



NRES WEEKLY NEWS

September 15 - 19, 2008

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



Today

Dr. Curtis Bjork

Curator of Lichens and Bryophytes, Stillinger Herbarium, University of Idaho

Out on a LIM: Documenting the epiphytic crust lichen of BC

My coauthors and I seek to document the flora of the epiphytic crustose lichens of British Columbia. To date we have accepted more than 800 taxa based on about 100,000 specimens. Roughly 250 of these taxa appear to be new to science. Total epiphytic crustose diversity for our study area is expected to exceed 1000 species. Many of these lichens are so far known only from British Columbia, raising the distinct possibility that some may be regional endemics. Since a majority of new species have emerged from searches in wild habitats minimally impacted by human activity and few have emerged from economically managed landscapes, we predict that we will see extinction of many rare and endemic species with the ongoing losses of these wildlands, especially to logging.

Friday, September 12, 2008

3:30 - 4:30 pm

Lecture Theatre 7-212

Light Refreshments will be Served



Howard Freeland

Argo Co-Chairman
Fisheries & Oceans Canada / Institute of Ocean Sciences

Next **FRIDAY**

Argo Watches the Oceans

Physical oceanography is presently undergoing a radical change with the installation of a global, real-time observing system called Argo that was initiated 9 years ago at the OceanObs-99 meeting in France.

This talk will outline how the Argo instrumentation works and will describe the evolution towards a global observing system that has been created entirely within the last 9 years. This observing system has required international cooperation within the scientific community at a level that is unprecedented in oceanography. The talk will also outline some results deriving from the global array.

Today a global observing system exists in the oceans of the world. Indeed, more ocean climate data will be gathered in the Southern Ocean in 2008 than has been gathered from the sum of all previous research missions to the Southern Ocean. So today we know at all times how the ocean is changing, how heat is being stored in the oceans and how it is being redistributed by ocean currents.

Nevertheless there are threats to the long-term survival of this program notwithstanding the enormous social benefits that will derive from its survival. Political decisions over the next 2 years will determine whether or not there is a potential for the long-term survival of the Argo array.

Friday, September 19, 2008

3:30 - 4:30 pm

Lecture Theatre 7-212

COMING EVENTS

Global Fridays
September 19, 2008
Senate Chambers
12:30—1:45 pm

Pun Ngai, Associate Professor
Hong Kong University of Science & Technology

Made in China: Women Factory Workers in a Global Workplace

NRES Graduate Student Poster Session / Fall Social

Friday, October 3rd
3:30—5:30

Winter Gardens — light refreshments provided

The main purpose of this event is to get to know the new graduate students and mingle with those that have been working on their projects for a while within the context of ongoing research within NRES. Please plan on attending and encouraging your students to attend. If you and/or your graduate students have posters that they would like to display, either email Mike Gillingham (michael@unbc.ca) with the number of posters and the contact name for each poster, or fill in the sign-up sheet that is on the counter by Brenda Janzen's desk (3rd floor, New Lab Building).

PUBLICATIONS

Walker, J.K.M., **Egger, K.N.**, Henry, G.H.R. (2008) "Long-term experimental warming alters nitrogen-cycling communities but site factors remain the primary drivers of community structure in high arctic tundra soils". *ISMI J* 2: 982-995.

Graves, A.D., Holsten, E.H., Ascerno, M.E., Zogas, K.P., Hard, J.S., **Huber, D.P.W.**, Blanchette, R.A., Seybold, S.J. (2008) "Protection of spruce from colonization by the bark beetle, *Ips perturbatus*, in Alaska". *Forest Ecology and Management* doi: 10.1016/j.foreco.2008.07.008 .

Brahney, J., Clague, J., **Menounos, B.**, Edwards, T. (2008) "Timing and cause of water level fluctuations in Kluane Lake, Yukon Territory, over past 5000 years". *Quaternary Research* 70: 213-227.

Ayotte, J.B., **Parker, K.L.**, **Gillingham, M.P.** (2008) "Use of natural licks by four species of ungulates in northern British Columbia". *Journal of Mammalogy* 89:1041-1050.

correction from August newsletter:

Lindenmayer, D.B., **Burton, P.J.**, Franklin, J.F. (2008) *Salvage Logging and its Ecological Consequences*. Island Press, Washington, DC. 227 p.

