

ARTICLE XX UNION STEWARDS and OFFICERS

Section 1. Union Stewards. The Union may designate a number of stewards appropriate to the size of the unit who shall be members of the bargaining unit. A steward processes grievances and may act as a Union representative for unit members who request Union representation in a meeting. A steward who is processing a grievance in accordance with the grievance procedure of this Agreement shall be permitted reasonable release time to meet with University and Union representatives and process the grievance.

Section 2. Union Bargaining Committee Members. The University shall provide reasonable release time, when necessary, for the Union-elected bargaining committee during each semester and summer sessions in which bargaining occurs for the purpose of negotiating the collective bargaining agreement between the Union and the University.

Section 3. Official Points of Contact. The University shall work with such individuals outlined in Sections 1 and 2 as representatives of the Union for purposes of investigating, presenting and settling grievances in accordance with the provisions of the collective bargaining agreement.

~~**Section 4. Timeline Extensions.** If a GSW becomes an officer with the Union, the GSW may apply to their graduate program director for an extension of the statute of limitations, funding limits, and all other applicable timelines, of up to three years. The graduate program director's decision may be appealed by the GSW to the Graduate Dean. Neither the graduate program director nor the Graduate Dean shall unreasonably deny these requests, and denials must be given to the GSW in the form of a written explanation.~~

~~**Section 5. Stipended Positions.** The Administration shall during each academic year of the Agreement provide released time to three (3) graduate student employees of the Union's choosing, supervised by the Union, at the average TA stipend, calculated as of the first day of the Fall semester of the respective academic years, for the purpose of administering this Agreement. All three (3) appointments shall be for twenty hours per week fifty-two weeks per year. The graduate student employees appointed to these positions shall receive tuition and fee waivers in accordance with this Agreement. The Union shall provide the Administration with a list of these graduate student employees at least thirty (30) days prior to the start of the semester. The time in which a graduate student employee serves in one of these positions shall not be included in any limit imposed by an academic department on the number of semesters of employment a graduate student may have.~~

~~**Section 6. Conducting Unit-Wide Business.** The University will, upon request of the Union no more than two (2) times per month, make available a suitable meeting space for general Union membership meetings.~~