



"Our environment is our future"

## RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM SERIES

### Dr. Philippe Henry

Ecosystem Science & Management &  
Natural Resources and Environment Studies Institute  
Associate Professor-UNBC



**Friday**  
**Sept 27, 2013**

**3:30 - 4:30**

**LECTURE THEATRE**

**8-166**

## THE AMERICAN PIKA: A MODEL SPECIES TO STUDY BIOTIC RESPONSES TO CLIMATE CHANGE

In the face of predicted climate change, a broader understanding of biotic responses to varying environments has become increasingly important within the context of biodiversity conservation. Upslope migration and local adaptations are potential options, and while a large body of literature is available on this topic, remarkably few studies have assessed the responses of sensitive species in the field. In this talk, I will introduce the American Pika as an up and coming model mammalian system to study biotic responses to climate change. I will focus on a number of population genetic studies that provide evidence for local adaptation and overall lack of dispersal at a local scale. I will then introduce the current state of this research and foreshadow some of the potential approaches that could be developed to assist in predicting responses to climate change and informing novel approaches to wildlife conservation in a changing world.