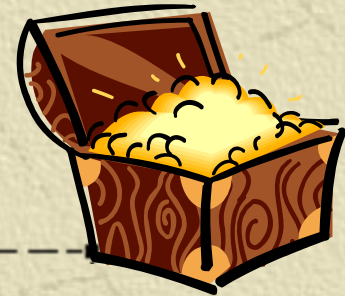


What have I been doing this summer?



-
- ✦ Focused more on the Nucleus website; in particular the Summer research section of the Nucleus
 - ✦ Created several online surveys that targeted students and employers as the main participants
 - ✦ Surfed around the SPS website updating dead and broken links
 - ✦ Updated the employers' list on the Nucleus database

Why?



Because they had to use the funding for at least something!!!

Seriously though, Why?

- Create a database where students can gain access to a variety of summer research/science opportunities
- To get feedback on the efficiency of the Nucleus jobsite through employers and students

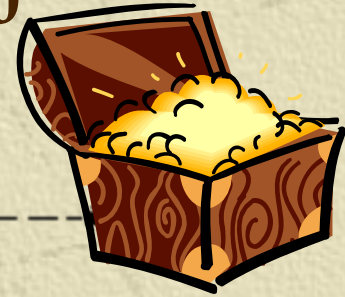
The Surveys



Created three sets of online surveys targeting different groups

- I. Institutions that had posted their opportunities on the Nucleus jobsite
- II. Institutions that had no postings on the Nucleus jobsite
- III. Students currently involved in summer research/science opportunities

