



NRES WEEKLY NEWS

April 4 - April 8, 2011

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

NRESI RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM SERIES

April 1, 2011

British Columbia's Inland Rainforest: Ecology, Conservation and Management

**Susan Stevenson, Harold Armleder, André Arsenault,
Darwyn Coxson, Craig DeLong, and Michael Jull**



The temperate rainforests of coastal British Columbia are world renowned, but much less is known about the other rainforest located 500 kilometers inland along the western slopes of the interior mountains. The unique integration of continentality and humidity in this region favours the development of lush rainforest communities that incorporate both coastal and boreal elements. In British Columbia's Inland Rainforest, scientists bring together, for the first time, a broad spectrum of information about this distinctive ecosystem. They also consider the ecological consequences of human activities in the rainforest and present strategies for its management and conservation.

Friday, April 1, 2011

3:30—4:30 pm

7-150

**This event marks the launching of this book.
Following the Colloquium meet and chat with the authors at the reception
in the Bentley Centre.**

April 7, 2011

NRESi Annual Lecture

Peter Ward

**Paleontologist
Professor of Biology and of Earth and Space Sciences
University of Washington**



Our society judges our planet to be stable - and builds cities, infrastructure, farms and the rest as if sea level will never change, or climate. But even a cursory look at the Geological Record shows that this is a foolish stance - made even more dangerous by the unprecedented tinkering humans are now doing to the Earth's atmosphere. In this lecture I will look at what being an "Earth-like Planet" means from both a geological and astrobiological point of view - one that looks back and forward in time, the other looking outward in terms of cosmic geography. In fact a great deal of the near as well as far future of our planet is discernable by what can be called "knowable" science.

Thursday, April 7, 2011

7:00—9:00 pm

Canfor Theatre

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

For Elluminate information and link to the webcast: http://www.unbc.ca/nres/nresi_webcast.html
For a list of upcoming seminars: <http://www.unbc.ca/nres/seminar/>



Peter Ward

**Paleontologist
Professor of Biology
and of Earth and Space Sciences
University of Washington**

April 8, 2011

A new view of mass extinctions

Mass extinctions were planetary catastrophes that caused massive species die offs in (geologically) short periods of time. Since the paradigm changing discovery by the Alvarez group in Berkeley in 1980, that one of the biggest of the mass extinctions, the dinosaur killer of 65 million years ago was caused by an impact of a large asteroid with the Earth, it has been believed that most or all of the "Big Five" mass extinctions over the last 500 million years was the result of impact. In this talk I will use results from Canada to show why it was short term global warming that caused at least three of the so called Big Five.

Friday, April 8, 2011

3:30—4:30 pm

7-212 (note room change)

2011 NRES-Related Undergraduate Thesis Presentations

April 4, 2011

Monday April 4th from 10:20 to 12:00 am in the Bentley Centre. Each presentation will be approximately 15 minutes with 5 minutes for questions. Coffee, tea, and pastries are being provided by the NRES Institute.

Time	Presenter	Thesis Title	Supervisor	Second Reader
10:20 - 10:40 am	Sam Barnes	Communicating Traditional Ecological Knowledge	Jane Young	Darwyn Coxson
10:40 - 11:00 am	Dusty Walsh	Monitoring nocturnal migration past wind farms with night-vision technology	Ken Otter	Brent Murray
11:00 - 11:20 am	Rurik Muentzer	Evaluating the effectiveness of public engagement in community forests	Kathy Lewis	Greg Halseth
11:20 - 11:40 am	Kathryn Berry	Trapping and feeding cattail mosquitoes, <i>Coquillettidia</i> (=Mansonia) perturbans, in north-central British Columbia	Lisa Poirier	Staffan Lindgren
11:40 - 12:00 pm	Vivien Arnold	Glutathione S-transferases and mountain pine beetle detoxification of secondary metabolites	Dezene Huber	Brent Murray

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

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

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

COMING EVENTS

NRESI RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM SERIES

GRADUATE THESIS DEFENCES

Mr. Sean Sweeney is a candidate for the degree:

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

Mr. Sweeney will be defending his thesis entitled:

“Environment, Climate and Tree Growth Relationships at the
Western Canadian Arctic Treeline“

Supervisor: **Dr. Scott Green**

Date: April 13, 2011 Time: 10:00 am Room: 6-305

Mr. Xinyuan Song is a candidate for the degree:

