



NRESi Bi-WEEKLY NEWS

March 28 - April 8, 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 folks

The winter semester will soon be coming to an end. The final NRESi colloquium presentation of the winter semester takes place April 1st. Dr. Francesco Berna from Simon Fraser University will be speaking about Archaeological research at Wonderwerk Cave, South Africa. This is a joint colloquium presentation with the Anthropology Department.

We have been treated to a wide range of very interesting topics and discussions in our colloquium series this year. A heartfelt thank you to all of our speakers for their presentations—your efforts are greatly appreciated. Also a big thank you to the faculty and staff members from NRESi, other faculty departments, PICS, CIRC, as well as the organizers of the Inspiring Women Among Us who helped us find and/or co-host our speakers.

Work is currently underway to recruit speakers for the fall 2016 semester NRESi colloquium series. If you have any suggestions for speakers that you would like to hear or that you think would be willing and able to present on a topic of interest to the NRESi membership please contact me via email at the address in the newsletter footer.

This year also featured a successful series of colloquium presentations funded by the Peace-Williston Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program. Conditional approval of funding for a similar series for the fall 2016/winter 2017 semesters has been received and speaker recruitment is currently underway.

Al Wiensczyk, RPF
Research Manager, NRESi

UPCOMING EVENTS

NRESi COLLOQUIUM

The winter colloquium session concludes with a presentation by Dr. Francesco Berna on April 1st. Watch for announcements closer to the lectures confirming the presenter and topic. Lectures for the winter semester will be held in room 7-212.

WINTER COLLOQUIUM SCHEDULE

Presentation Date	Tentative Presenter and/or Topic
Apr 1, 2016	Dr. Francesco Berna, Geoarchaeologist, Simon Fraser University. Archaeological research at Wonderwerk Cave, South Africa.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Anthropology/NRESi JOINT COLLOQUIUM

Dr Francesco Berna

Department of Archaeology,
Simon Fraser University



Archaeological research at Wonderwerk Cave, South Africa

Wonderwerk Cave, situated at the base of a low foothill on the eastern flank of the Kuruman Hills in the Northern Cape Province of South Africa, is one of the most impressive archaeological sites in the world. The cave is an enormous dolomitic cavity (ca. 140 m long, 3–7 m high, 11–26 m wide) that has yielded paleontological and archaeological deposits spanning the last ca. 2.0 million years. The lengthy stratigraphic sequence in the cave provides suitable contexts for dating, while good preservation of faunal and botanical remains offers excellent proxies for paleoenvironmental studies. This makes Wonderwerk an archaeological and paleontological locality of global significance for the study of human evolution. Of particular importance is evidence for fire associated with human occupation, dating to about 1 million years ago.

Friday, Apr 1st, 2016

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Room: 7-212

To participate remotely: <http://www.unbc.ca/nres-institute/colloquium-webcasts>

UPCOMING EVENTS

LiveStream Presentation

The poster features a portrait of Naomi Klein on the left. At the top, logos for WALL, UBC Sustainability, AMS Sustainability, UBC 100, Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions, and CCPA are displayed. The main text reads 'UBC READS SUSTAINABILITY presents NAOMI KLEIN'. A white banner across the middle says 'ATTEND the LIVESTREAM - FREE! April 7th 12:00 NOON 5-171, Bring your lunch'. The event details are: 'April 7th, 2016 12-2pm UBC Old Auditorium 6344 Memorial Road'. A quote from Naomi Klein is included: 'In her most provocative talk yet, Naomi Klein tackles the most profound threat humanity has ever faced: the war our economic model is waging against life on earth.' The website 'sustain.ubc.ca/naomiklein' and ticket information 'Tickets \$5/\$12 - available online' are at the bottom.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Art & Change: Perspectives on Creativity and Activism

Thursday, April 7, 2016—7:30 pm
Two Rivers Gallery

Emerging out of Bill Horne's current exhibition, *Behind the Lines*, this panel features artists/activists who have taken responsibility to effect change in the world. Presenting indigenous and non-indigenous perspectives, the panel will explore the role of art and creativity in addressing challenges, such as climate and landscape change, and ways we can confront problems that contemporary life and environmental destruction pose to us both as individuals and communities.