I. Survey for Institutions with job listings on the Nucleus



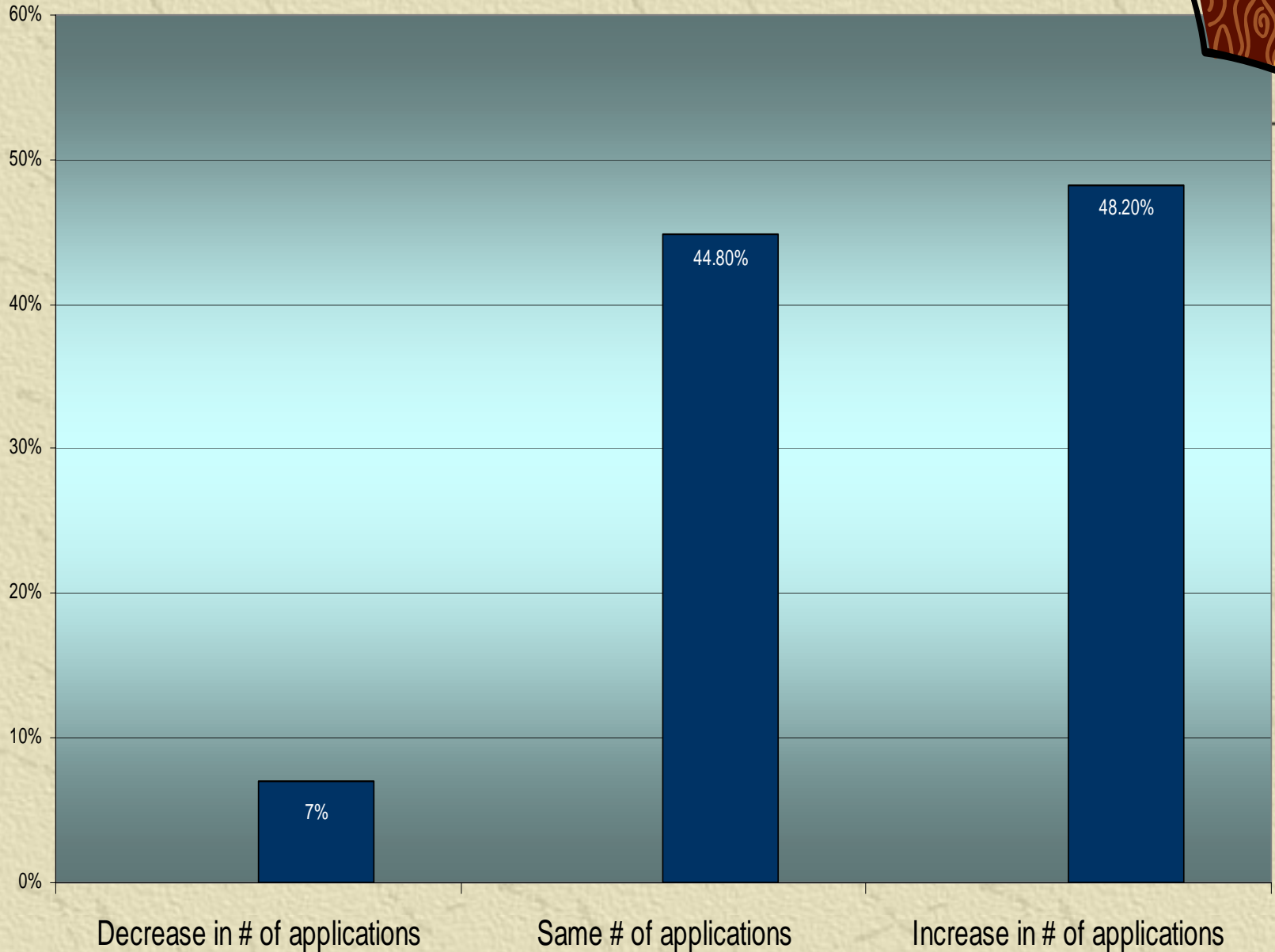
Objective

- ✦ To identify any change in number of applications since using the Nucleus jobsite
- ✦ To identify if these changes (if any) were attributed to the Nucleus jobsite

A screenshot of a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window displaying a survey titled "Employers' Evaluation for 'the nucleus' Jobsite". The survey is titled "SPS Questionnaire for Employers with postings at the Nucleus" and is located at the URL "http://www.sprnational.org/e_survey.htm". The survey consists of five questions:

1. Name: [text input field]
2. Do you still plan on being the program contact person for next year?
 Yes, please continue to contact me at this address
 No, please use the following contact information in the future.
Name: [text input field]
e-mail address: [text input field]
3. In addition to posting your job in the Nucleus, how else did you publicize your program? (Check all that apply)
 Through the NSF-REU website
 Through your own website.
 Through posters sent out to other Physics departments by snail mail
 other (Please describe briefly)
[text input field]
4. Roughly, how many applications did you receive this year?
About: [text input field]
5. How many positions did you fill in this summer?
[text input field]

Survey Analysis



II. Survey for Institutions without postings on the Nucleus



Objective

- ✦ To identify the reasons why employers did not post their research/science opportunities on the Nucleus.

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window with the address bar displaying http://www.sponational.org/new_employers.htm. The page content includes a title bar for the survey, a 'QUICK QUESTIONNAIRE' section, and several questions with input fields and checkboxes.

Survey for Employers with no listings on the Nucleus

QUICK QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Name

2. Do you still plan on being the program contact person for next year?

Yes, please continue to contact me at this address

No, please use the following contact information in the future.

Name

e-mail address

3. What would you consider to be primary reasons for not using the **Nucleus** to publicize your program (check all that apply)?

