



NRES WEEKLY NEWS

January 5, 2007

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

HAPPY NEW YEAR AND WELCOME BACK

MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA VISITING UNBC!

NRESI is starting the new year with a visit from the Honorable Gary Lunn, Minister of Natural Resources Canada. The minister will be visiting Prince George for the Natural Resources Forum and asked to visit UNBC especially to meet with NRES Graduate Students and Undergraduate Researchers who represent the future of research on Natural Resource issues.

Mark your calendars for **Friday, January 12, 10-12:30 in the Bentley Centre** to meet Minister Lunn for a coffee/tea sponsored by the NRES Institute and the NRES Graduate Programs.

Showcasing NRESI Members.....

The institute is launching two new initiatives to showcase the membership of NRESI.

- *Research Extension Notes Series*—This is a peer reviewed in-house publication that offers an opportunity to disseminate your work to a broad public audience. Please visit the NRESI website to view the first in the Extension Note Series authored by **Dr. Art Fredeen**, and entitled "How is forest management influencing carbon storage in sub-boreal forests?" On the website, you will also find the guidelines for submission. Please consider submitting your research to this series.
- *Photo Board*— As a picture is worth a thousand words, we are working to establish a photo display of NRESI members and graduate students on the second floor of the new lab building (on the wall with the NRESI poster). As the UNBC communications office can no longer provide the service of taking photos for this purpose, we ask that, if you have photos of yourself and your students (head shots or "action" photos) and wish to be included on the photo board, please submit to nresi@unbc.ca along with any relevant caption information.

Resources on the UNBC G:Drive.....

Just a reminder that there are many resources available to NRESI members on the main g:drive, two of particular note are:

- A template memo for requesting that a portion of overhead from research grants be provided to NRESI. So far 100% of all requests have been granted.
- A form to advertise graduate positions that will be posted to the web.

THE 2007 NRES COLLOQUIUM SERIES WILL BEGIN ON JANUARY 19

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 Elissa Zemlak: zemlak@unbc.ca

We're on the web at: www.unbc.ca/nres/newsletter

CONGRATULATIONS

to the following ESM Faculty for their achievement on their promotion and/or tenure recommendations

Blair, Jenia	Promotion to SLI III
Green, Scott	Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor
Lewis, Kathy	Promotion to Full Professor
Parker, Katherine	Promotion to Full Professor
Rea, Roy	Promotion to SLI III
Sanborn, Paul	Tenure

COURSE ANNOUNCEMENT: NRES 737—Evolutionary Processes, Winter 2007

Instructors: Brent Murray and Ken Otter

Evolution and Natural Selection underlie all disciplines within the Biological Sciences. This seminar-based course will use classic papers on a variety of aspect of evolutionary processes as the groundwork for students selecting and leading discussions on topics in evolution that give them a greater understanding of their own thesis work. Exact topics covered in the course will be influenced by the interests of students each year, but will generally include: Natural Selection and random drift in populations; Adaptation; Speciation and Biodiversity; Macroevolution; Evolutionary Genomics; and, Evolutionary History. For more information contact **Ken Otter** at 960-5019 or otterk@unbc.ca OR **Brent Murray** at 960-5638 or murrayb@unbc.ca

CONGRATULATIONS to **Honey Giroday** in the Aukema lab who was awarded a Pacific Forestry Centre Graduate Student Award. Honey is studying range expansion of mountain pine beetle with **Brian Aukema**, **Staffan Lindgren**, and adjunct professor **Allan Carroll**. Congratulations, Honey!!

TRAVEL

Staffan Lindgren attended the Annual General Meeting of the Entomological Society of America in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA, 9-12 December. Staffan will attend an editorial board meeting for Environmental Entomology, and he will present the invited paper "Will the mountain pine beetle make the Warren root collar weevil a major pest of regenerating lodgepole pine?", co-authored by M.Sc. Student **Matt Klingenberg** and his supervisor **Brian Aukema**, at a symposium in honour of C. Wayne Berisford, University of Georgia.

Lito Arocena visited the Portman Bay and other areas in the mining areas of southeast Spain from Dec 10-23, 2006.

Portman Bay (*Portus Magnus* to the Romans ca. 200 BC) is considered one of the worst environmental disasters along the Mediterranean coast. Mine residues discharged into the bay from 1958 – 1988 formed the present day beach (arrows depict old coast line) of > 54 M tons of mine tailings with high concentrations of cadmium, lead, zinc, copper sulfate, sodium cyanide, zinc sulfate, and sulphuric acid. **Lito Arocena** and Prof. Faz Cano (Universidad Politécnica de Cartagena) are investigating various soil processes (e.g., accumulation of organic matter, breakdown of minerals) in Portman Bay for long-term remediation and stabilization of contaminated mined areas.

