

Minutes of the General Business Meeting of CSEE/SCEE

General Business Meeting – Banff

May 14, 2011 6-7PM Room 303, Kinnear Centre Building

Convened by 2011 Council members:

Spencer Barrett (University of Toronto) – President (2010 – 2011)

Sarah Otto (University of British Columbia) – Secretary (2006 – 2011)

Steeve Côté (Université Laval) – Treasurer (2010 – 2013)

Agenda:

1. Adoption of Agenda	1
2. Minutes	1
3. Reports	1
<i>President's report (Spencer Barrett)</i>	1
<i>Secretary's report (Sally Otto)</i>	2
<i>Treasurer's report (Steeve Côté)</i>	3
4. Banff meetings (Sean Rogers)	3
5. NSERC (Doug Morris)	3
6. CIEE: Canadian Institute of Ecology and Evolution (Art Weis)	3
7. Canadian Field Research Network (Albrecht Schulte-Hostedde)	4
8. Member question period	4
9. Next General Business Meeting: Ottawa 2012	4
Appendix A: Agenda/Ordre du Jour	5

1. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda (Appendix A) was approved. 59 members in attendance (plus guests).

2. Minutes

The minutes from the May 11, 2010 General Business meeting (circulated on web) were approved.

3. Reports

President's report (Spencer Barrett)

Reviewed objectives of the society (<http://www.ecoevo.ca/en/index.htm>) and current council (<http://www.ecoevo.ca/en/gc.htm>).

National Activities:

- NSERC – Council meets with NSERC each year and provides advice
- CIEE – sponsors workshops and courses
- CSEE representatives on the Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC) and on the Partnership Group for Science and Engineering (PAGSE).
- Student travel awards - 30 awards for Banff meeting
- Talks & poster prizes – 3 best of each; New Phytologist and Holohil Prizes
- President's Award – Dave Schindler (2011), report to be published in PRSB
- New Award - Early Career Award – 2 every 2 years. Deadline Nov 15 2011 (<http://www.ecoevo.ca/en/CSEE%20Early%20Career%20Award%20En.pdf>).

We recently surveyed our members to take stock after five years of existence and to receive guidance about future activities. Results are available at <http://www.ecoevo.ca/common/CSEE2011survey.pdf>.

- We should attempt to keep balance of faculty and student talks.
- Majority of respondents (58%) view that CSEE should increase its advocacy activities.

International Activities:

- Ottawa 2012 - joint meeting with ASN/SSE/SSB/ESEB/CSEE; CSEE is a full participant and will organize two symposia. Only one proposal has been submitted by the original deadline (May 1, 2011), and the deadline has been extended. Spencer entreats members to submit proposals. It is important, as the host society, that we put on excellent symposia.
- INTECOL-BES 2013 – In celebration of the 100th anniversary of the BES, CSEE is an academic co-sponsor for the meeting and will run a symposium.
- CSEE a member of the Federation of Ecological Societies of Americas
- CSEE will continue to build bridges with sister societies in other countries

Society Activities:

- Meetings
 - 2012 – Ottawa
 - 2013 – UBC Okanagan
 - 2014 – Montreal (hopefully joint with CSZ)
- Membership ~851 and counting (578 students/pdfs; 16 life-time members)
- Bulletin – Published twice a year
- Website – Includes vignettes, correspondence, announcements (e.g., awards to CSEE members), and a link to our Facebook and LinkedIn sites.
- Outreach – Including public lectures, kids outreach events, and sponsorship of outreach activities

Secretary's report (Sally Otto)

A major role of the Secretary is to facilitate communications among the members of the Society. Please let Sally Otto (info@ecoevo.ca) know if there is additional material for the website (e.g., awards, books, job announcements, etc.) or if there are other ways to improve communications.

Items to note:

- Funding is available for public outreach initiatives in ecology, evolution, and related fields (<http://www.ecoevo.ca/outreach/CSEE.html>)
- CSEE provides partial support for regional conferences in ecology and evolution (<http://www.ecoevo.ca/common/FundingLocalConferences.pdf>)
- Information about travel awards for CSEE student members for Ottawa will be announced at <http://www.ecoevo.ca/en/meeting.htm>.

Elections were held using Survey Monkey (opening date March 17, 2011; closing date April 8, 2011). 318 ballots were cast, and the following candidates were elected:

- 1) Vice President (2012-2013) to become President (2014-2015)

- Judy Myers
- 2) Secretary (2012-2015)
Miriam Richards
 - 3) Three Regular Council Members (2012-2015)
Andy Gonzalez
Fanie Pelletier
Locke Rowe
 - 4) One Student/Post-doctoral Council Member (2012-2013)
Leanna Lachowsky
 - 5) One special-term Council Member (May 2011-2013)
Mary Reid

All positions run for the calendar years mentioned and will begin January 1, 2012 (except for the special-term position to replace a retiring member). The slate of candidates was developed by the Nominating Committee, following a general call for nominations in Bulletin #8 and by email (Sept. 30, 2010). Biographies of all candidates were translated and made available at <http://www.ecoevo.ca/en/elections.htm>.

