

 Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada / Conseil de recherches en sciences naturelles et en génie du Canada 

## DISCOVERY GRANTS WORKSHOP

CSC Conference  
May 30, 2006  
Halifax, NS



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## AGENDA

- NSERC Update
- Discovery Grants (DG)
  - Program information
  - Selection criteria
  - Tips on application preparation
- Research Tools and Instruments (RTI)
- Questions & Discussion



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## NSERC Update

- Nomination of Dr. Susanne Fortier
- Reallocation Exercise - terminated
- NSERC regional offices



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**Discovery Grant Program Update**

- Recent changes
  - Standard duration – 5 years
  - Eligibility
  - Reporting HQP – Consent Required
  - Reallocation funds

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Name	Type of HQP Training	Years supervised or co-supervised	Title of project or thesis	Present position
<b>Consent Received from Marie Roy</b>				
Roy, Marie	Masters (completed)	Supervised 1997-1999	Isotope geochemistry in petroleum engineering	V-P (research), Earth Analytics Inc., Calgary, AB
<b>Consent Not obtained from Marie Roy</b>				
(name withheld)	Masters (completed)	Supervised 1997-1999	Isotope geochemistry	Research executive in petroleum industry – Western Canada

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**Reallocation funds**

- New applicants
- Early career researchers
- Interdisciplinary materials research
- AGENO (Program closed)

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## Application Forms

- Form 180: Intent to apply
  - **NEW** Deadline: **August 1<sup>st</sup>**
- Form 100: Personal Data
- Form 101: Application
  - Deadline: November 1<sup>st</sup>



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## Eligibility of Subject Matter

- Supports research programs in the NSE (other than health sciences)
- Interdisciplinary research is encouraged but should be predominantly in NSE
- Significance, impact, advancement of knowledge or its practical application in NSE



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## Intent to Apply (Form 180)

- Suggest GSC
- Summarize proposed research
- Recommend external referees
- List contributions (last 6 years)

**DEADLINE AUGUST 1<sup>st</sup>**



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**Preparing a Discovery Grant Application**

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**Selection Criteria**

- Merit of the proposal → **FORM 101**
- Excellence of the researcher(s)
- Training of highly qualified personnel (HQP)
- Need for funds

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**FORMS 100 & 101**

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**Merit of the Proposal**

- Originality and innovation
- Significance and expected contribution to research
- Clarity and scope of objectives
- Clarity and appropriateness of methodology
- Feasibility of program

FORM 101

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## Excellence of Researcher(s)

- Knowledge, expertise and experience
- Contribution to research
- Importance of contributions
- Complementarity of expertise and synergy for group application

100 & 101



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## Training of HQP

- Quality and extent of past and potential contributions
- Appropriateness of proposed work for training
- Training in collaborative or interdisciplinary environment

100 & 101



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## Need for Funds

- Appropriateness and justification of budget
- Other sources of funding
  - Availability
  - Relationship to current proposal

100 & 101



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## Additional Considerations

- Within the framework of the selection criteria, the committees consider factors such as:
  - The potential/merit/plans of new applicants
  - Applicant's role in collaborations
  - The context of Interdisciplinary/Engineering and Applied Science
  - Appendix C for Adjunct / Emeritus and Part-time Professors



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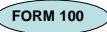

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## Personal Data Form Tips

- List ALL sources of support (past four years)
- Describe five most significant research contributions
- List other research contributions (2000-2006)
- Describe contributions to training (2000-2006)
- Give other evidence of impact of work
- Explain any delays in research activity

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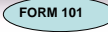
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## Application Tips

- Write summary in plain language
- Provide a progress report on related research
- Position the research within the field
- Articulate short- and long-term objectives
- Provide a detailed methodology
- Describe plans for training



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**FORM 101 Application Tips**

- Prepare realistic budget
  - And look at the Reallocations opportunities
- Discuss any relationship to other research support
- Address previous GSC comments

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**2006 Discovery Grants Results**

Disciplines	First Time Applicants			Returning Applicants		
	Appl. (#)	Success (%)	Avg. Grant (\$)	Appl. (#)	Success (%)	Avg. Grant (\$)
Life Sciences	303	53.1	29,518	760	65.7	34,901
Physical Sciences	155	71	27,721	507	81.7	34,858
Math, Stats	73	82.2	12,273	204	81.9	16,388
Computer Science	69	79.7	18,673	219	86.3	25,074
Engineering	194	65.5	22,323	696	77.2	27,474
Interdisciplinary	15	53.3	27,000	23	65.2	29,918
Subatomic Physics	10	100	44,825	30	80.0	57,021
<b>Total for all GSCs</b>	<b>819</b>	<b>64.8</b>	<b>24,603</b>	<b>2439</b>	<b>75.6</b>	<b>29,890</b>

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**2006 Chemistry DG Results**

GSC	First Time Applicants			Returning Applicants		
	# Appl.	S.R. (%)	Avg. Grant (\$)	# Appl.	S.R. (%)	Avg. Grant (\$)
24	22	59.1	35,231	91	72.5	52,970
26	30	63.3	32,363	91	79.1	41,256
24&26	52	61.5	33,576	182	75.8	47,113
<b>All GSCs</b>	<b>819</b>	<b>64.8</b>	<b>24,603</b>	<b>2439</b>	<b>75.6</b>	<b>29,890</b>

GSC 24 – Inorganic/Organic Chemistry    GSC 26 – Analytical/Physical Chemistry

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## Research Tools and Instruments (RTI)



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## RTI Update

- Deadline date – October 25<sup>th</sup>
- Moratorium on Categories 2 and 3
- Total net cost up to \$250K
- \$150K or less from NSERC
- Must hold or have submitted an NSERC grant



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## RTI - Category 1

- What research is being done with equipment?
- Justify each item
- Explain need and urgency of overall request
- Suitability of proposed equipment for research program
- Indicate impact on training

FORM 101  


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## Questions & Discussion



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