following the seventh week of the semester.” Due to the current policy, the placement of spring break is quite early in the calendar year and there are compelling reasons to move the break to the week following the eighth week of the semester.

II. Rationale

In March 2022, [Proposal 39-22](#) shifted spring break after week seven with arguments in favor of a half-semester break in support of certificate programs, half-semester courses, and midterm scheduling. However, due to the adjustment of the fall semester start date ([Proposal 50-22](#)), the placement of spring break can occur earlier in some years than originally intended. Moving spring break back to week 8 provides a shorter time to the end of the semester and it moves the break closer to its original placement. Most importantly, this change aligns with overwhelming feedback from a variety of constituents.

III. Proposal

It is proposed that the wording in Senate Procedure 101.1.1 related to Spring break be changed from “the seventh week of the semester” to read in full, “Spring break will be for one week following the eighth week of the semester.” This change would go into effect starting with the 2024-25 academic calendar.