ARTICLE [x]. Release Time

Section 1. Association Duties.

Every academic year the Employer shall provide the Association with an annual pool equivalent to three full-time positions of release time for the purposes of conducting Association business, including, but not limited to, contract administration, grievances, and participation in the OT-AAUP's governance, including its local, state and national affiliates.

The Association may purchase up to an additional three full-time positions each academic year. The Association will reimburse the Employer at the appropriate buyout rate.

Section 2. Contract Negotiation.

In each of the two terms prior to the expiration of this Collective Bargaining Agreement, the Employer shall provide an additional pool of three full-time positions for distribution to OT-AAUP's negotiating team for the purposes of preparation and attendance of negotiating sessions.

Section 3. Notifications.

The Association agrees to notify the Employer of the particular faculty members who shall receive release time and the percent of release time for each faculty member, for a given term, so as to give the Employer adequate time to reallocate a faculty's work assignment. The Association shall provide such notification by June 1st of the current academic year for the next academic year. Faculty members shall negotiate with their immediate supervisors (department chairs, deans, or provost) which portions of a faculty member's work will be released.

Section 4. Recognition of Service.

Faculty work on behalf of OT-AAUP shall count as university service for the purposes of annual evaluations, promotions, non-tenure contract extensions, tenure and post-tenure decisions.