University of Victoria
Guidelines for Continuing Sessional Lecturer Scholarship Fund

PURPOSE: To provide financial support to Continuing Sessional Lecturers who choose to participate in any of a range of professional development activities including, but not limited to, academic conferences related to the scholarship of teaching and learning in their discipline.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FUND: A standing Joint Committee will be established comprising two representatives from the University and two representatives from CUPE 4163, Component 3. The Committee will receive and review applications for professional development funds and allocate funds in accordance with the criteria and procedures set out in these guidelines.

FUNDING AMOUNTS: The per person maximum is $2,000 per sessional assignment/fiscal year (April 1st to March 31st), which may be split across more than one event. Funding is available for up to a maximum of $2,000 if the applicant is presenting a paper or poster, or is a panel discussant, or contributing significantly in other documented ways, at a professional development event. The maximum for attending a professional development event and for other professional development activities is $1,000.

NOTE: Currently, due to a substantial carry forward within the Continuing Sessional fund, there are supplemental funds available of up to $500.00 for attending and $1,000 for presenting per assignment/fiscal year (April 1st to March 31st). Supplemental funding is distributed on a first come first serve basis. Once these non-recurring carry forward funds are expended, no supplemental funding will be available.

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

1. Employment Eligibility
   Applicants must currently hold Continuing Sessional Lecturer appointments at UVic. Please note: According to the current Collective Agreement (2019) must be on the current list of holding a Continuing Sessional status to be eligible. Please check with the CUPE office if you are unsure of your designation.

2. Professional Development Eligibility
   Academic conferences, academic institutes, and professional courses, workshops or seminars that address scholarship of teaching and learning in higher education are eligible. Support for other activities related to the purpose of the fund will also be considered.

   Funding is for professional development activities occurring within six (6) months before or twelve (12) months after the application is received.

3. Eligible Expenses
a. Conference, workshop or seminar registration fees;
b. Travel (NOTE: local travel to UVic is not eligible);
c. Accommodation at standard room rates;
d. Meals while attending the event up to UVic per diem rates (excluding alcohol);
e. Material costs associated with the event (e.g., creating a conference poster);
f. Professional organization membership fees associated with attendance at the event;
g. Other reasonable expenses agreed to by the committee;
h. Equipment purchasing costs cannot be considered; and,
i. Tuition for graduate programs is not covered.

4. Criteria for Selection - the committee uses the following criteria for selection
   a) Activity will have a direct positive impact on student learning at UVic. In his or her application the applicant must document how this is to be achieved (for example by establishing a direct connection between his/her teaching practice and the event to be attended);
   b) Application clearly indicates how activity will contribute to the applicant’s professional development;
   c) Application broadly fits into the concept of scholarship of teaching and learning or scholarly teaching in the discipline;
   d) Application must be complete to be considered; and,
   e) Invitations to present/perform or acceptance must be explicitly documented (for example through a letter of invitation or a copy of the event program). Documentation must be included in or attached to the application (not simply a link).

5. Application Procedure
   a. Complete the Continuing Sessional Lecturers Scholarship Fund Application form;
   b. Attach relevant documentation for the event (e.g., conference brochure, invitation to participate);
   c. Write a one- or two-paragraph statement that indicates how the event contributes to your professional development as a Sessional Lecturer in your discipline and indicate your participation in the event (e.g., presenting a paper or poster, serving on a panel for a workshop, invited presentation, attending as a delegate);
   d. Include an itemized budget;
   e. While additional funding is not required in order to apply, you are encouraged to seek funding from other sources (e.g., your department or faculty). If you have done so, please include this in your statement; and,
   f. Submit your electronic application package by email to the Division of Learning and Teaching Support and Innovation (LTSI) at any time. Adjudication of applications will occur monthly.
6. Reimbursement Procedure
   a. Please complete and submit a one page Continuing Sessional Lecturer Scholarship Fund Report form describing how the event contributed to your professional development;

   b. With your report, submit an itemized Travel Expense Reimbursement form, with original itemized receipts, boarding passes, and any other required documentation, converting all budget values into Canadian funds. Please submit in person to the LTSI, HHB 120 between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM; and

   c. Staff at the LTSI will process your request for reimbursement.

7. Follow-up Dissemination of Findings
   Successful applicants are encouraged to share their learning with colleagues at the department or faculty level, or more broadly (e.g., through the LTSI).

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These guidelines were developed over the course of the fall term 2006 by the Sessional Lecturer Scholarship Fund Committee (a joint standing committee) in accordance with the Collective Agreement for Sessional Lecturers (represented by CUPE 4163, Component 3). These guidelines will be reviewed and updated regularly in accordance with the Agreement and so that they continue to meet ongoing needs. Current representation includes:

- Dr. Laurene Sheilds, Executive Director, Division of Learning and Teaching Support and Innovation
- Mr. Steve Gorham, Director, Labour Relations & HR Consulting, Department of Human Resources
- Dr. Matthew Koch, Vice-President of CUPE 4163, Component 3 and Continuing Sessional Lecturer in the Departments of History and Hispanic & Italian Studies
- Ms. Carolyn Boss, Program Coordinator, Division of Learning and Teaching Support and Innovation

Last updated: February 2020