

CANADIAN ISAE NETWORK

Survey on a collaborative database of research in applied ethology

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PURPOSE OF THE SURVEY

The survey aimed to determine the interest of Canadian ISAE members for developing a collaborative database for professors, research scientists, post-docs and students in applied ethology across Canada.

This database would help develop technical or scientific collaborations coordinate research in animal behaviour and welfare between the different research teams across Canada and facilitate students' exchanges.

The aims of this database would be to make information available on:

- Current and planned research projects
- Training opportunities for students
- Techniques developed and commonly used
- Equipment that could be shared or loaned

The database information could be either self-managed by each member using an Internet interface, or could be updated 2 or 3 times per year by the Canadian ISAE secretary.

SURVEY

Launched by email to Canadian members of the ISAE (51 persons on May 8th) using the Survey Monkey[®] website on May 15th and closed on May 22nd.

Participation: 51% (26 of the 51 members)

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS:

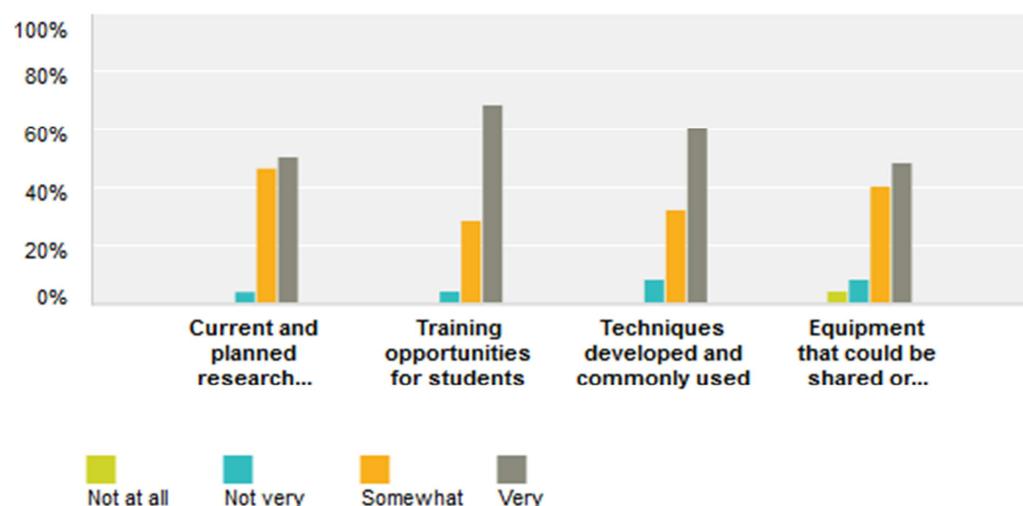
Do you think a database containing the above information would be useful?

92% answered "Yes"

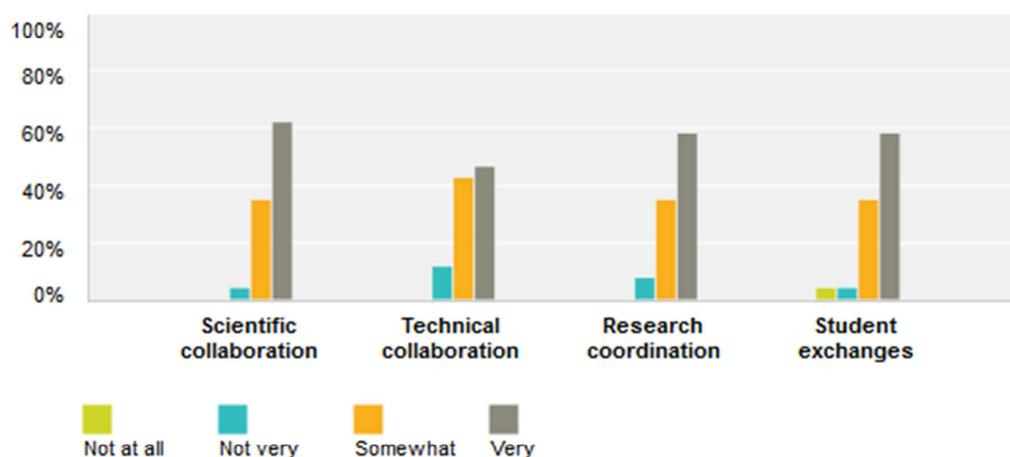
Would you be willing to participate to the development (share information) of such database?

96% answered "Yes"

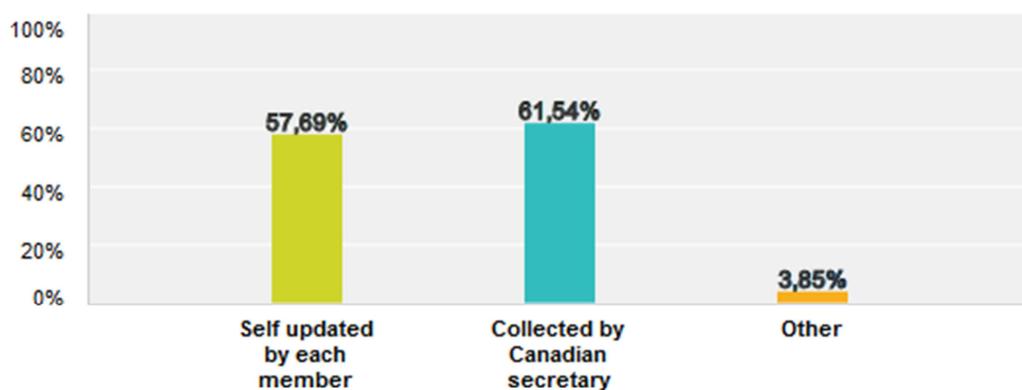
Please rank usefulness of each category of information contained in the database.



