



# NRES WEEKLY NEWS

## October 24 - 28, 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

**Oct. 28, 2011**

**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

Spawning Pacific salmon subsidize terrestrial habitats with marine-derived nutrients and energy. Declining salmon populations and the loss of nutrient subsidies are a concern for conservation and management because they may lead to shifts in key ecosystem processes. I discuss linkages between salmon populations and terrestrial communities of plants, insects, songbirds and resident fish based on my work for over ten years on the Central Coast of BC near Bella Bella. This region remains one of the largest intact tracts of temperate rainforest in the world. It is also home to growing First Nation communities who are assuming a greater role in resource management. To end I discuss the opportunities and challenges of integrating science with First Nations objectives in order to implement ecosystem-based management.

**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 Atrium of the Teaching & Learning Building. ALL WELCOME**

**Dr. Heikki Nuorteva**

Senior Research Scientist in Finnish Forest Research Institute  
(METLA)  
at Vantaa, Finland



### Managing forests under the threat of abiotic and biotic agents: Impact on forest management regulations in Finland

Finland is located between the Arctic, central European and northern European provinces of the Circumboreal Region within the Boreal Kingdom. Three fourths of the Finnish land area is covered by forests (23 million hectares), representing about 11% of the forest area in Europe. The main commercial conifer species are Scots pine and Norway spruce. The main hardwood species are birches and poplars. The annual growth of Finnish forests is about 100 million m<sup>3</sup>, logging 60 million m<sup>3</sup> and the value of global exports of the forest industry over 11 billion CAD (2009). Over the last 50 years the volume of growing stock has increased by more than 40% to 2,200 million m<sup>3</sup> in 2010. Meanwhile the Finnish forest area has remained almost unchanged.

There are a number of abiotic and biotic factors threatening these boreal forests in Finland. For example in 2010 wind storms alone felled over 8 million m<sup>3</sup> (over 13% of annual logging) of trees, and root rots cause annual losses of nearly 60 million CAD. In my presentation, I will highlight some of the most important insect pests (e.g., European spruce bark beetle on Norway spruce, and pine shoot beetles and European pine sawfly on Scots pine) and diseases (e.g., *Heterobasidion* root rot on spruce and pine, stem rusts and resin-top disease, and Scleroderris canker on pine) affecting Finnish forests and discuss their impact on forest resources and recreation. Due to several reasons - e.g. the increased pest and disease risks in a changing environment, the rapid changes in forest management practices and EU Directives - the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry is currently revising the legislation on forest insect and fungi damage prevention. The Forest Damage Prevention Act restricts for example the storage of coniferous timber in forests in the summer. The damaged coniferous trees must also be removed from the forest whenever their amount exceeds a certain minimum. The new draft law will be presented to the Finnish Government at the end of this year.

**MONDAY, October 31, 2011**

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

**Room: 7-158**

**MONDAY, Oct. 31, 2011**

## GRADUATE THESIS DEFENCE

Mr. Alvaro Palazuelos is a candidate for the degree:

**Master of Arts in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (Environmental Studies)**

Mr. Palazuelos will be defending his thesis entitled:

“Environmental Values and Beliefs in University Students”

Supervisor: **Dr. Annie Booth**

Date: **November 17, 2011** Time: 11:00 am Room: 6-306

## 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.

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**PEACE OUT — a film by Charles Wilkinson**

**\*\*\* Most Popular Canadian Documentary at the 2011 Vancouver International Film Festival \*\*\***

**Monday, November 14, 2011**  
**Weldwood Theatre (7-238) UNBC Campus**  
**7:00—9:00 (admission FREE)**

**Special Presentation by the NRESi Institute and UNBC's Green Committee**

On the top left hand corner of North America an energy bonanza of unimaginable proportions is taking place — far away from the eyes of the world. In Canada's vast Peace River region the mega-projects include a major new dam, tens of thousands of hydro-fracked shale gas wells, a nuclear power plant, and the Tar Sands. Energy costs. Care to find out how much? **Peace Out** looks at societal attitudes to industrial development in northern BC and Alberta. The film covers a range of developments including BC Hydro's proposed Site C dam. The film features interviews with Peace locals such as Chief Roland Wilson, Gerry Attachie, Ken Boon, Gwen Johnason, and others.

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## PUBLICATIONS

UNBC soil scientists made important contributions to a special issue of the *Canadian Journal of Soil Science* on "Soils of Canada", with **Lito Arocena** serving as one of the guest editors:

Lavkulich, L.M. and **J.M. Arocena** 2011 "Luvisols of Canada: Genesis, distribution, and classification". *Can J Soil* 91: 781-806

**Sanborn, P.**, Lamontagne, L. and W. Hendershot 2011 "Podzolic soils of Canada: Genesis, distribution, and classification". *Can J Soil* 91: 843-880

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

## ELSEWHERE ON CAMPUS

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

October 28, 2011  
Grahame Russell, Rights Action

**“This is how the unjust global economy works:  
Canadian investment and business interests in Honduras”**

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**OPEN INVITATION** to an additional session with Grahame Russell, Co-Director of Rights Action and UNBC Geography adjunct faculty. Grahame will be discussing justice issues related to resource extraction abroad, in the class GEOG 498 *Geographies of Environmental Justice* — **Thursday, October 27th from 2:30 - 4:00 pm** in room 10-4520. **ALL WELCOME**

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### Dept. of Mathematics & Statistics Colloquium:

Dr. Oscar Garcia, Professor, ESM (Forestry) and West Fraser Endowed Chair in Forest Growth and Yield

**“Mathematics in Forestry: past, present and future”**

Tuesday, November 1st

1:30 - 2:30 pm

5-184 (Library Building)

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

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### Upcoming Brown-Bag lunch:

The Northern Agriculture Research Initiative is seeking proposals to conduct research within three broad themes: Forage, Pasture and Local Foods. It is anticipated that up to three projects, one from each theme, will be selected. The **request for proposals will be released on November 4, 2011 at UNBC, Room 6 - 307 from noon - 1:00 pm**. Members of the Northern Agriculture Initiative will be in attendance to answer questions and provide additional agriculture related funding information.

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## CALL FOR CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences (AESS) <http://www.aess.info/>

2012 Annual Meeting

21 - 24 June, Santa Clara, CA

Call for sessions — Deadline: 1 December 2011

Call for individual papers/presentations — Deadline 1 March 2012

For those in NRES who don't know about AESS, here is some background information.

AESS is a new professional association. It was founded in 2008, and is designed to serve environmental scholars who value inter- and multi-disciplinary approaches to research, teaching, and problem-solving. AESS has developed astonishing breadth in the few years of its existence, drawing in natural and physical scientists, social scientists, scholars from the humanities, and folks from the arts. An annual conference has been held annually since 2009. AESS also has its own journal, the Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences (JESS).

If you would like further information on AESS or the Santa Clara conference, please contact **Ken Wilkening** ([kew@unbc.ca](mailto:kew@unbc.ca)) of the Department of International Studies. Ken has been to all of the AESS conferences and is currently serving as the Chair of the Program Committee for the Santa Clara conference.

**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 honors you may have received with others interested in NRES issues.

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