## Senate Resolution #2915

TITLE: Advocacy for University of Wyoming Fall Break

**DATE INTRODUCED:** October 31, 2023

AUTHOR: Senator Meiklejohn

SPONSORS: Senators Medina, Keasling, Meester, and Grimm; First-Year

Senator Barr; Chief of Legislative Affairs Knopp; and President

Smith

1. WHEREAS, the purpose of the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming

 $2. \ \ \, (ASUW)$  is to serve our fellow students in the best manner possible; and,

3. WHEREAS, the University of Wyoming Academic Calendar for Fall 2023 shows no

4. fall break and only the second Monday in October for future fall breaks; and,

5. WHEREAS, the University of Wyoming Academic Calendar only shows a three day

6. break for Thanksgiving to include Thanksgiving Thursday and both the Wednesday and

7. Friday before and after Thanksgiving; and,

8. WHEREAS, the University of Wyoming Administrative Calendar only shows a two day

9. break for Thanksgiving and the following Friday thus reflecting a confusing discrepancy

10. and an operational reduction in student break time; and,

11. WHEREAS, the University of Wyoming fall break offerings, not counting national

12. holidays such as Labor Day and Veterans Day, for Fall 2023 operationally sits at 2 days

13. around Thanksgiving Break, which is well below the average offerings by comparative

14. universities as expressed in Addendum A, and that even an extension to 3 days in future

15. Academic Calendars still falls below average; and,

16. WHEREAS, while further empirical research is required, preliminary research indicates

17. that Fall Break reduces stress among students as represented in the References page as



- 18. outlined in Addendum B; and,
- 19. WHEREAS, the University of Wyoming student body repeatedly reaches a point akin to
- 20. burnout around mid-October each semester, which is not conducive to retention and
- 21. student well-being.
- 22. THEREFORE, be it resolved that for future academic years that there be a minimum of
- 23. five days of break not counting Labor Day, Veterans' Day, or weekends and to be split
- 24. between a Thanksgiving Break and an official Fall Break with a minimum of two days
- 25. for each; and,
- 26. THEREFORE, be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to the
- 27. University of Wyoming Calendar Committee, Provost Carmen, Board of Trustees,
- 28. Office of the Registrar, and the Dean of Students Office; and,
- 29. THEREFORE, be it further resolved that these changes take effect upon the start of
- 30. Fall 2024 semester with potential administrative changes to the calendar to follow the
- 31. deadlines required by the appropriate office.

Referred to:	All Standing	Committees	. )			
 Date of Passage:_	November, 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	Signed:(A		Mu/y/\ Chairperso	Myth n)	<i>k</i> −
"Being enacted on	November 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2023,	I do hereby	sign n	ny name he	reto and a	pprove thi
Senate action."	SABER	Smi	11			
	ASUW Presiden	t				

Commented [AA1]: Resolved?

## Addendum A - Peer University Comparisons

Peer	Fall	Total	Fall Break	Thanksgiving Break
University	Semester	Break		
	Dates	Days		
University of	8/21 - 12/15	5	Yes, two days, second	Yes, three days,
Nebraska			Monday and Tuesday of October	Wednesday-Friday
Colorado State	8/21 - 12/15	5	No, see Thanksgiving	Yes, Monday-Friday
University				
CU Boulder	8/28 - 12/20	5	No, see Thanksgiving	Yes, Monday-Friday
University of	8/28 - 12/20	3	Yes, one day, last Friday	Yes, Thursday-Friday
Nevada			in October	
Montana State	8/23 - 12/15	5	No, see Thanksgiving	Yes, Monday-Friday
University				
University of	8/28 - 12/15	3	No, see Thanksgiving	Yes, Wednesday-Friday
Montana				
University of	8/21 - 12/15	4	Yes, two days, second	Yes, Thursday-Friday
New Mexico			Thursday and Friday of	
			October	
New Mexico	8/15 - 12/8	6	Yes, one day, second	Yes, Monday-Friday
State			Monday of October	
Iowa State	8/21 - 12/15	5	No, see Thanksgiving	Yes, Monday-Friday
University				
Utah State	8/28 - 12/15	4	Yes, one day, third	Yes, Wednesday-Friday
University			Friday of October	
Casper College	8/21 - 12/15	5	Yes, two days, third	Yes, Wednesday-Friday
			Monday and Tuesday of	
			October	
University of	8/28 - 12/15	2	No, see Thanksgiving	Yes, Thursday-Friday
Wyoming				