



The specialists advised that *"too much money has been spent on conferences in some fields rather than on supporting projects and policy relevant research that develop options for Canadian policy."* They noted, as well, that *"It may come as a somewhat of a surprise that Canada's research capacity in human rights and civil society is deemed weak."* And they called for attention to and opportunities for young scholars who are caught in a generational roadblock.

These views and recommendations have provided important guidance for our work this year. The first advertised policy options project, on NATO enlargement, was undertaken by a collaborative group of specialists from across Canada (Québec and B.C.) among universities and disciplines. Other projects have promoted academic and NGO collaboration.

Network development this year has been closely tied to universities, linking them to the Centre's policy development work. From Memorial to Royal Roads, universities are a vital part of the policy development network and have undertaken many of the first year policy development projects (see contact list and project charts). University leaders have played an important role in our activities as well, York University President Susan Mann opened the 1996 Toronto National Forum meeting, (Dalhousie, Laval, the University of Alberta and the University of Victoria hosted the other Forum meetings), UBC President, David Strangway, welcomed conference guests, and across the country Vice Presidents and Faculty leaders have hosted roundtables and network building discussions.

