SAMPLE LETTER OF INVITATION FOR TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT TO FOREIGN NATIONAL INDIVIDUAL

[On NIU letterhead]

[Date]

Dear [name of visitor]:

We are pleased to invite you to Northern Illinois University (NIU) as a guest [speaker/ lecturer/performer] at [name of school or program or event] on [date(s)]. To show our appreciation for your willingness to participate in the event, we would like to offer reimbursement of travel expenses related to your visit to NIU (provided you have not received such payments from more than five US institutions in the previous six months). This amount will include [give specifics on what your department will pay including any restrictions and what arrangements will be handled by NIU]. To be reimbursed for your travel expenses, you will need to provide original, detailed receipts.

Please be aware these payments are subject to compliance with US Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) regulations. It is imperative that you enter the United States with the appropriate immigration visa status. If you are required to obtain a visa to enter the United States, you should make application for a “Visitor for Business” (B-1) visa. If you are eligible to enter the United States under a visa waiver, you must enter in a “Waiver for Business” (WB) status. You must receive a stamp in your passport indicating your visa status and date of entry.

If you are in the United States under an F, H or J visa, you must present verification of valid immigration status.

The following forms and documents are required to process payment:

Completed Compliance Statement

Copy of passport with entry stamp showing status

Copy of visa (if not from visa waiver country)