

TEAM RESEARCH PROJECT PROGRAM 2015-2016

REMINDER

1. Limit of researchers participation in the teams (section 3)
2. Reduction of the financial assistance (section 10)
3. Modification regarding the equipment grant (section 10)
4. New standards for the presentation of the research project description (section 4)
5. Two bids from suppliers when the cost of one piece of equipment exceeds \$20 000

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OBJECTIVES

1. **The purpose of the program is to:**

- foster the emergence of new research niches in all scientific fields covered by the Fonds de recherche du Québec – Nature et technologies (FRQNT) and enhance the ability of Quebec researchers to compete in federal competitions by carrying out innovative projects;
- promote the pooling of researchers with the complementary expertise needed to carry out a research project;
- provide a conducive environment to high-calibre student training and supervision.

ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS

Note that only applications for financial assistance in the research fields covered by the FRQNT are eligible. ([Règles générales communes, article 3.1](#)) More specifically, funding applications for research into living organisms must address the research themes that pertain to the sub-domains and topics listed on our Web site at

<http://www.frqnt.gouv.qc.ca/fqrnt/sousDomaines/organismesVivants.htm> (in French only).

Composition of the team

2. A team is composed of at least two university (CHU, CHUN, and CHUT) or college (CHC and CHCT) researchers or institutional researchers (CE). The latter may be new or established researchers. The team must be composed so as to reflect how the skills and qualifications of the researchers who will carry out the research project blend to form a cohesive whole.
3. Researchers from other research venues, such as affiliated researchers (CHA), researchers with no recognized institutional affiliation (CHS), researchers from outside Québec (CHH), government researchers (CHG), industrial researchers (CHI), collaborating researchers (COL) and guest researchers (VIS) may be included in the team. Their CVs are not required.

Researchers' status

University researcher (CHU and CHUN)

4. University researchers are regular faculty members in a Québec university, have a Ph.D. or equivalent or have a position equivalent to that of a professor, and are authorized by their institution to direct or co-direct graduate research theses or dissertations. The remuneration of CHU researchers is included in the regular budget of their university.

Researchers subsidized by a Canadian or Québec funding agency are also considered CHU researchers. University researchers who satisfy "New University researchers start-up program" (Établissement de nouveaux chercheurs universitaires) eligibility criteria are considered new researchers (CHUN).

Retired university researcher (CHUT)

5. Retired university researchers must, for the duration of the grant, be guest, associate or emeritus professors in a Québec university and be authorized by their institution to direct research projects and supervise graduate students.

College researcher (CHC)

6. A college researcher is a full-time faculty member at a general or vocational college, a private government-approved college, or a government school that offers postsecondary education. A college researcher can also be a part-time or full-time researcher in a college centre for the transfer of technology.

Retired College researcher (CHCT)

7. A retired college professor is from a general and vocational college, private college declared to be of public interest, government school that provides post-secondary education or college centre for technology transfer. He/she is no longer employed by the institution but is pursuing his/her research activities.

Institutional researcher (CE)

8. An institutional researcher works in a Quebec research institution and whose salary is paid out of the regular budget of this institution, holds a doctorate and has a university affiliation allowing him/her to supervise or co-supervise master's and Ph.D. students for the duration of the grant being applied for. He or she is afforded the same conditions regarding the protection of academic freedom as Quebec university or college researchers. The researcher's home institution must make a formal commitment to this effect. The institution is also subject to the same requirements concerning research ethics, integrity and intellectual property as Quebec university or college researchers. The researcher's home institution must make commitment to this effect.

Affiliated researcher (CHA)

9. Affiliated researchers who are faculty members or researchers in a Québec university but who are not part of the regular staff and who have a Ph.D. or equivalent.

Government researcher (CHG)

10. Government researchers are researchers from a government department or agency.

Industrial researcher (CHI)

11. Industrial researchers are researchers from industry.

Researcher from outside Québec (CHH)

12. Researchers from outside Québec are researchers in a research environment located outside Québec.

Collaborating researcher (COL)

13. A collaborating researcher is a university researcher or a researcher in practice setting contributing to research activities punctually or occasionally. This person may join a cluster or a team as a collaborator but not as a regular member. His or her scientific production is not evaluated.

Guest researcher (VIS)

14. Guest researchers are researchers from an institution other than the one with which the applicant is affiliated and who take part in the research activities of a group, team, or centre for a set period.

