
PLANS FOR 2009-2010

The Institute will continue to play a role in facilitating UNBC-based research as part of the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions as well as the Future Forest Ecosystems Scientific Council Initiatives. We will continue to sponsor the Colloquium Series, an NRES Graduate Student Icebreaker early in Fall 2009, as well as the Annual Research Forum and Annual Lecture Series during Winter 2010. The Institute intends to further support the NRES Graduate Program, while promoting NRES Institute Extension Notes, by offering a cash prize for the best Extension Paper authored by an NRES Graduate Student. Also beginning in September 2009, all NRES Institute Colloquia will be made available in real time using Elluminate web conferencing (or similar) system.

Financial Statement

Total revenues for FY 2008-2009 (\$18,332.00) came from two sources. Overhead redirection from the Vice-Provost for Research and matching overhead redirection from the Ecosystem Science and Management Program (B. Aukema, A. Booth, P. Burton, M. Gillingham, S. Green, C. Johnson, S. Lindgren, K. Lewis, K. Parker, R. Rea. and M. Shrimpton) and the Environmental Engineering Program (P. Jackson,) totaled \$8770.60. An additional \$9562.20 in one-time income came from the transfer from a former NRES Special Interest Fund. Total expenditures (\$10,250.00) included stipend to the Director, sponsorship of the NRES Institute Colloquium, advertising, support for the Fall Grad Ice Breaker, and office costs. Our year-end closing balance was \$58,282.00.

Starting Balance	\$50,200.00
Revenues	\$18,332.00
<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>(\$10,250.00)</u>
Year End Balance	\$58,282.00

Governance 2008-2009

Director
Mike Gillingham

Steering Committee Members
Phil Burton
Art Fredeen
Kathy Lewis
Ken Otter
Phil Owens

For more details on the information provided in this report, please visit our website:

<http://www.unbc.ca/nres>

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Natural Resources & Environmental Studies Institute

Annual Report
2008-2009

April 2009



Our Purpose

The Natural Resources and Environmental Studies Institute (NRES Institute) is a formal association of UNBC faculty and affiliates that promotes integrative research among its members to address natural resource systems and human uses of the environment, including issues pertinent to northern regions. The Institute promotes research across perspectives to better understand the functions, viability, and values of natural resource systems.

Founded on and governed by the strengths of its research-active members, the NRES Institute creates opportunities for collaboration among its members to work on complex problems and to disseminate results, in part through its Colloquia and publication series. It advocates both fundamental and applied research approaches to resource use that conserve ecosystem health, and sustain resource-dependent communities. The NRES Institute serves to create alliances among researchers, resource managers, and representatives of all levels of governance and industry, communities, and First Nations, which are necessary to integrate research into management, and to keep research relevant and applicable to problems that require innovative solutions.

What We Do

By enabling communication among researchers and potential external partners, the NRES Institute 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 an important bridge to the NRES Graduate Programs by providing graduate students with opportunities to interact with researchers and to showcase

their own research activities. Synthesis and extension is encouraged through the peer-reviewed NRES Institute Extension Note and NRES Institute Occasional Paper Series.

2008-2009 Highlights

- There are currently 67 members of NRES Institute.
- The Institute sponsored 29 colloquia as part of the weekly NRES Institute Colloquium Series.
- Two peer-reviewed NRES Occasional Papers were published during 2008-09 (www.unbc.ca/nres/occasional.html).
- One peer-reviewed Extension Note was published during 2008-09 (www.unbc.ca/nres/research_extension_notes.html).
- The Institute co-sponsored Wade Davis to present at the British Columbia Protected Areas Research Forum in December 2008.
- The 4th Annual NRES Graduate Fall Research Social was held on October 3rd to showcase the work of NRES Graduate Students.
- The 4th Annual NRES Institute Research Forum (March 19th) showcased current research of NRES Graduate Students and Institute members.
- The 4th Annual NRES Institute Lecture (March 19th) featured Dr. Lori Daniels of the University of British Columbia. Dr. Daniels talk was entitled, "Widespread Increases in Tree Mortality Rates in Old Forests".
- The Institute co-sponsored (with the Bulkley Valley Centre for Natural Resources Research and Management) an informal half-day workshop on Complexity Science and Global Change Workshop held in Smithers on 13 February 2009.

Research Activity

The NRES Institute links a community of researchers with varied backgrounds and research interests empowering them to pursue their disciplinary research in an interdisciplinary context. Consequently, many of the research initiatives undertaken by Institute members are collaborative efforts with other Institute members. 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*. Please see www.unbc.ca/nres for a complete list of members and their research interests. Locations of many of the research projects can be viewed using Google earth at www.unbc.ca/assets/nres/projects.kmz

Support for the NRES Graduate Programs

NRES INSTITUTE members mentor graduate students through the NRES Graduate Program (PhD, MSc, MA, MNRES). The Institute sponsors an annual NRES Graduate Student Poster Session and Icebreaker each fall; and a Research Forum preceding the Annual Lecture each spring. Graduate students also nominate at least one speaker per year for the NRES Colloquium. The Institute also advertises funded graduate research opportunities within the NRES graduate programs.

Long-term Vision

We envision the NRES Institute continuing to become 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.