



NRESi Bi-WEEKLY NEWS

May 1 - June 2, 2017

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

NRESi NOTES

Hello everyone,

Congratulations to this year's class of UNBC graduates. It certainly was a great weather day for this year's ceremonies. We are continuing to work to fill spots for the Fall 2017 NRESi Friday colloquium presentation series. As you will see in the table below, there are lots of spots still available. If you would like to present on your own research, or are hosting a visiting scholar who would like to present please send me an email and I will do my best to fit the presentation into the schedule either in the fall 2017 or winter 2018 semesters.

Over the summer we are also going to be working on a trial redesign of the NRESi newsletter—similar content but a different format. Stay tuned.

Al Wiensczyk, RPF

Research Manager, NRESi

FROM THE RESEARCH MANAGER

UPCOMING EVENTS

NRESi COLLOQUIUM

Planning for the fall/winter 2017/18 colloquium series is currently underway. If you any suggestions for speakers, or if you would be willing to make a presentation yourself please contact me via email using the email address below.

TENTATIVE FALL SEMESTER COLLOQUIUM SCHEDULE

Presentation Date	Tentative Presenter and/or Topic
Sept 15, 2017	Dr. Dominick DellaSala, Geos Institute
Sept 22, 2017	
Sept 29, 2017	
Oct 6, 2017	
Oct 13, 2017	Speaker TBD—Climate conversations in Prince George, for a CHANGE- Reflecting on Art, Change, & Creativity (ACC) engagement processes and resulting data.
Oct 20, 2017	Dr. Nobu Suzuki—UNBC
Oct 27, 2017	
Nov 3, 2017	
Nov 10, 2017	NRES Grad Student poster session
Nov 17, 2017	Dr. Matt Mumma, UNBC
Nov 24, 2017	Andy McKinnon — Doug Little Memorial Lecture/Inspiring Women Among Us (IWAWU) co-sponsored speaker

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Canadian Institute of Forestry E-lectures

Setting the stage to forestry 4.0 with remote sensing technologies

Date/Time	Title	Presenter(s)
Jun 14, 2017 10:30 am PST	Forestry 4.0	Francis Charette , MBA—Associate Research Leader, Modelling and Decision Support, FPInnovations.
Jun 21, 2017 10:30 am PST	Strategic implementation of remote sensing in forest development planning and operations	Ken Byrne , Senior Researcher, Fiber Supply, FPInnovations.
Jun 28, 2017	Sensing4Solutions: Remote sensing initiative for Operational forestry	Udaya Vepakomma , PhD. Senior Scientist, Remote Sensing Group, FPInnovations.

All electronic lectures are free. Your consideration of CIF/IFC membership would be appreciated. To become a CIF/IFC member: www.cif-ifc.org/membership-content/become-a-member/
www.cif-ifc.org/e-lectures/

For additional information or to register, contact the Ronnie Huang (CIF-IFC)

E-mail: electures@cif-ifc.org Tel: 705-744-1715 ext. 630

UPCOMING EVENTS

Community Workshops

The Past, Present, and Future of Natural Resource Communities in the Peace River Region

June 19, 2017, 6:00-8:00 pm — Chetwynd—Chetwynd and District Rec Centre

June 20, 2017, 6:00-8:00 pm — Hudson Hope—Pearkes Centre

June 21, 2017, 6:00-8:00 pm — Fort St. John—Northern Lights College

June 22, 2017, 6:00-8:00 pm — Dawson Creek—Calvin Kruk Centre for the Arts

June 23, 2017, 4:30-6:30 pm — Tumbler Ridge—Tumbler Ridge Community Centre

The Cumulative Impacts Research Consortium (CIRC) will be facilitating a series of workshops focused on exploring community perspectives on the past, present and potential futures of natural resource communities in the Peace River Region between June 19-23, 2017. These workshops are free, open to the public, and will provide an opportunity for people who live, work and play in the Peace River region to share stories and perspectives about how natural resource development positively and negatively impacts local community, environmental and health values.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.unbc.ca/events/43403/past-present-and-future-natural-resource-communities-peace-river-region>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Invasive Species Research Conference

Invasive Species Research Conference: Turning Science into Action

June 20-22, 2017

Thompson Rivers University, Kamloops BC

Thompson Rivers University (TRU) and the Invasive Species Council of BC are co-hosting this conference which will bring together scientific researchers and practitioners and features two renowned keynote speakers, Dr. Daniel Simberloff & Dr. Anthony Ricciardi. The conference agenda includes a series of oral and poster presentations, lightning talks, invasive species field trips and more - all in the beautiful, sunny location of Kamloops, BC. Invasive species researchers and practitioners from across the Pacific North-West are invited to attend and to submit scientific research abstracts for presentations at the Invasive Species Research Conference.