Researcher with no recognized institutional affiliation (CHS)

15. Researchers with no recognized institutional affiliation are researchers who live in Québec and who do not have a position with or are not remunerated by any public or private research or educational institution in Québec or elsewhere.

Citizenship of university, college, institutional or unaffiliated researchers

16. To qualify for a grant, applicants must be Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act, 2001, c. 27*. Otherwise, they must demonstrate, at the time of submission of the grant application, that they hold a permit attesting that they have legal status and the right to work in Canada. Furthermore, grant applicants must provide proof that they have an employment relationship (regular, full-time position) with a university, college or research institution located in Québec.

Funding of the first year of a grant award will not begin until the researcher has demonstrated that he has applied for a Québec Selection Certificate from the appropriate authorities. Furthermore, to qualify for the second year of a grant award, the researcher must have taken the necessary steps to obtain permanent resident status.

Residence of university, college, institutional or unaffiliated researchers

17. University, college, institutional or unaffiliated researchers must be Québec residents within the meaning of the Act and Regulation respecting health insurance. Researchers from the Université du Québec en Outaouais who live in Ontario are exempted from this condition.

Identification of the project lead

18. A project lead is a university (CHU, CHUN) researcher or a college (CHC) researcher who holds a professor position in a Quebec educational institution.

Participation of university, college or institutional researchers in other teams

19. Researchers may participate in only TWO team research projects either funded or in competition as a lead researcher (CHU, CHUN, CHC) or a regular member of a team (CHU, CHUN, CHUT, CHC, CHCT, CE). They may, however, contribute to the work of other teams as collaborators (COL). In such cases, they are identified in the "Autres

membres" section and their scientific contributions (CCV) is not considered when evaluating the teams' applications. Their role as collaborator requires clarifications in the Research project description.

For information purposes, a researcher funded twice in the program as a lead researcher or a regular member of one or two teams and **whose funding at the grant competition deadline continues beyond March 31, 2015**, may not submit a grant application as a lead researcher or regular member of a team. A researcher who is not funded in the program may participate in only two team research projects either as a lead researcher or a regular member of a team. **Researchers may lead only one project under this program.**

Research project

20. Activities must be part of an innovative, incubator or a high-benefit project and may involve a number of components.
21. Research projects cannot be subsidized by another funding agency while funded by the Fonds.

SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS

22. Applications for financial assistance must be completed on the appropriate form available at the FRQNT Web site. Text file attachments including the 10 page project description (any exceeding pages will be discarded) and the list of scientific contributions must be sent with the team research form. The completed form is then transmitted electronically to the Fonds by the proper university authority. Since forms are transmitted electronically, the instructions regarding e-transactions must be followed.

IMPORTANT NOTE :

From now on, the Fonds will be using the new Canadian Common CV (www.ccv-cvc.ca) and will also require that everyone who provides a CV enclose a PDF file detailing their scientific contributions (in *Votre dossier électronique*). Please read the documents entitled *Preparing a CV for the Fonds* and *Formatting standards for Contributions - details in Votre dossier électronique* (your e-file).

Forms may be completed in French or English. However, the title of the project and the summary must be in French.

All text file attachments must be presented on 8½ in x 11 in pages (216 mm x 279 mm) and submitted in a PDF format.

Project description including references must meet the following requirements :

- Pages must be single-spaced, with no more than six lines of type per inch;
- All text must be in 12 pt Times New Roman font for Microsoft Office or Open Office users or 12 pt Nimbus Roman for LaTeX users;
- Condensed fonts is not accepted;