Panelists

Bill Horne—Artist and activist

Helen Knott—Poet, writer and activist

Kym Gouchie—Lheidli T'enneh singer/songwriter

Moderator—**Michelle Connolly**—Coordinator for Pacific Institution for Climate Solutions, UNBC.

Two Rivers Gallery
725 Canada Games Way
Prince George, BC, V2L 5T1

Two Rivers Gallery gratefully acknowledges its partnership with PICS/UNBC.

Panel Presentation



Art & Change
Perspectives on Creativity & Activism

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Two Rivers Gallery
725 Canada Games Way
Prince George BC V2L 5T1



UPCOMING EVENTS

Undergraduate Thesis Presentations

Tuesday, April 12 and Thursday, April 21, 2016—UNBC Prince George

Undergraduate students from NRESi/Ecosystem Science and Management (ESM) program, and Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (BCMB) will be presenting the results of their research projects on one of these two days.

Tuesday, April 12, 2016—10:00 am - 12:00 pm—Conference Centre: Room 6-305

Time	Student	Project Title	Advisor(s)	2nd reader
10:00	Caroline Seip	Responses of American marten and their prey to constructed coarse woody debris corridors on a recently harvested clearcut in central British Columbia.	Johnson	Gillingham
10:25	Brett Johnson	Development and evaluation of a new method for generating migration timing estimates of post-smolt Fraser River sockeye salmon.	Shrimpton	Gillingham
10:50	Trevor de Zeeuw	Aleza Lake Ash Trials: Soil Chemical Analysis.	Rutherford/ Massicotte	McGill
11:15	Tyler Garden	Comparison of Fine Sediment in Non-Salmon and Salmon Bearing Streams. An Insight to the Stuart-Takla, Babine Lake and Morice River Watersheds.	Rutherford/Rex	Owens

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Thursday, April 21, 2016—9:00 am - 2:00 pm— Presentations: Room 7-238. Posters in the Wintergarden.

#	Student	Project Title	Advisor(s)	2nd reader
1*	Jennifer Noonan	Screening fungal extracts for antimicrobial activity	Egger	
2	Landon Short	Potassium stress response of <i>H. marismortui</i> analyzed by qPCR	Gorrell	Erasmus
3	Faran Rashid	Biological and chemical analysis of northern BC mushrooms	Lee	Reimer
4	Victor Lui	A specific protein-RNA interaction that promotes cancer phenotype	Lee	Rader
5	Taylor Callander	TBA	Reimer	
Coffee				
6	Aaron Germuth	Pituitary adenylate cyclase activating polypeptide and its role in regulating adaptive thermogenesis from the ventromedial nucleus through the sympathetic nervous system.	Gray	Rader
7	Jerry Doffe	TBA	Erasmus	Murray
8	Victoria Rezendez	TBA	Huber	Gorrell
9	Jessica Ballantyne	TBA	Payne	Gray
10	Meaghan For- ester	Endocrine regulation of thermogenesis: The role of pituitary adenylate cyclase-activating polypeptide (PACAP) and its affiliation with the melanocortin system.	Gray	Payne
Lunch/Posters**				
11	Hayley Scott	TBA	Wood	
12	Karl Domes	TBA	Rutherford/ Massicotte	Sanborn
13	Jeff Jang	TBA	Reimer	Lee
14	Preeti Nijjar	Pituitary adenylate cyclase-activating polypeptide (PACAP) in vascular function.	Gray	Payne

* Note: Presentation order may change

** Poster presentation details currently unavailable.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Canadian Institute of Forestry: Electronic Lecture Series:

Date/Time	Title	Presenter(s)
Apr 13, 2016 10:30 am PST	Emerald Ash Borer: Lessons learned & Science needs	Jason Pollard - Section Manager (Forestry), City of Ottawa
Apr 20, 2016 10:30 am PST	Atikokan's biomass conversion project: North America's largest 100% Biomass-fuelled power plant.	Brent Boyko - Senior Manager Business Development, Ontario Power Generation, Atikokan GS
Apr 27, 2016 10:30 am PST	SkyForest™, the Science: Using satellite imagery and digital surface models to create forest inventory information.	Benoit St-Onge - Professor, Université du Québec à Montréal (QAM)
May 4, 2016 10:30 am PST	Applying SkyForest™ to develop forest industries and related information.	Philip Green —CEO, and Yves Vivier — Director of Forestry, First Resource Management Group Inc.
May 11, 2016 10:30 am PST	Improving productivity of forest operations with SkyForest™.	Allan Foley —President and COO, and Claude Thibeault —Operations Manager, First Resource Management Group Inc.
May 18, 2016 10:30 am PST	Canadian Urban Forest Network: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow	Adrina Bardekjian —Program Manager, Urban Forestry, Tree Canada.
May 25, 2016 10:30 am PST	The rise of the industrial drone.	Ian Glenn —CEO/CTO ING Robotic Aviation Inc.