TRAVEL / CONFERENCES / PRESENTATIONS

Brian Aukema, Brent Murray and Dezene Huber will be attending the Tria Project Inaugural International Scientific Workshop September 10 –11 at UBC. The workshop will involve presentations and discussions related to the ongoing mountain pine beetle/fungus/tree genomics project. The Tria Project: Mountain Pine Beetle System Genomics is jointly funded by Genome British Columbia and Genome Alberta and involves researchers from UNBC, UBC, U of A, and Natural Resources Canada. See: <http://www.thetriaproject.ca/>.

Phil Burton presented the work Nancy-Anne Rose (M.Sc. student) is conducting under his supervision at an IUFRO conference on Biodiversity in Forest Ecosystems and Landscapes held at Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops, BC, August 5-8. The title of their talk was “Using bioclimatic envelopes to identify temporal corridors in support of conservation planning in a changing climate”. He presented an updated version of the same talk to the Metapopulation Research Group at the University of Helsinki on September 4th, where he met with colleagues to discuss landscape planning software and the mapping of uncertainty in spatial models.

Phil Burton took part in a workshop on “World Forests, Society and Environment” held in Helsinki, Finland, September 2-3. the meeting was an editorial workshop for a new international book on “The Future of Forests — Responding to Global Changes”, which is designed to synthesize forest policy recommendations based on recent scientific research and socioeconomic trends. See www.iufro.org/wfse for details.

Staffan Lindgren will be in Sweden on combined sabbatical and personal business 9-30 September. In addition to visiting family and friends, he will work on joint research projects with former post-doctoral fellow Niklas Björklund, now at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) in Uppsala, 11-12, and 29 September, give an invited presentation “Is pheromone-based mass trapping a realistic management-alternative for bark beetles?” there on 12 September, and meet with entomology colleagues there and at the SLU campus in Umeå on 22-23 September.

Roger Wheate attended the UK Society of Cartographers summer workshop at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland, September 1-4, where he gave a talk on a century of glacier mapping in Western Canada (and briefly recovered from the local affliction known as ‘will ye nae come hame agin’).

Jane Young attended the Canadian Botanical Association 2008 Annual Meeting (Botany without Borders) July 26-30 at UBC, and did an oral presentation: **Young, J.**, Gradowska, A., **Rutherford, M.**, **Booth, A.** , “The effect of NaCl and CMA treatment on the growth and morphology of *Arctostaphylos urva-ursi*” and poster: Shaw, L., John, B., **Young, J.** , “The ecology of food and medicine plant gathering sites as defined by Tl’azt’en Nation”.

GUESTS / IN THE COMMUNITY

The QRRC and Landscape Ecology Research Program (Drs **Petticrew** and **Owens**) are presently hosting a group of 16 faculty and students from University of Basel in Switzerland, lead by Prof. Dr. Klaus Kuhn. This is Klaus' third visit to the QRRC after bringing students from Exeter University, UK, in previous years. The Basel students are looking at carbon in forest soils in the Quesnel watershed amongst other activities.

The **2nd Annual QRRC Open House** is scheduled for Saturday, October 4th starting at 10:30 am. The day consists of presentations in the morning by UNBC researchers working in the Quesnel watershed and area. Lunch will be provided. Last year's event was attended by about 70 people from UNBC and the communities local to the QRRC. It is anticipated that vehicles will travel down from Prince George in the morning and return in the afternoon of Saturday. For further details or to reserve a ride to the QRRC please contact **Ellen Petticrew** (ellen@unbc.ca) or **Phil Owens** (owensp@unbc.ca) by September 29th.

CONGRATULATIONS

M.Sc. Student Nancy-Anne Rose received a "Highly Commendable" award (sort of an 'honourable mention') in the student poster competition at the Society for Conservation Biology's 22nd Annual Meeting held in Chattanooga, Tennessee, July 13-17. Her poster, co-authored by **Phil Burton**, was entitled "The use of bioclimatic envelopes to identify temporal corridors for conservation planning in the context of climate change".

Lisa Poirier and **Jane Young** received \$1,000 in funding from ALRF in May for a pilot study involving surveying wetlands at the Aleza Lake Research Forest.

Congratulations to **Jane Young** on her marriage to Dave Miller on August 9th.

WELCOME

Honey-Marie de la Giroday, currently completing her M.Sc. under the supervision of **Brian Aukema**, is now the Forest Research Technician for the Canadian Forest Service Research Cluster at UNBC. Her office is in Admin 2021, and she can be reached at 960-5904 or honeydel@pfc.cfs.nrcan.bc.ca .

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

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 MICHELLE KEEN: keenm@unbc.ca