

## Roberto Abraham

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**From:** casca-board-bounces@lists.casca.ca on behalf of Rob Thacker <thacker@ap.smu.ca>  
**Sent:** September 12, 2016 7:33 PM  
**To:** casca-board@lists.casca.ca  
**Subject:** Re: [CASCA Board] Drafts of feedback for the fundamental science review  
**Attachments:** Untitled attachment 00383.txt

I think these are excellent points James. The distinction between NRC and NRC Herzberg is frequently lost in an astronomy context (I have been guilty) and one we should be very mindful of.

RJT

> Hi Bob,

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> Thanks for circulating this latest draft of the feedback document. I have just two comments, realizing that there is a need to keep things as concise as possible. (Note that I have not yet read the Coalition submission so perhaps my comments are addressed there.)

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> 1. I think that the relationship between NRC and the astronomy community

> is painted in rosier hues than I would have done. For instance, the

> document notes the relationship between NRC and ground-based

> astronomy and notes that the links between NRC and the university

> community are strong and productive. I'm glad to read that but I'd

> like to comment that those links have been put to the test in the

> last five years due to NRC's shift into becoming an industrially

> focused RTO. That the productive arrangement still exists between

> NRC and the community is due in part to NRC Herzberg struggling to

> keep NRC's larger focus on supporting astronomy. Hence, I'd like to

> see some few words at least acknowledging that maintaining this

> relationship has been a challenge in the recent environment, and the

> good links between NRC and the community exist \*despite\* NRC's

> extensive transformation away from basic science in the last few

> years.

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> 2. The document mentions several times that the ACCA has not met since

> 2011 but it neither offers a reason why it is now defunct nor says

> explicitly that that this is a lost opportunity. Perhaps a short

> statement is needed to characterize inter-agency communications as a

> good thing, even recommending explicitly that the ACCA be

> reconstituted.

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> - James

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>> On Sep 9, 2016, at 4:21 PM, Roberto Abraham <roberto.abraham@utoronto.ca> wrote:

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>> <CASCAFundamentalScienceReview.pdf>  
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> Casca-board mailing list - Casca-board@lists.casca.ca -  
> <http://www.casca.ca/mailman/listinfo/casca-board>  
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Dr Rob Thacker, CRC (Tier II) |  
Dept of Astronomy & Physics | Tel: 902-420-5636  
Saint Mary's University | Fax: 902-496-8218  
Halifax, NS, Canada, B3H 3C3. | Twitter: DrRob\_Thacker  
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