Treasurer's report (Steeve Côté)

Steeve Côté summarized the membership and financial statistics (Appendix B). Excess income from 2010 was \$13,018 (not including \$18,000 in reimbursements from the Quebec meeting and from Environment Canada, with \$153,400 in revenue and \$122,382 in expenses). Expenses include meeting costs, administrative support (e.g., student support of Treasurer), travel grants, awards, and student workshop. Balance at the end of 2010 was \$117,966, with a projected balance of \$90,106 at the end of 2011. A motion was proposed and unanimously approved to accept the financial report from 2010.

4. Banff meetings (Sean Rogers)

460 delegates are attending the 2011 CSEE meetings, with 7 symposia; 254 talks; 135 posters; 2 NSERC workshops, 1 student/post-doc workshop; SWEEET; 3 CIEE workshops; 3 field trips; and 1 kids outreach event. The public lecture associated with the meeting was very well attended and publicized: "Bats are like grizzly bears with wings", by Dr. Robert Barclay.

Spencer extended thanks from all of CSEE to the LOC and especially Sean Rogers for putting together such an excellent meeting.

5. NSERC (Doug Morris)

Doug Morris served as group chair for evolution and ecology (EG1503). He provided his insights and statistics concerning the recent Discovery Grant competition (Appendix C).

6. CIEE: Canadian Institute of Ecology and Evolution (Art Weis)

The governance of the CIEE has now been changed toward a model with a Board of Designated Representatives, whose members are drawn from each of the current members institutions (CSEE, Toronto, UBC, Carleton, McGill).

Activities: CIEE's recent activities include

- Training workshops at the CSEE meetings (May 2011)

- *Predicting Ecological Change: Multiscale Analysis of Plankton Diversity and Dynamics*, headed by Jeremy Fox (December 2010)
- *The Future of Scientific Field Research Stations in Canada* (November 2010)
- *Ecological and Evolutionary Implications of Climate Change*, in cooperation with the Centre for Northern Studies (Lakeside University)
- *Adaptive Movement of Interacting Species*, with the Fields Institute of Mathematical Sciences

Call for Proposals:

- Thematic Programs to bring together working groups of scientists to synthesize results, explore alternative approaches and identify promising areas of inquiry.
- Synergy Workshops are short-term gatherings that foster communication and collaboration among scientists from diverse fields of study.
- Training workshops and graduate mini-courses built around cross-disciplinary themes.

Please encourage your institution to become a CIEE member institution (contact Art Weis <arthur.weis@utoronto.ca> for details).

7. Canadian Field Research Network (Albrecht Schulte-Hostedde)

A recent change of NSERC policy has meant that many field stations are no longer eligible for MRS funding, which puts the continuing existence of field stations at risk. The CIEE hosted a workshop, which led to the creation of a cross-Canada network of field stations, CFRNET (<http://canadianfieldstations.wikispaces.com/>). The goals are to speak with one voice to the public, to funding agencies, and to scientists.

8. Member question period

A member raised concern about the Ottawa meetings being an “Evolution” focused meeting. Howard Rundle (local organizer) noted that SSE/ASN/SSB were coming to Ottawa for their annual meeting in 2012, and it would seem odd to have the meeting in Canada without CSEE. He also noted that the intent is for this to have all of the regular CSEE talks, and it is the intent to spread out the ecology sessions so that there would also be something of interest. It was also suggested that members propose training workshops or symposia of particular interest to ecologists.

A member raised a concern about the “Travel Award,” suggesting that it was misnamed and was consequently being added to CVs as an award even though recipients are randomly chosen. [Wording has now been changed to “Travel Grant.”] The member additionally noted that they would prefer to see reduced student fees. It was pointed out that the membership survey found the Travel Grants to be a high priority and that student registration is currently subsidized and is below cost.

9. Next General Business Meeting: Ottawa 2012

The next GBM will be held at the CSEE meetings in Ottawa (July 7-10, 2012).

Appendix A: Agenda/Ordre du Jour

- (1) Adoption of Agenda
- (2) Minutes of meeting of May 2010
- (3) Matters arising

Reports

President's Report
Secretary's Report
Treasurer's Report

Society Business

- (4) Canadian Institute of Ecology and Evolution (Art Weis)
 - (5) NSERC (Doug Morris)
 - (6) Banff meeting summary (Sean Rogers)
 - (7) CFRNet – Canadian Field Research Network (Albrecht Schulte-Hostedde)
 - (8) Members' question period
 - (9) Next meeting: Ottawa 2012
 - (10) Adjournment
-

- (1) Adoption de l'ordre du jour
- (2) Procès verbal de la rencontre du mai 2010
- (3) Questions en suspens

