Purpose: To provide financial support to Term 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 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. The maximum funding in this call for applications is $30,000.

General Guidelines:

1. Employment Eligibility
   Applicants must currently hold a Term Sessional Lecturer appointment at UVic. Only Term Sessional Lecturers who have taught at least one course in each of two of the last three assignment years will be eligible. Please check with the CUPE office if you are unsure of your designation/eligibility.

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 deadline.
University of Victoria
Guidelines for Term Sessional Lecturer Scholarship Fund

3. Application Call
The Term Sessional Lecturer funds are available on a ‘first come, first serve basis’ until all funds are expended. Applications will only be received within a defined window of time.

In 2020, applications will be received by email starting at 8:00 AM, Monday, TBA and will close when we have sufficient applications, or on TBA at 4:00 PM, whichever comes first.
NOTE: No applications will be accepted prior to 8:00 AM on Monday, TBA.

4. 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); and,
   f. Professional organization membership fees associated with attendance at the event.

5. 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).

6. Application Procedure
   a. Complete the Term Sessional Lecturer 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 Term 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).

7. Reimbursement Procedure

a. Please complete and submit a one page Term 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.

8. 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 revised over the course of the fall term 2019 in accordance with the provision for such funds in the Collective Agreement for Sessional Lecturers (represented by CUPE 4163). 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