- Margins must be set at a minimum of ¾ in (1.9 cm);
 - Page identification :
 - Upper right corner : Surname and given name
 - Upper left corner : 7. RESEARCH PROJECT DESCRIPTION
 - Lower center : Pages 6.1, 6.2, ... , 6.10
 - Maximum of 10 pages including tables, figures and references. **Any exceeding pages are not transmitted to the reviewers.**
23. Only official Team research project (Projet de recherche en équipe) 2015-2016 forms, the [Canadian Common CV](#) and the other required documents are accepted. Candidates are not sent notice of any information or documents missing from the file. Any documents received after the deadline for applications are not considered and files cannot be updated. Required documents must be postmarked or delivered by messenger no later than the closing date for applications. You may send your documents by email : projet.nt@frq.gouv.qc.ca
24. Form signatories declare that the information provided is accurate and complete. They agree to abide by the rules and principles stated in the "[Politique d'éthique et d'intégrité scientifique du Fonds](#)". This policy is available upon request and on the FRQNT Web site. Consequently, where required, researchers authorize the institution to transmit any personal information arising from application of this policy. Signatories agree to allow the information in this application to be disclosed for evaluation and examination purposes, provided those with access to the information agree to abide by standard rules of confidentiality. Furthermore, the signatories agree to share the responsibilities defined by the Government of Québec in its action plan for the management of intellectual property in universities and health and social service network institutions where research is carried out.
25. The FRQNT assigns a personal identification number (PIN) to the researchers in its database. This code enables them to access the computer system and facilitates communication between the agency and its clientele, while complying with the Act respecting access to documents held by public bodies and the protection of personal information.
26. Files that do not include the information needed to determine candidates' eligibility or to assess them are deemed inadmissible by the FRQNT.
27. Only candidates may ask for their file to be withdrawn.
28. The **deadline for transmitting** the application is **Wednesday, September 24th, 2014, at 4 p.m.**

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

29. The following documents must be transmitted to the FRQNT by **4 p.m. on September 24th, 2014:**

Electronically :

- The Team research project (Projet de recherche en équipe) e-form;
- The [Canadian Common CV](#) e-form, for each team member with the status of university (CHU, CHUN, and CHUT) researcher or college (CHC and CHCT) researcher or institutional researcher (CE).

Any additional documents must be mailed or sent by e-mail (projet.nt@frq.gouv.qc.ca) by September 24th, 2014, at the latest :

Permanent residency

- for regular team members who are not yet canadian permanent residents or citizens, a copy of a document proving legal status in Canada and a letter from the institution confirming the researcher's employment relationship with a university, college or research institution in Quebec;
- at the time of the first instalment, a copy of the Quebec Selection Certificate and for the second instalment, a proof that a permanent resident application has been submitted to the appropriate authorities.

Retired researcher

- a letter from the university or the college attesting that before retirement, the candidate had CHU or CHC status within the meaning given by the FRQNT, and that, for the duration of the grant, the candidate will have access to the facilities and to the logistical support needed to carry out the proposed research activities, and will continue to train students and prepare them for a research career in the field in question. The university or the college must also ensure that it will manage the appropriations in the same manner as it currently manages them for the funded teams and groups thereof;

Researcher without doctorate

- a letter from the university establishing equivalence in the case of researchers who do not have a doctorate or equivalent status;

Researcher without regular professor status;

- a letter from the university attesting that the team members who are not regular professors are capable of directing Master's and Ph.D. students and that their retention as professor is for a minimum of three years;

Institutional researcher

- a letter from the research institution attesting that the researcher meets the eligibility criteria (section 3);

Equipment grant

- two bids from suppliers when the cost of one piece of equipment exceeds \$20 000.

ELIGIBILITY

30. The Fonds assess the eligibility status of each application in accordance with the conditions specified in the program rules.

Acknowledgement of receipt

31. Acknowledgements of receipt are e-mailed to the candidates.

EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS

Evaluation procedures

32. Eligible funding applications are sent to the Fonds' scientific advisory board (*Conseil scientifique*), which will assign them to a thematic category based on the disciplinary focus of the research projects. The scientific advisory board will then appoint as many thematic assessment committees (*Comité d'évaluation thématique* (CET)) as necessary, attributing a limited number of applications to each one.

The CETs are made up of at least three experts who possess the skills and expertise required to assess all of the applications they are assigned. The CETs must evaluate the quality of the applications based on five program criteria. Members may call upon other experts to complete their assessments and determine the scientific merit of an application as accurately as possible. CET members and the external experts with whom the CETs may consult are chosen from the lists of experts submitted by the principal investigators with their funding applications.

CET members must determine the applications for which 1) funding should definitely be granted; 2) funding should be granted if financially possible; and 3) funding should not be granted. The CET assessments are then sent to multidisciplinary assessment committees (*Comités d'évaluation multidisciplinaires* (CEM)), which must evaluate the budget estimates of the teams for which funding is recommended by the various CETs and determine a level of funding for operations and equipment. The CEM members determine the applications final ranking. Each CEM oversees some ten specialized CETs.

The CEMs recommend the requested budget if it is entirely justified for the proposed research project. CEM members are being asked to cut the budget if one or several budget items are not sufficiently justified.

