



Student Senate

Redeemer University Student Senate Resolution 2020-01

*Resolution on the changes made to the
Winter 2021 academic calendar*

Resolution Sponsor: Alison Nirula,
Vice President of Student Affairs

Resolution Co-Sponsor: Melissa Goossen,
Assistant to the Vice President of Student Affairs

WHEREAS, the Redeemer University Student Senate represents the student body and is thus responsible to it for its actions and is vested with the authority to be the voice for the student body; and,

WHEREAS, Redeemer University has decided to revoke the winter 2021 reading week, and hold classes on Easter Monday; and,

WHEREAS, the Student Senate acknowledges and appreciates efforts made by the University to limit the spread of COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, the Student Senate has received many student concerns regarding these decisions; and,

WHEREAS, the Student Senate recognizes that Easter Monday is an integral part of the celebration of Easter in many Christian traditions; and,

WHEREAS, the Student Senate understands that the purpose of a reading break is to reduce stress and improve mental health among students and thus the annulment of a reading break risks an increase in mental health problems among students; and,

WHEREAS, Redeemer University has engaged in efforts to hear concerns from students on this matter, but has not amended its decision; and,

WHEREAS, a Student Senate survey on the University's decision indicates that a significant majority of students who participated (74%) disagree with the decision to cancel reading week, disagree with the decision to hold classes on Easter Monday (88%), and believe that their mental health will be negatively impacted as a direct consequence of these decisions (91%).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Student Senate takes a stance against the University's decision to cancel reading week and hold classes on Easter Monday during the

Winter 2021 semester.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Student Senate strongly recommends the University to consider alternative action including, but not limited to,

- a. Mandate one test, quiz, and assignment free week; or,
- b. Implement four “reading days” throughout the semester to compensate for the annulment of reading week; and,
- c. Revoke the decision to hold classes on Easter Monday; and,
- d. Ensure continued and improved availability of mental health support for students.

PASSED IN THE STUDENT SENATE: December 1, 2020

VOTE TOTALS:

9 YES

0 NO

1 ABSTAIN