Not aware about it

Lack of time/Forgot

We get too many applications as it is

I'm new at this position

Our program doesn't need Physics majors

Other, Please specify

4. Do you intend to post your program at the Nucleus for next year?

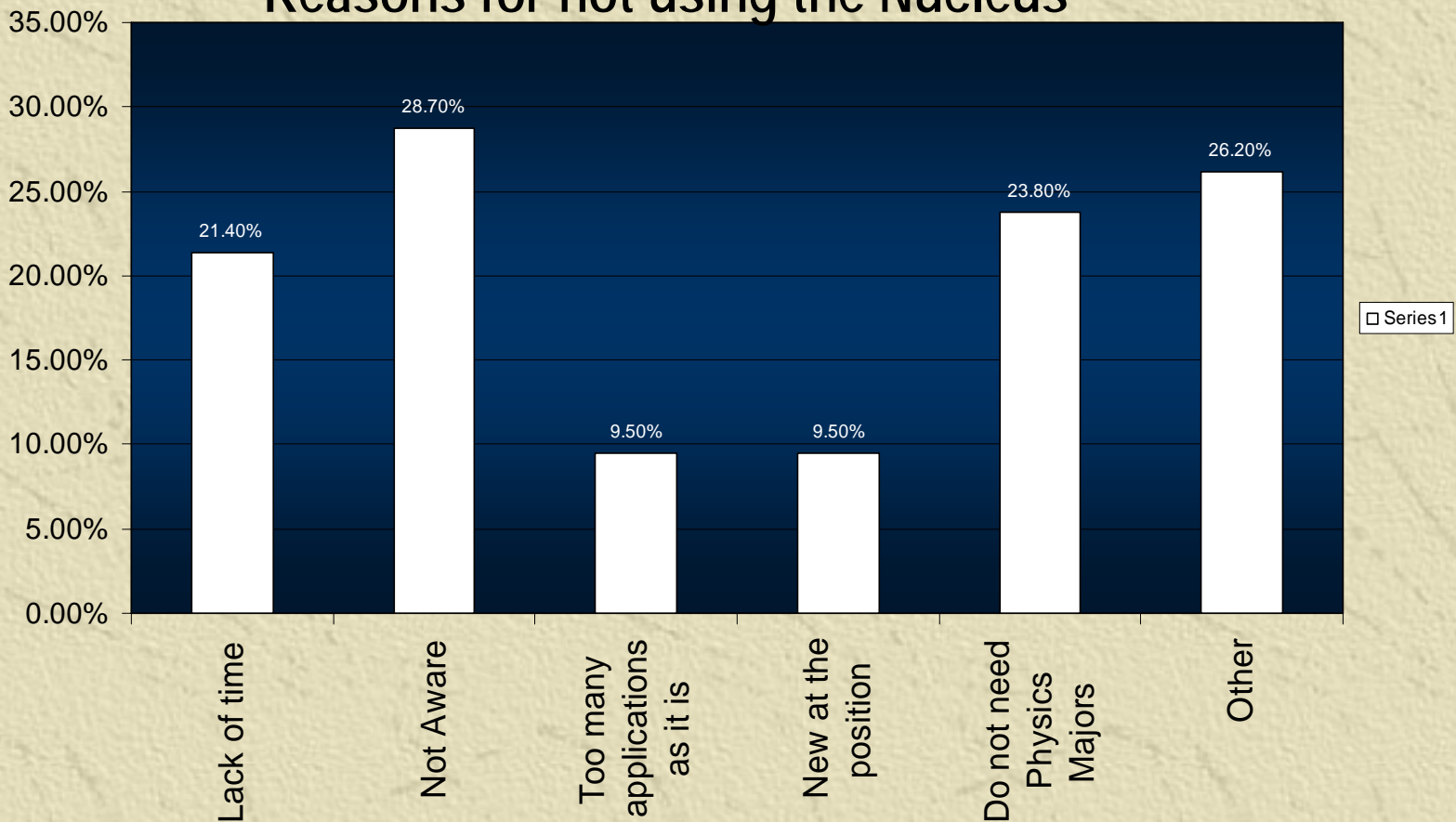
Yes

Survey Results



✠ Received only 56 responses out of 570.

Reasons for not using the Nucleus



Other reasons presented for not using Nucleus



-
- We didn't seem to fit your profile since students in our program have to pay a minimal fee
 - We were uncertain about funding when presented with post our program on your website
 - Our program is a Research opportunity fellowship; not a summer job

**Any intentions of ever utilizing
the Nucleus for advertising in
the future?**

YES-43%

NO-26%

MAYBE- 23%

III. Student Surveys



Objective

- ✦ To identify which types of institutions recruit most physics students
- ✦ To recognize what resources students used to obtain their summer research/science experience
- ✦ To evaluate programs based on their benefit provisions
- ✦ To discern the different departments that Physics students work in
- ✦ To evaluate the students' attitude on research based on summer experience

A screenshot of a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window displaying a web survey. The address bar shows the URL http://www.sponational.org/student_survey.htm. The page title is "STUDENT SURVEY for Summer Science/Research Experience". The survey contains five numbered sections:

