

People. Discovery. Innovation.
Les gens. La découverte. L'innovation.



Natural Sciences and Engineering
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en sciences
naturelles et en génie du Canada

Canada

CCUBC

November 12, 2010

Sylvia Williams

Program Officer, Life Sciences



Natural Sciences and Engineering
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en sciences
naturelles et en génie du Canada

Canada

Outline

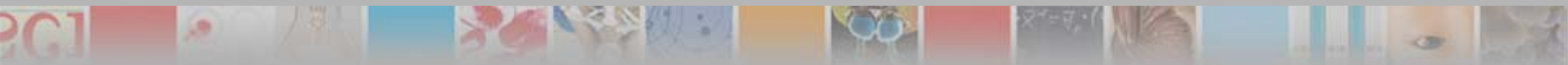
- 2010 Federal Budget & NSERC news
- 2010 Discovery Grants Competition Results
- Questions and Discussion



Federal Budget 2010

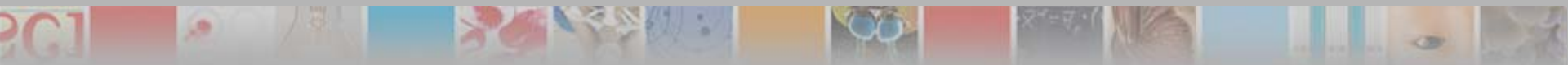


New prestigious PDF program	\$45M over 5 years
NSERC Discovery Research	\$8M permanent increase
NSERC Strategy for Partnerships and Innovation	\$5M permanent increase
College and Community Innovation Program	\$15M permanent increase
Indirect Costs Program	\$8M/yr



NSERC Frontiers

- Initiative includes two elements:
 - [Discovery Frontiers](#), focused on discovery research
 - [Innovation Frontiers](#), focused on research partnerships with industry
- All funded projects will include an international partnership component that taps into global expertise



