

ST. OLAF COLLEGE

NORTHFIELD, MINNESOTA

DEPARTMENT OF
CHEMISTRY

~~_____~~
September 18, 1963

Professor Wilmer J. Stratton
Department of Chemistry
Earlham College
Richmond, Indiana

Dear Dr. Stratton:

Following is a brief statement of intention regarding the discussion of "Problems Arising From Academic Calendar Changes" at the October 18-19 MACTIAC meeting at Wabash College.

I have written a number of chemistry teachers for brief advance comments which I hope to compile and duplicate as hand-out sheets to help launch the discussion. No doubt some time should be spent in basic orientation to various calendar systems so that everyone will understand the setting. Beyond that I will plan to call on all present to speak about their recent experiences under various systems and let the discussion turn where it will. We will of course relate all discussion to the A.C.S. Minimum Standards to point up any specific problems that arise. Finally if there should develop any points of general agreement which would call for concerted action, we would prepare to request a policy statement be agreed upon in general MACTIAC meeting, e.g. by way of request to the A.C.S. standards committee or whatever.

As to the statement to be sent out, I would merely suggest that all who plan to attend the discussion be prepared to speak for their own schools briefly as follows:

- a) Concise description of calendar pattern used.
- b) Reasons for which the particular calendar was chosen from among many available.
- c) Particular merit or disadvantage to the Chemistry Department under the system.
- d) Points of difficulty (or ease!) in relating the program to the A.C.S. standards.
- e) Suggestions to offer for the benefit of schools which are contemplating change--pitfalls, hidden dangers, and surprising advantages.

Sincerely,



Allen I. Hanson