

“Learn from the mistakes of others, it will be impossible to make them all yourself.”

At the December Professional and Scientific Council General meeting, it was discussed at length regarding the need for a January meeting. Since there were no motions or administrative updates on the docket, would it be best to move to a hybrid/virtual platform or cancel it altogether? I reached out to President Wintersteen and Provost Wickert regarding the proposed change. They left the decision up to us. At the Professional and Scientific Council Executive Committee meeting on December 21st, we officially voted to cancel the January meeting.

In the coming weeks, we will discuss adopting a new meeting model, shifting away from the first Thursday of every month for 12 months to a floating 9–10-month meeting calendar. This new meeting schedule could potentially align better with the academic calendar, the demands of Professional and Scientific employees around student orientation and allow more time with family around the holidays and summer break. Since July 1, we have replaced 13 Councilors (there’s only 45 total seats). Any effort we can make to ensure maximum use of Councilors’ time could help with retention.

The Executive Committee will discuss this at length on January 18, the aim being to bring something more concrete forward to the General Council meeting in February. Committees will still meet this month, just not in the traditional in-person format directly in front of the General Council meeting.

**Don’t forget the annual Professional Development Conference is coming up, and registration is open!**