

OBS/TS Joint Research Grant / FROG (Funding Research Opportunities Grant) Committee Annual Report 2014-15

2014-15 Members: Kerry Skinner (Chair), Christina Tarr (OBS), Ellen McGrath (OBS), Fredrick Chan (TS), Julie Thomas (TS), Hollie White (ex officio, Dec. 2014-June 2015), Chris Long (ex officio, July 2014-Nov. 2014)

Revamping the Grant

In July 2014 the committee forwarded a proposal to revamp the grant in an effort to make it more accessible. The OBS and TS boards approved the proposal and a task force to revamp the grant was formed.

Revamp the Grant Task Force

Task force members: Ellen McGrath (Chair), Christina Tarr, Fredrick Chan, Chris Long, Kerry Skinner, Julie Thomas, Hollie White

The task force met from in the fall of 2015 and collaboratively worked to rework the grant and application process. The Task Force's full report, final grant guidelines and application form can be found on the OBS/TS Joint Research Grant, My Communities library. The grant revision was approved by both the TS and OBS Boards. The OBS and TS websites were updated with the new grant guidelines and application form.

Naming Contest

During the spring, as the next step in the grant revamp process, the committee focused on drawing more attention to the grant's existence and purpose through launching a re-naming contest. The contest was set up using the websites Namecontest.com and Easypolls.net and AALL members were invited to submit entries and vote for their favorite of the finalists. 50 name entries were submitted which the committee narrowed down to 5 finalists using predetermined criteria. (Contest Rules can be found on the OBS/TS JRG My Communities Library). 116 members then cast votes for their favorite name. The winning entry, FROG (Funding Research Opportunities Grant) submitted by Karen Selden, won with 34% of the vote. The prize for winning entry was a \$50 Amazon gift card funded by the OBS and TS-SISs. All entrants were placed in a random drawing (Randompicker.com) for the other two prizes, a year's membership to OBS and TS, which were won by Calmer Chattoo and Kristina Alayan respectively.

Advertising and grant applications

The grant now has a rolling deadline running on the same fiscal year as the SISs. The committee advertised the grant under the old guidelines once in the fall and used the Naming Contest as a way to bring further awareness to the new grant guidelines in the spring. Unfortunately, we did not receive any applications for the grant this year.