
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Total revenues for FY 2005-2006 (\$61,000.00) were largely the result of one-time transfers of overhead from the Dean of the College of Science and Management and the Ecosystem Science and Management (ESM) Program. Total expenditures (\$10,559.87) included stipends to the co-directors, sponsorship of the NRES Institute Colloquium, advertising, and office costs. The Doug-Little/Canfor Endowment (administered through ESM) supported the NRESI Research Forum and NRESI Annual Lecture. Our year-end closing balance was \$50,440.13.

Total Revenues (FY 05-06)	\$61,000.00
<u>Total Expenditures</u>	<u>\$10,559.87</u>
Year End Balance	\$50,440.13

(A detailed financial statement for the Institute can be viewed electronically (pdf) at www.unbc.ca/assets/nres/NRESI_budget_05_06.pdf.)

Projected revenues for FY 2006-2007 are currently limited to overhead return on NRESI-related research projects from the Office of the Vice-President Research and participating UNBC Administrative Programs.

FUTURE ENDEAVOURS

Several new activities are planned for 2006-2007, including launch of the Occasional Paper Series and the Research Extension Notes Series. A main focus for the Institute will be securing long-term funding. Recovery by the NRES Institute of a portion of research overhead funds is possible on a case-by-case basis from the Vice-President Research and from Administrative Programs. Members are encouraged to explore this option when submitting grants. During FY 2006-2007, the Co-Directors will work closely with the UNBC Development Office to secure long-term support and funding for the Institute.

For more details on NRES Institute, please visit our website at www.unbc.ca/nres

GOVERNANCE 2005-2006

Founded on and governed by the strengths of its members, the NRES Institute creates opportunities for collaboration among its members to work on complex problems and to disseminate results. The NRES Institute operates with two co-directors and an internal Steering Committee, which reflect the perspectives of the members of the Institute and ensure that it functions in accordance with its vision statement and purpose. During 2005-2006, the Co-Directors were **Drs. Michael Gillingham** and **Debra Straussfogel**, and the Steering Committee Members were **Drs. Lito Arocena**, **Art Fredeen** (July-Dec 2005), **Peter Jackson**, **Kathy Parker**, and **Roger Wheate** (from Jan 2006).

The Steering Committee meets annually with its Management Committee, which includes the Vice-President Research and an NRES Graduate Student, to seek input on the performance of the Institute. During 2006-2007, the Steering Committee will work to develop an External Advisory Board to seek external community input into the activities of the NRES Institute.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Natural Resources & Environmental Studies Institute

Annual Report 2005-2006

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“Our environment is our future”



OUR PURPOSE

The Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (NRES) Institute is a formal association of UNBC faculty and affiliates promoting integrative research to address natural resource systems and human uses of the environment, especially issues pertinent to northern regions. The primary goal is to integrate across perspectives to better understand the functions, viability, and values of natural resource systems.

The NRES Institute advocates both fundamental and applied research approaches to resource use that conserve ecosystem health, and sustain resource-dependent communities. The Institute serves to create alliances among researchers, resource managers, and representatives of all levels of governance and industry, communities, and First Nations that are necessary to integrate research into management, and to keep research relevant and applicable to problems that require innovative solutions.

WHAT WE DO

The NRES Institute fosters communication among researchers and potential partners, rather than sponsoring or conducting specific research projects. It provides a conduit for basic and applied research opportunities from outside of the university, as well as a means to synthesize research findings for dissemination beyond academia. As well, we create a bridge to the NRES Graduate Programs by providing graduate students with opportunities to interact with researchers and to showcase their own research activities. Members of the NRES Institute mentor graduate students through the NRES Graduate Programs (PhD, MSc, MA, MNRES).

LONG-TERM VISION

We envision the Institute becoming a recognized leader in environmentally focused research and as an identifiable unit to which communities, industry, and government can turn for help with research questions and assessments of research needs. As it

becomes further established, the NRES Institute will enable other benefits to its members, including publication outlets, the pooling of resources (equipment, data, reference collections), reducing travel and operational costs, and increasing administrative efficiency.

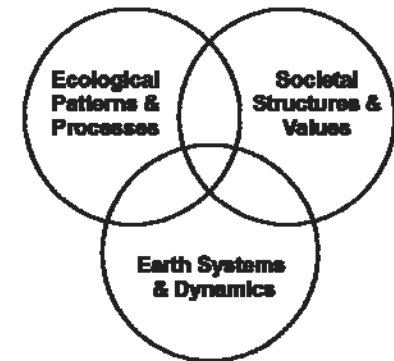
2005-2006 HIGHLIGHTS

- The NRES Institute was formally created by the UNBC Senate in May 2005.
- The Institute began with 50 members and added 6 more in 2005-2006. (Please see www.unbc.ca/nres/directory.html for a list of current members.)
- In January 2006, The Institute assumed the sponsorship of the NRES Institute Colloquium Series.
- The Institute invited NRES graduate students to nominate speakers for the NRES Institute Colloquium. Partial support from UNBC's Dean of Graduate Studies was provided for travel expenses. Although several nominations were received, the nominated speakers were unable to give colloquia. The next call for nominations will go out in late September 2006.
- Brown Bag lunches for Institute members were instituted in the December 2005 Semester to explore a number of potential research initiatives. Examples included the creation of commonly utilized spatial data bases and the impacts of corridor landscape features.
- The 1st Annual NRES Institute Research Forum showcased current research of Institute members and their graduate students in the NRES Graduate Programs.
- The 1st Annual NRES Institute Lecture featured Bill Rees of the UBC School of Planning who gave a provocative talk on the possibility and requirements for Global Sustainability. Dr. Rees is most well-known for his work on the Ecological Footprint.
- The Institute initiated the NRES Institute Occasional Paper Series for which the first volume will be the text of Dr. Rees's talk.

- An initial income stream was developed for the Institute based on a case-by-case basis with UNBC's Vice-President Research, matched by some Administrative Programs, for partial research overhead return to the Institute.
- Complementing its virtual presence, the Institute established a physical presence in room 4-312 (Research Lab Building) in February 2006.

RESEARCH

The Institute emphasizes disciplinary research in an interdisciplinary context. Research endeavors can be broadly grouped into one or more of the following categories: *Ecological Patterns and Processes*, *Societal Structures and Values*, and *Earth Systems and Dynamics*, as illustrated below.



Individual members of the Institute have strong disciplinary expertise in the natural, physical, environmental and social sciences. The NRES Institute provides a forum to promote integrative research to address natural resource systems and human uses of the environment, including issues pertinent to northern regions.

During 2005-2006, total research funding for NRES Institute-related research was approximately \$2,243,000.

Please see www.unbc.ca/nres/research.html for a complete list of current research projects.