For more information go to the conference website. <http://events.bcinvasives.ca/about-invasivespeciesresearchconference/>

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Conference

Forest Genetics 2017: Forest Health and Productivity in Changing Environments

June 26-29, 2017

University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB

The hosting organizations for this conference are CFGA and WFGA, which represent academics, researchers, tree breeders, seed biologists, students and forestry practitioners involved in genetics and tree breeding in Canada and western North America. Their joint, biennial conference series provides a forum for sharing research results, technology transfer, and broadening the scope of their activities to cater for emerging economic and environmental challenges.

Visit the Conference website for more information and to register: <http://forestgenetics2017.ca/>

TRAVEL & CONFERENCES



Gail Fondahl spent much of May in eastern Siberia, carrying out fieldwork with colleagues, on her SSHRC project, “Indigenous Territorial Rights in the Russian Federation: A Quarter Century Onward”. The visit involved interviewing people in two native Evenki communities, as well as in regional centres and the capital city of Sakha Republic (Yakutia), Yakutsk. Initial results, from 2016 and this season’s field work, will be presented by the team



members at two conferences in June.

PUBLICATIONS

Petrov, A., S. Burnsilver, F.S. Chapin III, **G. Fondahl**, J.K. Graybill, K. Keil, A.E. Nilsson, R. Riedlsperger and P. Schweitzer (2017) Arctic Sustainability Research: Past, Present and Future (Abingdon, UK: Routledge)

NRESi Member News



Sybille Haeussler and crew from the Bulkley Valley Research Centre in Smithers are happy to report a successful helicopter-assisted plant of 3300 whitebark pine seedlings from putatively blister rust-resistant parents in the Atna Bay wildfire in Morice Lake Provincial Park, with tremendous support from BC Parks, BC Wildfire Services Burns Lake and Telkwa Unit Crews, Woodmere Nursery, HCTF and TD -Friends of Environment Foundation and many others, with 3500 more seedlings to be planted this week.



Photos by Sybille Haeussler

Roy Rea’s work with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is being featured in this month’s edition of the Smithsonian Magazine in an article titled: **The Hidden Dangers of Road Salt: It clears our roads, but also spells danger for fish, moose—and sometimes humans**

<http://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/road-salt-can-disrupt-ecosystems-and-endanger-humans-180963393/>

Roy Rea was also involved in the rescue of a pair of orphaned baby moose. Read the story from CBC—<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/prince-george-man-saves-orphaned-baby-moose-1.4127606>

Convocation 2017 at UNBC was a good day for UNBC Geography!
<http://www.unbc.ca/sites/default/files/sections/convocation/convocationprogram2017final.pdf>

UNBC Geography Chair **Dr. Catherine Nolin** nominated Fredy Peccerelli, Executive Director of the Guatemalan Forensic Anthropology Foundation (FAFG), for an



Photo by Ospika Animal Hospital

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NRESi Member News

Honorary Doctor of Laws at UNBC. The nomination was successful and on May 26th, Mr. Peccerelli participated in the afternoon Convocation in Prince George, BC. Fredy is recognized for the dedication of his life to upholding human rights and dignity through the application of forensic sciences. Peccerelli is an internationally renowned and recognized Human Rights Defender and Forensic Anthropologist, and founding member of the Forensic Anthropology Foundation of Guatemala (FAFG). As the organization's Executive Director, he leads the development and implementation of a Multidisciplinary Human Identification System that applies victim investigation, forensic-archaeology, -anthropology, and -genetics to uncover the identity of victims of mass human rights abuses.



