



October 20, 2015

Dear Faculty Senate Chair Deb Kinghorn,

Last year the UNH Faculty Senate, at the recommendation of its Academic Affairs Committee, voted to move the Common Exam (afternoon) time set at Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:40pm-2:00pm to Fridays from 2:10pm-5:00pm (MOTION #XIX-M5). This motion included language noting that, because this change was made to accommodate the renovation of Hamilton Smith Hall, the change would only remain in effect for two years.

The Graduate Student Senate (GSS) understands that this was a difficult decision that Faculty Senate was (as stated in the motion from the Academic Affairs Committee) reluctant to make. In October 2015, the GSS wrote a letter of concern to President Huddleston and Vice President Mark Rubinstein regarding this issue and its impacts. The Graduate Student Senate has taken steps to adapt to this change, but it has nevertheless impacted our ability to be as inclusive and effective as we would like to be; it has additionally created scheduling conflicts among the graduate student community. We would like to iterate our full support for the changes to the afternoon Common Exam Hour time reverting back to Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:40pm-2:00pm after these two years have elapsed (or as soon as practical following the completion of the Hamilton Smith renovation). As we deal with this new reality, we wanted to express our sincere hope that placement of Common Exam Hour on Fridays not be permanent.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued work for our community.

Sincerely,

Ezra Temko
President, UNH Graduate Student Senate