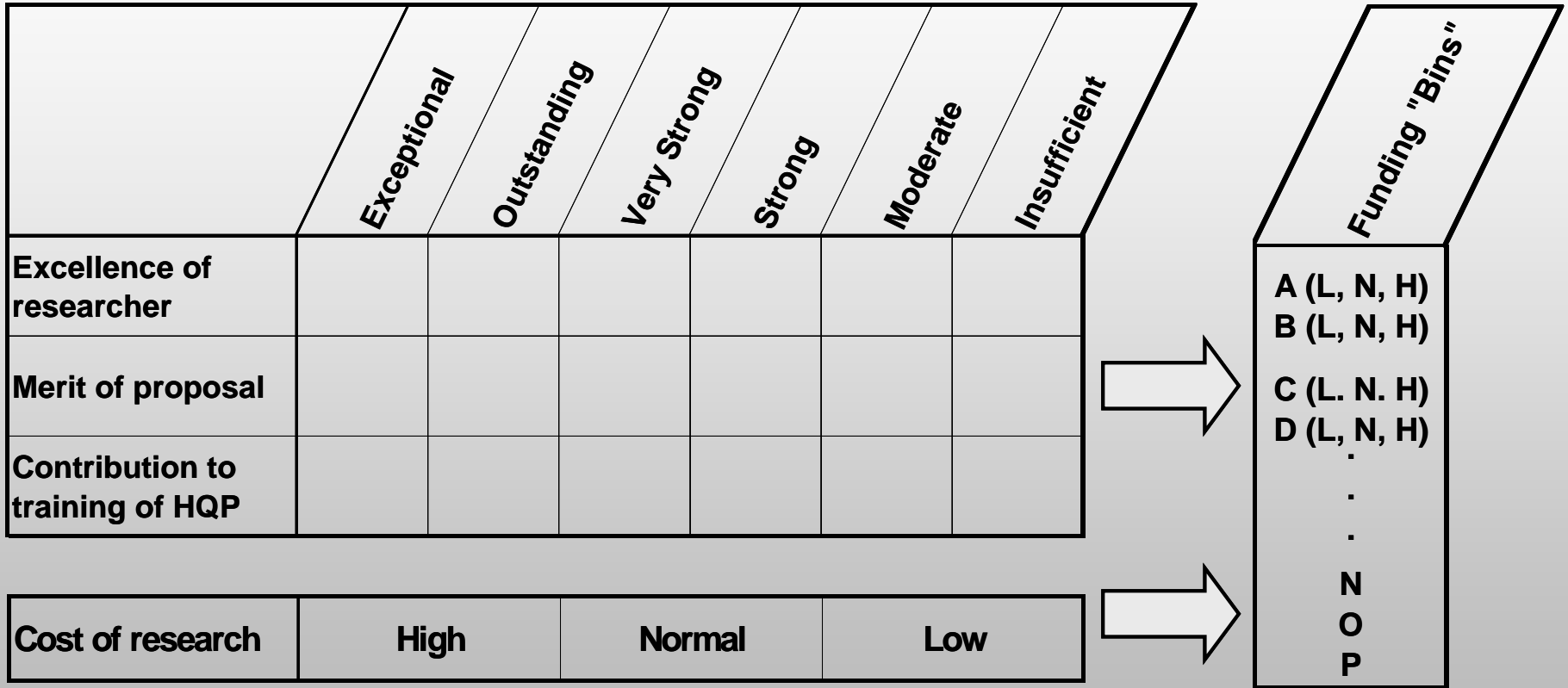
Discovery Grants 2010 Competition

Full implementation of Conference Model

- 12 Evaluation Groups instead of 28 GSCs
- Flexible composition of sections to provide optimal review for applications
- A more dynamic system
- Raising the bar of excellence
- Applicants, new and established, with superior contributions more easily identified and awarded funding at appropriate level



Two-Step Review Process



Evaluation Groups

EG	Title	EG	Title
1501	Genes, Cells and Molecules	1507	Computer Science
1502	Biological Systems and Functions	1508	Mathematics and Statistics
1503	Evolution and Ecology	1509	Civil, Industrial and Systems Engineering
1504	Chemistry	1510	Electrical and Computer Engineering
1505	Physics	1511	Materials and Chemical Engineering
1506	Geosciences	1512	Mechanical Engineering



Overall Comparative Statistics

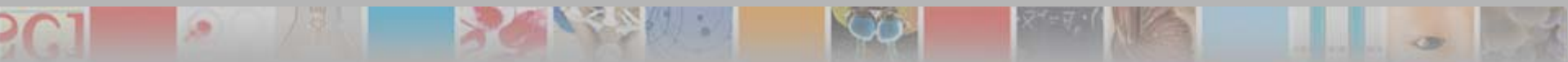
DG Individual and Team	2008	2009	2010
Data	Competition	Competition	Competition
No. of applications	3,405	3,210	3,355
Budget availability (\$ avail / # applications)	\$20,988	\$21,395	\$19,157
Average grant (\$)	\$29,818	\$34,311	\$33,129
Success rate (%) (# awards / # applications)	71.30%	63.80%	58%



Overall Comparative Statistics – 2010 Discovery Grants Competition

	Number of Applications	Number of Awards	Amount Awarded	Success rate (%)	Average Grant
Early-Career researchers (ECR)	532	310	\$7,418,449	58	\$23,930
Established researcher (ER) applicants who held a grant	1,902	1,360	\$49,412,777	72	\$36,333
Applicant not previously holding a grant ¹	921	270	\$7,439,050	29	\$27,552
Overall ²	3,355	1,940	\$64,270,276	58	\$33,129
Overall ³	3,374	1,959	\$68,724,276	58	\$35,143

1. Includes returning unfunded applicants and experienced researchers submitting a first application.
2. Includes Discovery and Subatomic Physics (Individual and Team) Grants.
3. Also includes Subatomic Physics Projects.