Rapports

Rapport du président
Rapport du secrétaire
Rapport du trésorier

Affaires de la Société

- (4) Institut Canadien d'écologie et d'évolution (Art Weis)
- (5) CRSNG (Doug Morris)
- (6) Le congrès annuel au Parc National Banff (Sean Rogers)
- (7) RCRT – Réseau Canadien de Recherche sur le Terrain (Albrecht Schulte-Hostedde)
- (8) Discussion
- (9) Prochaine réunion: Ottawa 2012
- (10) Ajournement

CSEE Canadian Society for Ecology and Evolution

SCEE Société Canadienne d'Écologie et D'Évolution



Membership & Budget, 31 December 2010

Members: 880 members

Regulars: 267 (30.4%)

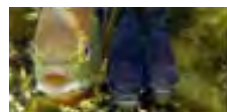
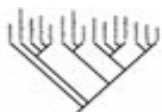
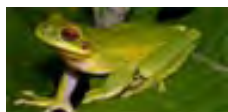
Students/postdocs: 602 (68.4%)

Lifetime: 11 (1.2%)

Origin:

Canada: 850 (96.6%)

Others: 30 (3.4%)



CSEE Canadian Society for Ecology and Evolution

SCEE Société Canadienne d'Écologie et D'Évolution



Revenue excess 2009: \$86 949

Revenues 2010:

Membership: \$35 944
Contract Env. Canada: \$16 000
Annual meeting Québec: \$101 456

Total budget 2010 : \$240 349

Expenses: \$122 382

Conference expenses: \$78 013
Secretary: \$3 650
Publicity & promotion: \$700
PAGSE membership: \$1 500
Student expenses (council): \$1 718
Bank fees: \$373
Professional services: \$1 355
Regional conferences: \$800
Student awards: \$2 750
Student travel grants: \$15 500
Student workshops: \$1 004
Office expenses: \$86
Honorary gifts: \$950
CIEE: \$5 000
Vignettes: \$800
Contracts Env. Canada: \$8 184
Biodiversity symposium: \$0
Early career award: \$0

Excess of revenues over expenses 2010: \$31 018 (but 10K Quebec and 8K EC)

Balance 31 December 2010: \$117 966

CSEE Canadian Society for Ecology and Evolution

SCEE Société Canadienne d'Écologie et D'Évolution



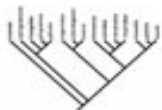
Membership & Budget, Projection 2011 (1 May 2011)

Members: 840 members

Regulars: 257 (30%)
Students / postdocs: 570 (68.8%)
Lifetime: 14 (1.2%)

Origin:

Canada: 813 (92.4%)
Others: 27 (3.1%)



CSEE Canadian Society for Ecology and Evolution

SCEE Société Canadienne d'Écologie et D'Évolution



Balance end 2010: \$117 966

Revenues 2011:

Membership: \$20 440

Regular : 257

Students: 570

Lifetime: 14

226 members already paid for 2012

2011 Meeting excess: \$??

Available 2011: \$138 406

Expenses: \$53 300

Secretary (translation):	\$5 000
Promotion & outreach:	\$1 000
PAGSE membership:	\$1 500
Student expenses (council):	\$3 000
Bank fees:	\$400
Professional services:	\$1 500
Regional conferences:	\$2 000
Student awards:	\$3 000
Student travel grants:	\$15 000
Student workshop:	\$2 000
Office expenses:	\$500
Honorary gifts:	\$1 600
Vignettes:	\$800
CIEE:	\$8 000
Early career award:	\$0
Contract Env. Canada	\$8 000

Budget excess 2011: \$138 406 - \$53 300 = \$85 106

(\$90 106 with refund from Banff)

SCEE Société canadienne d'écologie et d'évolution

CSEE Canadian Society for Ecology and Evolution

NSERC NEWS 2011

Douglas Morris, Group Chair, NSERC EG 1503
Evolution and Ecology

2006-2007 NSERC BUDGET:

Total = \$904 million

Discovery = \$390 million (43.1%)

People = \$300 million (33.2%)

Innovation = \$172 million (19%)

Administration = \$43 million (4.8%)

2010-2011 NSERC BUDGET:

Total = \$1.08 Billion (19.5 % increase)

Discovery = \$399.6 million (37%, 2.56% increase)

Innovation = \$324 million (30%, 88.37% increase)

People = \$302.4 million (28%, 0.8% increase)

Administration = \$54 million (5%, 25.6% increase)

DG Competition Results **2009**

Evolution and Ecology (EG 1503)	Early Career Researchers	Established Researchers		Overall	#
		Renewals	Others		
Success Rate	71.0%	84.3%	42.9%	72.9%	188
Average Grant	\$20,591	\$38,023	\$23,769	\$33,351	

2010

Success Rate	69.0%	72.4%	27.5%	60.2%	196
Average Grant	\$22,400	\$36,591	\$24,890	\$32,798	

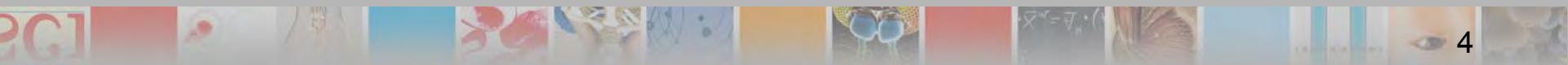
2011

Success Rate	50%	73.7%	11.5%	54%	198
Average Grant	\$24,000	\$39,583	\$27,833	\$36,885	

