



Bulletin

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BOOST FOR UNIVERSITY RESEARCH

The National Research Council of Canada has set aside development grants totalling more than \$3 million to university researchers to help them solve problems and make technological advances in such areas as the environment, laser-development, geology, the biological control of mosquitoes and engineering (including agricultural engineering).

These allocations (known as Negotiated Development Grants) are designed to meet the need for increased knowledge in broad areas affecting Canada's economic and social development. They will make it possible for universities to establish multidisciplinary research programs that will have a high element of applied research as opposed to pure research.

The grants will be spread over periods of from one to five years, though the annual instalments are still under negotiation.

Negotiated Development Grants were initiated

by NRC in 1967 to assist universities in developing new or multidisciplinary research centres, particularly in fields relevant to the scientific, economic, resource and regional development of Canada.

NDG applications were first reviewed by committees made up of experts in the fields in which applications drawn from universities, industry, NRC itself and the federal Departments of the Environment, Energy, Mines and Resources, Agriculture, Transport and Industry, Trade and Commerce, as well as the Ministry of State for Science and Technology. Recommendations for grants by these committees were approved by NRC's Committee on Negotiated Grants which is composed of members of the National Research Council and representatives from industry, the universities and certain federal departments.

OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH

Grants to Laval University, Quebec City, will be used by Groupe interuniversitaire de recherches océanographiques du Québec (GIROQ) scientists conducting oceanographic research. This multidisciplinary team is undertaking 44 projects in the biological and physical sciences aimed at determining and interrelating the principal oceanographic properties of four ecological systems in the gulf and estuary of the St. Lawrence River. These include research into the ecology of zooplankton and phytoplankton, and the taxonomy and ecology of benthic algae. The broad project will be of major importance for the economic development of the resources of Eastern Canada and the country as a whole.

The University of Saskatchewan will be provided with grants to apply control-engineering principles to automation in the agricultural industry. The results of the work will probably lead to increased efficiency in the use of farm equipment and reduced production costs of agricultural products, as well as providing a stimulus for increased manufacturing in Western Canada.

CONTENTS

Boost for University Research	1
Day-Care Services Expand	2
Japanese Sculpture at ROM	3
Control of Forest Pests	3
Earth Sciences Stamps	4
Bill of Lading Expedites Exports	4
Cultural Exchanges	5
Canadian Heads ILO	5
Leprosy-like Disease Studies	5
U of Q Communications	5
Wheat to U.S.S.R.	6
Diplomatic Appointments	6
Cattle Import Permits	6