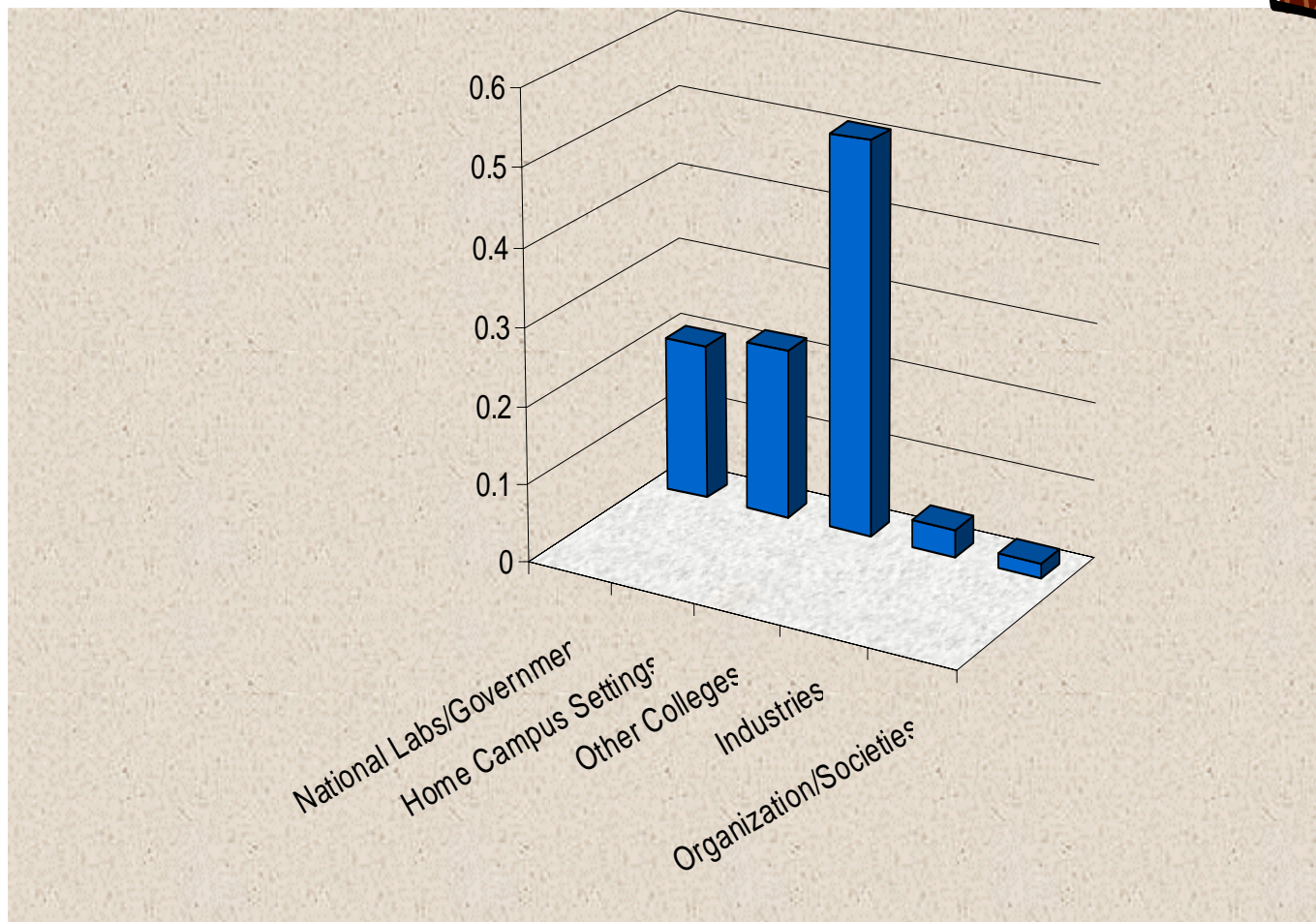
- 1. How did you get information about your summer science/research position? (Check all that apply)**
 - The [NSF/REU](#) Website
 - The [Nucleus](#) Website
 - Departmental bulletin board
 - Advisor e-mails or hand-outs
 - Other
- 2. Please provide the name and e-mail address of your program's contact person?**
 - Name of program contact person:
 - e-mail address of program contact person:
- 3. What type of institution are you working at?**
 - National Lab/ Government
 - Industry
 - Your home college campus
 - Another college campus
 - Organization/Society
 - Other (Please describe)
- 4. Please provide the name and location of the institution that you're working for this summer.**
 - Name of institution:
 - Location: Please choose state or Country
- 5. What benefits does your program provide? (Check all that apply)**

The browser's status bar at the bottom shows "Done" and "Internet".

