Article XX. Retaining Institutional Knowledge

Section 1.
The Union and the University are committed to retaining institutional knowledge, minimizing Research Scientist/Engineer A-4 (RSE) turnover and supporting critical research. To achieve this, the parties shall continue to develop ways to enable employees to continue their work at UW during temporary gaps in their funding.

Section 2. Bridge Funding
Bridge funding refers to funding provided by the University to span a temporary funding gap and ensure the continuity of research projects during periods of insufficient funding. The University will continue its Bridge Funding programs and will ensure that these programs are open to employees.

A. An RSE shall receive bridge funding if:
    a. They have been supported primarily by grants on which they are a Principal Investigator (PI) or a co-investigator on another PI's grant;
    b. They will not have more than $30,000 funding from any source for carrying out research, or they will not have funding for more than 50% of their salary, within six months of the application due date;
    c. Alternative sources of appropriate funding are unavailable, and;
    d. They continue to make efforts to reestablish funding.

B. Bridge funding (including Unit/Department matching funds) shall provide for the continuation of an eligible RSE's research, including the following expenses:
    a. Supplies
    b. Equipment
    c. Lab personnel
    d. Travel
    e. Other research expenses
    f. Salary

Section 3. Faculty Council on Research (FCR)
The FCR will designate one (1) permanent position on the committee to a Research Scientist/Engineer A-4. Their appointment and term will be coordinated by the Union.