

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

REGENTS COMMUNICATION

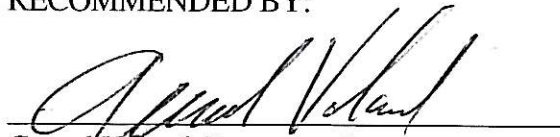
ACTION REQUEST: Approval to Revise the 2011-2012 Academic Calendar

The date of spring Commencement for the University of Michigan-Flint is scheduled for Sunday, May 6, 2012, which is traditional according to the guidelines that are normally followed, that is, the first Sunday of May. Because final examinations end on Tuesday, April 24, holding Commencement 12 days later would be difficult for the following reasons:

- Holding Commencement 12 days following final examinations may cause a hardship for our graduate students who may have to leave immediately following final exams; for those students who have acquired employment somewhere else and must move; and/or for our international students. In addition, for residential students, they would have to move out of housing shortly following examinations. Coming back to participate in their commencement for any of these students probably is not viable and certainly would not be convenient.
- Changing the spring Commencement date would bring our schedule in line with Ann Arbor and should we have the privilege of awarding an honorary degree, festivities between the two campuses that normally occur would be more convenient for any awardee.
- Additional problems are eminent by leaving the Commencement date in May regarding the total logistics of the ceremony. We may have low student/faculty participation; we may have difficulty soliciting student help and other volunteers; participation for our symphony members would be very difficult as well.

With the support of the Academic Affairs Advisory Committee, we recommend revision to our 2011-2012 academic calendar by changing the date of spring Commencement from Sunday, May 6, 2012, to Sunday, April 29, 2012.

RECOMMENDED BY:



Gerard Voland, Provost and
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

RECOMMENDATION ENDORSED BY:



Ruth J. Person, Chancellor
University of Michigan-Flint

October 2011