



# NRES WEEKLY NEWS

## October 10 - 14, 2011

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



**Dr. Loraine Lavallee**

**Oct. 14, 2011**

Assistant Professor, Dept. of Psychology, UNBC

**Greed, selfishness, immorality, and ignorance — the four horsemen of environmental apocalypse?**



People's environmental inaction is often attributed to problems of individual motivation (greed, selfishness, or laziness), conscience (valuing wealth and consumption over the environment) or ignorance. I will review the results from three studies investigating people's values and conservation behaviour. The findings suggest that the majority of people care about the environment, understand the logic of conservation, and are motivated to achieve environmental goals when they understand the impact of their behaviour on the environment. The evidence, however, further suggests that people's willingness to sacrifice for collective environmental goals is limited by the behaviour of others around them. If the majority of people surrounding the individual are not conserving, even the most committed environmentalists are unlikely to sustain or undertake costly conservation behaviours. Consequently, collective approaches to conservation are likely to be more effective than efforts directed solely at changing individuals' values, beliefs, knowledge, or behaviour.

**Friday, October 14, 2011**

**3:30 - 4:30 pm**

**Room: 7-158**

**Oct. 21, 2011**

**Dr. Phil Burton**

Cdn. Forest Service and  
Assoc. Adjunct Prof., ESM Program, UNBC

**Classifying and Mapping Forest Disturbance Regimes**



We tend to classify ecosystems, landscapes and regions on the basis of dominant vegetation, assumed to be at equilibrium with the prevailing climate and terrain. But vegetation also reflects its history of disturbance and various attributes of the disturbance regime. Natural ecological disturbances can be characterized by their frequency, annual area affected, seasonality, selectivity and causal agent, many of which may be associated and which change more readily than the distribution of tree species. Several decades of mapped nationwide forest fire data and BC-based fire and insect outbreak histories were used to undertake hierarchical spatially constrained cluster analysis. The resulting maps portray zones of homogenous disturbance regimes, which are discussed in terms of risk analysis and adaptation to climate change.

**Friday, October 21, 2011**

**3:30 - 4:30 pm**

**Room: 7-158**

**Dr. Morgan D. Hocking**

Postdoc Fellow, Hakai Network, SFU and Science Director, Qqs Projects Society, Bella Bella

**Salmon-ecosystem interactions of the BC Central Coast**

**Friday, October 28, 2011**

**3:30 - 4:30 pm**

**Room: 8-164**

**Dr. Hocking's presentation will be followed by poster presentations by  
NRES Graduate Students in the Winter Garden. ALL WELCOME**

**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](mailto:keenm@unbc.ca)**

## COMING EVENTS

### NRESi Annual Grad IceBreaker and Poster Session 28 Oct 2011 - 4:30 to 5:30pm - Atrium of Teaching & Learning Building

This annual event follows the **Student-Nominated NRESi Colloquium**, which will be given this year by **Dr. Morgan Hocking** (SFU) on "Salmon-ecosystem interactions of the B.C. Central Coast" - **3:30-4:30, 28 Oct, room 8-164**.

The IceBreaker is an opportunity for new and returning graduate students to interact with each other and faculty. We encourage students to present posters of their research, either from UNBC or elsewhere. Sign-up sheets will be posted at the Administrative Assistants' (Marlita, Brenda, Jutta and Michelle's) stations on each floor of Building 8. Please sign up so that we know how many poster boards to order. Alternately, email Jutta Koehler ([koehlerj@unbc.ca](mailto:koehlerj@unbc.ca)), Annie Booth ([annie@unbc.ca](mailto:annie@unbc.ca)) or Ken Otter ([otterk@unbc.ca](mailto:otterk@unbc.ca)) to indicate your intention to present and we will sign you up. Deadline for sign up for posters is 25 Oct 2011 so that we can assure the right number of poster boards.

## PUBLICATIONS

**Haessler, S.** 2011 "Rethinking biogeoclimatic ecosystem classification for a changing world". *Environmental Reviews* 19: 254-277

## CONGRATULATIONS

Undergraduate student Melanie Bodhi (Setter) and Geography professor Zoë A. Meletis were successful in their recent application for UNBC's first round of Undergraduate Research Experience awards. They are currently designing a study of community perceptions of the Two Rivers Gallery, in collaboration with Gallery staff members. When the study is complete, they will report findings to gallery, community, and UNBC audiences.

## ELSEWHERE ON CAMPUS

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**GLOBAL FRIDAYS**  
ROOM 5-183  
12:00 - 1:30 pm

**October 21, 2011**  
**Allison Fedorkiw, Exec. Director, 27 Million Voices**

**"Child Trafficking in West Africa: Context, Causes & Strategies"**

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## TRAVEL

**Art Fredeen** is attending the C4F "Climate, Climate Change, & Community Forests" Conference in Dunster, 13 - 14 October.

**Kathy Lewis** is attending the 59th Western International Forest Disease Work Conference in Leavenworth, WA, 10 - 14 October.

**Ken Otter** has been invited to give a talk on eagle migration and wind development at the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Migratory Monitoring Network hosted by the Canadian Wildlife Service & Bird Studies Canada in Naramata, 15 - 16 October.

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

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**PLEASE EMAIL ALL INFORMATION AND MATERIAL TO: [Michelle Keen: keenm@unbc.ca](mailto:Michelle Keen: keenm@unbc.ca)**