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:

Svetlana Zeran (CIF/IFC) **E-mail:** electures@cif-ifc.org Tel: 705-744-1715 ext. 530

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thesis Defence

NRES M.Sc. thesis defence:

Wyatt Klopp - **Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions** Forest Carbon Management grant research

Carbon budget of forest products harvested from mountain pine beetle-attacked forests in the Prince George Region.

Thursday, April 7, 2016, 2:00 – 4:00 pm

Conference Centre, **Room 6-205/211**

Chair: Dr. Si Transken (UNBC)

External Examiner: John Pousette, MSc, RPF. (Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations)

Supervisor: Dr. Art Fredeen (UNBC)

Committee Members: Drs. Phil Burton, Ian Hartley and Steve Helle (UNBC)

NRES M.Sc. thesis defence:

Sophia Unger

Trade-Offs in the early development of tree swallows (*Tachycienta bicolor*): Offspring characteristics, offspring quality and parental care.

Monday, April 11, 2016, 9:00 – 11:00 am

Conference Centre, **Room 6-305**

Chair: Dr. Todd Whitcombe, UNBC

External Examiner: Dr. Karen Wiebe, Univ. of Saskatchewan

Supervisor: Dr Russ Dawson (UNBC)

Committee Members: Drs. Katherine Parker (UNBC), Erin O'Brien (UBC-Okanagan)

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Thesis Defence

NRES M.Sc. thesis defence:

Rachel Pugh

Accelerated Aggregation in Mine Waste Deposits by Co-Pyrolysis of Tailings and Organic Feedstocks

Monday, April 11, 2016, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Conference Centre, **Room 6-305**

Chair: Dr. Tina Fraser (UNBC)

External Examiner: Dr. Phil Burton (UNBC)

Supervisor: Dr. Todd Whitcombe (UNBC)

Committee Members: Drs. Hugues Massicotte and William McGill (UNBC)

NRES M.Sc. thesis defence:

Isla Tanaka

Where Do You Play in Winter? An Exploration of Winter Recreation Spaces in Prince George, BC

Tuesday, April 12, 2016, 9:00 am

Administration Building—Senate Chambers

Chair: Dr. Sean Maurice (UNBC)

External Examiner: Dr Mark Groulx (UNBC)

Supervisor: Dr. Annie Booth (UNBC)

Committee Members: Drs. Tracy Summerville and Greg Halseth (UNBC)

NRES M.Sc. thesis defence:

Yihan Li

The Applicability of Unit Pricing for Municipal Waste Management in China: Case Study of Shijiazhuang

Thursday, April 14, 2016, 9:00 am

Conference Centre, Room 6-305

Chair: Dr. Lantana Usman (UNBC)

External Examiner: Dr. Liang Chen (UNBC)

Supervisor: Dr. Karima Fredj (UNBC)

Committee Members: Drs. Bryan Bogdanski and Balbinder Deo (UNBC)

NRES M.Sc. thesis defence:

Benita Kaytor

Decomposition and Carbon Loss in Lodgepole Pine (*Pinus contorta* var. *latifolia*) Wood Following Attack by Mountain Pine Beetle (*Dendroctonus ponderosae*)

Thursday, April 14, 2016, 1:00 pm

Conference Centre, Room 6-306

Chair: Dr. Kevin Smith (UNBC)

External Examiner: Dr. Dale Seip (BC Ministry of Environment)

Supervisors: Drs. Art Fredeen and Phil Burton (UNBC)

Committee Members: Craig DeLong (Ecora Resource Group Ltd.)

