ARTICLE 16: ACCESS

A. General Provisions

1. The parties acknowledge that it is in their mutual interest that the union be granted access to University facilities for the purpose of conducting union business pursuant to HEERA during non-work time and in non-restricted patient care areas in accordance with local procedures.

2. Hours and Right to Access: Designated union representatives may visit the facility at reasonable times to conduct union business pursuant to HEERA so long as they are not interfering with the assigned duties and responsibilities of the residents and fellows.

3. The University retains the right to enforce access rules and regulations in accordance with rules and regulations promulgated at each university facility. For UCI, the union shall abide by the University’s access regulations (Appendix A) “Access Regulations.”

4. Designated union representatives who are not University employees shall agree and sign the UCI Confidentiality of Patient, Employee, and University Business Information Agreement to ensure that protected health information (PHI) is handled in accordance with federal and state laws and regulations.

B. Access by the Union/Union Representatives

1. Patient Care Areas: Designated union representatives who are not University employees, or who are not employed at the facility visited, shall have access to patient care areas only as necessary for travel to and from business in those places.

2. Union representatives shall not contact residents in, linger in, or use patient care areas for the purpose of conducting union business. Patient care areas include but are not limited to:
   a. Nursing stations;
   b. Patient and/or visitor lounges including patient conference rooms, sitting rooms, and solaria;
   c. Libraries or study areas located within patient care areas;
   d. Patient floor and operating room area corridors;
   e. Patient rooms, operating rooms, laboratories, clinics, and other treatment and patient care areas; and
   f. Except as described below, areas and rooms where patient information is generally handled.
3. Access where patient information is generally handled shall be limited to “Resident only” workrooms under the following circumstances:
   a. With advance notice to the GME Office;
   b. One authorized union representative may visit in a Resident Workroom;
   c. The representative must have completed an orientation to the location; and
   d. The representative must have signed a UCI Confidentiality of Patient, Employee, and University Business Information Agreement, as described above, accordance with UCI Health Compliance requirements.

4. Unscheduled Visits: In the case of unscheduled visits with bargaining unit members, the union representative shall give notice upon arrival in accordance with local procedures.

5. Notwithstanding Article 27, in the event concerns arise over the implementation or application of this Article, the parties agree to meet and confer over the provisions of this Article upon the request of any party.

6. The union will furnish annually the University with a written list of all union representatives and officers who are authorized by the union to conduct union business. This list shall be updated in a timely manner and any changes, additions or deletions to the list shall be made in writing to the University.

7. The union shall be granted use of designated general purpose meeting rooms to hold events such as, but not limited to, ratification votes, delegation elections and grievance investigations. Such use shall be arranged in advance, in accordance with local access rules and regulations and shall not be unreasonably denied. Room reservations shall not be canceled by the University except where unforeseen circumstances require the room to be used for purposes including, but not limited to, teaching, patient care-related purposes, or staff conferences. If a reserved room is canceled, the University will attempt to provide a comparable alternative.