



NRESi Bi-WEEKLY NEWS

Nov 21 - Dec 2, 2016

A newsletter for faculty, staff, students and the community
who participate in the
Natural Resources & Environmental Studies Institute
and NRES Graduate Programs

NRESi NOTES

FROM THE RESEARCH MANAGER

Hello everyone,

Well the fall semester for 2016 has come to an end. Last day of classes today and on to exams and then Christmas holidays. It's been a packed fall semester and I would like to extend a big thank you to all of our Friday colloquium presentation speakers for a job well done. Also a special thanks to those who stepped up at the last minute to fill in for speaker cancellations.

We have one more event which is taking place **today** (Dec 2nd) in the Teaching and Learning Building (10) atrium. The NRES Graduate Program and the NRES Institute will be hosting a NRES Grad student poster presentation and reception from 4-6 pm. Please come out and hear about all the exciting research being undertaken by our graduate students.

Al Wiensczyk, RPF

Research Manager, NRESi

UPCOMING EVENTS

NRESi COLLOQUIUM

Below is the tentative speaker line-up for the winter colloquium series starting on January 13, 2017. Lectures for the winter semester will be held in the Canfor Theatre—Room 6-213.

TENTATIVE WINTER SEMESTER COLLOQUIUM SCHEDULE

Presentation Date	Tentative Presenter and/or Topic
Jan 13, 2017	The 'Paleo diet' and the archaeological evidence for the evolution of human diets. Dr. Mike Richards, Simon Fraser University.
Jan 20, 2017	The Resilience of Wildlife Tourism Operations to Environmental Change. Diana Kutzner, UNBC
Jan 27, 2017	Mark Thompson, DWB Consulting Services Ltd.
Feb 3, 2017	Dr. Laurence Smith, UCLA
Feb 10, 2017	Dr. Matt Reudink, Thompson Rivers University, (TBC)
Feb 24, 2017	Dr. Paul Kushner, University of Toronto
Mar 3, 2017	Jim Pojar
Mar 10, 2017	Dr. Lisa Wood, UNBC
Mar 17, 2017	Andrew Adams, Hope Farms
Mar 24, 2017	Dr. Evelyn Merrill, U of Alberta
Mar 31, 2017	Dr. Michele Venter

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PLEASE EMAIL ALL INFORMATION AND MATERIAL TO: al.wiensczyk@unbc.ca

We're on the web at : www.unbc.ca/nres-institute/newsletter

UPCOMING EVENTS

5th BC Protected Areas Research Forum

December 5-7, 2016

Cadboro Commons, University of Victoria

The **BC Protected Areas Research Forum (BCPARF)** is a bi/tri-annual gathering of British Columbia (and neighbours) parks and protected areas managers and researchers from government, First Nations, academia (faculty and students), industry, non-governmental organizations and private sectors whom are involved and interested in the ecological and social dimensions of protected areas planning and management.

Please visit the conference website <http://www.unbc.ca/bc-protected-area-research-forum> for registration info, the preliminary conference program, and other research forum information.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Canadian Institute of Forestry: Electronic Lecture Series: Earth, Wind and Fire: An update on the Canadian Forest Service's Research Activities.

Date/Time	Title	Presenter(s)
Dec 7, 2016 10:30 am PST	Linear Disturbances/EMEND	Anna Dabros —Forest Ecologist, Northern Forestry Centre
Jan 11, 2017 10:30 am PST	The Canadian wildland fire information system: More than a website.	John Little —Spatial Data Analyst, and Brian Simpson —Forest Analyst and modeler, Northern Forestry Centre.
Jan 18, 2017 10:30 am PST	Forest Carbon Dynamics	Juha Metsaranta —Research Scientist, Northern Forestry Centre
Jan 25, 2017 10:30 am PST	GHG Mitigation Potential of Forest Bioenergy Use	Jérôme Laganière —Research Scientist, Laurentian Forestry Centre

All electronic lectures are free. Your consideration of CIF/IFC membership would be appreciated. To become a CIF/IFC member: www.cif-ifc.org/membership-content/become-a-member/
www.cif-ifc.org/e-lectures/

For additional information or to register, contact the CIF-IFC

E-mail: electures@cif-ifc.org Tel: 705-744-1715 ext. 585

UPCOMING EVENTS

ART EXHIBITION

CHANGE—Art and Science on Climate Change

October 21, 2016—January 8, 2017.

