

NRES / CSAM RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM SERIES

FRIDAY

NOV. 4, 2005

3:30 - 4:30 pm

**LECTURE
THEATRE
9-200
(Medical Building)**

**LIGHT
REFRESHMENTS
SERVED AT 3:15 PM**

******NOTE***
NO FOOD OR DRINK
ALLOWED
IN LECTURE THEATRE***

Dr. David Connell **Assistant Professor** **School of Environmental Planning** **UNBC**



Community: The Social Dimension of Sustainability

Over the past century, community has been lost, found, and saved amid waves of optimism and pessimism that have accompanied modernization, urbanization, and suburbanization. Today, in an era of globalization, a healthy community is valued as a symbol of well-being and sustainability. For example, the idea of a 'community forest' managed by the community for the community reflects these values. The challenge for planners is to promote sustainability under circumstances that undermine the very possibility of community. David reflects upon this challenge, drawing upon community theory in relation to people's choices about where they live, how they live, and what they do. Understanding how these choices connect with community reveals shared values that underpin prospects for rural sustainability.

Bio:

Dr. Connell's interests centre upon sustainable living. He has particular interests in contemporary intentional communities, local food systems, and alternate sources of energy. His current research focusses on the capacity of and potential for local food systems, including the relation between agriculture and community, the culture of 'good food,' farmers markets, food security, industry analysis, and land use planning. His work draws upon the social theories of Niklas Luhmann.