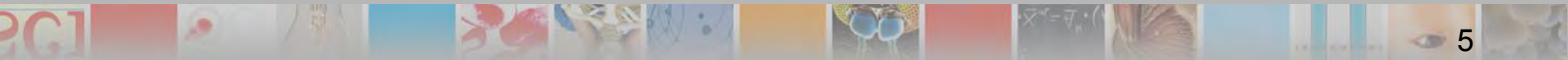
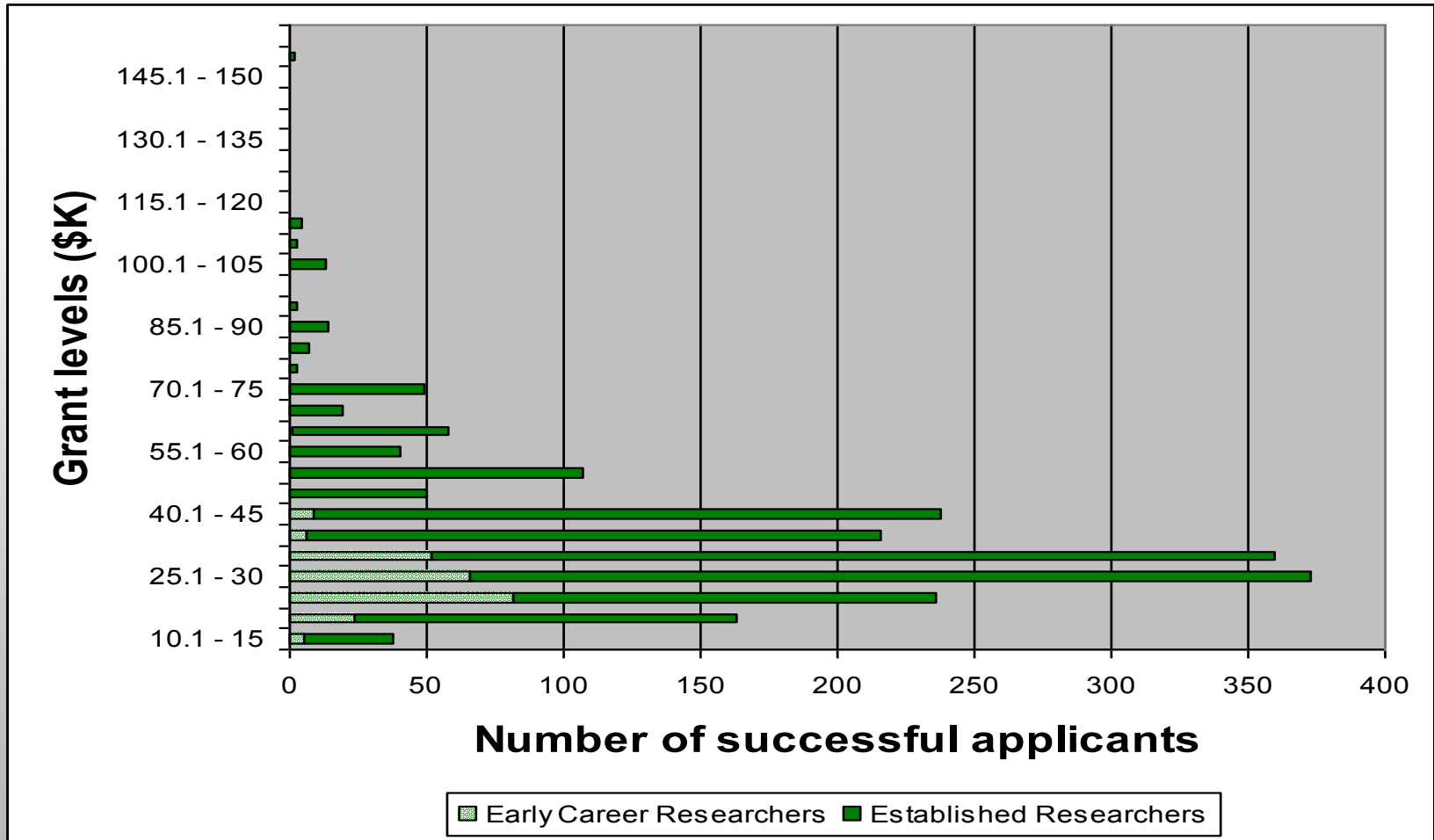
Overall Statistics – 2011 (2010) DG Competition

	Success rate (%)	Average Grant
Early-Career researchers (ECR)	54% (58%)	\$22,481 (\$23,930)
Established researchers (ER)		
Applicants who held a grant	74% (72%)	\$35,045 (\$36,333)
Applicant not previously holding a grant ¹	33% (29%)	\$28,082 (\$27,552)

