UNCW Grant Buyout Policy for Externally Funded Research and Scholarly Activities
Approved by Dean’s Council
October 14, 2013

A faculty member who obtains appropriate funding from external agencies for research or other scholarly activities may "buy out" elements of his/her assigned workload (e.g., teaching or other elements outside of teaching). As teaching is the primary component of a faculty member's duties, course buyouts are limited in scope. Approval of the faculty member's department chair/school director and appropriate dean is required for any reduction in workload.

The standard faculty workload at UNCW is 12 credit hours or equivalent each semester. Therefore, for each credit hour or equivalent that is bought out, the faculty member must contribute 1/12 of his or her salary, including benefits, during the period of the buyout. For example, a faculty member on a nine month contract making $54,000 who wants to buy out one three hour course for one semester would have to contribute $6,000/month x 4.5 months x 3/12 = $6,750 + benefits.

Funds generated through faculty buy out will first be used to compensate for lost teaching time and labor (e.g., part-time instruction or overload payments). Any remaining excess funds will be evenly divided between the college or equivalent and the faculty member's academic unit. Because buy outs produce lapsed salary; these funds must be used within the fiscal year in which they were generated.