

Lee Jackson

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My role in the PSA

My responsibility, as well as PSA board director duties, is to run the PSA Foundation.

The PSA Foundation provides financial assistance for speakers in need. Applications for assistance can be made by the individual themselves or by a Regional President on their behalf. Applications can also come from Board Members.

1. The details of the applicant are sent to the Foundation Director.
2. The Foundation Director seeks further information from the applicant, if necessary.
3. Once the award is agreed, the Foundation Director informs the applicant whether or not they have been successful.
4. If the award is successful, the Foundation Director passes on the details of the applicant and the award to the Operations Manager/HQ Team who completes the necessary internal documentation.
5. The Operations Manager/HQ Team informs the Accounts Manager who makes the payment, if necessary, and makes the required adjustments within the accounts system.

All Foundation applications remain completely confidential.

The names of individuals who have applied and any awards made must be kept secret. Only the Foundation Director (and any selected team) are to know the details of the case. The Operations Manager and the Accounts Manager only need to know the applicant's name and the award granted; they are not told why the award was made.

Some things I've worked on in 2020/21

- We have dealt with over 35 confidential applications both on the phone and via email.
- I have also provided a listening ear and if appropriate I have given advice and support to people who have needed it if their business is struggling.
- I have led the Speak better bootcamp and attended the Speak More bootcamp too.
- I am very active with RP's and on social media promoting the foundation inc. a new video.
- I have gathered lots of prizes for the conference silent auction.

- General director and board issues as they arise.
- Attending all board meetings.
- I am also personally very involved in supporting my own Yorkshire regional meetings.

It is a privilege to be the first port of call for speakers who need help and to serve the PSA and the foundation. Thank you to all who have supported the Foundation in various ways during this challenging year. We continue to try and find new ways to help speakers during this time of uncertainty and change. The foundation is in a place now, where it probably needs to grow and become something a little bigger, that is also more tax efficient.

On a personal note, I have served as Foundation director since my Presidential year ended in 2017 and I will be looking to continue to assess when it is right for me to move on and advertise a suitable replacement for this important role. More information on this in due course.