Folks:

The 2002 Canada-Taiwan Research Scholarship competition (until 2001 referred to as the Mackay Scholarship at which point my predecessor got Mackay fatigue) will be announced shortly and promoted through the media and local academic institutions.

This year we want to encourage research specifically identified "mantra" compliant areas which we consider strategic. Namely those which fit with CTOT’s assessment of where academic complimentarity to political, trade/investment, immigration and other Canadian interests/policies is possible and strategically desirable within Taiwan. Accordingly I plan to note 4-5 such areas in our information kit. Of course we will also add an accompanying clarifier that proposals outside of these areas are also welcome and will be considered. The 4-5 areas could include:

- WTO-related (Canadian) trade policy/legislation
- Biotechnology and the (Canadian) economy
- Aboriginal Affairs (eg, self-rule; parks management; community econ development)
- Film (emphasis on digital animation and other new multi-media cultural industries?) studies etc...

Grateful your consideration and reply, by noon Tuesday, of other thematic areas from your programs which might be included on this list.

Weldon