Question 3: Psychopathology. What do we know about panic disorder that might help a funder decide whether to invest research money intended to unlock its secrets (a) in research on the basic mechanisms of fear (across a range of situations); (b) in research on understanding panic disorder in the context of anxiety disorders (including similarities, differences, comorbidities); or (c) in research in broader exploration of the self-regulation of emotion?

Justify your suggestion with a focused, insightful analysis of what is known about the disorder, what needs to be known, and where likely answers lie. You should describe its place in DSM IV; refer to relevant empirical research; and support your case by considering its epidemiology, theories of its etiology, course, prognosis, differential diagnosis, and treatment approaches. While discussion of theory is appropriate, a purely conceptual analysis is not. Evidence must figure in your discussion.