

Section One: Background

In the spring of 2007, Dr. Rose requested a Winter Intersession Study Group. Its goal was to do a preliminary study on the feasibility of a WI at MJC, gather data, and report its findings. This group determined more research was needed; as a result, the Winter Intersession Task Force was formed fall of 2007. Members were asked to do a more thorough investigation so that the college could have “valid and reliable data to study” before making a decision on a Winter Intersession.

This task force was charged by both the YFA and Academic Senate, and its tasks mutually agreed upon by these two governing bodies along with President Rose. Its charge was to 1) “create a list of research questions that need to be answered in order to successfully consider a Winter Intersession”; 2) “identify the kinds of data that would be useful and valid in determining if a Winter Intersession at MJC is warranted”; and 3) “identify the data that would provide valid and reliable evidence needed to make a conclusion about the Winter Intersession.” The task force was also given two additional charges: Identify community college cohorts and do on-site visits; and participate in focus groups at MJC in order to hear a broad range of perspectives on the issue. The final stage of this research and data collecting was to submit a report of its findings and conduct college-wide forums.