NRESi



"Our environment is our future"

Friday Feb. 10, 2012

3:30 - 4:30

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For Elluminate information and link to the webcast: http://www.unbc.ca/nres/nresi_webcast.html

RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM SERIES



Original oil painting by Scott Dickson

Dr. Kevin Hutchings

Canada Research Chair in Literature, Culture and Environmental Studies Department of English, UNBC



DON'T CALL ME A TREE HUGGER: THE SOCIAL SEMANTICS OF A STEREOTYPE

In this presentation I will discuss some of the central connotations of the term "tree hugger" as it has been used in academia, literature, and popular culture. Following an anecdotal introduction and a brief examination of the history of the term as it originated in India's Chipko movement, I will consider the representation of "tree huggers" in selected literary works, television shows and advertisements, bumper stickers and other cultural texts, paying particular attention to the way the term "tree hugger" encodes accusations of misanthropy, romantic anti-rationalism, and sexual deviance.

