I received a Faculty Development Grant in 2010 in support of the creation of an audio-textual work for submission to the media poetry competition of the 2011 Biennale internationale des poètes en Val de Marne, an international poetry festival based in Paris, France. Grant monies were used for research travel to and within Paris in summer 2010 as well as for a set of monitors used in composing and editing this work.

The piece, entitled "Sound Memory," is an exploration of the relationship between sound, memory, and the imagination, in the context of short wave radio transmissions. I began writing the textual portion of it in spring 2010, completing it later that summer while researching at the Maison de la Radio and at the Institut national de l'audio visuel in Paris. The audio portion of the work was created that fall in Los Angeles. It consists of readings of the text and a sound collage combining recordings of shortwave radio, lost musics, and radio noise. The vocal part was recorded in the video lab at Otis, and the sound collage was created on my computer, which I also used to edit and mix the work.

“Sound Memory” was submitted to the BIPVAL media poetry competition in late-December 2010. As of this writing (April 25, 2011), I do not know whether my piece has been selected for public presentation at the Biennale, which will take place in late May.

I would like to thank the Faculty Development Committee for their consideration, and the college for its continued support of faculty projects.

Project description and sound file: http://www.guybennett.com/#798696/Sound-Memory/

Biennale internationale des poètes en Val de Marne: http://www.biennaledespoetes.fr/