Survey Results



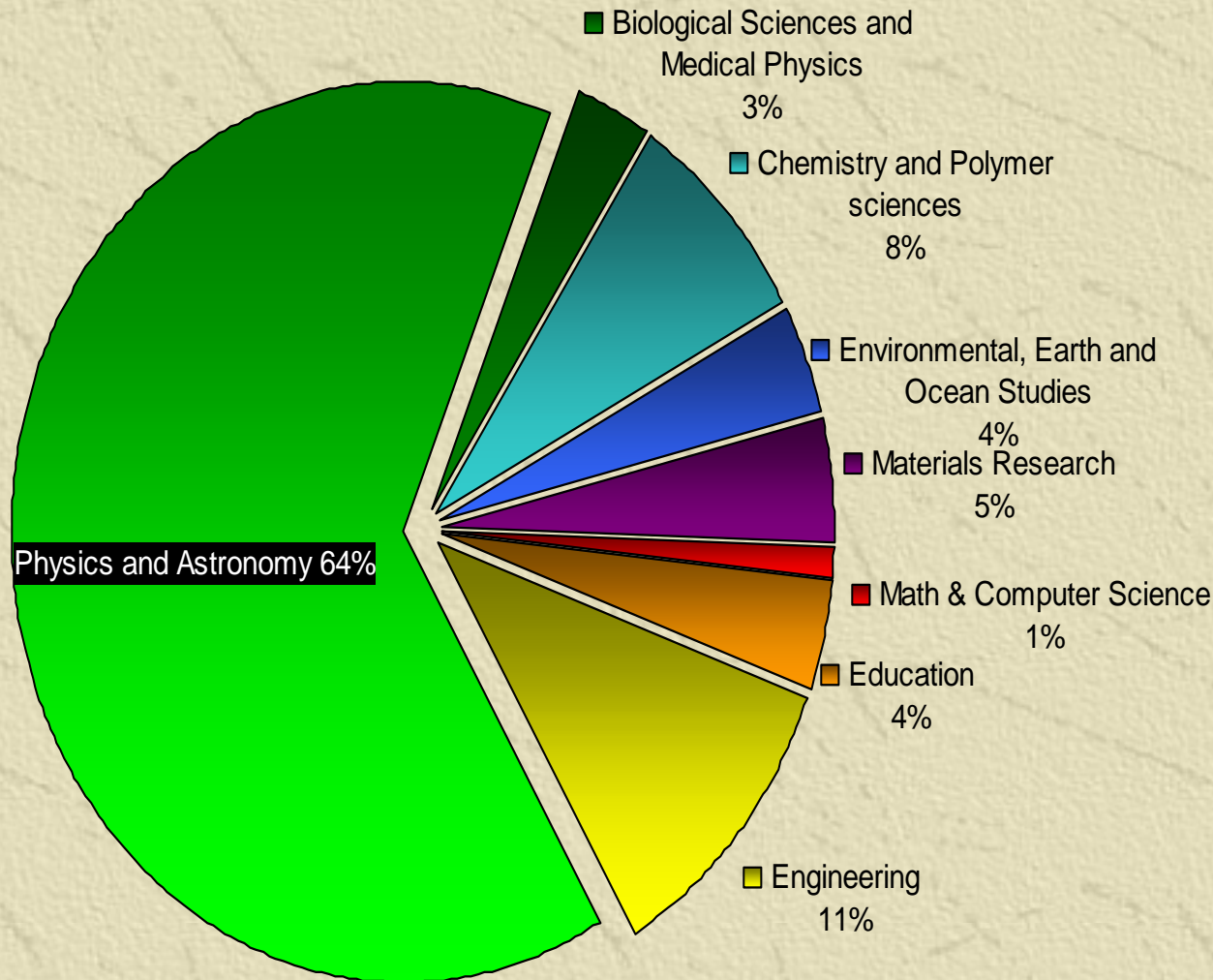
Types of Institutions that recruit Physics students for summer opportunities