Catherine moderated a special panel discussion: <http://www.unbc.ca/events/43313/memory-truth-justice-searching-disappeared-missing> with Fredy, Dr. Antonia Mills, Tribal Chief Terry Teegee, and Erica Henderson on May 24th and hosted the Canadian premiere of the documentary film Finding Oscar [featuring Mr. Peccerelli and the work of the FAFG]: <http://www.unbc.ca/events/43265/finding-oscar-premiere>
<http://www.unbc.ca/releases/43165/stewart-peccerelli-scheduled-receive-honorary-degrees>
<http://www.princegeorgecitizen.com/news/local-news/panel-film-address-crimes-against-humanity-1.20160470>

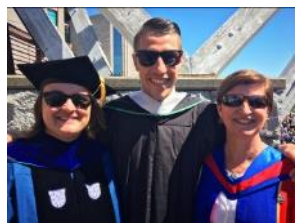
<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/guatemalan-researcher-urges-speedy-resolve-to-missing-and-murdered-women-cold-cases-1.4130236> (article and audio of CBC interview)

Dr. Alex Koiter (PhD Natural Resources and Environmental Studies – Geography, 2017) received the Governor General's Gold Medal at Convocation 2017. The gold medal is awarded in the final year to the graduate student who has the highest overall academic standing in their graduate program. Supervisors: Drs. Ellen Petticrew (Geography) and Phil Owens (Environmental Science): <http://www.unbc.ca/releases/43374/unbc-celebrate-24th-convocation>

Dr. Zoë Meletis (Associate Professor, Geography) received the University-wide Excellence in Service Award recognizing her pioneering role in developing, with colleague Dr. Annie Booth, the highly successful Inspiring Women Among Us: <http://www.unbc.ca/inspiring-women>



UNBC Geography's **Dr. Brian Menounos** (CRC in Glacier Change) worked to secure the donation of amazing K.A. Colorado artwork for UNBC. Colorado is an international artist and sculptor who was on hand for Convocation as it was announced several of his works of art will be permanently displayed at the university. Colorado has spent the last two decades working in various climatic conditions throughout the world, using ice and snow as both a medium and a subject. - See more at: <http://pgdailynews.ca/index.php/2017/05/25/northern-leadership-campaign-at-unbc/#sthash.nkesJSEW.ulmc4bj.dpuf> and <https://twitter.com/UNBC/status/867820146253082624>



BA Geography graduate **Mitchell Macfarlane** was awarded the Top BA Geography student award and will have his name forwarded to the Canadian Association of Geographers for the annual listing of top Geography students in the country.



Calypso bulbosa (l) in Jasper, and a nice plate of Morels (r)—photos by Hugues Massicotte

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Northern Analytical Laboratory Service (NALS) Update

The University of Northern British Columbia is home to an extensive suite of analytical science instrumentation that enables a broad spectrum of chemical, physical, and biological analyses. UNBC has made these services available to researchers as well as private, public, and non-profit sectors to help meet their research, development, and quality assurance needs through the Northern Analytical Laboratory Service (NALS).

One of the services offered is a **Water Analysis Package**. This is not a commercial service and is specifically designed to help local communities. Physical and biological tests, dissolved anions and elemental analysis are all available.

Need more information?

<http://www.unbc.ca/northern-analytical-lab-service>

To arrange a tour please contact Hossien Kazeman at hossein.kazemian@unbc.ca or Phone: 250-960-5168

Cumulative Impacts Research Consortium (CIRC) news

The CIRC recently facilitated a youth engagement event with grade 8 students in School District 91, focused around exploring youth perspectives on community, environmental and health values in the Nechako region through an arts-enabled mapping activity.

The CIRC will be facilitating a series of workshops focused on exploring community perspectives on the past, present and potential futures of natural resource communities in the Peace River Region between June 19-23, 2017. See page 2 in this newsletter for details.

IN THE NEWS

(Government Press Releases)

Factsheet: Canada-U.S. Softwood Lumber Trade

Apr 26, 2017. Since 1982, softwood lumber exports from Canada to the U.S. have been subject to five separate rounds of U.S. trade litigation with three managed trade agreements. [For more details...](#)

FAQ: Softwood lumber dispute

Apr 28, 2017. Negotiation: Why weren't you able to reach a new agreement with the U.S.?

