



# NRES WEEKLY NEWS

## May 3 - 7, 2010

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

### COMING EVENTS

The **Community Development Institute at UNBC** is pleased to announce that **Dr. Dawn Hemingway, Chair of Social Work at UNBC**, will be our Community Speaker this spring.

Dr. Hemingway is Associate Professor and Chair of the School of Social Work at UNBC and an adjunct professor in Community Health Sciences and Gender Studies. Her teaching and research interests include community-based research, organizing and policy development, northern/rural health/quality of life, formal/informal care giving and aging issues. Dawn is Co-Leader of the BC Network for Aging Research and a founder of the Women North (Health) Network.

The title of Dr. Hemingway's talk is:  
"**Boom or Bust: Northern Communities Must Have Social Infrastructure**"

**Wednesday, May 12th — Prince George**  
7:00 pm, Room 7-150, UNBC Campus

**Thursday, May 13th — Fort St. John**  
7:00 pm, Room 202, Northern Lights Campus



### GRADUATE THESIS DEFENCES

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Ms. Caitlin Pitt is a candidate for the degree:  
**Master of Science in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (Biology)**

Ms. Pitt will be defending her thesis entitled:

"Functional Expression of *IPS Paraconfusus* Cytochromes P450 Exhibiting Conspicuous Up-Regulation with Feeding on Host Phleom"

Supervisor: Dr. **Dezene Huber**

Date: May 10, 2010

Time: 9:00 am

Room: Senate Chambers

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Mr. Duncan McColl is a candidate for the degree:  
**Master of Science in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (Biology)**

Mr. McColl will be defending his thesis entitled:

"Factors Affecting the Carabid (*Coleoptera: Carabidae*) Community in Successional Sub Boreal Spruce Forests. With Special Reference to their Interactions with Ants (*Hymenoptera: Formicidae*)."

Supervisor: Dr. **Staffan Lindgren**

Date: May 12, 2010

Time: 10:00 am

Room: Conference Centre 6-305

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## COMING EVENTS

### AWAKENING THE SKEENA movie

Monday, May 3rd, Canfor Theatre, UNBC

Doors open 6:30 pm, movie starts at 7:00 pm (Admission by Donation)

Awakening the Skeena movie -- In the summer of 2009, Ali Howard became the first person to ever swim the 610 km length of the Skeena river from its birthplace in the Sacred Headwaters to its mouth at the Pacific Ocean. See [www.skeenawatershed.com](http://www.skeenawatershed.com) for more information about the movie & Ali Howard's swim. Ali Howard will be in attendance!

The movie is cohosted by Sea to Sands Conservation Alliance <http://s2sca.blogspot.com> and Skeena Watershed Conservation Coalition [www.skeenawatershed.com](http://www.skeenawatershed.com).

## TRAVEL / CONFERENCES / FIELD WORK

**Stephen Dery** will be attending the European Geosciences Union from May 2 - 7, in Vienna, Austria. He will be presenting one poster presentation:

**Dery, Stephen**, Theo Mlynowski, Marco Hernandez-Henriquez, and Fiammetta Straneo, 2010: Variability and trends in streamflow input to Hudson Bay, Canada

as well as a solicited oral presentation on behalf of recent NRES candidate, Jinjun Tong:

Tong, Jinjun, **Stephen Dery**, **Peter Jackson**, and Chris Derksen, 2010: Remote sensing of snow in the Cariboo Mountains of British Columbia, Canada.

**Stephen Dery** will be travelling to Rimouski, Quebec on May 17th to act as the external examiner on a Ph.D. defence. The candidate is Mr. Pierre St-Laurent whose thesis is entitled "Variabilite saisonniere et interannuelle des eaux douces dans les mers arctiques: le cas de la Baie d'Hudson." Mr. St-Laurent is a doctoral candidate under the supervision of Dr. Fiamma Straneo at the Universite du Quebec a Rimouski (UQAR).

**Brian Menounos** gave a talk about geoscience education at UNBC at the Minerals North conference in Prince George last week.

**Phil Owens** is attending the European Geosciences Union annual conference in Vienna, May 3 - 7, which is attended by about 10,000 scientists. He is organizing and chairing two sessions and presenting the following two posters:

**Phil Owens**, Tim Stott, Barry Forrester, Joanne Lee, **Stephen Déry**, and **Brian Menounos**. Suspended sediment fluxes in the proglacial zone of a retreating glacier, Cariboo Mountains, British Columbia

**Phil Owens**, Ian Droppo, Kevin Taylor, Katrina Caley, Sarah Campbell, and **Mike Rutherford**. Metal content of road deposited sediment and fluvial channel-bed sediment in the City of Prince George, British Columbia

**Paul Sanborn** and M.Sc. student Kasia Caputa (co-supervised by **Darwyn Coxson**) carried out field work in the Riske Creek area, west of Williams Lake on April 26 and 27. Kasia's research is on the ecological roles of biological soil crusts in BC interior grasslands, and their potential response to climate change. This research is part of a larger project on rangeland ecology and climate change, funded by the Future Forests Ecosystems Scientific Council (FFESC). On Monday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, Paul and Kasia will be travelling to Kamloops to meet at Thompson Rivers University with other project members to plan the upcoming field season.

**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)**

## CONGRATULATIONS

Malyssa Maurer (MSc NRES-Geography, Supervisor: **Brian Menounos**) won a graduate student grant for \$1424 from the Geological Society of America for her proposal entitled, 'Terrestrial and Lacustrine Evidence of Holocene Glacier Fluctuations in Southernmost Patagonia'. Malyssa will use this money to help defray costs associated with her laboratory analysis of her thesis.

## PUBLICATIONS

Clason, A., Macdonald, S.E., and **S. Haeussler** (2010) "Ecosystem changes at whitebark pine's northern limit." *Nutcracker Notes* Spring-Summer 2010: 12-13

Bruzzese, B.M. Bowler, R., **Massicotte, H.B.**, and **A.L. Fredeen** (2010) "Photosynthetic light response in three carnivorous plant species: *Drosera rotundifolia*, *D. capensis* and *Sarracenia leucophylla*." *Photosynthetica* 48 (1): 103-109

The project "Communicating Traditional Knowledge: Prophet River First Nation" was one of the studies highlighted in the article on Environmental Dynamics in the March newsletter of "On the Move - Initiatives Prince George". **Jane Young** is the lead researcher on this project. The article describes how EDI has helped to build important partnerships between First Nations, resource development companies and UNBC. The newsletter can be found at the website: [http://www.initiativespg.com/Documents/March2010OTM\\_000.pdf](http://www.initiativespg.com/Documents/March2010OTM_000.pdf).

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