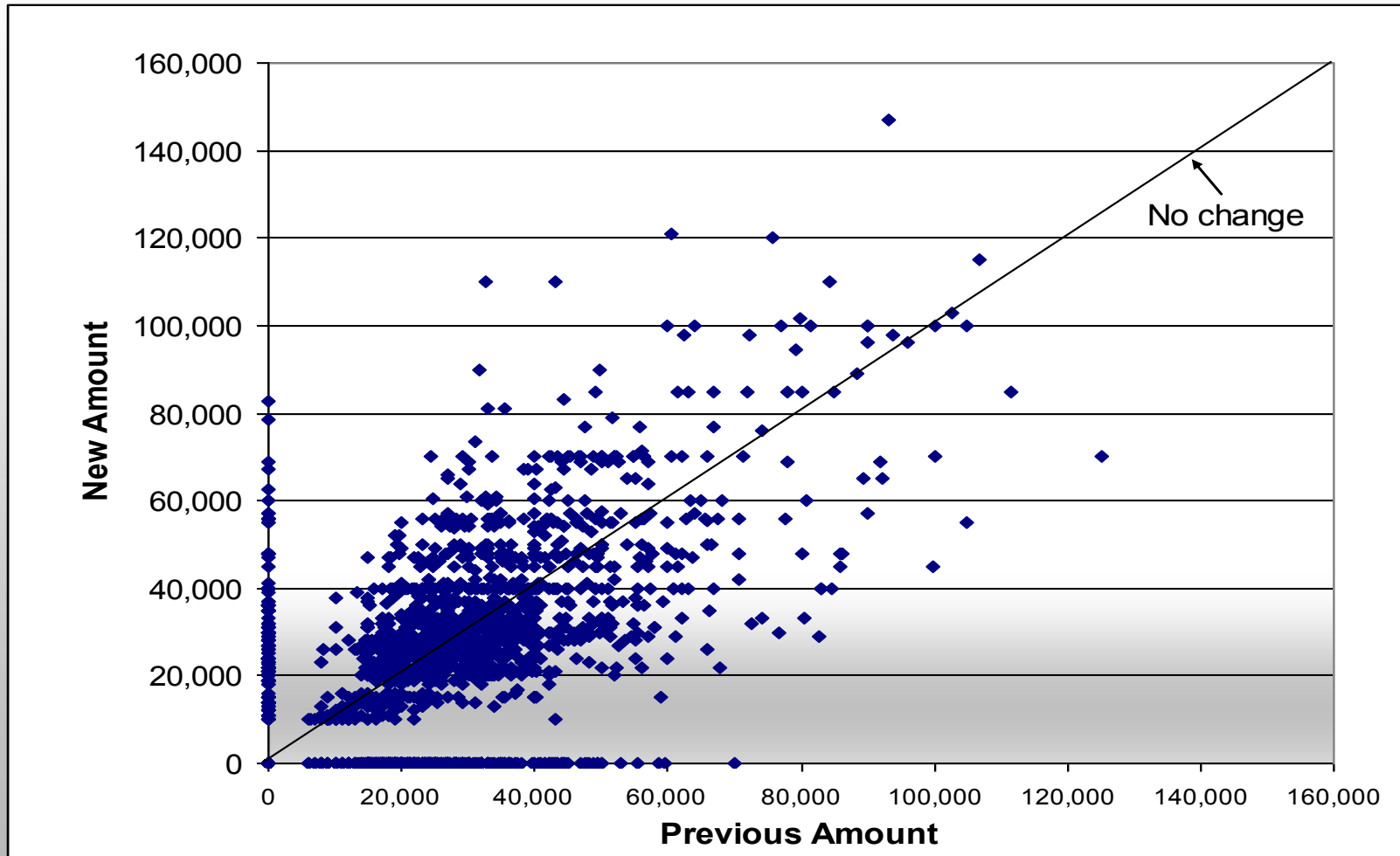
1. Includes returning unfunded applicants and experienced researchers submitting a first application.



