

Comment and Reply on "The Distribution of NSERC Funds"

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Comment and Reply on "The Distribution of NSERC Funds"

COMMENT

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I read with a great deal of interest the article on "The Distribution of NSERC Funds" in the December 1986 (v. 13 #4) issue of *Geoscience Canada*, featured under Pyroclasts. The anonymous Grantee who authored the article ought to be commended for his (or her) compilation and processing of all this NSERC data. So as to make sure the omission of our Research Centre from this compilation is not interpreted as indicating a lack of NSERC funding to its Faculty involved in GG (Geology and Geophysics) core research, I deem it necessary to provide your readers with some information on what INRS-Géoresources is, on what its goals are, and on the number of its Faculty receiving NSERC grants.

INRS-Géoresources is one of seven research centres of Institut National de la Recherche Scientifique (INRS), a Quebec-based Research Institute affiliated with the province-wide network of Université du Québec, established in the late 1960s. The main duty (>80%) of INRS research professors is to do scientific research, their other duties (<20%) dealing with graduate students, registered in M.Sc. or Ph.D. programs at INRS or elsewhere.

At INRS-Géoresources, which was created in September 1981, there are now seven research professors, plus scientific, technical and administrative support personnel. Our research programming deals mainly with the study of sedimentary basins, with mineralization and with fossil fuels, three themes which fall right in the GG core covering about 69% of the money disbursed by NSERC's Committee 10.

In 1986 (the year of the Grantee's compilation), four out of six faculty members at INRS-Géoresources were NSERC grantees, receiving an average grant of \$14,364. In June 1986, we have added one member to our Faculty. We have just learned that, as of now, all seven (100%) of our Faculty are NSERC grantees. Over the last two years, fifty percent (50%) of our research funding came from outside sources (MERQ, GSC, NSERC, FCAR, EMR, oil companies, mining companies), the other half having been provided by Quebec's Ministry of Education, through our parent Université du Québec.

We hope INRS-Géoresources will not be left out again, should this compilation of NSERC grants awarded in GG core be repeated in the future.

REPLY

From a Grantee *

* Author's identity withheld upon request.

Your anonymous compiler must apologize to INRS-Géoresources for omitting the Institute from the compilation. INRS was included in my analysis, but inadvertently disappeared in my final cross-check with the AGI Directory of Geoscience Departments.

In the 1985-86 NSERC List of Scholarships and Grants in Aid of Research, Committee 10 gave nine grants to INRS professors, averaging \$12,643. Only three are listed from INRS-Géoresources (as opposed to INRS-Eau and INRS-Océanologie), averaging \$14,219.

If I am foolhardy enough to undertake this task again next year, I will ensure that INRS-Géoresources is given its rightful place in the tabulation.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Last December, you published my field trip review, "Kupferschiefer and Other Sediment-Hosted Deposits in Central Europe", in which I thanked several persons for reviewing the manuscript. If possible, I would like to name them by person. Alex C. Brown encouraged me to write the paper. He and Craig Jowett, A.W. Rose, M. Hitzman and S. Ozcsepalski offered invaluable critiques of the manuscript, and I want to thank them for their help. Any interpretations or possible mistakes presented in the paper, however, are my own.

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