

Professional Development Support for Part-Time Faculty Attending Approved Conferences

The contract between Wayne State University and the Union of Part-Time Faculty provides for \$25,000 annually in professional development support for part-time faculty. The initial (2008-09) use of this money was to pay for registration fees to academic conferences that were likely to contribute to the quality and effectiveness of faculty members' teaching at WSU. Effective immediately, the program has been expanded as set out below.

Eligibility: Any part-time faculty member represented by the Union of Part-Time Faculty who has taught two semesters (including spring/summer as one semester) at WSU and reasonably can be expected to teach here within a year after attending the proposed conference. Note: Approval of funding for a conference may not be cited as a reason why WSU should appoint the faculty member to teach a course, or to PTF 2 or 3 status, etc. Nor should the PTF 2 or 3 status be used as a precondition for approving the application for a conference.

Approved conference: Any conference that, in the opinion of the faculty member and the faculty member's department chair (or associate dean in non-departmentalized colleges) is likely to contribute to the quality and effectiveness of the faculty member's teaching at WSU may be approved. A faculty member may attend only one subsidized conference every other academic year. For purposes of this calculation, (a) conferences during summer 2009 as well as summer 2010 are considered part of the 2009-10 academic year, and (b) conferences subsidized under the program in effect for 2008-09 are ignored.

Amount of award: Up to \$700 toward registration fee, hotel expense necessary to attend the conference, and/or plane or train fare. Most likely, this will be accomplished by reimbursing the faculty member's documented expenditure(s).

Application process: Interested part-time faculty should apply **in advance** of the conference date(s) in writing to their chair/associate dean, setting out their teaching history at WSU, describing the proposed conference (ideally attaching a conference brochure) and explaining why it qualifies, and indicating expected qualifying expenses. Chairs/associate deans should let faculty members know whether or not they support the applications and forward such applications as they support to Claressa Adams, administrative assistant to the Associate Vice-President for Academic Personnel, at c.adams@wayne.edu or addressed to the Office of the Provost.

Applications will be approved on a first-come, first-served basis (turning on when the Provost's office receives approved applications), each academic year (counting summer 2009 as part of the 2009-10 academic year).