

one system to another, two registrations instead of three, and potential teaching adjustment costs. Essentially the costs offset each other and the financial factor is a stand-off. Careful consideration has been given to shutting down for a winter period with either a semester or term system but though some facilities could be closed with some savings in fuel costs, other costs for research and faculty would continue; and further, any such long break in a term calendar in the winter would require an extension into June.

Given all these conditions I informed the University Faculty Senate Tuesday, December 9, of my intentions to extend the present term system for a five-year period beginning with the summer of 1977 and extending to the fall of 1982. The calendar will include the following basic elements:

- A) A term system as at present
- B) The academic year opening with fall registration and orientation prior to Labor Day with the first day of classes the day after Labor Day
- C) The fall term completed prior to Thanksgiving with the winter term providing as close as possible three weeks of instruction prior to Christmas break
- D) The spring term ending toward the middle of May with Commencement in the last week of May; and
- E) In accordance with my interpretation of the Senate action regarding final examinations in essentially all courses, there will be a six-day period scheduled for final examinations after each term.

I told the Senate that I am intending to publish the new five-year calendar containing these basic elements about April 1, 1976. I indicated to them that if the Senate has any different interpretation of its policy regarding final examinations that the Senate must inform me of this no later than their March 1976 meeting. I also asked the Senate to provide me with advice concerning the length of the summer term beginning in the summer of 1976 - should we continue with the current ten weeks in the summer or should the University move to an eight week term as has been recommended by many. I indicated to the Senate therefore to take steps to involve student opinion in the process of providing me with their advice and indicated that advice on this matter was also needed by the March 1976 meeting of the Senate.

BUDGET AND TUITION

The rising costs involved in University education is of concern to all people in the University and is a special concern to students insofar as the impact these have on the level of tuition. There has been a great deal of concern about the rising tuition at Penn State which has resulted in our university becoming out of the reach of more and more low and middle-income families. The