

January, 2011

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Northern Studies Hosts First Annual UNBC Polar Day

On Friday January 28th, the Northern Studies Program will host the first annual UNBC Polar Day to celebrate research and teaching at the university in the Arctic and Antarctic regions. Polar Day will feature two guest speakers. Dr. Rob Huebert, an Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science and the Centre for Military and Strategic Studies at the University of Calgary, will present on "International Arctic Security - Talking Cooperation but Preparing for Conflict" in the Global Fridays series (12:00-1:30 in room 5-183). Dr. Marianne Douglas, the Director of the Canadian Circumpolar Institute and a Professor of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences at the University of Alberta, will speak about "Environmental Change in Canada's High Arctic: Past to Present" at the NRESi Colloquium (3:30-5:00 in room 7-150).

From 1:30-3:30, students from the Northern Research Group will be holding a Polar Expo in the Wintergarden. The Expo will feature a number of displays, including poster presentations, research equipment, artifacts and photographs.

In the week leading up to Polar Day, documentary films about the Arctic and Antarctic regions will be shown in various locations around campus:

Monday, Jan 24th: *Inuit Odyssey* (45 mins). Start: 11:30 pm, room 8-166

Tuesday, Jan 25th: *March of the Penguins* (80 mins). Start: 12:00 pm, room 6-213

Wednesday, Jan 26th: *Tara – Journey to the Heart of the Climate Machine* (91 mins). Start 11:30, room 7-212

Thursday, Jan 27th: *The Last Continent* (105 mins). Start at 12:00, room 6-213

These films are open to everyone. Please see page 3 for a brief description of each film.

For more information about UNBC Polar Day, contact Gary Wilson, at wilsong@unbc.ca, or Sonja Ostertag at sonjaostertag@gmail.com.

Polar Day is sponsored by the following programs and organizations: Northern Studies, Political Science, History, Chemistry/Environmental Science and Environmental Engineering, the Natural Resource and Environmental Studies Institute (NRESi), Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (PICS) and Global Fridays. It will also be held in conjunction with UNBC's Winterfest. For more information on the activities and events associated with Winterfest, contact Kaleigh Milinazzo at: milinaz@unbc.ca

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Student Profile – Alika Rajput



Alika Rajput is in the third year of her Northern Studies degree. She also serves as the Undergraduate Representative on the Northern Studies Program Committee. Originally from Wales, Alika chose UNBC because of its numerous awards and its size. In her words, “coming from a village with a total population of 700, it was a big enough step for me.” Prior to starting university, she worked and lived in northern Finland and Sweden. It was in these two countries that she developed the desire to learn more about the environment and cultures of the North.’

Announcements

- * **W. Garfield Weston Foundation Fellowships for Northern Conservation.** With generous support from The W. Garfield Weston Foundation, the Wildlife Conservation Society of Canada is please to offer 2-4 research fellowships in the field of applied conservation science to established or new graduate-level students at Canadian universities. These fellowships are intended to provide all or partial funding of graduate-level field research-related activities for students to undertake their thesis-related research and are not intended for salaries. The research undertaken by these students will be relevant to WCS Canada’s conservation objectives at two long-term sites where WCS is pursuing various science-based conservation efforts: the boreal region of northern Ontario and the northern boreal mountains of Yukon and British Columbia. WCS Canada will award fellowships of up to \$20,000 each. The deadline for applications is February 21, 2011. For more information go to the WCS website at: www.wcscanada.org or contact mkatsabas@wcs.org.

Conferences

- * **Rural Tourism Conference 2011. Broadening Our Horizons: Amenities, Regional Development and Collaboration.** April 19-21, 2011, Hills Health Ranch, 108 Mile House, BC. Deadline for Submissions: January 30, 2011. For more information, contact Dr. Pat Maher at maherp@unbc.ca

FILMS TO SHOWCASE UNBC POLAR DAY

Monday January 24th -- 11:30-1:00, Room 8-166



Inuit Odyssey

Language: English
Running Time: 45 min

Directors: Tom Radford and Niobe Thompson

Inuit Odyssey follows anthropologist Niobe Thompson on a visually stunning journey across the North to trace the origins of the modern Inuit. This film explores the mysteries of the Thule conquest of the Arctic and makes some startling new scientific discoveries along the way, which challenge our stereotypes of the “peaceful Eskimo.”

