

CFCAS News

Canadian Foundation for Climate and Atmospheric Sciences (CFCAS)



Message from the Executive Director

In 2003, CFCAS received new funding and its mandate was extended. This allowed the Foundation to review its funding focus and structures. The analysis resulted in several program changes and a shift towards support for major interdisciplinary and intersectoral initiatives. Letters of Intent for major initiatives will now be considered twice a year. The grant ceiling for focused projects has been reduced, but applicants can now request supplements to help cover very heavy field costs. The Foundation has increased its emphasis on

the Arctic, northern and cryospheric science, high impact weather, impacts of climate change on the physical environment, and use of analytical tools for monitoring and predicting atmospheric and oceanic conditions.

Dawn Conway

Report to Canadians

In August 2003, the Prime Minister charged CFCAS with the preparation of a **Report to Canadians on the Science of Climate Change**. The Report is a key activity for CFCAS in the coming months and will be released in the Fall. CFCAS will host a special consultation on June 2, 2004 at the Annual Congress of the Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society, Edmonton. It will report on progress to date, and solicit advice and input from the scientific community.

"To keep Canada on the edge of climate change research and discussion we are asking... CFCAS to report to Canadians on the science of climate change."

Jean Chrétien
August 12, 2003

Grants Competition 2004

Call for Proposals and Letters of Intent

Faculty members and teams in Canadian universities are invited to submit funding requests for projects, and letters of intent for major research initiatives. The Call reflects recent and significant changes in CFCAS's emphasis and program structure.

The Foundation has increased its emphasis on major initiatives involving substantial multi-partner efforts: research networks and other major collaborations. It encourages interdisciplinary and intersectoral submissions and will consider research proposals that incorporate an analysis of climate impacts on the natural environment. It will also consider requests for supplementary support for major logistical and project field expenses. Competition details are available at: www.cfcas.org.

Submission deadline: June 4, 2004



The 2002-2003 CFCAS Annual Report is available from the CFCAS Secretariat. It is also on the CFCAS website at : www.cfcas.org

Vision Statement

"CFCAS enhances Canada's scientific capacity by funding the generation and dissemination of knowledge in areas of national importance and policy relevance, through focused support for excellent university-based research in climate and atmospheric sciences."

Retiring the Big "Juan"

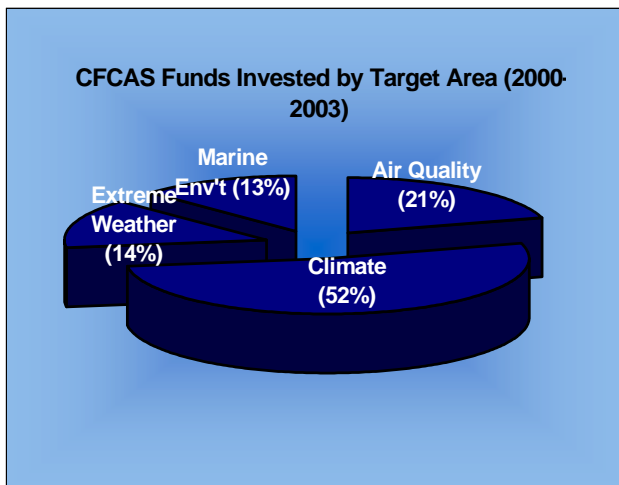
In response to a request from Canada, the World Meteorological Organization has retired 'Juan' from its roster of hurricane names. This move permanently associates Juan with the 2003 event that caused 7 deaths and over \$100 million in damage in the Maritime provinces. It recognizes the severity of Hurricane Juan and its impact on the people and economy of the region.

Climate Hits the Silver Screen

Increasing interest and concern about the impact of weather is hitting screens big and small this summer.

The Great Warming is a major Canadian television series about climate change. The three episodes of this visually beautiful series were first shown on the Discovery Channel (English) and Canal D (French) in April and May 2004. Produced by Stonehaven Productions, the series highlights climate change impacts around the world, and presents technologies and strategies for the future.

The Day after Tomorrow is an apocalyptic movie premised on rapid, catastrophic climate change. Released by 20th Century Fox, it will be in movie theatres this summer. For a taste of its dramatic approach visit: www.thedayaftertomorrowmovie.com



We're growing!

Lyne Chrétien joined the CFCAS staff as Office Manager in September 2003 and Cheryl Lewis was appointed Program Officer in October 2003, increasing full time staff to four. A larger staff necessitated a bigger office; the new office is located down the hall at the same address.

International News

SOLAS (Surface Ocean-Lower Atmosphere Study)
Research results from around the world will be presented at the first SOLAS open science conference, in Halifax October 12-16, 2004. SOLAS is an international research program focused on the biogeochemical and physical connections between the oceans and the atmosphere. The Canadian SOLAS program is based at Dalhousie University and is supported by CFCAS, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, and Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

New International SOLAS Office

Over the next two years, CFCAS will provide partial funding for the international **SOLAS Working Group II**, to be co-located with the national office.

SPARC (Stratospheric Processes and their Role in Climate)

The Third SPARC General Assembly will be in Victoria, B.C. August 1-6, 2004. SPARC was established in 1989 to help the stratospheric research community focus on issues of particular interest to climate.

Canada to Host SPARC International Office

Over the summer the SPARC international office will complete its move from the *Centre national de la recherche scientifique* (France) to Canada. It will receive financial support from CFCAS and other sources, and be based at the University of Toronto.

Global Warming and the Next Ice Age

In a recent *Science* article (16 April 2004, Vol. 304, pp 400-402), Professors Andrew Weaver (University of Victoria) and Claude Hillaire-Marcel (Université du Québec à Montréal) debunk the concept that global warming will lead to collapse of the Atlantic thermohaline circulation and trigger a new Ice Age.

Continued Success at StFX

Professors Hugo Beltrami and Lisa Kellman of St Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, were recently awarded a major grant from the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency's Atlantic Innovation Fund. The two researchers acknowledge the positive impact their **CFCAS** grants have had on their success in other funding programs. The team will develop process models to estimate carbon dioxide emissions from soils as a function of land use and climate change.