The appended evaluation grid is the list of criteria and indicators used by committee members. For each criterion, candidates are graded from A to D (A is the highest rating) based on the statements that best describe their situation. If need be, the committees may use gradations (A-,B+,B-, C+, C-, D+, D-).

The Fonds Program administrator is responsible for ensuring that the committees and the various players consulted comply with evaluation criteria and procedures and with the rules of ethics in effect. The Program Administrator works with the members of the thematic committees to select the external referees.

Evaluation criterion

33. Applications are evaluated based on the following criteria and indicators:

Criterion 1 : Scientific quality of the research project

- a) innovative, incubator or high-benefit aspects of the project;
- b) need to used complementary expertise for carrying out the project;
- c) methodological approach and feasibility of the timetable.

Criterion 2 : Expected benefits of the project:

- a) emergence of new research niches;
- b) leverage for Québec;
- c) impact on the advancement of knowledge and on the resolution of social, economic, cultural and technological issues;
- d) responds to the need for creating highly qualified personnel;
- e) possible partnerships with use;
- f) dissemination of research results to the public at large.

Criterion 3 : Scientific quality of team members:

- a) demonstration of creativity or creative potential;
- b) achievements in research;
- c) recognition by the research community.

Criterion 4 : Compatibility of team members´ skills and expertise:

- a) fit between the expertise of team members and the proposed research project;
- b) means of integrating the scientific skills of the team members;
- c) quality of collaborative links between team members and other key players or partners.

Criterion 5 : Quality of the training environment:

- a) members' experience in supervising students;
- b) integration of collegiate or university students from all cycles and postdoctoral trainees within the research project;
- c) project's contribution to training;
- d) ability of highly qualified manpower to enter the job market.

INTEGRITY OF THE EVALUATION PROCESS

34. The Agency board members are not involved in the scientific evaluation of funding applications, and at no time may researchers, students or institutional authorities make contact with the evaluation committee chairperson or members. The Agencies have the right to withdraw an application from competition if there is any attempt to lobby the committee or sway the evaluation process.

Every person recruited to sit on an evaluation committee must comply with standard rules of confidentiality regarding the application packages, committee makeup, deliberations and recommendations. The evaluation committee chairperson, members and outside experts are required to disclose any conflicts of interest and must sign a written statement in this regard.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS

35. CEM recommendations are submitted to the Board of directors of the FRQNT who makes the funding decisions.
36. The decisions of the Board of Directors of the Fonds de recherche du Québec – Nature et technologies are final and cannot be appealed.
37. **Grant results are announced at the end of April 2015.** The decisions of the Board of Directors of the Fonds de recherche du Québec – Nature et technologies are sent to the institutions and candidates concerned. For any information on competition results, the candidate must contact the research office of his institution or visit the Fonds Web site.
38. The Fonds receives annual appropriations from the Québec government to fund its grant programs. It then undertakes annual commitments, conditional on the availability of funds.

DESCRIPTION AND NATURE OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

39. When results are announced at the end of April 2015, the funded researchers should refer to the document entitled "[Règles générales communes, sections 6, 7, and 8](#)", available at the Fonds Web site. This document presents the rules for grant use and management.

Operating grant

40. Financial assistance of up to \$60 000 annually for three years may be awarded and is not renewable.
41. The grant must be used for funding the operating expenses directly related to carrying out the research project. Only the following items are eligible:

Remuneration

- Collegiate students
- Undergraduate students
- Master's students
- Ph.D. students
- Postdoctoral research trainees
- Research professionals
- Research technicians
- Researchers without recognized institutional affiliation

Scholarships and Complementary Scholarships

- Collegiate students
- Undergraduate students
- Master's students
- Ph.D. students
- Postdoctoral research trainees

Other expenses

- Travel and lodging expenses
- Research material, supplies and analysis fees
- Shipping costs for research material and equipment
- Equipment and space rental or usage
- Telecommunications costs
- Computer equipment and database purchases
- Production, publishing and printing costs
- Translation
- Purchase of small equipments (less than \$7 000)

N.B.: Expenses related to the dissemination of research results to the public and those generated through ethics activities are also eligible.

Statutory supplements for college researchers and inter-institutional teams

42. In addition to the operating grant, statutory supplements may be granted to teams in the following cases:
- \$7 000 per year for each college researcher whose contribution to the team is evaluated as positive by the evaluation committees. The purpose of the supplement is to defray part of the cost of research work and it is issued to the college;
 - \$3 000 per year per inter-institutional team that takes in researchers from colleges or universities in Québec's outlying regions. The purpose of the supplement is to defray the research-related travel costs of researchers and students involved.