Two Rivers Gallery—725 Canada Games Way, Prince George.

Change is an exhibition that does more than call the phenomenon of climate change out. A collaboration between UNBC, the Two Rivers Gallery, and PICS, *Change* uses the permanent collection to offer insight, informative research and useful resources to assist in exploring solutions. This exhibition uses a mix of science and art to show a path forward.

UPCOMING EVENTS

UNDERGRAD THESIS PRESENTATION

Early response of understory vegetation to wood ash fertilization in the interior of British Columbia

Ms. Saskia Hart, B. Sc. (Hons) candidate, will be presenting her NRES 430 Undergraduate Thesis.

December 8, 2016—10 am

Room 6-307 Conference Centre

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TRAVEL & CONFERENCES

Gail Fondahl traveled to Brest, France, to participate in the meeting of the Scientific Council of France's Polar Institute (Institute Paul Emile Victor) for year 3 of her four-year appointment. Long work days reviewing fascinating proposals, punctuated by fabulous meals!



Roger Wheate and **Mike Allchin** attended the first meeting of the BC group of the Canadian Mountain Network at UBC on Tuesday 29 November, on behalf of NRES and QRRC. Slides and projects by UNBC faculty met with a warm reception and recognition. There are already three active groups in Yukon, Alberta and NWT; A national network meeting is planned for Victoria in April 2017 in preparation for the anticipated Network Centres of Excellence (NCE) program launch in spring 2017 (full meeting report and more information later).

Cumulative Impacts Research Consortium (CIRC) news

Chris Buse is currently away on a visiting lectureship at the University of Melbourne until the end of December. He will have limited email contact during the next two weeks, but will otherwise be online. During his absence please contact [Madeline Wilson](mailto:Madeline.Wilson@unbc.ca) regarding any CIRC business or activities.

Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (PICS) news

Exploring New Issues:

PICS Graduate Fellowships Call 2017

Faculty members resident at one of the four PICS consortium universities are invited to apply for graduate--- fellowship support for exploration of novel issues that focus on climate---change adaptation or mitigation. Proposals must focus on climate solutions, be relevant to British Columbia, and engage stakeholders/ knowledge users in the design and development of the research.

Please go to the PICS website <http://pics.uvic.ca/research/fellowships> or contact Michelle Connolly (michelle.connolly@unbc.ca) for more details.

Northern Analytical Laboratory Service (NALS) Update

New Analytical Chemistry Course for Graduates in January 2017

CHEM410/CHEM610 (Topics in Analytical Chemistry)

Schedule Types: Lecture, Final Exam, Laboratory

Instructor: Hossein Kazemian (Hossein.kazemian@unbc.ca)

Prerequisites: Please contact Instructor

What is this course about?

An advanced treatment of selected topics in analytical chemistry such as spectroscopy, separation technology and analytical instrumentation. Credit may be granted for both 400 and 600 level offerings of Topics in Chemistry courses.

Who should take it?

The focus for January 2017 semester will be on atomic spectroscopy. The course outline will be tailored according to students' needs!

This hands-on experience course is designed and recommended for 4th year students and all graduate students from different science programs who want to become familiar with the theory and application of different instrumental techniques at the Northern Analytical Lab Services (NALS) including, but not limited to: ICP-OES, ICP-MS, MP-AES.

When:

Jan 2017 Semester (Tue: 14:30-17:20 and Thu: 14:00 to 17:20)

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IN THE NEWS

(Government press releases)

China-Canada Roundtable on Illegal Logging

Dec 2, 2016—Beijing, China. Canadian and provincial government representatives and delegates from the Canadian forest sector met today with China's State Forestry Administration and Chinese industry officials to advance discussion around sustainable forest management practices during the China-Canada Roundtable on Illegal Logging in Beijing.

[For more details...](#)

Premier's statement on pipeline decisions

Nov 30, 2016—Victoria. Premier Christy Clark issued the following statement on the federal government's pipeline decisions: "Yesterday afternoon, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced his decision to reject Northern Gateway and approve the Kinder Morgan Expansion project.

[For more details...](#)

Sino-Canada Wood Conference explores green building, recognizes competition winners

Nov 30, 2016—Shanghai, China. A mix of 250 importers, distributors, builders, developers, designers and architects were on hand as Forests, Lands and Natural Resources Minister Steve Thomson welcomed delegates to the second-annual Sino-Canada Wood Conference in Shanghai.

