



# CONTRACT NEWS 2020

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS  
WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY CHAPTER

June 11, 2020

## Details of the Tentative Agreement

On Thursday, June 11, 2020, the Executive Committee approved bringing a tentative agreement for a revision to the Fall 2020 calendar to the faculty for a vote. The tentative agreement contains the changes to existing contract language as discussed below. A copy of the tentative agreement is available at [wmuaaup.org](http://wmuaaup.org).

### I. Changes to Dates

The Fall Contingency Planning Task Force has recommended revisions to the Fall 2020 calendar. These changes include moving the fall break to immediately precede Thanksgiving recess, and to a planned format shift to online or distance education on Nov. 30.

#### **Original Fall 2020 Calendar:**

FALL SEMESTER 2020		
August 31 – Sept. 1		Advising Days
September 2	Wednesday	Classes begin at 8 a.m.
September 7	Monday	Labor Day recess
October 21-23	Wed.-Fri.	Fall Break
November 25	Wednesday	Thanksgiving recess (noon)
November 30	Monday	Classes resume
December 14-17		Final examination week
December 19	Saturday	Semester ends – commencement
December 22	Tuesday	Fall grades due at noon

#### **Proposed Revised Fall 2020 Calendar:**

FALL SEMESTER 2020		
August 31 – Sept. 1		Advising Days
September 2	Wednesday	Classes begin at 8 a.m.
September 7	Monday	Labor Day recess
November 20	Friday	Final day of in-person instruction (ends at noon)
November 23-27	Monday-Friday	Fall Break & Thanksgiving recess
November 30	Monday	Classes resume as online or distance education
December 14-17		Final examination week
December 19	Saturday	Semester ends – commencement
December 22	Tuesday	Fall grades due at noon

## Related Impacts:

---

Although not part of this tentative agreement, a separate letter of agreement was also approved by the Executive Committee. This letter of agreement provides the following:

- Clarification and formalization of the agreement (as announced on March 24) to extend the probationary period for tenure-track faculty by one year. This extension is optional, and this revised language clarifies that faculty are not required to provide advanced notice about whether they are accepting the extension or continuing with the normal time line.
  - Faculty seeking accommodations relating to health and/or safety concerns may use the “Request for Reasonable Accommodation” form to make their requests. This might include, for example, requesting their courses be offered online due to COVID-19 concerns.
  - Assurance that opting out of student ratings as allowed in Article 16 will not be held against anyone for tenure or promotion.
- 

### **NEXT STEPS: YOUR ACTION IS REQUIRED**

**Monday, June 15: WMU-AAUP chapter meeting to discuss the tentative agreement.**  
3 p.m. Zoom Meeting (link sent via email morning of June 15)

**Wednesday, June 17: Faculty vote on ratification.**  
8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (link sent via email morning of June 17)

**If you do not receive your link to vote by 9 a.m. on June 17:**  
Please contact the WMU-AAUP office ASAP at (269) 345-0151 or email [staff@wmuaaup.net](mailto:staff@wmuaaup.net).

**All bargaining-unit members should plan to attend the chapter meeting  
and participate in the ratification vote.**

**Please note that only dues-paying members are eligible to vote.**



814 Oakland Drive  
Kalamazoo, MI 49008  
(269) 345-0151  
Email: [staff@wmuaaup.net](mailto:staff@wmuaaup.net)  
Web: [wmuaaup.org](http://wmuaaup.org)