Travel and Study Abroad Grant Report

submitted by Helene Demers, Department of Anthropology

Thank you for the Travel and Study Abroad Grant of $1950 towards the costs of my travel to co-present a paper with Rachel Cooper, Dept. of Psychology at the 11th Global Conference “Making Sense of Death and Dying” in Prague, November, 2014. Attending the conference enabled us to network with researchers from many countries and academic institutions and broaden our understanding of the topic of death and dying in cross-cultural perspective. It was a pleasure to engage in creative and innovative interdisciplinary research dialogues which sought to examine the links between living and dying and some of the paradoxes which arise. This year, the annual “Making Sense of Death and Dying” Conference was joined by the “Making Sense of Pain and Suffering” Conference which created a rich backdrop for a wide range of philosophical discussions. Our presentation was well-received and has led to several researchers incorporating a similar PhotoVoice project in their courses. We have remained in contact with a number of researchers and have shared resources and discussed future collaborations all of which will be invaluable in the delivery of our course, Anthropology/Psychology 338 - Death and Dying: an Interdisciplinary Perspective.