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Genomics Demystified: A technical session

April 27, 2016

University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta

Have you ever wondered what genomics is, and how this technology can be applied to forest management and other environmental stewardship topics? The objective of this technical session is to provide participants with a working knowledge of genetics, genomics and molecular biology, and to provide examples of how these technologies are being used – or could be used – to address pressing future challenges. Through this session, participants will acquire vocabulary and other fundamental concepts that will enable them to more easily access information about genomics, communicate with genomics practitioners, and become familiar with some of the ways in which genomics is being used in forest and environment research and development.

Hosted by the Canadian Institute of Forestry, University of Alberta, and the Foothills Research Institute.

[Agenda](#)

[To Register](#) (registration deadline April 20, 2016)

Avoiding catastrophe: Linking armed conflict, harm to ecosystems, and public health.

May 4-6, 2016

Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec

Gathering experts from the medical, epidemiological, veterinary, conflict management, biodiversity conservation, climate change and political science communities, this conference will pursue an integrated understanding of the catastrophic combination of prolonged armed conflict, environmental alterations such as biodiversity loss, and challenges to the provision of public health, including emergent infectious diseases, nutrition, and mental health issues.

This event is hosted by the LOYOLA SUSTAINABILITY RESEARCH CENTRE, and is funded by the Canadian Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Connections Program. Partners include: Montreal Institute for Genocide and Human Rights Studies, Doctors Without Borders, EcoHealth Alliance, Future Earth, the Human Security Institute, and the United Nations Secretariat for the Convention on Biological Diversity.

To register, follow this link: <http://bit.ly/1nF888V>

For more information, please contact Dr. Peter Stoett at Peter.Stoett@concordia.ca

IN THE NEWS

Stay up-to-date with the latest NRESi and member news by following us on Twitter: [@UNBC_NRESi](https://twitter.com/UNBC_NRESi)

Cumulative Impacts Research Consortium (CIRC) news

Event: The CIRC will be hosting a free community event at the Vanderhoof Seniors Friendship Centre on **April 6, 2016** from **6:00—8:00 pm**. This event will be an opportunity to learn, share, and promote a common agenda for positive action to address the cumulative environmental, community and health impacts of resource development.

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Rebecca Delorey at circ@unbc.ca.

Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (PICS) news

DEADLINE EXTENDED—April 8, 2016

BC's future Climate Leadership Plan: What YOU can do

Get informed and give your feedback!

This January the B.C. government launched a 60-day consultation period - ending on **March 25th** - on its forthcoming Climate Leadership Plan and is inviting all British Columbians to give their [feedback](#) on the **most important actions BC can take to lower our greenhouse gas emissions and take advantage of the low carbon economy of the future.**

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IN THE NEWS

(Government press releases)

Valuable, detailed feedback being received for new climate plan

Mar 24, 2016—Victoria. With over a thousand submissions already received, government is extending the second phase of public consultation on B.C.'s new Climate Leadership Plan by two weeks, until April 8, 2016. [For more details...](#)

BC Parks seeks public input on engagement policy

Mar 23, 2016—Victoria. Feedback is being sought to increase the public's awareness about activities taking place in BC Parks. [For more details...](#)

Public Input invited on Prince George Timber Supply Area

Mar 21, 2016—Prince George. Comments are being accepted until May 24, 2016, on a discussion paper released today as part of a comprehensive timber supply review for the Prince George Timber Supply Area. [For more details...](#)

Prescribed burns to restore Cariboo-Chilcotin grassland

Mar 21, 2016—Williams Lake. The Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations is planning to conduct a series of prescribed burns west of Williams Lake until April 30, 2016, weather conditions permitting. [For more details...](#)

PUBLICATIONS

R.A. Viscarra Rossel, T. Behrens, E. Ben-Dor, D.J. Brown, J.A.M. Demattê, K.D. Shepherd, Z. Shi, B. Stenberg, A. Stevens, V. Adamchuk, H. Aichi, B.G. Barthès, H.M. Bartholomeus, A.D. Bayer, M. Bernoux, K. Böttcher, L. Brodský, C.W. Du, A. Chappell, Y. Fouad, V. Genot, C. Gomez, S. Grunwald, A. Gubler, C. Guerrero, C.B. Hedley, M. Knadel, H.J.M. Morrás, M. Nocita, L. Ramirez-Lopez, P. Roudier, E.M. Rufasto Campos, **P. Sanborn**, V.M. Sellitto, K.A. Sudduth, B.G. Rawlins, C. Walter, L.A. Winowiecki, S.Y. Hong, and W. Ji. 2016. A global spectral library to characterize the world's soil. *Earth-Science Reviews* 155: 198–230.

