Why are the times on the L line for Regular Service changing to arrive after the hour instead of before the hour?

The L-line has been one of the lines that is most likely to arrive late to the terminal. For 2010-11, it arrived at the Silo terminal within 5 minutes of its scheduled time only 82% of the time (tied for last with the J-line). Even though our schedule showed it arriving 10 minutes before the hour in the mornings (and on the hour in the afternoons), the bus was often late and people did not always get to their classes and jobs on time.

In order to help the L-line be on time more consistently, two minutes time was added to each run in this year’s schedule. If we were to continue to have the buses arrive 10 minutes before the hour, one bus would be leaving only 13 minutes after the prior L-line. For example, one bus would leave at 8:00 and the next one would leave at 8:13. This would then leave a 47-minute gap until the next L line. Unfortunately, there would still be no guarantee that the bus would make to campus on time for classes, especially for buildings not close to the bus stops. And that schedule would be very inconvenient for classes or jobs that begin or end on the half-hour.

In order to be sure that bus will make it to campus consistently for class times anywhere on the campus, the buses are scheduled to arrive at :37/:07 in the mornings. While we realize that this time is not as good as arriving at :50 for classes starting on the hour, passengers can be very confident that their bus will arrive in plenty of time to get to their class or job.

The advantage of the new schedule is that the bus will now run consistently every 30 minutes, so if you miss one bus, the next one is not 45 minutes later. Also, the new times are more useful than the old schedule for classes which begin or end on the half-hour.

We are sorry that the schedule change has made the L-line less convenient for arriving for classes at the top of the hour, but we hope you understand that this was not done without some thought put into it. Thank you for your understanding.