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

Mr. Song will be defending his thesis entitled:

“Remediation of Salt- and Petroleum Hydrocarbon-Contaminated Soils
Using Ultrasound and Soil Washing“

Supervisor: **Dr. Jianbing Li**

Date: April 14, 2011 Time: 9:30 am Room: 6-307

PICS NEWS

Dr. John Mashey **The Machinery of Climate Anti-Science**

April 4, 2011

The battle of truth versus disinformation is nowhere better demonstrated than in the distortion of climate science. More than 97 percent of practicing climate scientists support the fact that global warming is happening and caused by humans, yet the public often thinks that scientists are seriously divided on this issue. In this special public lecture, Silicon Valley computer scientist and technology expert Dr. John Mashey will expose the underhanded, but effective PR/lobbying tactics of the anti-science campaign. It has included Internet-propagated disinformation, personal attacks, threats of violence and hate mail, including the manufactured non-event “Climategate.” His talk will examine the organization and activities of anti-science funders, think tanks, and spokespeople over the last 20 years, including recent developments and initiatives to counter their efforts.

April 4, 2011

3:30 – 4:30pm

7-158

PUBLICATIONS

Book Launch, currently in press: Ahrens, C. Donald*, **Peter L. Jackson**, and **Christine E.J. Jackson**. 2012. *Meteorology Today: An Introduction to Weather, Climate, and the Environment* (1st Canadian ed.). Toronto: Nelson Education.

CONGRATULATIONS

Annie Booth received a MITACS Accelerate internship for her work entitled “Waterways and Resource Use: A Study of the Effects of Heavy Industry on First Nations Fisheries Use by West Moberly First Nations”. Alisha Skelton will be working with Dunne-za Ventures LP & West Moberly First Nations.

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TRAVEL

Kathy Lewis will attend the Southern Interior Silviculture Committee meeting on April 6, 2011 in Naramata, BC. She will attend sessions on climate change, forest health and a panel discussion with government leaders in forestry and natural resource operations. Kathy will also meet with the Deputy Minister of Forests.

Saphida Migabo and **Jenia Blair** will attend the Able Teaching Conference at New Mexico State University from June 14–18, 2011. Able, the Association for Biology Lab Education, promotes information exchange among university and college educators actively concerned with teaching biology in a lab setting.

ELSEWHERE ON CAMPUS

GLOBAL FRIDAYS

12:00 - 1:30 pm

On April 1st at 12:00 noon in 1079 (Senate Chambers), Dr. A.S. Bhullar (Dept of Economics and Sociology, Punjab Agricultural University, India) will present "**Sustainability Crisis in Green Revolution Areas in India: Implications and Adaptive Strategies**"

April 1, 2011

On Tuesday April 5th at 7:30 in room 8-164, Rosamund Pojar will present a workshop on "Learning to identify Trees and Shrubs in Winter". Rosamund's book, by the same title will be available at the workshop. This presentation is supported by the Prince George Naturalists. Bring your magnifying glass!

April 5, 2011

The **Community Development Institute** at UNBC is pleased to announce that this spring's Speakers Series speaker is Marleen Morris. Marleen's talk is entitled "Collaboration in Regional Economic Development: Why Should We Bother?" It will explore the benefits and outcomes of regional collaboration and the factors that can make it work. It will look at how communities, working together, can achieve the synergies and produce the momentum required for lasting economic change. The Talks will be held on Wednesday, April 06, at the Prince George UNBC Campus, room 8-166, 7:00 pm and Thursday, April 07, Hazelton Campus of Northwest Community College, 1:00 pm.

April 6, 2011

On April 5, from 1:00—4:00 pm in 6-205/6-211, the Northern Economic Student Society Symposium "**The Economics of Northern Gateway Pipelines**" will feature Nathan Lemphers, Technical and Policy Analyst, Pembina Institute Michael Holden, Senior Economist at the Canada West Foundation

April 5, 2011

Michelle Keen is now back on campus — welcome back Michelle! Starting next week, Michelle will be taking back the roll of putting out the weekly NRES Institute Newsletter. I would like to thank **Jutta Koehler** for all of her help over the last couple of months in producing the Newsletter. Jutta took on the roll with very little warning and has done a great job for us. Thanks Jutta! Mike

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