

VISPA RESEARCH CENTRE ANNUAL REPORT FY2026

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Goals for 2026-2027

1. Internal goals of VISPA

- Continue reorganization of laboratory, computing and machine shop space.
- Seek additional funds for VISPA support personnel from UVic, granting agencies and other organizations.
- Resolve funding of extended-benefits of long-term research staff.
- Provide support for VISPA members so that their projects can meet their goals. Major projects include accelerator physics, collider physics (ATLAS, Belle II and Methusla), neutrino physics (HyperK and P-One), particle-astrophysics and theoretical physics.

2. Internal goals of VISPA relative to the University:

- Meet with the new UVic President to discuss the activities of the research centre and encourage the new administration to visit TRIUMF, CERN, Japan (KEK/J-PARC).
- Continue to engage in global engagement events on campus (e.g. in 2026, VISPA members participated in visits by a UK computing delegation and Romanian consul general).
- Continue to engage with the UVic Research Computing and Research Networks groups.

3. External goals of VISPA

- Build on the new role of VISPA in the MacDonald Institute and utilize funding to augment VISPA research staff.
- Leverage collaborations with CANARIE, Alliance, BCNET and our international computing and research network partners.
- Provide support to the VISPA theory group with their to establish a new course for PhD students in theoretical particle physics initiative with local universities and the Perimeter Institute.

Expenditures and Annual Allocation of Resources

The Offices of the VPRI and Dean of Science each provide \$30,000 to VISPA. The level of funding has been constant since FY2022.

The funds are used to pay the salary of the VISPA administrator and a stipend for the VISPA Director. In FY2025, these costs were approximately \$45,000.

The residual funds are used to support the salary of personnel for the operation of the desktop computing system used by VISPA members. Funds were also used to pay the FY2024 fees of the Insitute of Particle Physics (IPP); the FY2025 IPP fee has not been paid as the funds for FY2025 were fully spent.

At the time of the renewal of VISPA (2022), the approved budget included \$40,000 for the salary and stipend, and \$20,000 for desktop computing support. Increases in the VISPA adminstrator salary (there have been no increases of the stipend) and new expenses, such as the IPP Annual Fee have significantly decreased the funds for desktop computing support.

The salary of the long term detector physicist and other computing staff are paid by research grants and contracts.

Administrative Authority Feedback