



NRES WEEKLY NEWS

November 19 - 23, 2012

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

COMING EVENTS

NRESI RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM SERIES

For Elluminate information and link to the webcast: http://www.unbc.ca/nres/nresi_webcast.html



Olav Lian, PhD

Geography Program, University of the Fraser Valley



Optical Dating: historical background, basic principles, and its application to research in geomorphology, Quaternary geology, and archaeology

Luminescence dating, which includes thermoluminescence (TL) and optical dating, consists of a collection of numerical-age techniques that are among the most important chronological tools currently used in Quaternary research. In this talk I will review concisely the key basic principles of luminescence dating and its historical developments, from its roots in TL dating of heated minerals to the development of optical dating methods for sunlight-exposed sediments. I will discuss the feasibility of some of the techniques commonly used in optical dating, including multiple-aliquot, single-aliquot, and single-grain procedures, and how they can be applied to solving various problems in environmental science.

Friday, November 23, 2012

3:30 - 4:30 pm

Room: 7-152

GRADUATE THESIS DEFENCE

Ms. Reena Toor (Pahal) is a candidate for the degree:

Master of Science in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (Environmental Science)

Ms. Toor (Pahal) will be defending her thesis entitled:

“Development of a Risk Assessment Tool for Mercury in Fish”

Supervisors: **Drs. Mike Rutherford** and Laurie Chan

Date: **November 28, 2012** Time: 9:00 am Room: 6-306 Conference Centre

GRADUATE THESIS DEFENCE

Ms. Jessica Blewett is a candidate for the degree:

Master of Arts in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (Geography)

Ms. Blewett will be defending her thesis entitled:

“Disablement in Prince George, BC: A Qualitative, Holistic and Participatory Exploration”

Supervisor: **Dr. Neil Hanlon**

Date: **November 30, 2012** Time: 9:00 am Room: 6-306 Conference Centre

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

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



GRADUATE THESIS DEFENCE

Ms. Teresa Brewis is a candidate for the degree:

Master of Science in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (Environmental Science)

Ms. Brewis will be defending her thesis entitled:

“Glacier Change and Contribution to Streamflow in the
Canoe Basin, British Columbia, 1948-2005”

Supervisor: **Dr. Brian Menounos**

Date: **December 12, 2012** Time: 9:00 am Room: 6-307 Conference Centre

COMING EVENTS — ELSEWHERE

GLOBAL FRIDAYS
ROOM 10-4520
12:00 - 1:30 pm

November 23

Dr. Elizabeth Cooper, Asst. Prof., School for International Studies, SFU

“Charity and Chance: The Manufacture of Uncertainty Through Child Sponsorship in Kenya”

All Global Friday presentations will be available to remote participants at: <http://bit.ly/unbc-globalfriday>

GLOBAL MONDAY
ROOM 7-150
7:00 PM

Monday, November 26

Screening starts 7:00 pm, Room 7-150

“Regressa Urgente” (Return Urgent)

A documentary film which explores migration, identity, and belonging, by João Sardinha (UNBC BA Geography '96) which is based on his doctoral research with Portuguese return migrants.

Coast to Coast Seminar Series: “Contaminants, climate and the Arctic Ocean: What can we do in this sea of change?”, presented by Dr. Robie Macdonald, Fisheries and Oceans Canada. 27 November at 11:30 - 12:30 in room 3-2024, UNBC Prince George campus. (<http://irmacs.sfu.ca/events/coast-coast-seminars>)

CONGRATULATIONS

Chris Opio has been appointed as an Adjunct Professor, University of Laval, Quebec.

PUBLICATIONS

Chen, H., **Arocena, JM**, Li, J., **Thring, RW** and J Zhou 2012 Mobility and storage sinks for chromium and other metals in soils impacted by leather tannery wastes. *Journal of Environmental Monitoring* doi: 10.1039/c2em30452j

Opio, C. 2012 Building Effective drinking water management policies in rural Africa: Lessons from Northern Uganda. The CIGI-Africa Discussion Paper Series No. 6. A peer-reviewed research **technical paper**, based on field work, published by the *Africa Initiative and The Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI)*. <http://www.cigionline.org/series/africa-initiative-discussion-paper-series>

Opio, C. 2012 Building Effective drinking water management policies in rural Africa: Lessons from Northern Uganda. The CIGI-Africa Policy Brief Series No. 5. A peer-reviewed **policy paper**, based on field research, published by the *Africa Initiative and The Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI)*. <http://www.cigionline.org/publications/>

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PLEASE EMAIL ALL INFORMATION AND MATERIAL TO: Michelle.Keen@unbc.ca

TRAVEL / CONFERENCES / RESEARCH

On 29-30 November, **Stephen Déry** will be participating in a graduate student symposium hosted by the University of Toronto's Centre for Global Change Centre. He will give the keynote talk entitled "Climate change and the water towers of western Canada" on the 30th. He will also have the opportunity to meet with collaborator Dr. Paul Kushner at the University of Toronto.

UNBC NRES affiliates took part in the "Adding It All Up—Balancing Benefits and Effects of Resource Development" conference on cumulative effects in Smithers, 14-16 November (<http://www.bvcentre.ca/addingitallup>). **Sybille Haeussler** offered opening remarks as president of the conference sponsor, the Bulkley Valley Research Centre. **Phil Burton** contributed to a joint presentation with Danielle Smyth and Michael McDiarmid, entitled "Balancing the benefits and effects of resource development: collaborative approaches to education in northwest B.C."

Toby Turner, MSc Candidate (supervisors: **Chris Opio** and **Michael Rutherford**), will be in Calgary, AB 26 November, making a research presentation at the Petroleum Technology Alliance of Canada (PTAC) 2012 Resource Access and Ecological Issues Forum, Calgary Petroleum Club. Toby's presentation will be on "Factors affecting plant survival and growth on natural gas transmission lines in northeastern British Columbia" by T. Turner, **C. Opio**, and **M. Rutherford**.

Chris Opio will be at the University of Laval, QC, 2-5 December. He will be making a research presentation on "Agroforestry and Human Health". While at the university, Chris will also be participating in an MSc thesis defense by Ruth Serra (Supervisors: **Chris Opio** and Damase Khasa).

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