[For more details...](#)

British Columbia stands by 5 conditions

Nov 29, 2016—Victoria. Minister of Environment Mary Polak has issued the following statement on the federal decision regarding pipeline projects:

[For more details...](#)

New opportunities open up in Japan for building with wood

Nov 28, 2016—Tokyo, Japan. Forestry Asia Trade Mission delegates have a better understanding of trends, priorities and Japanese market opportunities for British Columbia wood products after touring a six-storey, 2x4 demonstration project and two-storey cross-laminated timber test house in Tsukuba, Japan, just outside Tokyo.

[For more details...](#)

BC Parks Future Strategy to feature stronger conservation, more campsites

Nov 28, 2016—Vancouver. The Province will build on its world-renowned provincial parks system by hiring more park rangers to enhance conservation, improving services for persons with disabilities and launching a new BC Parks Foundation so community groups, businesses and individuals can come together and have a voice in BC Parks priorities.

[For more details...](#)

British Columbia wood products' contribution to reconstruction efforts in Japan

Nov 27, 2016—Sendai, Japan. Forestry Asia Trade Mission delegates viewed first-hand how British Columbia wood products are contributing to the socio-economic recovery of Japan's Tohoku region that was devastated by the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami.

[For more details...](#)

Factsheet: Canada-U.S. Softwood Lumber Trade

Nov 25, 2016—Victoria. Since 1982, lumber trade between Canada and the U.S. has been either the subject of U.S. trade litigation against Canadian exports to the U.S., or been managed through a trade agreement. There have been four U.S. trade cases pertaining to Canadian softwood lumber exports since 1982, and three managed trade agreements.

[For more details...](#)

Canada/U.S. softwood lumber negotiations

Nov 25, 2016—Tokyo. Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Minister Steve Thomson released the following statement today on the status of negotiations between Canada and the U.S. on softwood lumber and in response to the U.S. lumber industry filing its petition requesting the U.S. Government launch litigation against the Canadian and provincial governments and forest companies.

[For more details...](#)

Gitanyow stewardship guardians

Nov 25, 2016—Gitanyow. Protecting lands, water and the natural world. That's the overarching mission of the Gitanyow stewardship guardians and, for the past five years, the guardians have been monitoring fish, wildlife, hunting activities and environmental impacts in Gitanyow traditional territory.

[For more details...](#)

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IN THE NEWS

(Government press releases)

New LNG agreement with Saulneau First Nations

Nov 24, 2016—Victoria. Saulneau First Nations and the B.C. government have reached a new agreement on the Coastal GasLink natural gas pipeline project to help ensure that the Saulneau community can participate in and benefit from B.C.'s LNG opportunity. [For more details...](#)

Cutting tree permits now available

Nov 24, 2016—Victoria. British Columbians who are interested in cutting their own Christmas tree should obtain their permit online or contact their local district or FrontCounter BC office. [For more details...](#)

Haida Gwaii hospital officially opens

Nov 24, 2016—Village of Queen Charlotte. Health Minister Terry Lake was joined today by community leaders, residents and Northern Health physicians and staff for the grand opening of the new Haida Gwaii Hospital and Health Centre - Xaayda Gwaay NgaaysdII Naay. [For more details...](#)

Minister's statement on supercalendared paper decision

Nov 22, 2016—Victoria. Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Minister Steve Thomson issued the following statement on the U.S. Department of Commerce's preliminary determination to eliminate duties on Catalyst's exports of supercalendared paper: [For more details...](#)

Premier's statement on the conclusion of COP22 meeting

Nov 18, 2016—Victoria. British Columbia Premier Christy Clark and California Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr., Oregon Governor Kate Brown, Washington Governor Jay Inslee today issued the following statement on the final day of the United Nations Climate Conference in Marrakesh, Morocco (COP22): [For more details...](#)

Ministry takes action against bark beetles in Cariboo

Nov 18, 2016—Williams Lake. The Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations is implementing its Williams Lake Beetle Management Unit 2016 Treatment Plan to minimize the spread of Douglas-fir beetles on Crown land in the Williams Lake area. [For more details...](#)

Map of registered open burns available to the public

Nov 18, 2016—Kamloops. Wildfires are rare in B.C. at this time of year, but the smoke from legal, registered open burns is often mistaken for smoke from a wildfire. This is especially true in late fall when such fires are often lit to dispose of vegetation and wood debris. [For more details...](#)

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

[WCS Canada](#) is pleased to announce that with generous support from [The W. Garfield Weston Foundation](#), they are able to award annual fellowships to graduate students to support field research relevant to WCS Canada's conservation objectives at their two long-term conservation sites: the boreal region of northern Ontario and the northern boreal mountains of Yukon and British Columbia.

