

POSTER #7

Interpretations of Success: The Impact of the Education Development Fund (EDF)

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Background: Local education grants can promote scholarship and provide faculty with opportunities for curricular and program development, and evaluation. The Education Development Fund (EDF) is a peer-reviewed grant that provides funding for smaller local projects within the Faculty of Medicine. Over the past 15 years, the grant has evolved and has had various iterations however its impact has not been well documented. As part of a multi-modal evaluation we examined the self-reported outcomes of grant recipients.

Methods: We created a 22-item survey which was administered electronically via Qualtrics. Successful EDF principal investigators funded between 2006 - 2017 (n=89) were surveyed. This group represented a cross-section of the EDF calls and a relatively heterogeneous group of faculty members. The survey was released in the Winter of 2020 and queried the perceived impact of the grant, personal career progress, dissemination, and factors that support project completion. Descriptive statistics were produced.

Results: There was a 42% response rate (n=39). Overall respondents perceived that the EDF had a positive impact on their academic role, career, project and the broader education system. EDF recipients reported a wide variety of dissemination. Eighteen respondents reported at least one peer-reviewed publication and on average, respondents reported one further local or national peer-reviewed grant.

Impact of Findings: The EDF demonstrated wide impact on the person, project and system of education as perceived by recipients. Future phases of our project will further examine conditions and barriers for dissemination via qualitative methods.