
TUG bursary committee report for 2024

Jim Hefferon

The T_EX Users Group Bursary Fund provides grants to help members of our community who would like to attend the annual TUG Conference but who would find it a financial hardship. This is the report of the Bursary Committee's 2024 results, along with some general background on the bursary.

Background

We encourage everyone interested in attending the annual conference but who is looking for financial assistance to apply. In particular, we encourage applicants from traditionally underrepresented groups and underrepresented areas. An applicant need not be a TUG member.

This is our first annual report to appear in *TUGboat* (we intend to publish future reports here). Because of that, we will briefly describe our deliberations. Of course, TUG has limited resources so the amount available is limited and the committee may need to judge among applications. We consider whether the applicant will give a presentation or be a panel participant, as well as whether they will write an article for the conference's *TUGboat* issue. Other positive factors in an application are that the person is able to attend the entire conference, including being available for informal interactions, and is a member of a T_EX-related user group. That said, however, the committee aims to help all applicants wherever possible. We've found that in recent years the number of applications is not large, so again we encourage interested people to apply.

Note that while TUG provides administrative support for these funds, the Bursary Committee operates independently and the TUG Board is not given individually identifying knowledge of applicants.

Finally, we ask all members of the community to please consider making a donation to the Bursary Fund. All monies are used for the stated purpose; there are no administrative charges and if there is a surplus remaining after disbursements then it is carried over to the next year.

In 2024

The Bursary Committee this year was Jim Hefferon (Chair), Carla Maggi, and Karl Berry (TUG Treasurer, *ex officio*). The application deadline was May 1, 2024. There was a grant to one individual for about \$1400. (This is only an estimate because there are sometimes small last-minute cost changes.)

For more information, see tug.org/bursary/. That site has summary reports back to 2003 (there

was no bursary during the COVID years 2020–2022 as the conferences were online and free of charge). The exact grant amount will be posted there after the conference. In addition, every year we post a link to the application for the next year’s conference, once its details are settled.

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