TENTATIVE AGREEMENT ARTICLE XIII: GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

Section 1. Purpose.

It is the intent of the parties to promote and improve their relationship by encouraging the prompt and informal resolution of questions of contract interpretation and application arising during the course of this Agreement. Accordingly, it is the purpose of this grievance procedure to provide an orderly process to resolve contractual questions and/or resulting grievances in an expeditious, amicable and equitable manner.

- (a) A "grievance" is defined as a claim that the District has misinterpreted or misapplied a provision of this Agreement and that by reason of such misinterpretation or misapplication the <u>Adjunct FacultyUnit</u> Member or members have been adversely affected.
- (b) A "grievant" is the person or persons, the Association CODAA, or the Association CODAA on behalf of one or a number of unit members claiming the misinterpretation or misapplication of the Agreement.
- (c) For the purpose of pursuing a grievance, a day is any day that the District office is open.
- (d) A "supervisor" is any Administrator who has been charged with the responsibility of interpreting the Agreement and given authority to adjust grievances.

Section 2. <u>Grievance Process: Grievances shall be processed in accordance with the following procedures.</u>

- (a) Before proceeding to Level I, a grievant shall attempt to resolve the matter by an informal conference with the supervisor who caused the alleged grievance within fifteen (15) days of the occurrence of any facts or circumstances giving rise to the grievance. Within ten (10) days of the informal conference, the supervisor shall respond in writing to the grievant and to the CODAA President in writing. Any grievance that is not resolved at the informal level shall be move forward to Level I. processed in accordance with the following procedures.
- (a)(b) Level I: The grievant shall reduce the grievance to writing on the appropriate form (**Appendix C**) and shall submit the grievance to the supervisor who caused the alleged grievance or designee within thirty (30) days of the events giving rise to the grievance. However, if the Administrator

who caused the alleged grievance is the President, the process shall start at Step II. The grievant shall clearly and concisely state the facts surrounding the grievance and shall specify the provision or provisions of this Agreement alleged to have been misinterpreted or misapplied and the remedy sought. The grievant shall confirm the matter was discussed at an informal conference. The grievance shall be signed and dated by the grievant. The supervisor who caused the alleged grievance or designee shall schedule and meet with the grievant and/or Association CODAA within ten (10) days of receiving the Level I Form. If the matter is not resolved, the supervisor who caused the alleged grievance or designee shall respond in writing within ten (10) days after the initial meeting. Within the period from the filing of the grievance until the written decision, either the grievant or designated representative or the supervisor who caused the alleged grievance or designee may request an additional conference to discuss the grievance.

(b)(c) Level II: If the grievant is not satisfied with the decision at Level I, the grievant may, within ten (10) days after receipt of the decision, or the date the decision should have been sent, appeal the decision to the President or designee. The appeal shall be in writing and shall include the original grievance and all decisions and shall state the basis for the appeal. Within ten (10) days, the President or designee shall hold a meeting with the grievant, any such representative as the grievant may appoint and any District management employee that the President or designee may appoint. Within ten (10) days of the meeting, the President or designee shall provide the grievant and the Association CODAA a written decision.

(c)(d) Optional Mediation: Within the time limits for appeal to Level III, the District, Grievant, or the Association CODAA on behalf of the grievant, may propose that the grievance be submitted to mediation prior to proceeding to Level III of the grievance procedure. Upon receipt of the request to submit the grievance to mediation, the District will contact the California State Mediation and Conciliation Service and request that a mediator be appointed. The mediator shall attempt to assist the parties in resolving the grievance and shall have no power to render a decision or recommendation on the grievance in the absence of a mutually agreeable resolution. All statements made during the mediation process shall be inadmissible in any future administrative or judicial proceeding. If the mediation level does not satisfactorily resolve the grievance, the Association CODAA may appeal the grievance to Level III within ten (10) days following the last mediation session.