Please rank importance of each objective of the network.



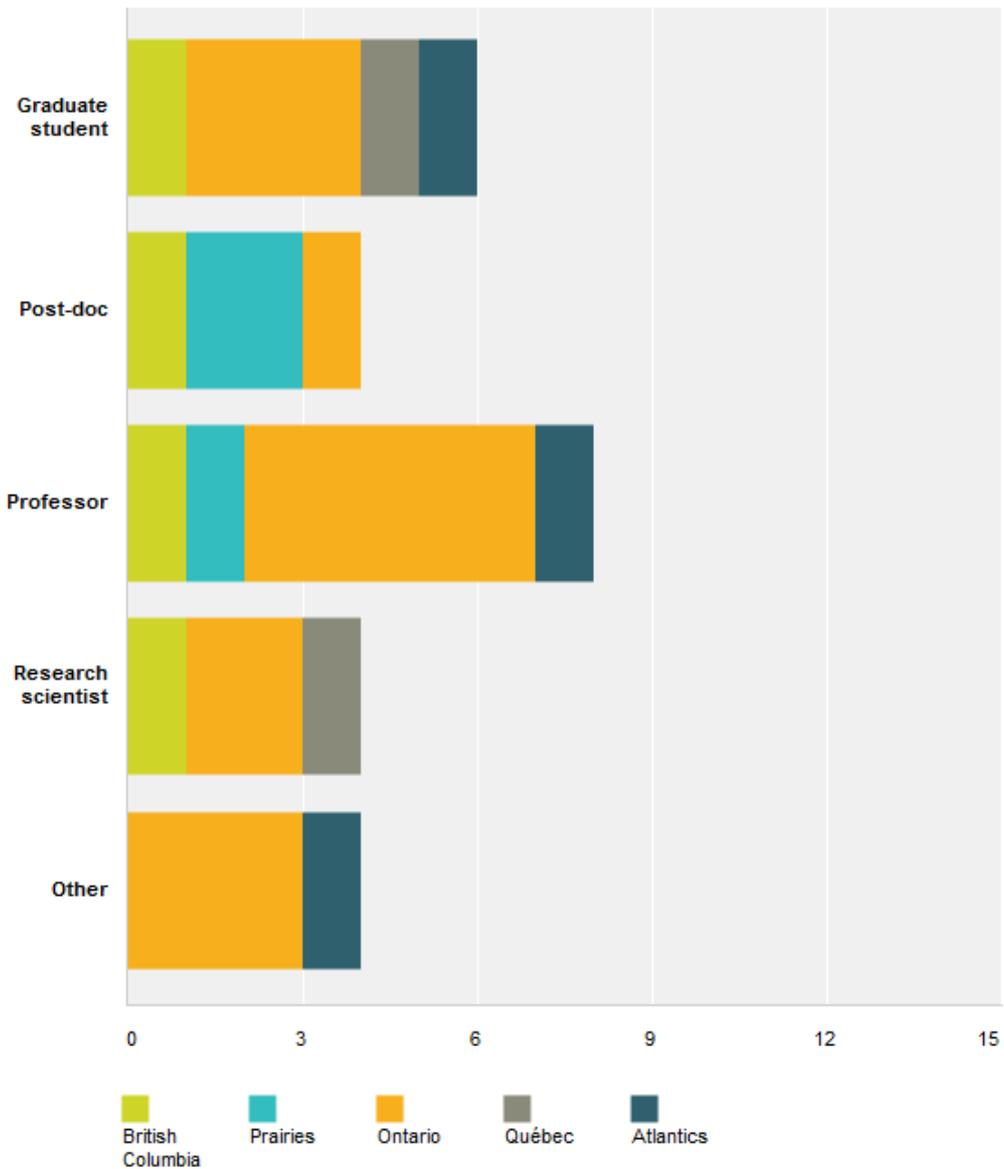
To develop and update this database, how data should be collected?



Should the database be extended to non-ISAE members in Canada (CSAS member for example), or to ISAE members outside Canada?



Who are you and where do you work?



COMMENTS:

Other uses or components for such database?

- Shared info on research groups area of expertise
- Useful to demonstrate the value of research

Other ways to develop and update the database:

- Someone has to be the point person who calls for updates on specific information from researchers.
- We have a web-site at Guelph- I prefer to be linked to that rather than create a whole new one.

Suggestions:

- AFAC used to collate the ongoing welfare research projects by scientists in Canada. Maybe a joint-effort could be struck with AFAC (whom I believe is behind this effort): <http://www.livestockwelfare.com/research.htm> (see the 3rd bullet down).
- I would have answered 'maybe' to Q1, if that had been an option. I am not wildly enthusiastic. It is already a small community and we know who the 'players' are.
- We are already doing all of these things but not in a formal way
- Sorry to not be more positive on this - maybe we could discuss as a group at the next meeting?
- Sound like a good idea, but may be hard to get people to keep updating information
- The creation of such a database will be a great asset to the animal behaviour & welfare sector
- The Expert Committee on Farm Animal Behaviour maintained a database of welfare research in Canada for many years, and it was useful for researchers, government and producers. It allowed funding bodies and others to identify where money was being spent and to identify gaps.