Survey Results



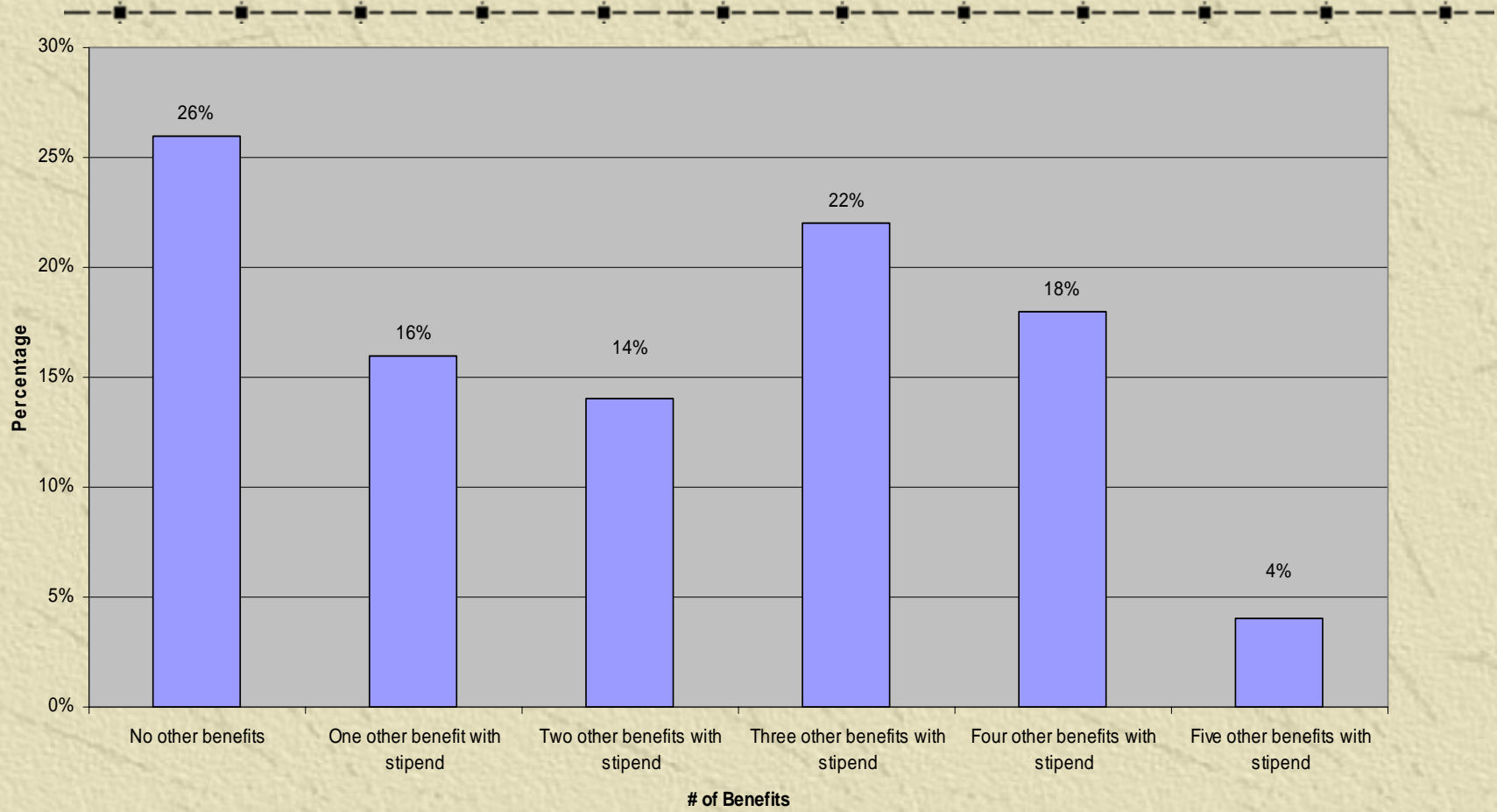
Departments that offer summer opportunities to Physics Students