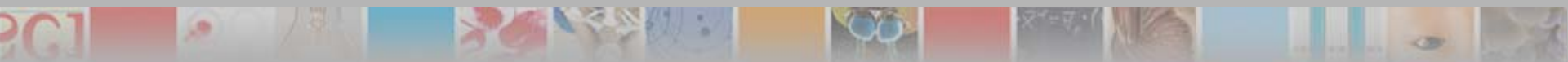
2010 Discovery Grants Competition

Evaluation Group	Success Rate	Average Grant
Genes, Cells & Molecules (1501)	52.2%	\$33,610
Biological Systems and Functions (1502)	51.4%	\$38,985
Evolution & Ecology (1503)	60.2%	\$32,798
Chemistry (1504)	53.8%	\$55,092
Physics including SAP (1505)	62.3%	\$40,828
Geosciences (1506)	54.3%	\$30,245
Computer Science (1507)	64.2%	\$27,044
Mathematics & Statistics (1508)	62.1%	\$19,656
Civil, Industrial & Systems Engineering (1509)	52.5%	\$30,131
Electrical and Computer Engineering (1510)	63.3%	\$30,401
Materials and Chemical Engineering (1511)	66.5%	\$32,271
Mechanical Engineering (1512)	63.7%	\$27,199
Overall²	58%	\$33,129