Tuesday January 25th -- 12:00-2:00, Room 6-213 (CANFOR Theatre)

March of the Penguins

Language: English –narrated by Morgan Freeman
Running Time: 80 min
Director: Luc Jacquet

The film depicts the yearly journey of the [emperor penguins](#) of [Antarctica](#). In autumn, all the [penguins](#) of breeding age (five years old and over) leave the ocean, their normal [habitat](#), to walk inland to their ancestral breeding grounds. There, the penguins participate in a [courtship](#) that, if successful, results in the hatching of a chick. For the chick to survive, both parents must make multiple arduous journeys between the ocean and the breeding grounds over the ensuing months.



Wednesday January 26th -- 11:30-1:00, Room 7-212

Tara – Journey to the Heart of the Climate Machine

Language: English
Running Time: 91 min
Director: Michael Pitiot

An extraordinary tale of a scientific mission to gather data crucial for understanding climate change, *Tara* is the story of how a large multinational scientific organization led by New Zealander Grant Redvers deliberately strands the ‘*Tara*’ so it will drift with the Arctic pack ice throughout the Arctic winter. During the expedition, daily life for the crew focuses around two things: the scientific equipment and its accumulating data, and sheer physical and psychological survival.



Thursday January 27th -- 12:00-2:00, Room 6-213 (CANFOR Theatre)

The Last Continent

Language: French – English narration by Donald Sutherland
Running Time: 105 min
Director: Jean Lemire

In 2005, a small group of scientists and filmmakers agreed to leave everything behind for more than a year to sail to the Antarctic and live in isolation. Following in the path of the greatest explorers, the crew of the *Sedna IV* dedicated themselves completely to measuring the threat posed by global warming in a place where Earth is particularly vulnerable. This film is a record of their incredible 430-day journey that inspires equal measures of fear and admiration.



CANADIAN NORTHERN STUDIES TRUST AWARDS 2011-2012



Application Deadline January 31, 2011

www.acuns.ca

The Canadian Northern Studies Trust (CNST) is the student awards program of the Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies (ACUNS). It was established in 1982 to further the Association's mandate to advance knowledge and understanding of Canada's North by offering student awards for exceptional northern-based research. The purpose of the CNST is to foster scholars and scientists with northern experience and at the same time to enhance educational opportunities available for northern residents to obtain post-secondary education at Canadian colleges and universities.

The following awards are offered:

1. CNST Scholarship \$5,000
2. Canadian Polar Commission Scholarship \$10,000
3. The W. Garfield Weston Award for Northern Studies (Doctoral) 7x \$40,000
4. The W. Garfield Weston Award for Northern Studies (Masters) 7x \$15,000
5. Northern Resident Scholarship (graduate) 4x \$10,000
6. Northern Resident Award (undergraduate) 8x \$5,000
7. Caribou Research and Management Award \$1,500
8. Arctic Co-operatives Award \$2,500
9. Research Support Opportunity in Arctic Environmental Studies (accommodation and facilities support at Eureka Weather Station)

To be eligible for a CNST award you must be:

- Canadian citizen or permanent resident
- Enrolled in full time post-secondary education at a recognized Canadian University or College
- Have an aspect of northern or circumpolar fieldwork included as part of your research that is conducted within the term of your award. (ACUNS defines "northern" Canada as *on* or *north* of the line indicated on our Northern Boundary Map. To view the map, please consult our website.

Additional, award-specific requirements are included in award guidelines

For more information, applications and guidelines please visit our website

www.acuns.ca