To: Myles Brand
From: Ken Gros Louis  Ken  
Date: June 12, 1998

The policy of what date of graduation appears on the diploma was last altered in 1982 by the now-defunct Coordinating Committee. Attached is a detailed list of graduation dates under both the current and proposed new policies. As you can see from JoAnne Bowen’s memo to me, the most important issue is the date that should appear on the December graduates’ diploma. As long as you have no objection, I will tell JoAnne to enact the policy as she proposes it in the attached document. It really is a minor change, but one that needs to be made to strengthen the idea of the December commencement, which I think went very well in last year’s first incarnation. Many thanks.

6/14

Ken,

These changes are fine. Please proceed.

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PROCESSING

Bryan Hall 100
Bloomington, Indiana
47405-1201
MEMORANDUM

To: Registrar Distribution

Dept: 

Subj: Commencement Dates 

From: Jo Anne Bowen

Director

Dept: Student Systems Services

Date: June 25, 1998 Ph: 855-2218

The attached request for a change in commencement dates has been approved by President Brand and Vice President Gros Louis. The change goes into effect immediately. In the future, degrees will be granted as follows:

Undergraduate Degrees

May (Commencement Date)
June 30 (or Commencement Date) (Optional)
August 31 (or Commencement Date)
December 31 (or Commencement Date)

Graduate & Professional Degrees

May (Commencement Date)
June 30 (or Commencement Date)
July 31
August 31 (or Commencement Date)
September 30, October 31
November 30
December 31 (or Commencement Date)
January 31, February 28
March 31, April 30

If there are others on your campus who should be made aware of these changes, please inform them. Also, if you have any questions, please let me know. As a reminder, the definition for “Commencement” is:

Commencement is a university ceremony where the University President, Trustees, academic officers, faculty, graduating students, and their families and guests, assemble for the purpose of conferring degrees upon the newly certified graduates. The conferral of degrees is performed by the President with the approval of the Board of Trustees upon recommendation of the faculty.

Attachment

Dist: Peter Biegel
Mark Grove
Lois Hathaway
Ann Hedrick
Peter Kesheimer
Tom Prebys
R. Gerald Pugh
Gladys Smith
Ben Young

cc: Thomas May
Jerry Tardy
Pat Wheeler
MEMORANDUM

To: Kenneth R. R. Gros Louis
   Vice President for Acad. Aff.
   and Bloomington Chancellor

From: Jo Anne Bowen
   Director
   Dept: Student Systems Services

Subj: Commencement Dates

Date: June 11, 1998 Ph: 5-2218

Changes to commencement dates were last made in 1982 when the January 10 date was changed to December 31 and an optional June 30 date was added. Due to the recent addition of an official December Commencement ceremony on the Bloomington Campus, and subsequent complaints from students regarding the December 31 graduation date, a request is being made to have the date of degree conferral for newly certified graduates be the date of Commencement when a Commencement ceremony is held by the degree campus at the end of the semester or session of degree completion.

Additional degree conferral dates may be established at the discretion of the campuses and schools within the following guidelines: 1) if no Commencement ceremony is held by the degree campus at the end of a semester or session, degrees may also be conferred on the last day of the month in which the semester or session ends; 2) graduate and professional degrees may be conferred, also, on the last day of the month of degree completion provided that no Commencement is held during that same month by the degree campus.

Specifically, the current policy is as follows:

Undergraduate Degrees

May (Commencement Date)
June 30 (Optional)
August 31
December 31

Graduate & Professional Degrees

May (Commencement Date)
June 30, July 31, August 31,
September 30, October 31,
November 30, December 31,
January 31, February 28,
March 31, April 30

The proposed policy is:

Undergraduate Degrees

May (Commencement Date)
June 30 (or Commencement Date)
   (Optional)
August 31 (or Commencement Date)
December 31 (or Commencement Date)

Graduate & Professional Degrees

May (Commencement Date)
June 30 (or Commencement Date)
July 31
August 31 (or Commencement Date)
September 30, October 31
November 30
December 31 (or Commencement Date)
January 31, February 28, March 31
April 30
The proposed change in the official graduation date is not a major change; however, it would establish uniformity in the degree granting dates as well as provide flexibility for the campuses. More importantly, the change would better serve students.

I am not sure to whom this recommendation should be forwarded or by whom it should be approved. In 1982, approval was given by the University Coordinating Committee which, of course, is no longer in existence. Your advice on this would be greatly appreciated.

Please let me know if you need additional information.

mai