B.C. worked closely with the federal government which is responsible for representing Canadian interests in trade negotiations. While the federal government engaged extensively with their U.S. counterparts, there is not yet enough common ground to support an agreement. [For more details...](#)

Job Opportunities

Professor—Ecology with expertise in biostatistics

University of Quebec en Abitibi-Temiscamingue

Rouyn-Noranda, QC

Application Deadline: August 7, 2017

The candidate must be able to develop a research program in ecology and conservation of species living in forest landscapes, and must have an interest in doing research in partnership with companies and government agencies associated with the mining and forestry sectors. This person must be ready to work in a region, in a small university whose mission is, among other things, to contribute to the socio-economic development of the community. The incumbent will be required to give courses on analysis and modeling of ecological data (ECL7102 and ECL8202) under UQAT's Master's degree in Ecology, and will be required to mentor the research work of students completing a Master's degree in Ecology or a Doctoral degree in Environmental Sciences. Both graduate programs are offered at UQAT.

For more information and to apply see http://www.uqat.ca/telechargements/offres_emploi/2017--10.pdf

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LITO AROCENA STUDENT AWARDS

In December 2015, dear colleague and founding UNBC faculty member, Dr. Lito Arocena passed away after a short battle with cancer. In honour of his memory, a UNBC memorial fund was established to support three student awards, which have recently been instituted:

Dr. Joselito (Lito) Arocena Memorial Scholarship (\$1000). Available to a full time undergraduate student who has completed 90 credit hours and is pursuing a Bachelor of Science honours or majors degree in one of the following: Biology, Environmental Science, Geography, or Natural Resources Management. Criteria: Academic excellence

Dr. Joselito (Lito) Arocena Memorial Undergraduate Thesis Prize (\$250). Awarded for the best thesis presented by undergraduate students completing an undergraduate major or honours degree in one of: Biology, Environmental Planning, Environmental Science, Environmental Studies, Geography, Natural Resources Management, or Nature-based Tourism Management.

Dr. Joselito (Lito) Arocena Memorial Graduate Prize (\$250). The Prize will be awarded to the student nominated by the NRES Graduate Program for the UNBC Governor General's Gold Medal.

Thanks to contributions from donors and UNBC, the fund is currently large enough to endow the \$1000 scholarship in perpetuity. However additional contributions are needed to permanently endow the two prizes, and to increase the amounts awarded over time. If anyone would like to contribute to this fund, through payroll deductions or otherwise, please go to www.unbc.ca/giving or www.unbc.ca/giving/employee-giving for more information.

SUSAN STEVENSON MEMORIAL AWARD

As its first project of this kind, the Natural Resources and Environmental Studies Institute (NRESi) has established the Susan Stevenson Scholarship Fund, in memory of wildlife ecologist and NRESi member Susan Stevenson. During a 35-year career built primarily in the BC central interior, Susan designed and implemented important research and inventory projects related to mountain caribou habitat, lichen biology, and silvicultural systems, collaborating with a diverse range of researchers, and gave generously of her expertise to the next generation of scientists. Susan exemplified the Institute's values of interdisciplinary curiosity and unselfish collaboration, and enriched the lives of all those who worked and studied with her.

Efforts have succeeded in reaching the goal of \$15,000 that will be matched by UNBC to allow for an annual award. Additional contributions to the fund are welcomed. The inaugural award will be presented in the 2016-2017 academic year. NRESi would like to thank everyone who contributed to the scholarship!

The following award criteria for the **Susan Stevenson Memorial Award** have been developed:

Value: \$1,000

Eligibility: Available to a full or part time female graduate student enrolled in either the Masters (NRES) or PhD (NRES) degree programs with a research emphasis in one or more of: wildlife ecology, plant biology, forest ecology, or innovative silvicultural systems and practices that emphasize wildlife management and biodiversity objectives.

Criteria: Satisfactory Academic Standing (3.0 GPA)

Conditions: Student is unable to receive this award more than once.

Recipient Selection: Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries on recommendation of the NRESi Steering Committee. Applicants will provide a statement, not exceeding 500 words in length, explaining how their intended research fits within the areas specified for his award.

COLLOQUIUM ARCHIVE

Did you miss a colloquium or special lecture this semester? Visit NRESi's webcast archive to catch up! They can be found on the [NRESi Youtube channel](#). We are in the process of migrating the recorded talks to the UNBC video archive. The most recent colloquium and special presentation talks (2016/17) can be found at <https://video.unbc.ca/channel/NRESI/>

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