The following are considered establishments in outlying regions: Université du Québec à Chicoutimi, Université du Québec à Rimouski, Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue, Université du Québec en Outaouais, and colleges in these or other outlying regions.

Grant for equipment purchases

43. A grant may be added to the operating grant for the purchase of individual scientific equipments whose cost is between \$7 001 and \$50 000. This grant is awarded on the basis of the criteria listed below.

44. Applications for equipment must be made the first year for any period for which an operating grant is requested. The appropriations are issued in full the first year but may be spent any time in the three years covered by the grant.
45. For equipment whose total cost exceeds \$50 000, the Fonds's contribution comes into effect as soon as candidates submit supporting documents indicating they have obtained other sources of complementary funding for the purchase of the requested equipment. The supporting documents must be sent to the Fonds within one year following the grant announcement.
46. The following criteria are used to evaluate requests for equipment:
 - relevance of the requested equipment for achievement of the research project;
 - availability of similar equipment at the candidate's university or the region's universities;
 - overall benefits (accessible to several users, contribution to researcher training, etc.);
 - amount of time the equipment will be used.

DURATION OF SUBSIDIES

47. Subsidies are awarded annually for the period from **April 1 to March 31** for up to three years and are not renewable. The balance remaining upon expiry of the three year funding period may be carried over, but only for one more year.

FALSE OR MISLEADING INFORMATION

48. Under the *Act respecting the Ministère du Développement économique, de l'Innovation et de l'Exportation* (R.L.R.Q., c. M-15,1,0,1), any applicant who gives false or misleading information to obtain or procure financial support is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine. If found guilty, the individual is barred from receiving financial support for a five-year period.
49. Where a legal entity commits an offence, any of its directors or representatives who knew about the offence are considered to be parties to the offence and are also subject to a fine, unless they prove to the court's satisfaction that they did not agree with the commission of the offence. Moreover, such declaration constitutes a breach of responsible research conduct.
50. The Fonds has the right to impose any penalty or take any additional measures they deem expedient. The Fonds may also take legal action to recover fraudulently obtained funds and collect damages.

RESEARCH ETHICS AND CONFORMITY

51. All projects involving human subjects or biological materials (body parts, products, tissues, cells or genetic material from a human body, of a person living or dead) or administrative, scientific or descriptive data from human subjects, require the approval of the research

ethics board of the principal applicant's institution Common Rules and Regulations item 5.3).

Furthermore, if applicable, researchers must report any environmental impacts of their research and employ reasonable efforts to minimize them. To this end, they must obtain the required authorization and permit before the start of the project.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE FONDS

52. The FRQNT is not liable for any direct or indirect injury arising from processing of grants, bursaries or other applications, and, without limiting the generality of the above, is not liable for any direct or indirect injury arising from unauthorized disclosure by the FRQNT of the information contained in candidates' files. Despite all the precautions taken by the FRQNT to protect information that must be kept confidential, certain countries to which information is transmitted may not have security procedures such as asymmetric cryptography or encryption.

Act respecting access to documents held by public bodies and the protection of personal information.

53. The FRQNT is subject to the Act respecting access to documents held by public bodies and the protection of personal information (R.S.Q., c. A-2.1). Candidates can obtain further information on access procedures, the protection of personal information and the recourse provided for in the Act by contacting the person responsible for the Act at the FRQNT.

The responsible authority for access to documents and protection of personal information :

M^e Mylène Deschênes, B.C.L., LL.B., LL.M.
Directrice, affaires éthiques et juridiques
responsableacces.nt@frq.gouv.qc.ca

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

54. Candidates and institutions must meet the general eligibility requirements at the time of submission and the [Common rules and regulation](#) throughout the period covered by the grant.

COMING INTO EFFECT

These rules apply to the 2015-2016 financial year.

