

To: Steering Committee
From: HSS Chairs
Date: January 18, 2019
Subject: IDA/Colloquium Time Slot

Since the fall semester of 2014, TCNJ has designated the slot of Tuesdays/Fridays from 12:30 PM to 1:30 PM for IDA (Interdisciplinary Activities) and Colloquia. Prior to fall 2014, courses could be scheduled from 12:30 PM to 1:50 PM on those days.

While we recognize that a designated slot for IDA/Colloquia remains important, having that time slot set aside this way precludes the scheduling of courses at that time. For faculty willing to teach on Tuesdays and Fridays, this has meant the loss of a choice teaching slot, and has probably contributed to the preference of many faculty to teach only Monday/Thursday courses, thus contributing to scheduling imbalances between Monday/Thursday and Tuesday/Friday courses. Furthermore, faculty and students who have opted to only have classes on Mondays and Thursdays may be less inclined to attend IDA/Colloquia in the middle of the day on Tuesdays and Fridays.

While we recognize that any time slot for IDA/Colloquia has its advantages and disadvantages, in light of the issues raised above, we ask Steering to initiate a review of IDA/Colloquia scheduling with the aim of considering whether the designation of other time slots might be more advantageous on balance for faculty and students.