

Article XX

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & TRAVEL

Section XX.1. The University and the Union agree that training and professional development opportunities are important to GEs. The University shall continue to provide professional development programs for graduate employees.

~~**Section XX.2.** GEs shall have access to up to \$600^{1,200} each academic year to attend professional development workshops or programs of professional interest, present their research or scholarly work at a conference or meeting, purchase membership to a professional organization, and access other similar developmental opportunities or resources that may not be considered part of the GE's work mandated duties. These allocated funds shall also be available upon request by GEs to use for event registration, travel and/or accommodation for conferences or other professional development opportunities, or other expenses related to such opportunities. Requests shall not be unreasonably denied.~~

Section XX.3. The University shall directly pay for all pre-approved lodging and transportation expenses that are required by a GE's work duties, as well as directly paying for pre-approved conference registration fees required by a GE's work duties. ~~Such payments shall not be considered as part of the available professional development funds above.~~

Section XX.4. Any authorized expenses pre-approved for reimbursement that cannot be paid by the University directly, including meals and incidentals, will be reimbursed in accordance with ~~University~~ USNH travel ~~reimbursement~~ policies. The University shall notify the Union of changes to this policy that impact GEs within thirty (30) days ~~of implementation~~. GEs will be reimbursed within fourteen (14) days of following submission of a complete and accurate expense report in accordance with University/System policy in the applicable timelines consistent with all employee reimbursements properly submitting a correct expense report. GEs will be notified of any such issue with their expense report requiring delay or resubmission.

Section XX.5. GEs shall be eligible to apply for and receive any travel advance funds available to other University employees ~~in accordance with USNH policy~~. Such requests shall not be unreasonably denied.

Section XX.6. The University will maintain ~~the existing or equivalent~~ travel insurance ~~consistent with the recommendations of USNH procurement~~, including the foreign travel insurance (currently 'International SOS'), at no cost to the GE.