College Course Buyout Discount Policy: External Funding Incentive

In order to encourage faculty to seek funding external to Indiana University, the College will permit faculty who have a 2-2 or 2-1 teaching load to use funds committed by external funding agencies and institutes to buy out one (and only one) course per academic year at a 12.5% rate plus fringe benefits. Additional course buyouts in that academic year will be at a 25% rate plus fringe benefits.

In addition, the Dean’s office will work with departments to allow faculty to arrange their courses such that they can be away doing research during Fall or Spring semester if the research requires such an absence and the proposed research cannot be conducted during the Summer term. Examples of accommodations might include: (1) teaching three courses in one term; (2) teaching a high-enrollment, eight-week course during the term in which the off-campus research is being conducted; (3) the development and teaching of a high-enrollment, online course to be taught during the term of absence or in the summer. The faculty member must work with the Chair of the Department to ensure proper service obligations are met in each semester the faculty member takes a course buyout. Consistent with University policies on compensation (see Sections 2.5.7 and 2.5.8 of the Academic Handbook), faculty who are away doing research during the Fall or Spring semester may not receive additional salary or compensation from an external source during that time.

Because it is essential for the success of the College that all faculty members participate in its instructional mission, no faculty will be permitted to be released from more than two courses per academic year, whether through buyout or other administrative or negotiated releases. Course buyouts must be approved in advance by the Chair(s) of the Department(s) with a plan for covering the course and signed off by the appropriate divisional Associate Dean, Associate Executive Dean, and the Director of Enrollment Management in the College. A discounted course buyout must be used in the year in which it is paid (i.e., course buyouts cannot be banked into the future). Please submit your request for a buyout along with a plan for covering the courses in the department by email to the appropriate divisional Associate Dean, Associate Executive Dean, and the Director of Enrollment Management by no later than February 15. We will inform you of our decision by March 1.