UNITED ACADEMICS PROPOSAL

ARTICLE 31
RELEASE TIME

Section 1. The University Administration shall provide the Union with 2.50 to 3.0 FTE of
release time each academic year. Such release time may be used for the purposes of
conducting union business, including, but not limited to, contract administration,
grievances, and participation in the governance of the Union’s state and national
affiliates. No more than one bargaining unit faculty member may be released for this
purpose from any department or unit at a time if such release would not result in a
significant adverse impact on the academic program.

Section 2. For each of the two (2) terms prior to the expiration of the Agreement, the
University Administration shall provide an additional 2 to 3.0 FTE of release time for
distribution to the Union’s negotiating team for preparation for and attendance at
negotiation sessions.

Section 3. The Union will notify the University Administration of the particular faculty
members who shall receive release time. Such notice will be provided as far in advance
as possible to permit adequate coverage of assignments, but shall be no later than the first
working day of the term preceding the release. If the Union opts to use available release
time in less than 1 FTE increments, the bargaining unit faculty member and his or her
dean, director, vice president or designee will meet and confer to determine which
portions of a bargaining unit faculty member’s work responsibilities will be released.
The parties agree that such release time should be structured to minimize the impact on
students.

Section 4. The Union may also purchase up to an additional five (5) courses not to exceed
twenty (20) credits of release time, or its equivalent in research, each academic year.
Such release time will be purchased at the rate then being used in the department or unit
of the affected faculty members. The Union will notify the University Administration by
May 15 as to whether and how many course releases are being purchased for the
following academic year.