

Students apprehensive of change to semesters

BY VALERIE BANNER
Jambar Editor

Students are concerned about the change to semesters because they say they don't feel adequately prepared. Members of the faculty; however, say they expect a smooth transition into the new term.

Dr. Daniel Suchora, professor, mechanical engineering, said he thinks the biggest change is simply getting used to the new schedule.

"The downside is, instead of concentrating on three or four classes, you're going to have an extra class to concentrate on. Once students get used to it, it won't be so bad," he said.

But Suchora said he thinks semesters will be more beneficial overall. Students will have more time to absorb the material and get to know their professors, he said. It will also give professors, especially in the engineering department, more time to work with the students on projects, he added.

Steve Brewer, graduate student, English, said he agrees with Suchora.

"Semesters are better because in the long run you get more out of a subject," he said. "Quarters fly by. By the time you start to get interested at all, the quarter is over."

Brewer said he experienced semesters when he attended Akron University.

But Dave Marsh, sophomore, BS/MD, said he liked quarters better because they flew by.

"I think quarters are a lot better. Once you got over that 10 weeks, you were done with the class, and you were happy," he said.

Kristina Fluharty, sophomore, history, echoed Marsh's opinion.

"I like quarters better because when I took my classes and got sick of them, they were done," she said.

Fluharty said she doesn't feel ready for the transition.

"I just don't think I got enough information. I don't know what classes turned into what, and I don't know what hours I needed to take. I think it was a little vague,"

she said of the scheduling process.

Fluharty wasn't alone in feeling this way. Brenna Foster, junior, music education, said she wasn't adequately prepared either.

"I don't know any of the classes anymore or what to take or what I need," she said.

Even Brewer, who prefers semesters, didn't want to make the switch.

"I didn't want the headache of a transition," he said. "I'm starting a new field of education along with the school starting a new way of doing things."

Mary Lou Weingart, academic adviser, College of Fine and Performing Arts, said they didn't want the transition to be a headache and have tried to make the process as simple as possible.

She said there are new curricu-

lum sheets available now, and the new course catalog has the quarter equivalent of semester classed listed in the back.

"We've been working on this for a long, long time, and I think the preplanning has been beneficial."

Dr. Jim Mike, assistant to the dean and professor, chemistry, said all of the colleges have been preparing

for semesters since it was announced in 1997.

He said all of the classes were reviewed to make sure that the content is up-to-date and will fit in the semester schedule.

Despite what some students say, Mike said YSU is ready for the change.

"Unfortunately, students don't always get to see everything that goes on," he said.

**"Once students
get used to it, it
won't be so bad."**

— Dr. Daniel Suchora,
professor