

To better inform the committee's debate on the optimal length of winter break, graduate students were polled to determine what, if any, preference they had. Of the 107 responses we received, 79% favored a break of at least 4 weeks, with many requesting even more time. The primary reason given is that graduate students take advantage of reduced costs during the winter months to undertake a wide variety of scholarly activities which becomes difficult or impossible with a three week break. Maintaining adequate time for research during the winter has been one of the few issues of popular concern in the graduate student community with regard to the transition, and should be seen as a component of the committee's pledge to hold students harmless throughout the process of moving from quarters to semesters.