

Results of Survey on CAP Lobbying Efforts

The following are the results of the July/09 survey on CAP members' lobbying priorities.

Three points were assigned to each first choice response, two points for each second choice, and one for each third choice. For each membership group, the top three choices (2 for industry) are shaded.

Conclusions

With the exception of industrial people, the results are remarkably consistent, with priorities 1 (more Discovery Grant money), 4 (infrastructure), and 9 (the proposed CNC) coming out top. The CAP recommendations to the House of Commons Finance Committee are therefore based on these priorities, with TRIUMF forming a key part of the infrastructure recommendation. The CCR Brief, for which CAP took prime responsibility this year, included priority 3 (involving the scientific community), which was rated highly by government and industrial people, as part of its first recommendation. Priorities 1 and 6 also formed part of the CCR recommendations.

In CAP's proposed fall face-to-face lobbying campaign, we will try to raise the other main industrial priority (IRAP) verbally.

Results

	Recommendation	Points, all respondents	Points, faculty	Points, gov't	Points, students & PDFs	Points, industry
1	That NSERC's budget for 'basic' research (i.e. Discovery Grants) be increased.	49	35	7	7	0
2	That NSERC's overall budget be increased, with increases applied to basic and applied areas roughly in proportion to the current allocation (i.e. no more de-emphasizing of 'basic' work).	39	23	6	6	1
3	That the scientific community be fully engaged in helping to determine any priority or targeted areas for scientific research funding, within the granting councils or elsewhere.	35	19	8	5	3
4	That significant new funding be provided for the ongoing costs of operating major science infrastructure.	49	34	10	4	0
5	That the government permit each granting council to award scholarships on the basis of excellence only and not area of study.	9	3	4	0	2
6	That the funding for the indirect costs of research rise to represent 40 percent of the direct costs allocated to the granting councils.	11	11	0	0	0
7	That funding for the IRAP program, which has a proven track-record of creating high-quality jobs based upon scientific research, be further increased.	5	0	2	0	3
8	That Canada create a program based on the U.S. SBIR program, to help bridge the gap between research and commercialization	5	1	0	0	2
9	That Canada plan to supersede the NRU reactor in Chalk River with the proposed Canadian Neutron Centre, a world-class multi-purpose facility for advanced research with neutron beams, nuclear power R&D, and isotope production	57	22	27	8	0
10	Other	5	2	2	0	1