

## JOINT STATEMENT

The University of Akron (the “University”) and Akron-AAUP (the “AAUP”) are pleased to announce that they have reached a settlement agreement that resolves the AAUP’s grievances relating to the effect of the departmental merit guideline review process and the market/compression benchmark determination process on the timeliness of contractual salary increases. In accordance with this settlement agreement, the University will fund a Faculty Grants Program, to be managed by the Institute for Teaching and Learning. Pursuant to this program, bargaining unit faculty members may apply for grants to be used for improving teaching and student learning.

In reaching this settlement agreement, the University and the AAUP recognize that the unanticipated problems that arose during the departmental merit guideline review process and the market/compression benchmark determination process were not the fault of either the University or the AAUP. The University and the AAUP are pleased to have been able to come together to resolve this matter in a way that enhances not only the relationship between the University’s faculty and its administration, but also the University’s learning community as a whole.