

Report On the Work of *EST BOOK PURCHASE GRANT* Committee in the Past Three Years

More than a decade has passed since the launching of EST Book Purchase Grant in 2005 and it has been my second round as chair of the BPG Committee between 2013 and 2016. There were altogether 16 applicants during the past 3 years and the last 2 years have shown a rising interest towards BPG in Latin American countries, thus we have grown and have a lot of members outside Europe. We have experienced a steady growth in the number of applications and I suppose EST Book Purchase Grant have become quite popular all over the world for it is quite clear we all need relevant TS literature and up-to-date libraries to back our research and teaching work. All applications we have read since 2014 (or even since 2010) displayed the need of colleagues struggling to fulfil their tasks in teaching and research while at the same time they had to contend with financial restraints. And we kept on regretting not being able to help them all so here again I would like to take this opportunity to urge all previous applicants to re-apply as well as new applicants to send their applications for the EST Book Purchase Grant next year.

The applications that have been studied by the members of the BPG committee since 2013 showed that applicants strive to develop the position of TS from the point of view of research and also as BA, MA or PhD programmes at their institution thus all have an urgent need for Translation Studies books (e-books) and journals (e-journals) as well as research software.

In 2014 out of five applicants the grant went to *Centre for TS, University of Tartu, Estonia*. The following year we had seven applications, (an 8th applicant from Azerbaijan had to be refused because, due to several problems, they were not eligible) and that was the first time we had 2 Latin American applicants besides some really strong re-applicants from previous years, thus that year's decision proved to be extremely difficult. The committee seemed to agree on the rightful need of our South American colleagues (from Argentina and from Brazil) ready to join and/or get deeper into TS, moreover we also found their work fairly interesting, so finally the winner in 2015 was *Centro de Estudios en Traducción, Comahue University, Argentina*. Now this year we had just four applicants out of which we finally suggested a very strong re-applicant of many years *Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Osijek, Croatia* as grantee of 2016.

One of the causes of having so many applications during the past three years was our keeping in touch with previous, less successful applicants urging them to reapply and some of them certainly did. We also tried to make the grant as well as EST more visible by asking our grantees to announce their winning it using our logo on their site. Besides publishing some photos of our happy winners in the EST Newsletter also helped a lot. And let me here again underline the importance of John Benjamins' generous discount on their books purchased under the terms of this award. Due to the 40% discount applicants would rather choose John Benjamins' high standard publications making the name sound even better among TS scholars, which might perhaps convince other TS publishers to follow the example in the future.

Finally, before passing the task to a new chair and a new committee let me thank for the great work of the members of the present committee, Müge Isiklar Kocak, Iwona Mazur, Rachel Weissbrod, Ton Naaijken, and wish good luck and fruitful work to the new EST Book Purchase Grant committee. I hope that the ever growing number of future applicants for the grant will keep the BPG alive

Ágnes Somló

Chair of EST Book Purchase Grant Committee (2010-2013, 2013-2016)