



"Our environment is our future"

FRIDAY

RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM SERIES

Dr. Curtis Bjork

Curator of Lichens and Bryophytes, Stillinger Herbarium, University of Idaho



Sept. 12, 2008

3:30 - 4:30

LECTURE THEATRE

7 - 212

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS SERVED AT 3:20 PM



Out on a LIM:

Documenting the epiphytic crust lichen of British Columbia

My coauthors and I seek to document the flora of the epiphytic crustose lichens of British Columbia. To date we have accepted more than 800 taxa based on about 100,000 specimens. Roughly 250 of these taxa appear to be new to science. Total epiphytic crustose diversity for our study area is expected to exceed 1000 species. Many of these lichens are so far known only from British Columbia, raising the distinct possibility that some may be regional endemics. Since a majority of new species have emerged from searches in wild habitats minimally impacted by human activity and few have emerged from economically managed landscapes, we predict that we will see extinction of many rare and endemic species with the ongoing losses of these wildlands, especially to logging.