Number of benefits provided by Institutions

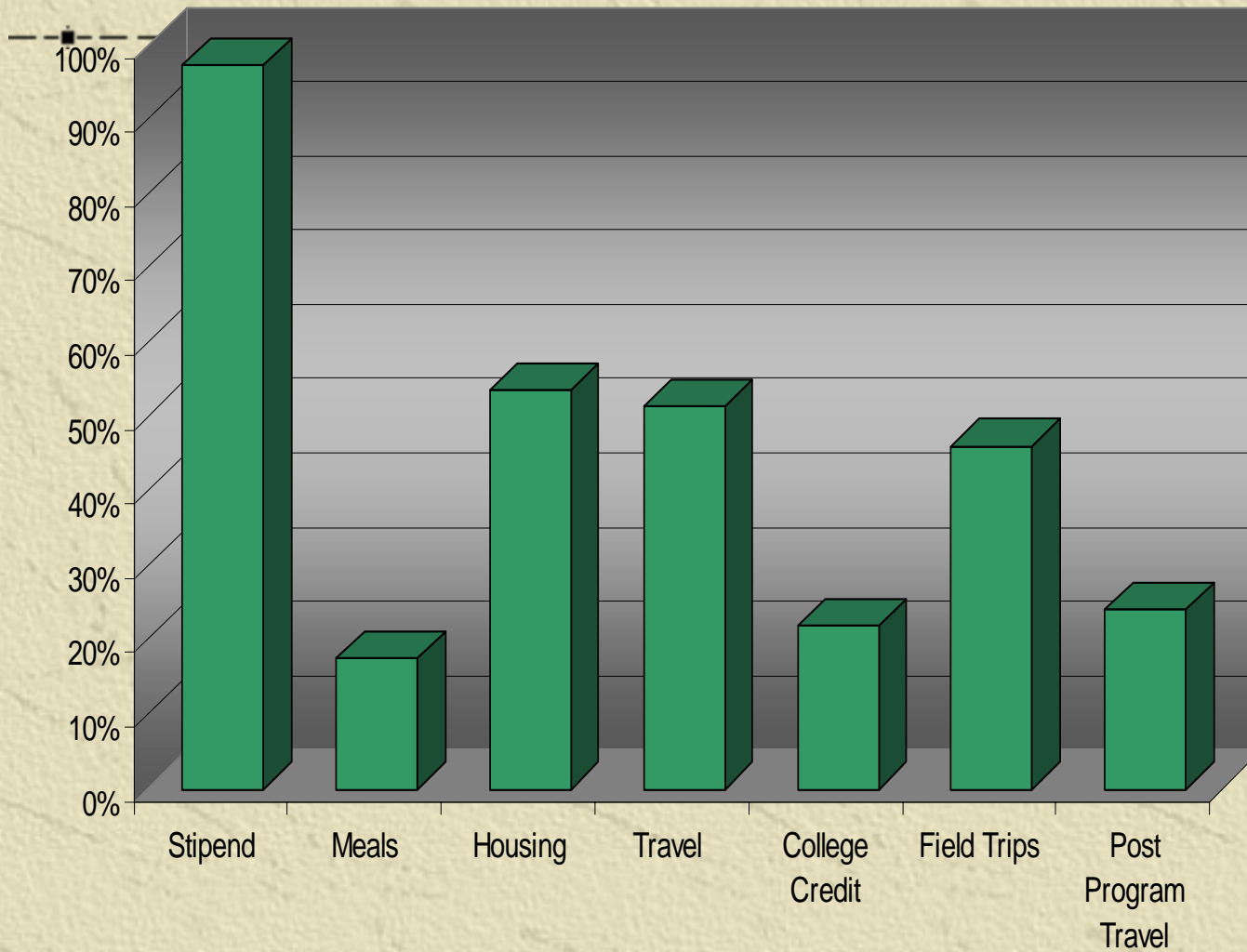


(Excluding stipend)

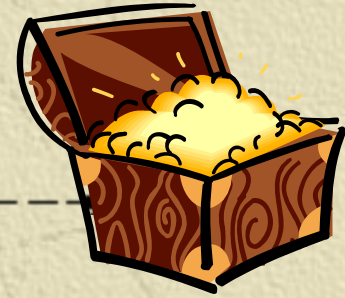


Survey Results

Types of benefits provided by institutions



Other tasks



- ✦ Managed to provide student insights to the new design of the Nucleus website
- ✦ Cleared the SPS website from bugs and dead links

**What's with the Gold
treasure ?**

For flavor, you know!

Conclusions



- The Nucleus jobsite needs to do a better a job in advertising opportunities to students.
- The clearinghouse needs additional features such as a section detailing testimonials and journal excerpts from students
- AIP needs to increase its stipend amount!



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- ◆ Liz Dart Caron
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