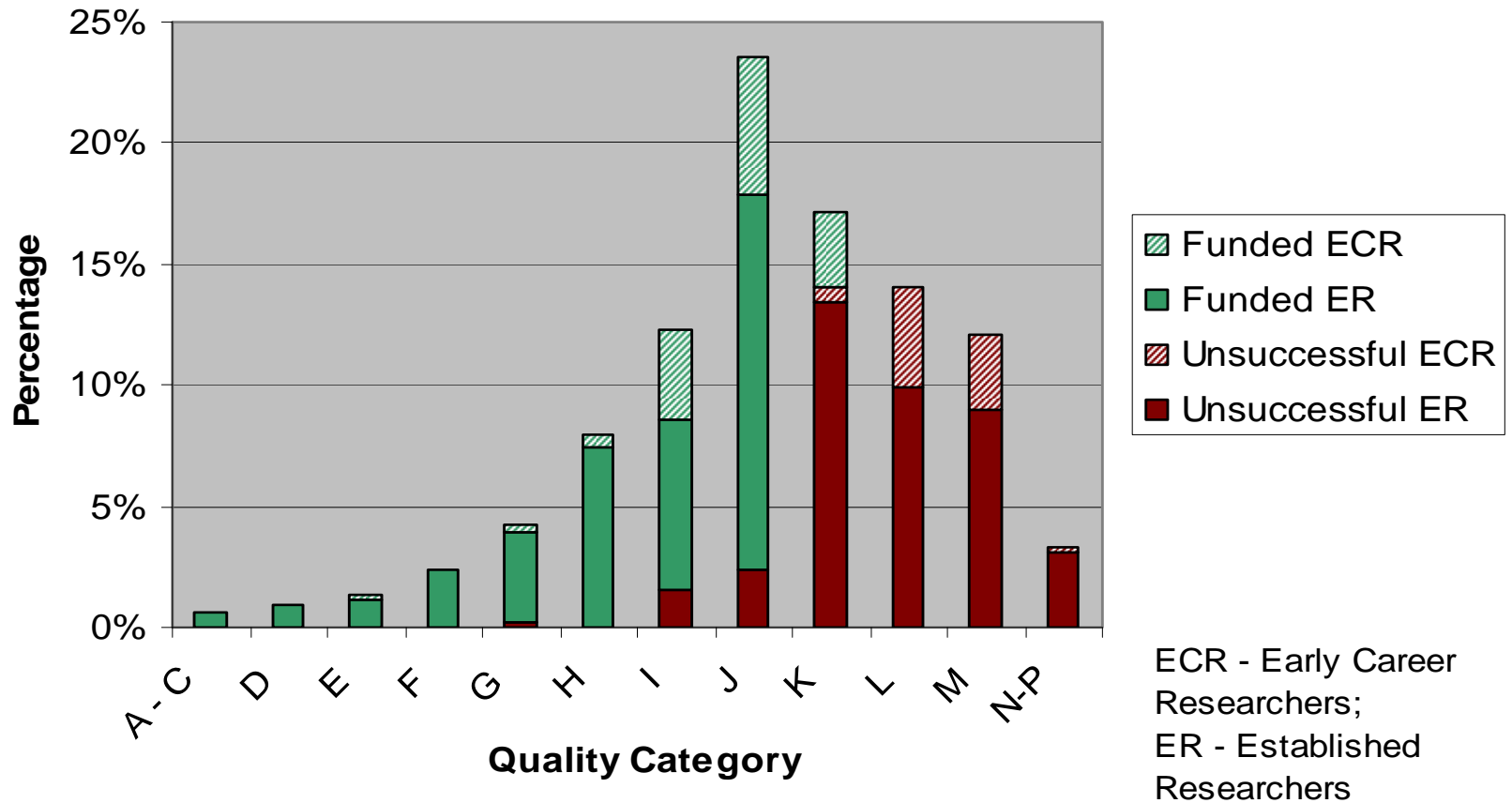
DG Competition Results

Genes, Cells & Molecules (1501)	Early Career Researchers	ER		Overall
		Renewals	Others	
# of Applications	98	172	184	454
# of Awards	61	108	68	237
\$ Awarded	\$1,745 K	\$4,046K	\$2,174K	\$7,965K
Success Rate	62.2%	62.8%	37.0%	52.2%
Average Grant	\$28,607	\$37,469	\$31,971	\$33,610

