



## NRES MONTHLY NEWS AUGUST, 2004

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

### THESIS DEFENCES

#### AUGUST 18

- ◆ **Ms. Svetlana Bluskov**, candidate for the degree: Master of Science in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (Environmental Science) will be defending her thesis entitled:

"DISTRIBUTION OF CHROMIUM AND ITS EFFECT ON MORPHOLOGY AND ANATOMY OF BRASSICA JUNCEA (INDIAN MUSTARD) AND SOIL MICROORGANISMS"

Supervisor: **Dr. Joselito Arocena**, Ecosystem Science and Management .

**Date: Wednesday, August 18, 2004**

**Time: 2:00 pm**

**Place: Conference Centre - 6-205**

- ◆ On July 14th, **Paul Way**, candidate for the degree: Master of Science in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (Recreational Resource Management), defended his thesis entitled:

"BACKCOUNTRY RECREATION RESOURCE MANAGEMENT: A COMPARISON OF TWO TRAILS IN MOUNT ROBSON PROVINCIAL PARK"

Supervisor: **Dr. Sanjay Nepal**, Resource Recreation and Tourism

### GRANT AWARDED

- ◆ **Kevin Hall** (Geography) has been funded (all air travel, accommodation, car hire, etc) by the National Geographic Society for two field seasons in South Africa to work on the weathering of San cave art in conjunction with the Geography Department, University of Pretoria.
- ◆ **Kathy Parker** has received a third and final year of funding from the BC Habitat Conservation Trust Fund for \$28,000. She and NRES PhD candidate **Brian Milakovic** are doing research to define the predator landscape for ecosystem planning in the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area of northern BC.

### NEW PUBLICATIONS

- ◆ Campbell, K.A. and **C.D.B. Hawkins**. 2004. Effect of seed source and nursery culture on paper birch (*Betula papyrifera*) uprooting resistance and field performance. For. Ecol. Manage. 196:425-433.
- ◆ Maundrell, C. and **Hawkins, C.** 2004. Use of an aspen overstory to control understory species, bluejoint grass (*Calamagrostis canadensis*) and fireweed (*Epilobium angustifolium*). N.J. Appl. For. 21:74-79.
- ◆ Fort, K. & **Otter, K.A.** 2004. Territorial breakdown of black-capped chickadees, *Poecile atricapillus*, in disturbed habitats? Animal Behaviour 68:407-415



## INVITATION

- ◆ **Kevin Hall** (Geography) has been invited to be part of the design team for a new British Antarctic base that is being competed for by the Canadian group "Young and Wright Architects Inc." - it is to design and construct a new base at Halley Bay on the Brunt Ice Shelf.

## TRAVELING

- ◆ **Ellen Petticrew** will be attending the International Association of Hydrological Sciences meeting in Moscow, Russia Aug 3-7 .
- ◆ **Rob Higgins**, Ph.D. candidate in NRES, will attend the International Congress of Entomology, Brisbane, Australia, August 15-21. Rob will present a paper on utilization of coarse woody debris by ants, and is co-authoring a poster on myrmecophagy (ant feeding) in grizzly bears with **Staffan Lindgren and Lana Ciarniello**. Rob's trip is supported in part by a UNBC travel grant and a travel grant from the University College of the Cariboo.
- ◆ **Kathy Lewis** will attend the International Union of Forest Research Organization's 11th International Conference on Root and Butt rots in Poznan, Poland, August 15 - 22.
- ◆ **Cecilia Alstrom-Rapaport** participated in the 29th meeting of the Canadian Tree Improvement Association - "Climate change and Forest Genetics" - in Kelowna, July 26 - 30th.



## NEW WEBSITE

- ◆ The **CURA** research partnership between UNBC and Tl'azt'en Nation has a new website. Please visit us at: <http://cura.unbc.ca>

## CELEBRITY NEWS

- ◆ **Lisa Poirier** and her summer research assistant, Taryn Brown were interviewed by PGTV and by CBC Daybreak North in July. The interviews focused on their research into the presence of mosquito vectors of West Nile virus in northern BC.



## CONGRATULATIONS!

- ◆ Research proposals (Letters of Intent) submitted to the federal Mountain Pine Beetle Initiative by research teams led by **Keith Egger** and **Kathy Lewis** have been approved. Dr. Egger's project is entitled "Assessment of post-beetle impacts on natural regeneration of Lodgepole pine", and Dr. Lewis' will be "Investigating the relationship between timber recovery, quality and time-since-death for beetle-killed stands".

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ Mark your calendars—The 2004 Doug Little Memorial Lecture and Dinner has been scheduled for Thursday, November 18. Guest Lecturer will be **Dr. Ray Guries**. Dr. Guries is the current chair of the Forest Ecology and Management Department at the University of Wisconsin.

**We're on the web at: <http://www.unbc.ca/nres/newsletter.html>**

### REMINDER:

Share your information about recent publications, grants, and /or other honours you may have received with others interested in NRES issues.

**PLEASE EMAIL ALL INFORMATION AND MATERIAL to Lucille Guiney: [guineyl@unbc.ca](mailto:guineyl@unbc.ca)**