

Senate J-Term Questions:

1. What is the total cost of J-term? How does it compare to the 1% tuition surcharge?

**We allocate \$375,000 which is the number determined to be 1% of tuition in the year of our first J-Term. In addition, we have two other sources of revenue, the tuition paid by those taking J-Term classes who are not full-time Undergraduate or Pharmacy students (mostly graduate education students taking one of the hybrid undergraduate/graduate education classes), and the contingency funds built into the travel seminar budgets. I have attached the final calculations for J-Term 2014. As you can see, we ended with a surplus of \$62,112. (We also have revenue from room and board charges, but that is spent on those items, so that amount nets out to 0). I cannot find the similar spreadsheet for J-Term 2015, though I am sure I received it, as I have notes about it from the discussion we had in the J-Term Oversight Committee when it was presented to us. That indicates we had a surplus of \$70,306 in that year. Final accounting for J-Term 2016 is not yet complete.**

**The major expense for J-Term is instructor salaries. The pay scale has not changed since J-Term was started. For on-campus courses we pay \$5100 for a three-credit course. If the course is team-taught, the instructors each receive \$3450. For travel seminars, the instructor receives \$6800 and the co-leader receives \$1500.**

**Full-time faculty can substitute a course reassignment for monetary compensation with permission of their Chair. We have had at least one, and as many as 4 such substitutions during our J-Terms. Almost all instructors are compensated according to the rates noted above.**

2. Number of campus-based courses and number of students enrolled in those courses.

**In 2013 we had 688 students, 2014 954 students, 2015 1022 students, 2016 1108 students.  
On-Campus/Off-Campus Breakdowns:**

**2013: On-Campus: 32 classes, 553 students;  
2014: On-Campus: 53 classes, 742 students;  
2015: On-Campus: 54 classes, 804 students;  
2016: On-Campus: 68 classes, 902 students;**

**(We have occasional on-line classes, which I have counted as on-campus.)**

3. Number of travel-based courses and number of students enrolled in those courses.

**2013: Travel: 7 classes, 135 students.  
2014: Travel: 15 classes, 212 students.  
2015: Travel: 16 classes, 218 students.  
2016: Travel: 13 classes, 207 students.**

- Is there overlap with May-term travel courses with regard to limit on the number of travel-based courses, budgets and topics?

**For capacity issues, we now limit J-Term travel seminars to 15, and May/Summer travel courses to 5. We have equalized the way student costs and faculty compensation are determined for traditional travel experiences during these two periods. Given clear student preference for J-Term over Summer travel, even after equalizing cost structure for students, those proposing May/summer courses are now asked why the course cannot be offered in January. There has been little to no overlap on topics.**

- What is the impact on May term and summer courses. Has there been any decrease in those enrollments?

**Because J-term is offered almost exclusively to undergraduates, we looked at summer undergraduate enrollments and revenue, excluding other sources of summer revenue (graduate programs, summer camps, etc.). Summer enrollments and revenue (see tables below) were declining prior to the start of J-term, first offered in 2013. While we want to be cautious about asserting causality, there is a decrease in both summer undergraduate enrollments and revenue, especially in on campus courses, in the summers of 2014 and 2015. However, tuition revenue in summer web courses has remained relatively stable over the five years selected. We did not drill down to look at enrollments in on campus courses v. web courses, nor to look at whether fewer on campus and more web courses were being offered.**

*Summer UG Enrollment*

Term	Number of Seats Taken	Head Count	Credits Generated
Summer 2012	1961	1063	4821
Summer 2013	1859	1004	4426
Summer 2014	1707	935	4005
Summer 2015	1477	833	3983

Summer Revenue	Sum 2011	Sum 2012	Sum 2013	Sum 2014	Sum 2015
Sum PF UG	\$824,532.00	\$795,218.88	\$539,829.99	\$559,620.00	\$447,250.00
Sum Travel Sem			\$183,270.00	\$175,112.00	\$227,368.21
Sum Web UG	\$1,364,602.00	\$1,330,475.00	\$1,261,260.00	\$1,147,245.00	\$1,236,490.00
	\$2,189,134.00	\$2,125,693.88	\$1,984,359.99	\$1,881,977.00	\$1,911,108.21

- How have teaching evaluations of J-term courses been distributed to faculty and how have they been used for assessment?

**The assessment instrument we use is focused on broad J-Term goals and not particularly well designed to gather information on particular courses or faculty members. There may be some questions of use in this regard, but I always send an email to all FYS instructors informing**

them if they want assessment of the course they may want to use departmental/college/school instruments in addition to what we do. I do not know how many instructors do this. Annique shares all of the travel seminar results with the travel seminar instructors because we have a number of questions dealing with travel logistics that she discusses with each of them. I supply the section by section results to any instructor who asks. Few do, and when they do, I do not know if they share them or how they are used

7. What are the overall trends of students' assessment of the J-term experience?

The trends are, basically, steady and remarkably positive. In 2013, 90% of students reported their J-Term course was a good learning experience and 88% said they would recommend taking a J-Term course to others. In 2014 those numbers were 93% and 94%. In 2015 they were 95% and 93%. This past year, 2016, those numbers were 91% and 92%. This is in spite of the fact that students consistently report being challenged "more than they expected" (80%, 81%, 86% and 81%). I have attached the Executive Summaries from all four years

8. What assessment pieces are in place to determine the success of J-term?

In addition to the student survey noted above, we survey faculty on their perceptions of J-Term.

Information provided by

Art Sanders, Associate Provost, Curriculum & Assessment  
Kevin Moenkhaus, Director, Student Records  
Teresa Krejci, Chief Financial Officer  
Joe Lenz, Interim Provost