(d)(e) Level III: If the Association CODAA is not satisfied with the decision at Level II or Optional Mediation, the Association CODAA may demand final and binding arbitration before a mutually selected labor arbitrator. The

Association CODAA may, within the (10) days after receipt of the decision at Level II or the completion of mediation, request the California State Mediation and Conciliation Service to submit a list of seven (7) arbitrators who have had experience in public sector labor relations. The parties shall, within ten (10) days of receipt of said list, select the arbitrator by alternately striking names from said list until one name remains. The Association CODAA shall strike first. The last person remaining (i.e., not stricken) shall then become the arbitrator. The Association CODAA shall contact the arbitrator so selected who shall contact the parties upon notification of selection and schedule and convene a closed hearing as expeditiously as possible at a time and place convenient to the parties. The arbitrator shall be bound by the following limitations:

- 1. The arbitrator's jurisdiction shall, absent mutual agreement by the parties to the contrary, be limited solely to the misinterpretation or misapplication of the collective bargaining agreement which adversely affects the grievant.
- 2. The arbitrator shall not modify the language of the collective bargaining Agreement in considering the issues properly before the arbitrator.
- 3. The arbitrator shall expressly confine their consideration to only those precise issues submitted and shall have no authority to consider any other issue not so submitted unless mutually agreed upon by the parties.
- 4. In cases of misinterpretation or misapplication of any type of salary computation, the arbitrator shall have the authority to award back pay.
- 5. The arbitrator shall not have the power to confer punitive damages or attorney's fees.
- 6. The arbitrator shall have no authority to direct the District in its exercise of managerial prerogatives. However, the terms and conditions of the Agreement shall be binding upon both the District and the Association CODAA.
- 7. The arbitrator shall be bound by applicable Federal, State and local law

The cost of arbitration and any other mutually incurred costs,

including the costs of a court reporter and transcript, shall be 1109 borne equally by the parties. 1110 1111 Review or confirmation of the arbitrator's decision, if made, 1112 shall be in accord with the terms of California Code of Civil 1113 Procedure Section 1285, et seq. 1114 1115 **Section 3.** General Provisions 1116 1117 (a) Time Limits 1118 1119 1. The grievance must be filed within thirty (30) days of the 1120 events giving rise to the grievance or thirty (30) days from 1121 1122 when the grievant knew or should have known of the events giving rise to the grievance. 1123 1124 1125 2. Time limits provided for each level shall begin the day 1126 following receipt of the grievance appeal or written decision. 1127 A day starts at 12:00 am and ends at 11:59 pm. 1128 1129 3. Since it is important that grievances be processed as rapidly as possible, the time limits specified at each level should be 1130 considered the maximum and every effort should be made to 1131 expedite the process. The time limits may, however, be 1132 1133 extended in writing by mutual agreement between the Association CODAA and the District. Such agreement or 1134 lack thereof to extend the grievance timelines shall not be 1135 subject to the grievance procedure. If the District does not 1136 meet the timeline, the grievance shall proceed to the next 1137 level. If the grievant or Association CODAA does not meet 1138 the timeline, the grievance is deemed to be withdrawn. 1139 1140 4. 1141 No reprisals of any kind will be taken by the district or by any member or representative of the administration of the 1142 Board against any grievant, any parties in interest, any 1143 1144 bargaining unit member, the Association CODAA, or any other participant in the grievance procedures by reason of 1145 such participation. 1146 1147 1148 (b) Miscellaneous 1149 1. When it is necessary for one representative designated by 1150 the Association to investigate a grievance or attend a 1151

grievance meeting or hearing during the workday, the representative shall be released without loss of pay in order to permit participation in the foregoing activities. Any faculty Unit member Member who is requested to appear in such investigations, meetings, or hearings as a witness will be accorded the same right.

- 2. All documents, communications and records dealing with the processing of a grievance shall be filed in a separate grievance file and will not be kept in the personnel file of any faculty Unit member Member.
- 3. A faculty member Unit Member may at any time present grievances to the District, and have such grievances adjusted, without the intervention of the Association CODAA, as long as the adjustment is reached prior to arbitration and such adjustment is not inconsistent with terms of the written agreement. If any faculty member Unit Member presents a grievance on their own behalf, the Association CODAA shall have the right to be present and state its views at all grievance meetings. The District shall not agree to a resolution of the grievance until the Association CODAA has received a copy of the grievance and the proposed resolution and has been given the opportunity to file a response.
- 4. The cost of arbitration and any other mutually incurred costs, including the costs of a court reporter and transcript, shall be borne equally by the parties.
- 5. Any grievant shall have Association CODAA representation in the grievance process upon request.

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