

THE LINK PUBLICATION SOCIETY INC.

THE DOUG LESLIE BURSARY

Revised February 2016

Providing a wealth of training and connections gained only through countless hours of volunteering, a stint at a student newspaper is a necessary entry in the resumes of budding industry hopefuls. However, the sacrifice of long unpaid hours serves as a deterrent for many looking to break into their field.

To help young contributors in financial need, The Link Publication Society (TLPS) has decided to create a bursary in the memory of Doug Leslie, the first editor-in-chief to lead the newspaper. Leslie was an English literature student who overcame financial difficulty to champion *The Link* through its teething stage as the two campus papers merged. He was coaxed into becoming the first editor; his first words in print as EiC were “Frankly, I never thought I’d be doing this.”

According to his colleagues, Leslie left behind his reservations and began a column that became “the heart and soul” of the new paper, which was beset with short staff and other organizational issues in its inaugural year. Leslie also fought to keep the paper independent of the student council.

He died in August 2012.

The bursary in his memory consists of either two (2) awards of \$500 or a single award of \$1,000 given to any deserving undergraduate staff member(s) of *The Link* newspaper each year.

It will be announced and promoted in a similar fashion as masthead elections, where notice of the bursary shall be published in *The Link* twenty-one (21) calendar days prior to the date of submission. In the notice, the following information shall appear:

- the date and time of the submission deadline.
- a list of eligible staff members pursuant to by-law 5 article 2 and those who can attain staff status by the time of deadline.

The notice shall be republished in the three (3) issues preceding the deadline. The publication and posting of bursary requirements shall be the responsibility of the current volume's editor-in-chief.

The award will be available to a registered, returning student who is in financial need and is a staff member (reporter, designer, photographer, artist, etc.) of *The Link*. Staff members are defined as those who have made four (4) contributions to the newspaper in a semester. Contributions may be rolled-over from the prior semester before the applications are due.

Applications for the bursary will be open for one week in November. Applicants will include a letter explaining the level of financial need, merit, motivation and continued commitment to *The Link*, along with three (3) clippings from *The Link*.

A scholarship committee, chosen at the start of the academic year following the election of *The Link's* Board of Directors, will select the bursary recipient(s). The five (5) person selection committee will be composed of working members of the professional media, former Linkies, one (1) member from the Dean of Students office and one (1) member from TLPS Board. The EiC of the current volume will be a non-voting advisor to the committee before a vote takes place.

The selection committee will evaluate the applications, meet and take official minutes, and report their final decision to TLPS Board for ratification. The bursary recipient(s) will be announced the third week of January. All applicants will be notified of the decision before the announcement.