



Professional Scholarly and Development Funding Committee Report (2020-2021)

When I took on this role as a fill-in for Todd Barsby, I admit I did not realize what the year was going to be like. I suppose we all did not in the end. I missed the first FPSE meeting because I had just found out that my father had cancer and went to visit him in Ontario. The first of many surprises that year had in store for me. COVID-19, as we all now know, was the second. This committee somehow started falling lower on my priority list. I did review all the documentation and send out a Spring Call for proposals. Unfortunately, I did not see there were a few requests for personal funding that had come in, because I found out my father's cancer was terminal. I regret not sending a reply to those requests. It was unprofessional.

I did attend the fall meeting of the FPSE committee, which was illuminating, in so far as I learned how this committee has much different terms of reference in all the various locals. In fact, in some locals it oversees all professional development funding, including leaves. I met some very interesting people and learned some new things. That was illuminating. I sent the call out for the Fall round of funding, Then, unfortunately there was one more exciting surprise 2020 had in store for me. One of my cousins in Croatia was diagnosed with COVID—19 and gave it to my aunt, who eventually contracted pneumonia and passed away. And of course, attending the funeral was out of the question, due to the pandemic. Hence, I was slow in replying to the requests for funding. That again, I apologize for.

The good news is we had two excellent funding proposals. They do not actually approach the limit of the annual budget which rolls over, so the rest of the funding will be available in the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

The first was from Jean Blackburn from the VIU Library, titled How to Reduce Zoom Fatigue, Care for your Voice and Connect on Camera. The proposal is for \$1000 in funding and will serve 24 VIUFA members. The second is from Faye Shedletzky, in counselling, and is for a one-day workshop on Note Keeping, Record Keeping, and other Practical/Legal Issues and is for \$1000.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexander Pevac, Chair FPSE PDSC committee.