Article 3

UFF Privileges

3.1 Use of Facilities and Services. Subject to the rules of the University and the terms of this Agreement, the UFF shall have the right to use University facilities for meetings and all other services on the same basis as they are generally available to other university-related organizations which are defined as follows:

University-Related Groups and Organizations. These groups and organizations may or may not receive budgetary support. Examples of such groups include student organizations, honor societies, fraternities, sororities, alumni associations, faculty committees, University Support Personnel Systems council, direct support organizations, the United Faculty of Florida, etc.

3.2 Communications.

A. UFF may post bulletins and notices relevant to its position as the collective bargaining agent on a reasonable number of existing bulletin boards but on at least one bulletin board per building where a substantial number of employees have offices. Specific locations shall be mutually selected by the University and the local UFF Chapter in the course of consultation pursuant to Article 2, Consultation. All materials placed on the designated bulletin boards shall bear the date of posting and may be removed by the University after having been posted for a period of thirty (30) days. If materials do not bear a date of posting the University may remove them at any time. In addition, such bulletin boards may not be used for election campaigns for public office or exclusive collective bargaining representation.

B. The University will place a link in an appropriate place on the University web site to the web site of the local UFF chapter.

C. Accessing existing university e-mail listservs or establishing a new listserv allowing the UFF electronic communications with employees shall be the subject of consultation pursuant to Article 2, Consultation. UFF agrees to pay a reasonable annual fee to the University if access to a University maintained e-mail listserv is provided. However, such listservs may not be used for election campaigns for public office or for exclusive collective bargaining representation. Employees who are e-mail recipients of the listserv shall have the right to have themselves removed from the listserv upon their written request.

3.3 Leave of Absence -- Union Activity.

A. At the written request of the UFF, provided no later than May 1 of the year prior to the beginning of the academic year when such leave is to become effective, a full-time or part-time leave of absence for the academic year shall be granted to up to 4 employees designated by the UFF for the purpose of carrying out UFF's obligations in representing employees and administering this Agreement, including lobbying and other political representation. Such leave may also be granted to up to 2 employees for the entire

summer term, upon written request by the UFF provided no later than March 15 of the preceding academic year. Upon the failure of the UFF to provide the University with a list of designees by the specified deadlines, the University may refuse to honor any of the requests that were submitted late.

B. No more than one employee per fifteen (15) employees per department/unit, need be granted such leave at any one time.

C. The employee(s) shall be placed in unpaid leave status. The employee will be responsible for continuation of benefits during the unpaid leave.

D. Employees on full-time leave under this paragraph shall, upon return to paid status, be eligible to receive salary increases in accordance with the provisions of Article 17.11. Employees on less than full-time leave under this paragraph shall be eligible to receive salary increases on the same basis as other employees.

E. An employee who has been granted leave under this Article for two (2) consecutive academic years shall not again be eligible for such leave until two (2) consecutive academic years have elapsed following the end of the leave. Two (2) employees, designated by the UFF, shall be exempt from the provisions of this subsection. Other exceptions may be granted at the discretion of the University upon prior written request by the UFF.

F. The University or the USF Board shall not be liable for the acts or omissions of said employees during the leave and the UFF shall hold the University and the USF Board harmless for any such acts or omissions, including the cost of defending against such claims.

G. An employee on such leave shall not be evaluated for this activity nor shall such activity be considered by the University in making personnel decisions.

3.4 Released Time.

A. The University agrees to provide a total of ~~three (3)~~ six (6) units of released time in both the Fall and Spring semester to full-time employees designated by the UFF for the purpose of carrying out the UFF's obligations in representing employees and administering this Agreement. The UFF may designate employees to receive released time during the academic year, subject to the following conditions:

(1). No more than one (1) employee per fifteen (15) employees per department/unit may be granted released time at any one time, nor may any employee be granted more than a two (2) unit reduction in a single semester.

(2). The UFF shall provide the University with a list of designees for the academic year no later than May 1 of the preceding academic year. The designees shall serve for one (1) academic year. Substitutions for the spring semester may be made upon written notification submitted by the UFF to the University no later than October 15. B. A "unit" of released time shall consist of a reduction in teaching load of one (1) course per Fall

or Spring semester for instructional employees or, for non-teaching employees, a reduction in workload of ten (10) hours per week. Two (2) units shall consist of a reduction in teaching load of two (2) courses per Fall or Spring semester for instructional employees or, for non-teaching employees, a reduction in workload of twenty (20) hours per week.

C. Released time shall be used for conducting UFF business at the University or State level, and shall not be used for lobbying or other political representation. Leave for lobbying or other political representation may be purchased by the UFF pursuant to Section 3.

D. Upon the failure of the UFF to provide a list of designees by the specified deadlines, the University may refuse to honor any of the released time requests which were submitted late. Substitutions submitted after the October 15 deadline shall be allowed at the discretion of the University.

E. An employee who has been granted released time for either or both semesters during four (4) consecutive academic years shall not again be eligible for released time until two (2) academic years have elapsed following the end of the fourth academic year in which such released time was granted.

F. Employees on released time shall be eligible for salary increases on the same basis as other employees, but their released time activities shall not be evaluated nor taken into consideration by the University in making personnel decisions.

G. Employees on released time shall retain all rights and responsibilities as employees but shall not be considered representatives of the University or USF Board for any activities undertaken on behalf of the UFF. The UFF agrees to hold the University and USF Board harmless for any claims arising from such activities, including the cost of defending against such claims.

H. Summer. The UFF may designate ~~two (2)~~ three (3) employees to receive a thirteen week .25 FTE summer released time assignment however, no more than one employee per 15 employees per department/unit be designated to receive such released time. The UFF shall provide the University with a list of the designees no later than April 7th of the academic year preceding the summer term. All other provisions contained in Article 3.4 above, except 3.4A and 3.4B above, shall apply to summer released time.

~~I. Collective Bargaining Released Time. The University will provide an additional two (2) units of released time during any semester that the parties are engaged in collective bargaining to replace this contract. These units shall be used only for the purposes of engaging in collective bargaining of the next contract. No individual may receive more than (1) unit of released time per semester pursuant to this section (I).~~