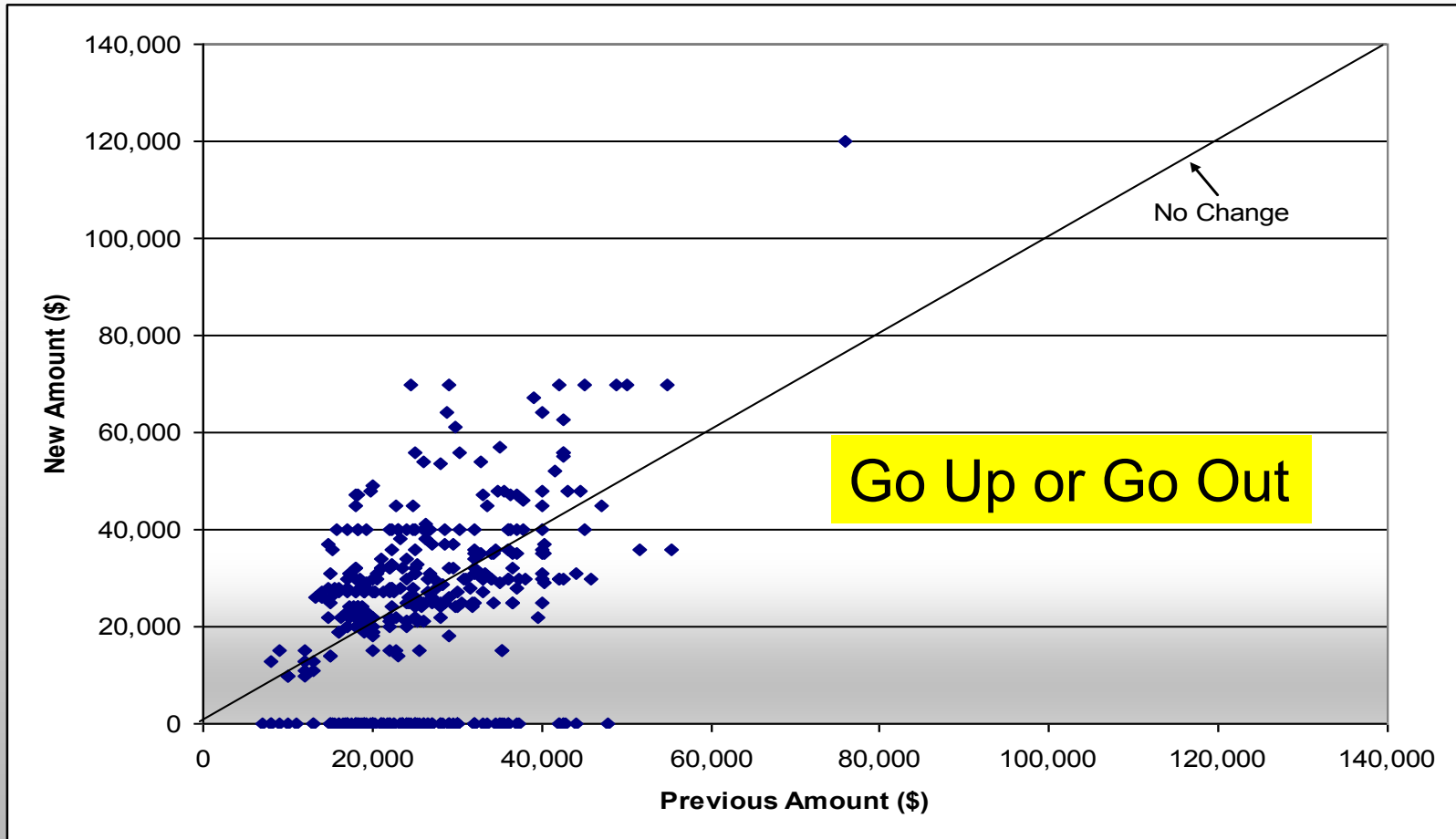
Distribution of Grant Levels to Successful Applicants 2011 Competition