FOR INFORMATION

Program administrator : Yves Marois Ph.D.
Phone : 418 643-3396
Fax : 418 643-1451
E-mail : projet.nt@frq.gouv.qc.ca

Fonds de recherche du Québec – Nature et technologies
Team Research Project Program
140, Grande Allée Est
4^e étage, bureau 450
Québec (Québec) G1R 5M8

APPENDIX I

Statements for each evaluation criterion

Program: Team research project

I - Scientific quality of the research project

- A The research project is of exceptional quality and satisfies all the indicators: it is highly innovative and high-benefit, complementary expertise is essential, the issue at stake and the methodology are very pertinent and very well presented, the timetable is realistic.
- B The research project is of good quality and satisfies most of the indicators: it is innovative and high-benefit, it requires certain complementary expertise, the issue at stake and the methodology are pertinent and well presented, and the timetable is relatively realistic.
- C The research project is average and only satisfies some of the indicators: it is not very innovative or high-benefit, the researchers' expertise do not the issue at stake and the methodology are briefly presented, the projected timetable is not very realistic.
- D The research project is weak and fails to satisfy a number of the indicators: it is not appear to be complementary innovative or high-benefit, a team with complementary expertise is not critical for carrying out the project, the issue at stake is only vaguely described, the methodology has certain weaknesses, and the timetable is absent.

II - Expected benefits of the project

- A The research project will contribute to developing new research niches. It should result in groundbreaking progress in terms of the advancement of knowledge internationally recognized by all specialists in the field. There will likely be major short-, medium- or long-term social, economic and cultural benefits. It should be a springboard to national and international programs or enable important partnerships to be formed with other users.
- B The research project could lead to the emergence of new research niches. It could also result in significant progress in terms of the advancement of knowledge recognized by international specialists in the field, or have some short-, medium- or long-term social, economic or cultural benefits. It could be a springboard to national and international programs or enable partnerships to be formed with other users.
- C The research project present limited innovation in its approach. It could also lead to some progress in terms of the advancement of knowledge recognized by all Canadian specialists in the field, or have short-, medium- or long-term, social, economic or cultural benefits.
- D The research project does not present any innovation in its approach. It should not yield any progress in terms of the advancement of knowledge recognized by specialists in the field, or yield certain short-, medium-, or long-term social, economic or cultural benefits.

III - Scientific quality of team members

- A The main members are internationally known as being exceptional and have been credited with major achievements or are new researchers who have already gained recognition for their initiative and their aptitude for innovation. They have shown great capacity to work as a team with researchers who have different training and expertise.
- B The main members of the team are in most cases innovative and are internationally known for their expertise or are very promising new researchers. They have shown their capacity to work as a team with researchers who have different training and expertise.

- C The main members of the team are known nationally in their field or are promising new researchers. They have some teamwork experience.
- D The main members of the team are somewhat known by their colleagues or are new competent researchers.

IV - Compatibility of team members' skills and expertise

- A The compatibility between team members is essential and is likely to lead to important breakthroughs. Partnership with other university, government or industrial institutions is an integral part of the research project. The project could not be carried out without the personnel to be acquired. In cases where the researchers have received funding in the team research project program, collaborations have led to excellent results.
- B Together, the team members have the capacity to carry out a research project that could not be undertaken without their mutual expertise. A partnership with other university, government or industrial institutions is proposed as part of the research project. The personnel to be acquired are useful. In cases where the researchers have received funding in the team research project program, collaborations have led to very good results.
- C The team is made up of researchers who demonstrate certain complementary expertise. Additional expertise would be useful. A partnership with other university, government or industrial institutions is evoked in the research project. The team members have a well-integrated common project and will be in regular contact with the personnel acquired and make regular use of the research infrastructure established. In cases where the researchers have received funding in the team research project program, collaborations have led to some results.
- D The team is made up of researchers with related expertise and who have common interests. A partnership with other university, government or industrial institutions is not considered in the research project. The team will be in regular contact with the personnel to be acquired and make regular use of the research infrastructure to be established. In cases where the researchers have received funding in the team research project program, collaborations have yielded few results.

V - Quality of the training environment

- A The team members, the nature of the project and the scientific animation activities create a unique training environment. Graduates from every level are in great demand.
- B The team members, the nature of the project, and the scientific animation activities create a very good training environment that has great potential for producing excellent graduates. The graduates find work easily.
- C The team members interact regularly with collegiate and undergraduate students and supervise an acceptable number of graduate students and postdoctoral trainees. Graduates receive a pertinent training and usually find work in a field closely related to their training.
- D The team members interact regularly with collegiate and undergraduate students and occasionally train graduate students. The students receive relevant training that will allow them to find work in a related field. The students involved in the project will be trained primarily in a specific discipline.