



## NRES WEEKLY NEWS

January 11 - 15, 2010

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

**This Friday**

**Tristan Pearce, PhD Candidate and SSHRC Vanier Scholar**  
Dept. of Geography, University of Guelph

### Living with Climate Change in the Arctic



Climate change is already being experienced in the Arctic with implications for ecosystems and the communities that depend on them. This presentation describes research conducted in collaboration with Inuit in the community of Ulukhaktok, Northwest Territories that documents human exposure-sensitivities to climate change and the adaptive strategies employed. An approach for assessing community vulnerability to climate change is described and results are discussed. It is based on research involving over 120 interviews, secondary sources of information, and participant observation. In the context of subsistence hunting, changes in temperature, seasonal patterns, sea ice and wind dynamics, and weather variability have affected the health and availability of some species of wildlife important for subsistence and have exacerbated risks associated with hunting and travel. Inuit in Ulukhaktok are coping with these changes by taking extra precautions when travelling, shifting modes of transportation, travel routes and hunting areas to deal with changing trail conditions, switching species harvested, and supplementing their diet with store bought foods. Limited access to capital resources, changing levels of traditional knowledge and land skills, and substance abuse were identified as key constraints to adaptation. The research demonstrates the need to consider the perspectives and experiences of local people for climate change research to have practical relevance to arctic communities such as for the development and promotion of adaptive strategies.

Jan. 8, 2010

3:30 - 4:30 pm

Lecture Theatre 7-152



**Dr. George Iwama**  
President & Vice-Chancellor, UNBC

**Next Friday**

### Stress in Fish

The stress response is vital to the adaptive responses in fishes. I will introduce the generalized stress response in fish at the levels of the organism to the cell. This will involve the response of stress hormones and heat shock proteins in different fish species to various biological and abiotic stressors. I will discuss the work we have been doing with tidepool sculpins on the west coast of Vancouver Island with regard to the possible role heat shock proteins may play in their coping with the variable environment of the intertidal zone.

Jan. 15, 2010

3:30 - 4:30 pm

Lecture Theatre 7-212

Light refreshments served at 3:20 pm.

**Unable to make it in person? Watch the colloquium at your desk!**

For Elluminate information and link to the webcast: [http://www.unbc.ca/nres/nresi\\_webcast.html](http://www.unbc.ca/nres/nresi_webcast.html)

Log in as "Guest"

January 8, 2010

Dr. Coll Thrush, Dept. of History, University of British Columbia

Indigenous Histories from an Empire's Centre: Notes toward an Aboriginal History of London  
\*\*\*\*\*

## THESIS DEFENCE

\*\*\*\*\*  
Mr. Ian Picketts is a candidate for the degree:**Master of Natural Resources and Environmental Studies**

Mr. Picketts will be defending his thesis entitled:

"Community Adaptation to Climate Change: An Exploration of Climate Change  
Adaptation Planning in British Columbia"Supervisors: Drs. **John Curry** and Eric Rapaport

Date: January 8, 2010

Time: 9:30 am

Room: 6-305, Conference Centre  
\*\*\*\*\*

## PUBLICATIONS

Dora Maria Carmona, Ángel Faz Cano and **Joselito M. Arocena** (2009) "Accumulation of Organic Carbon from Pig Manure Added to Surface Soil in Mined Areas, SE Spain" in Faz Cano et al. (eds) *Advances in Geocology 40 Land Degradation and Rehabilitation Dryland Ecosystems* (Verlag, Catena) p. 37-52

Carmen Fernández-López, Ángel Faz Cano, M<sup>a</sup> Ángeles Muñoz García and **Joselito M. Arocena** (2009) "Metal Contents of Soils near the Mining Districts in El Choro, Bolivia." in Faz Cano et al. (eds) *Advances in Geocology 40 Land Degradation and Rehabilitation Dryland Ecosystems* (Verlag: Catena) 219-232

**Aukema, B.H.**, Zhu, J., Møller, J., Rasmussen, J.G., and K.F. Raffa. (2010) "Predisposition to bark beetle attack by root herbivores and associated pathogens: Roles in forest decline, gap formation, and persistence of endemic bark beetle populations." *Forest Ecology and Management* 259: 374-382

Justin Hooper (independent studies student) and Roy Rea had their article: Hooper, J. and **R.V. Rea**. (2009) "The use of an orthotic casting foam as a track-plate medium for wildlife research and monitoring." *Wildlife Biology* 15:1-7 **featured in December in:** Wildlife Society Field Notes. 2009. Tracking with Foam. *The Wildlife Professional*. Winter 2009.

## CONFERENCES / TRAVEL

**Chris Johnson** attended the Circumarctic Rangifer Monitoring & Assessment Network meeting in Vancouver 3-5 December.

**Ken Otter** met with Russell Technologies and the Vancouver Airport about developing a bird tracking radar at YVR 15-17 December.

Postdoc Kishan Sambaraju, undergrad Gareth Hopkins, grad student Jordan Koopmans, and PI **Brian Aukema** attended the Entomological Society of America meetings in Indianapolis just before Christmas. Gareth received a 2009 Undergraduate Student Achievement Award along with a handsome cash prize, while Jordan won a President's Prize for best talk in his division. Kishan and Brian did their best to emulate a large cheering section from a big university when they received their awards.

**We're on the web at : [www.unbc.ca/nres/newsletter](http://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](mailto:keenm@unbc.ca)**