

Article XX

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Section 1. The University and the Union agree that professional development opportunities are important to graduate student workers (GSWs).

Section 2. The University shall make on-campus professional development opportunities available to GSWs free of charge.

Section 3. Upon ratification of this agreement, the University shall establish a fund for graduate student worker professional development and research assistance. The fund shall be dispersed on their date of hire and renewed annually on September 1st.

Section 4. Each member of the bargaining unit shall receive \$750 annually for professional development from the fund referenced in Section 3.

Section 5. The funds outlined in Section 4 shall be distributed annually on the first day of the Fall Semester. In the event that a bargaining unit member was not eligible in the Fall, they shall receive their disbursement on their date of hire.

At the time of distribution, graduate student employees shall receive written notification that they may use these funds for any scholarly, educational, or professional purpose, including but not limited to professional travel, supplies, books, journals, and equipment.

Section 6. Professional development programs for GSWs which are in existence on the effective date of the Agreement and which are not specifically covered by this article, will continue in effect under conditions upon which they had previously existed throughout the life of this Agreement unless altered by mutual consent of the University and the Union.