Overall²: S.R. 58%, Avg. grant \$33,129



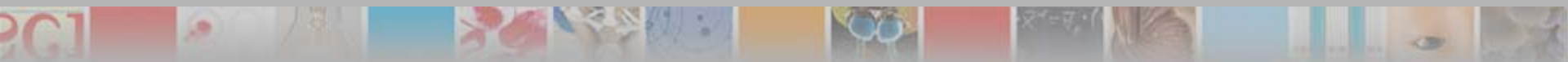
Genes, Cells & Molecules



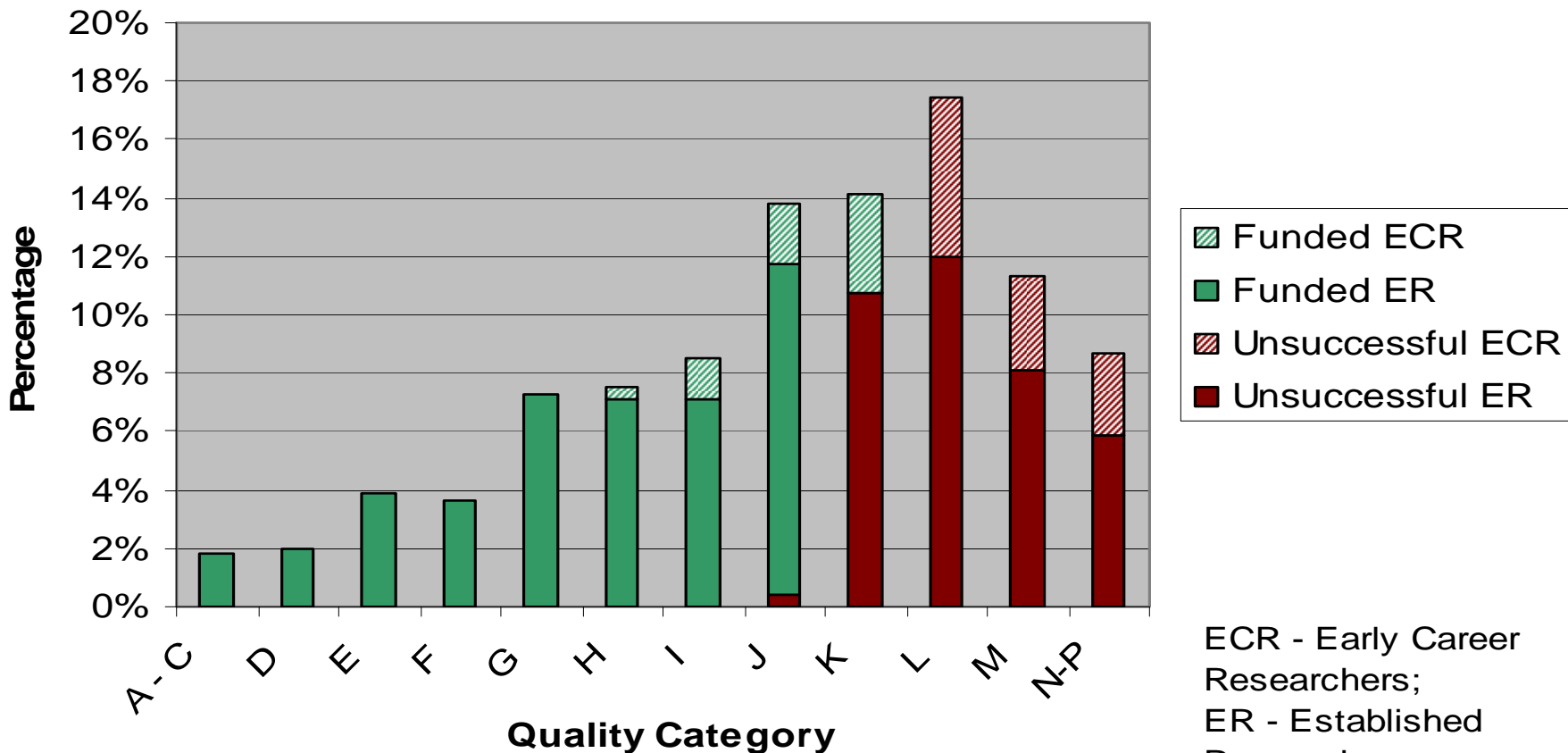
DG Competition Results

Biological Systems & Functions (1502)	Early Career Researchers	ER		Overall
		Renewals	Others	
# of Applications	93	247	154	494
# of Awards	36	177	41	254
\$ Awarded	\$929K	\$7,631K	\$1,342K	\$9,902K
Success Rate	38.7%	71.7%	26.6%	51.4%
Average Grant	\$25,818	\$43,113	\$32,724	\$38,985