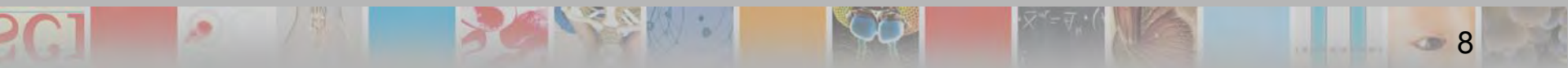
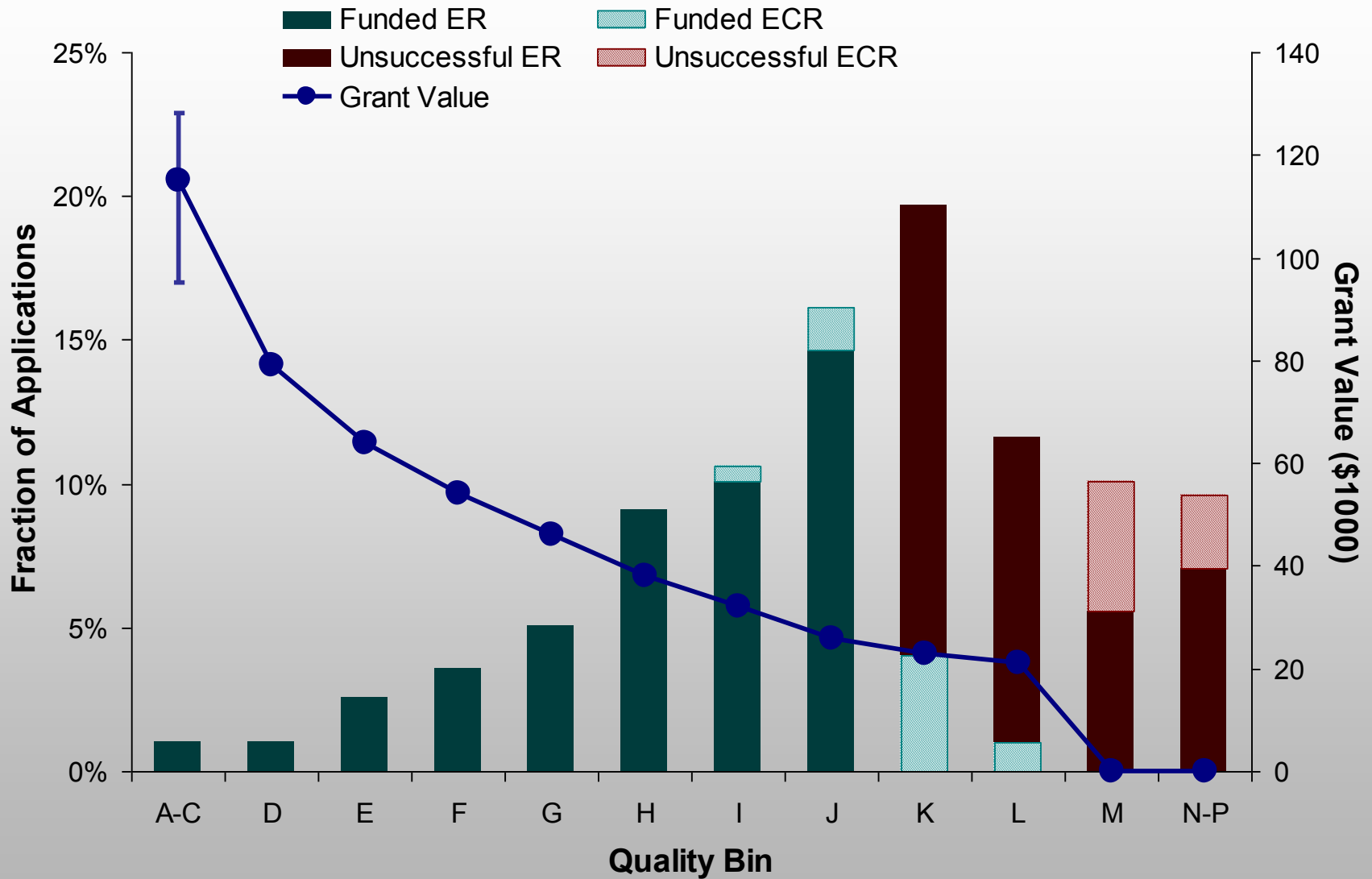
Change in Grant Level for All Established Researchers 2011 Competition



Change in Grant Level for Established Researchers 1st Renewal 2011 Competition

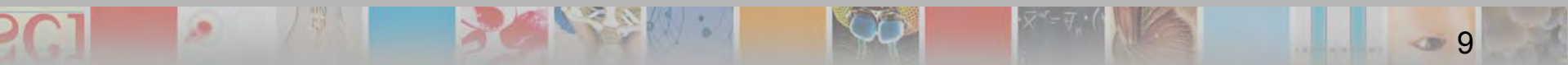


Evolution and Ecology DG Results 2011



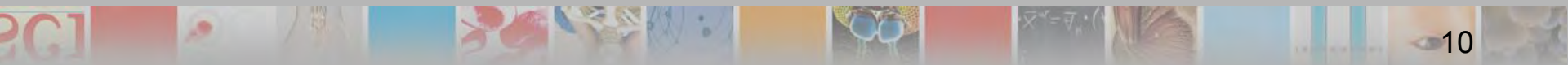
Discovery Accelerator Supplements (DAS) Results

- 100 DAS were awarded among all EGs
- Evolution and Ecology EG reviewed all applications and nominated several applicants for a DAS
- EG Executive Committee of EG 1503 conducted final analysis of nominees and recommended 8 (EG quota) for DAS awards
- nominees who best met the objectives of the program were recommended to NSERC President for a DAS award



Northern Research Supplements (NRS)

- NSERC is consolidating existing Northern funding to strengthen the Northern Research Supplements Program
- The value of existing and new awards has risen to a maximum of **\$15,000**, and more awards are being issued each year
- The NRS budget has doubled for 2011, providing extra support to Discovery Grant (DG) holders conducting research in Canada's North, in recognition of the extra logistical costs involved
- New NRS Program update and criteria will be released in August 2011
- www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/Grants-Subs/DGNRS-SDSRN_eng.asp



Northern Research Supplements (NRS) Results 2011

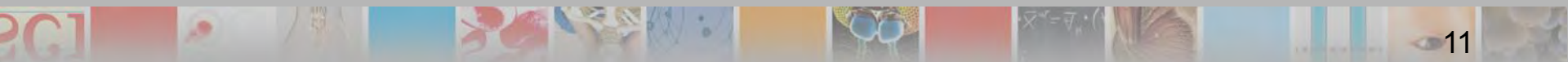
# of Applications	# of Awards	\$ Awarded (~\$15k each)	Success Rate
36	20	\$281,000k	56%

EGs requesting NRS support: 1502 (2), 1503 (10), 1505 (1), 1506 (20), and 1509 (3)

