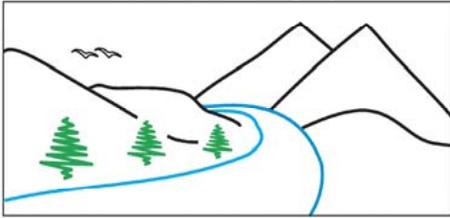


NRESi



"Our environment is our future"

RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM SERIES

Dr. Ron Stewart

Professor, Dept. of Environment & Geography
University of Manitoba



Friday

May 8, 2009

3:30 - 4:30

LECTURE THEATRE

7 - 238

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS
SERVED AT 3:20 PM

Extremes: Too Wet and Too Dry

This study examines some of the basics of precipitation extremes. Extremes such as too much or too little precipitation are inherent aspects of the climate system. On occasion, these two types of extremes can also occur in close proximity, spatially or temporally. Examples are given in this presentation using the recent drought that affected the Canadian Prairies as well as nearby regions including British Columbia. This drought was a multi-year event that brought enormous hardship and did not always illustrate some of the typical features of drought — such as hot and cloud-free conditions. As well, heavy precipitation sometimes occurred around the edge of this drought and on occasion passed over drought regions. We therefore need to consider two intertwined extremes of too dry and too wet. Given the general warming that is occurring and the effect of this on accelerating the hydrological cycle, it may be that such instances increase.