Overall² : S.R. 58%, Avg. grant \$33,129



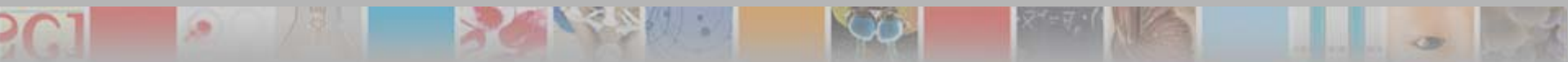
Biological Systems & Functions



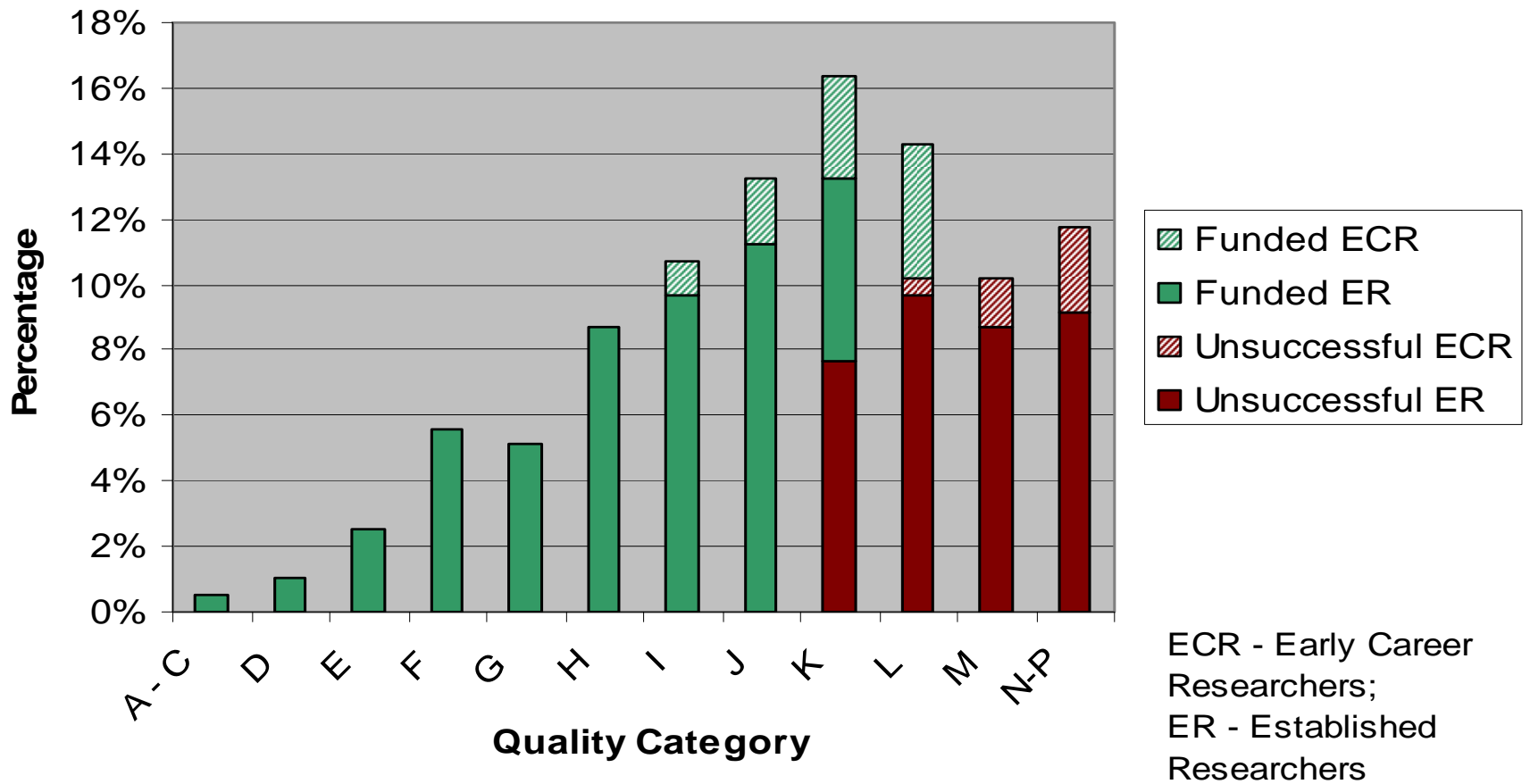
DG Competition Results

Evolution & Ecology (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

Overall²: S.R. 58%, Avg. grant \$33,129



Evolution & Ecology



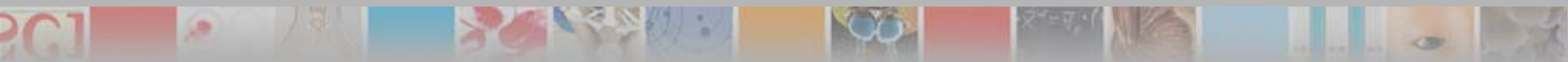
2010 Competitions

Research Tools and Instruments (RTI)

Objective

RTI Grants foster and enhance the discovery, innovation and training capability of university researchers in the NSE by supporting the purchase of research equipment and installations.

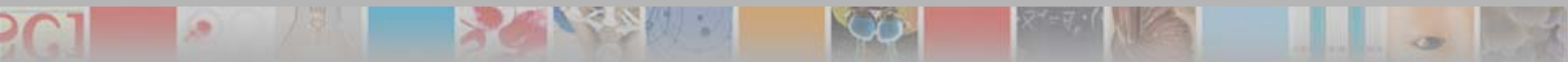
Number of Applications	1,674
Amount Requested (\$million)	130
Number of Awards	481
Amount Awarded (\$million)	35
Success Rate (%)	29
Average Grant (\$thousand)	73



RTI Results by EG

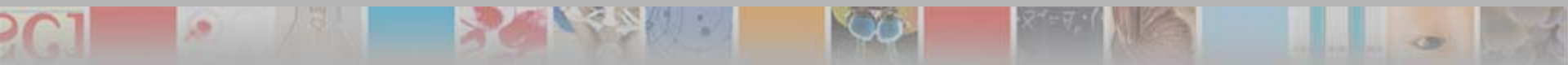
Evaluation Group	Total Received	Success Rate
Genes, Cells & Molecules (1501)	165	30.9%
Biological Systems and Functions (1502)	246	32.1%
Evolution & Ecology (1503)	114	34.2%
Chemistry (1504)	230	28.7%
Physics, excluding Subatomic (1505)	133	27.1%
Geosciences (1506)	109	26.6%
Computer Science (1507)	59	28.8%
Mathematics & Statistics (1508)	11	54.6%
Civil, Industrial & Systems Engineering (1509)	119	26.1%
Electrical and Computer Engineering (1510)	136	23.5%
Materials and Chemical Engineering (1511)	177	24.9%
Mechanical Engineering (1512)	170	27.1%