The application deadline for the 2017 W. Garfield Weston 2015 Fellowship Program is **February 23, 2017**.

For full details about the Fellowship Program and how to apply please go to the WSC Canada [Fellowship page](#).

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LITO AROCENA STUDENT AWARDS

Last December, dear colleague and founding UNBC faculty member, Dr. Lito Arocena passed away after a short battle with cancer. In honour of his memory, a UNBC memorial fund was established to support three student awards, which have recently been instituted:

Dr. Joselito (Lito) Arocena Memorial Scholarship (\$1000). Available to a full time undergraduate student who has completed 90 credit hours and is pursuing a Bachelor of Science honours or majors degree in one of the following: Biology, Environmental Science, Geography, or Natural Resources Management. Criteria: Academic excellence

Dr. Joselito (Lito) Arocena Memorial Undergraduate Thesis Prize (\$250). Awarded for the best thesis presented by undergraduate students completing an undergraduate major or honours degree in one of: Biology, Environmental Planning, Environmental Science, Environmental Studies, Geography, Natural Resources Management, or Nature-based Tourism Management.

Dr. Joselito (Lito) Arocena Memorial Graduate Prize (\$250). The Prize will be awarded to the student nominated by the NRES Graduate Program for the UNBC Governor General's Gold Medal.

Thanks to contributions from donors and UNBC, the fund is currently large enough to endow the \$1000 scholarship in perpetuity. However additional contributions are needed to permanently endow the two prizes, and to increase the amounts awarded over time. If anyone would like to contribute to this fund, through payroll deductions or otherwise, please go to www.unbc.ca/giving or www.unbc.ca/giving/employee-giving for more information.

SUSAN STEVENSON MEMORIAL AWARD

As its first project of this kind, the Natural Resources and Environmental Studies Institute (NRESi) has established the Susan Stevenson Scholarship Fund, in memory of wildlife ecologist and NRESi member Susan Stevenson. During a 35-year career built primarily in the BC central interior, Susan designed and implemented important research and inventory projects related to mountain caribou habitat, lichen biology, and silvicultural systems, collaborating with a diverse range of researchers, and gave generously of her expertise to the next generation of scientists. Susan exemplified the Institute's values of interdisciplinary curiosity and unselfish collaboration, and enriched the lives of all those who worked and studied with her.

Efforts have succeeded in reaching the goal of \$15,000 that will be matched by UNBC to allow for an annual award. Additional contributions to the fund are welcomed. The inaugural award will be presented in the 2016-2017 academic year. NRESi would like to thank everyone who contributed to the scholarship!

The following award criteria for the **Susan Stevenson Memorial Award** have been developed:

Value: \$1,000

Eligibility: Available to a full or part time female graduate student enrolled in either the Masters (NRES) or PhD (NRES) degree programs with a research emphasis in one or more of: wildlife ecology, plant biology, forest ecology, or innovative silvicultural systems and practices that emphasize wildlife management and biodiversity objectives.

Criteria: Satisfactory Academic Standing (3.0 GPA)

Conditions: Student is unable to receive this award more than once.

Recipient Selection: Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries on recommendation of the NRESi Steering Committee. Applicants will provide a statement, not exceeding 500 words in length, explaining how their intended research fits within the areas specified for his award.

COLLOQUIUM ARCHIVE

Did you miss a colloquium or special lecture this semester? Visit NRESi's webcast archive to catch up! They can be found on the [NRESi Youtube channel](#).

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The Arctic University of Norway, Tromsø - the world's northernmost university (70°N) in afternoon sun a few weeks prior to the start of the Arctic Night, November 26-January 15. Outdoor patios are packed on January 15, if there are clear skies when the sun returns (for 9 minutes !).—photo by Dr. Roger Wheate

In the background is Kvaløya (Whale Island), which recently went viral as a result of the distinctive tussocks of bunch grass (photo below).



DONALD TRUMP'S SECRET HAIR FARM
KVALØYA ISLAND, NORWAY

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