Blewett, J. and Hanlon, N., 2016. Disablement as inveterate condition: Living with habitual ableism in Prince George, British Columbia. *The Canadian Geographer* 60(1): 46-55.

EXPERIENTIAL COURSE OFFERING

First Nations Cultural Heritage through Moose-hide tanning—FNST 444-3

May 2-20, 2016, Monday—Friday, 9:00 am to 3:30 pm

This intensive hands-on experiential-learning course will introduce students to concepts, case studies and perspectives on issues relating to Indigenous cultural heritage through the process of tanning a moose-hide. Co-facilitated with two Nak'azli Dakelh knowledge-holders, Yvonne Pierrero and Mildred Martin, this course will engage students in the process of preparing hides while simultaneously exploring Indigenous voices and diverse themes in cultural heritage, including recovery, protection and revitalization. This class will include travel to UNBC as well as to the home of the knowledge-holders, in Prince George. **This seminar-based class is founded on discussions of the readings, lectures and participation in the moose-hide tanning, thus attendance and active engagement of students in the class is highly expected.** Through the tanning process, students will have hands-on experience while developing an understanding of Indigenous history and cultural heritage as well as appreciation for Dakelh traditions and skills in their traditional and contemporary contexts.

For more information please contact Agnes Pawlowska-Mainville at: agnes.pawlowska-mainville@unbc.ca or visit the FNST website at <http://www.unbc.ca/first-nations-studies>

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Spring Field School Announcement



The Biology Field School (BIOL 333-3) will be offered on B.C.'s North Coast this spring, from April 25th to May 6th.

As a complement to recent versions of this course that focused on tropical rain forest ecology in trips to Panama, the 2016 course will address temperate rain forest ecology here in British Columbia.

We will be based in the village of Oona River on Porcher Island, reachable by boat from Prince Rupert. The course will provide an immersive experience in the ecology, dynamics, and management of North American coastal rain forests. Exercises will include sampling for forest composition, structure and history. Students will be introduced to interactions between plants and animals and between forested, aquatic and marine environments. Each student will undertake a small independent research project.

This course will be of interest to students in Forestry, Wildlife & Fisheries, Biology, Outdoor Recreation, Environmental Studies, and Geography. As a pre-requisite for enrollment, students must have taken a university-level course in ecology, such as UNBC's BIOL 104 or BIOL 110/111, though BIOL 201 is preferred. Interested students should contact the instructor, Dr. Phil Burton – phil.burton@unbc.ca, 250-615-3333 -- for a course outline, additional instructions and pre-reading assignments as soon as possible. Registration is limited to 18 students.



With assistance from UNBC's Undergraduate Experiential Learning Fund, the Terrace Community Forest, and McElhanney Consulting Services Ltd., and in partnership with the Oona River Resources Association, we can deliver this course with an additional course fee of only \$400 per student (to be confirmed). This fee includes accommodation and meals for all 11 days, as well as boat transportation and miscellaneous supplies.

COURSE OFFERING

PhD summer course: Climate Change Adaptation and Transformations towards Sustainability.

When: August 1-5, 2016

Where: University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway.

This PhD course explores the relationship between adaptation and transformation, two concepts that are key to understanding societal responses to climate change. The objective of the course is to engage students with the latest theories, frameworks, approaches and methods for addressing two critical questions in solutions-oriented global change research: What does it mean to successfully adapt to climate change? How can deliberate transformations to sustainability be carried out rapidly, yet in ways that ethical and equitable?

Organizers: Oslo Summer School in Comparative Social Science Studies at the University of Oslo, in collaboration with the Future Earth Norway Secretariat.

Lecturer: Professor Karen O'Brien, Department of Sociology and Human Geography, University of Oslo, Norway

Rolling admission, applications are now being accepted

Course Credits: 10 pts (ECTS)

Max. 25 participants

[Read more about the course and apply here.](#)

If you have any questions please get in touch with Linda Sygna at the Future Earth Norway Secretariat:

linda.sygna@sosgeo.uio.no

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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. The inaugural award is hoped to 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.

Application deadline for the 2016/17 academic year: August 1, 2016

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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