

Article 36
PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE FUND

Funding

36.1 The Board shall annually appropriate at least \$176,000 for a Professional Conference Fund. Of those funds, the district shall appropriate \$105,600 per year for De Anza College and \$70,400 per year for Foothill College. An additional \$24,000 per year from the District's allocation of staff development money under AB 1725 (1988 legislative session) will be appropriated for the purposes of this article as long as the District continues to receive staff development money as a result of AB 1725. In years when this additional \$24,000 is appropriated, an additional \$14,400 will be credited to the professional conference fund at De Anza College and an additional \$9,600 will be appropriated to the Professional Conference Fund at Foothill College. Any balance, up to \$25,000, remaining in the fund at the end of the academic year shall be carried over into the subsequent year and shall remain available for the purposes of this article.

Purpose of the Fund

36.2 The Professional Conference Fund at each college shall be used to defray in whole or in part the cost of attendance by faculty employees at professional conferences or seminars, including the cost of fees, travel, lodging, and meals, not to exceed \$1,600 per employee per year. While \$1,600 is the maximum individual funding per employee, actual funding may be lower due to limitation of funds or other criteria established by the committee.

Administration of the Fund

36.3 The Professional Conference Fund shall be administered at each college under procedures established by the President with the concurrence of FA and the Academic Senate. If concurrence is not reached, the fund shall be administered by a Professional Conference Committee composed of one regular faculty employee selected by FA, one regular faculty employee selected by the Academic Senate, and two management employees selected by the President.

36.3.1 The committee shall select its chair, set its meeting times, and determine its own procedures by majority vote.

36.3.2 The committee shall award reimbursements from the Professional Conference Fund on the basis of the professional merit of conferences and seminars attended.

Application Process

36.4 A faculty employee who wishes to receive funding for attendance at a professional conference or seminar shall file a written application with the President or the Professional Conference Committee if one is established. The form of the application shall be determined by the President in consultation with FA or by the committee but shall include at the minimum the nature and purpose of the conference or seminar, the total cost of the conference or seminar to the applicant, and the amount of funding requested.

36.4.1 Those eligible for funding shall be regular and contract faculty, and part-time faculty with reemployment preference.

Re-opener

36.5 The parties agree that should the Staff Development funds available under AB1725 decline for any reason below the 1991-92 amounts actually received by the District, either party may reopen Article 36 for negotiations.