Ship Time Allocation Committee (STAC) Results 2011

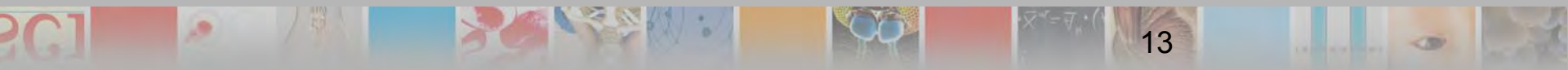
# of Applications	# of Awards	\$ Requested	\$ Awarded	DFO Awarded	Non-DFO Awarded
13	11 (85% S/R)	\$1,098,163	\$824,169 (75% F/R)	4 (100% S/R)	7 (78% S/R)

EGs requesting STAC support: 1501 (2), 1502 (1), 1503 (3), 1506 (6), and 1509 (1)



Discovery Frontiers

- First call for proposals \$4 million over a four-year period to support research in Northern Earth Systems
- Researchers will work collaboratively to tackle broad problems defined with the input of the northern community
- Theme for next call for proposals will be determined in summer 2011

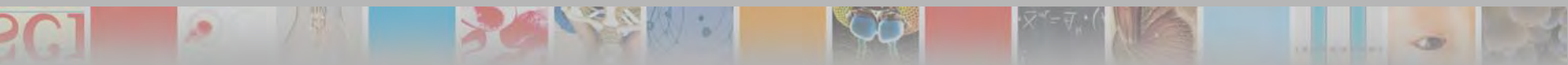


Shared from Scholarships and Fellowships

• We have changed some of our procedures to comply more closely with Treasury Board requirements. This means we no longer make an overcommitment in the number of awards we offer in anticipation that some of those awards will be declined. Instead, we have prepared alternative lists of meritorious candidates who will be offered an award in June, once we know the number of awards that will be declined. Students on the initial list had until May 2 to notify NSERC whether they accept the scholarship.

* Last year, we were able to temporarily offer 400 more CGS-M awards as part of a one-time injection of funding through the 2009 federal budget. This year we are back to our normal levels.

* NSERC has reallocated some money from its scholarships programs to the CREATE program, which has complementary goals. This is part of our efforts to constantly monitor our programs to ensure their effectiveness and impact.



Other News

Council of Canadian Academies:

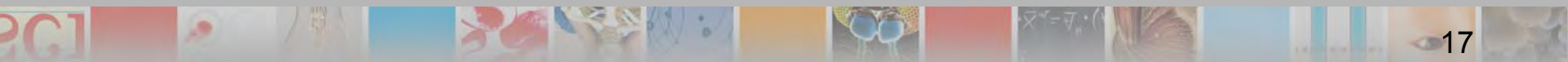
Report on International Performance Indicators for
Research in the Natural Sciences and Engineering

N SERC requested themes for Discovery Frontiers proposals

Additional Tables and Figures

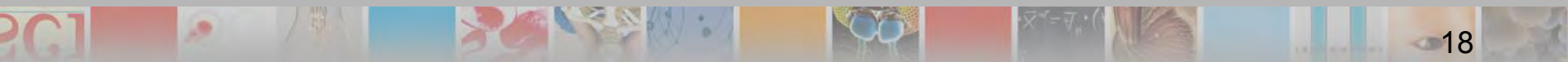
DG Competition Results **2009**

Evolution and Ecology (EG 1503)	Early Career Researchers	Established Researchers		Overall
		Renewals	Others	
# of Applications	31	115	42	188
# of Awards	22	97	18	137
\$ Awarded	\$453k	\$3,688k	\$428k	\$4,569k
Success Rate	71.0%	84.3%	42.9%	72.9%
Average Grant	\$20,591	\$38,023	\$23,769	\$33,351



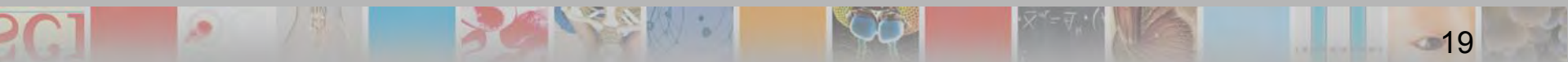
DG Competition Results **2010**

Evolution and Ecology (EG 1503)	Early Career Researchers	ER		Overall
		Renewals	Others	
# of Applications	29	116	51	196
# of Awards	20	84	14	118
\$ Awarded	\$448K	\$3,073K	\$348K	\$3,870K
Success Rate	69.0%	72.4%	27.5%	60.2%
Average Grant	\$22,400	\$36,591	\$24,890	\$32,798



DG Competition Results 2011

Evolution and Ecology (EG 1503)	Early Career Researchers	ER		Overall
		Renewals	Others	
# of Applications	28	118	52	198
# of Awards	14	87	6	107
\$ Awarded	\$336K	\$3,444K	\$167K	\$3,947K
Success Rate	50%	73.7%	11.5%	54%
Average Grant	\$24,000	\$39,583	\$27,833	\$36,885



Change in Grant Level for All Established Researchers 2008 Competition

