TO:       The Academic Senate

FROM:     Faculty Affairs Committee

SUBJECT:  Veterans Day Holiday and the Ten Year Calendar

PURPOSE:  For Action by the Academic Senate

ACTION REQUESTED:  That the Academic Senate Adopt the Proposed Changes to the Ten Year Academic Calendar

BACKGROUND
INFORMATION:  FAC has been charged by the Academic Senate to recommend adjustments to the Ten Year Calendar to comply with State Assembly Bill 720—Veterans Day Observance, which requires the CSU to observe November 11th as a holiday and to close the university on that day. CSU policy states that when Veterans Day falls on a Saturday, the University observes the previous Friday; when it falls on a Sunday, the University observes the following Monday.

After consulting with Dr. Carl Bellone and considering various options, FAC recommends that beginning in AY 06-07, Fall Quarter classes begin on the Wednesday rather than the Thursday of Convocation week.

The state requires that our campus hold a minimum of 147 instructional days per academic year (Fall, Winter, Spring Quarters). Currently we average 147 instructional days. Thus the observance of Veterans Day requires that we add one instructional day.

FAC recognizes that adding a Wednesday is not a perfect solution, especially in years when November 11th falls on a Tuesday or a Thursday. During those years, evening classes that meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays would have nine class sessions and those that meet on Wednesday would have eleven. FAC does not, however, recommend that during these years a Wednesday evening schedule become a Tuesday or Thursday schedule. Current University policy triggers this confusing schedule change only in years when an evening class would hold fewer than nine sessions.

FAC considered adding an instructional day during spring quarter, when the University observes Cesar Chavez Day and Memorial Day. However, the only time to add an instructional day would be during examination week, which would delay examinations and grading. FAC concludes that beginning the fall quarter on Wednesday of the first week of classes is the best solution.