* Funding rate 27%



Discovery Accelerator Supplements

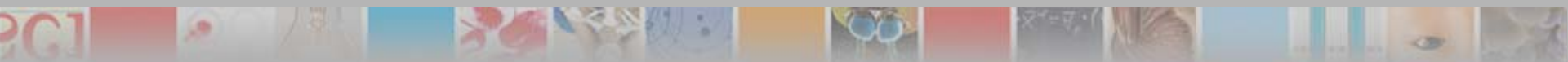
- Provide timely resources to outstanding researchers who have a well-established research program and who demonstrate strong potential to become international leaders
- \$120,000 over three years
- 100 DAS in 2010



Discovery Accelerator Supplements

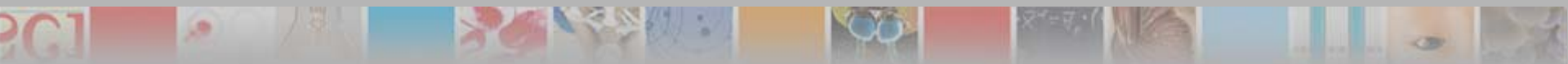
Evaluation Group	Number of Awards
Genes, Cells and Molecules	11
Biological Systems and Functions	14
Evolution and Ecology	6
Chemistry	8
Physics	6
Geosciences	7
Computer Science	12
Mathematics and Statistics	6
Civil and Industrial Engineering	7
Electrical and Computer Engineering	9
Materials and Chemical Engineering	6
Mechanical Engineering	7

University Size	Number of Awards
Large	77
Medium	19
Small	4



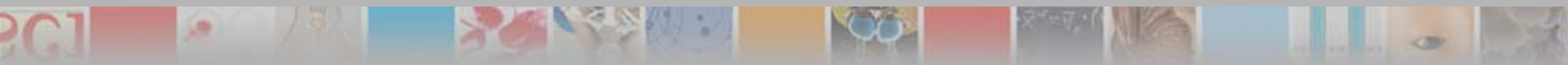
Group Chairs & COGS members- Life Sciences

- Gabrielle Boulianne, The Hospital for Sick Children - Genes, Cells and Molecules Evaluation Group (1501)
- Michael Masson, University of Victoria - Biological Systems and Functions Evaluation Group (1502)
- Douglas Morris, Lakehead University - Evolution and Ecology Evaluation Group (1503)



Role of Group Chairs

- Monitor consistency on policy interpretation
- Participate in the allocation of funds as Chair of the Executive Committee
- Represent EG and the broad scientific community on COGS



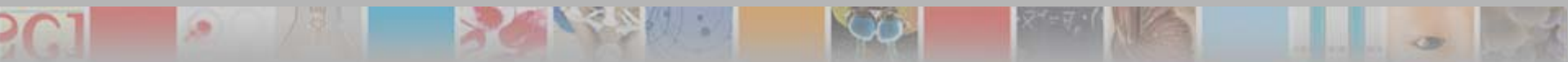
Committee on Grants and Scholarships (COGS)

Provides advice on and monitors programs referred to it by Council, and makes recommendations on:

- program allocations and transfers between people and discovery program elements
- methods to be used for selection committee allocations

COGS also advises Council on policy issues and possible mechanisms regarding support of the research base

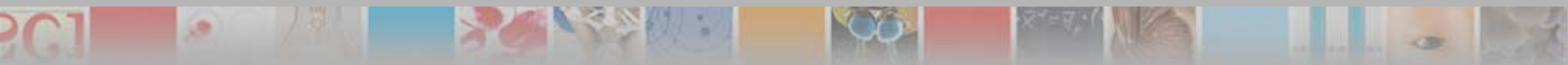
COGS membership is representative of the R&D community it serves



Finally...

You can help us ...

- Encourage and support participation in peer review
- Send us your success stories
- Give us your constructive criticism and suggestions
- Give tips to applicants



NSERC Contacts

Your Account, Grants in Aid of Research Statement of Account (Form 300)	Your university Business Officer (BO)
NSERC Web site	www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca
Discovery Grants (including eligibility)	resgrant@nserc-crsng.gc.ca 613-995-5829
Use of Grant Funds	casdfinance@nserc-crsng.gc.ca

