



NRES WEEKLY NEWS

March 18 - 22, 2013

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

COMING EVENTS

NRESI RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM SERIES

For Elluminate information and link to the webcast: http://www.unbc.ca/nres/nresi_webcast.html



Dr. Åsa Rennermalm
Asst. Prof., Dept. of Geography, Rutgers University
**Greenland ice sheet meltdown:
A perspective from the ground**



During a few warm days in early July 2012, a melt event encompassing nearly the entire Greenland ice sheet was captured by satellites for the first time since observations began in 1979. This milestone event put the Greenland ice sheet into the spotlight once again, reminding society of its enormous freshwater reservoir that holds the potential to raise global sea levels up to 7 meters. Earlier observations have shown decade-long speed up, thinning, and retreat of glacier tongues extending into fjords. But the extreme surface melting observed in 2012 represents another type of mass loss: runoff.

In this seminar I will discuss Greenland ice sheet's dramatic change over the last decades and present findings from my field research in southwest Greenland. Here, I have collected unique river discharge observations providing opportunities to better understand the complex Greenland ice sheet hydrology. My research demonstrates a growing importance of meltwater export from higher elevations, and the ice sheet's large capability to internally retain meltwater up to several months and years. This provides insights into how much ice sheet runoff actually reach surrounding oceans and contribute to global sea level change.

Thursday, March 22, 2013

3:30 - 4:30 pm

Lecture Theatre 7-158

OTHER EVENTS

GLOBAL FRIDAYS
ROOM 7-158
12:00 - 1:30 pm

April 5
Caroline Calderon, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, El Salvador
“Alternatives to the War on Drugs”

All Global Friday presentations will be available to remote participants at: <http://bit.ly/unbc-globalfriday>



REMINDER: Share your information about recent publications, grants, and/or other honors you may have received with

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

OTHER EVENTS (con'td)

Notice of Event and Invitation — Public Presentation

Over the past two years, UNBC has participated in a British Columbia wide conversation about Healthy Forests – Healthy Communities. The initiative's website is: <http://bcforestconversation.com/>

The Healthy Forests – Healthy Communities initiative is now hosting a series of panel discussions across BC. These events are open to the public. The UNBC event will be held on:

Wednesday, March 27th
5:30 to 7:30 pm
Room: 7-212 , UNBC campus

The panel will include:

- ◆ An overview of the Healthy Forests - Healthy Communities results presented by Bill Bourgeois
- ◆ Outline of the UNBC results from our Healthy Forests - Healthy Communities work presented by Kathy Lewis
- ◆ A response and reply from the different political parties on the themes raised through the Healthy Forests - Healthy Communities initiative

We have extended an invitation to each of the 4 major political parties in BC. Confirmed speakers on the panel include:

- ◆ Pat Bell, BC Liberal Party
- ◆ Sherry Ogasawara, BC New Democratic Party
- ◆ Dan Brooks, BC Conservative Party

This will be a terrific opportunity to create additional dialogue and awareness around policies and actions to support healthy forests and healthy communities. We invite anyone interested in these topics to attend.

For more information, please contact:

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PUBLICATIONS

Shi, X., **Déry, S.J.**, Groisman, P.Ya., and D.P. Lettenmaier 2013 Relationships between recent pan-Arctic snow cover and hydroclimate trends. *J. Climate* 26(6): 2048-2064

Thompson, M. and **R.V. Rea** 2013 *Rana sylvatica* (Wood Frog) Leucism. *Herpetological Review* 44: 128-129



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PLEASE EMAIL ALL INFORMATION AND MATERIAL TO: Michelle.Keen@unbc.ca

TRAVEL / CONFERENCES / RESEARCH

Catherine Nolin was an invited speaker in the International Development graduate program at the University of Colorado on 20 February and then traveled to Kent State University in Kent, Ohio to present her research in Guatemala as the Geography Department's Friday Colloquium speaker on 15 March.

Paul Sanborn attended the spring workshop of the Pacific Regional Society of Soil Science at UBC on Saturday, 16 March, to present a proposal for a new book project: "*The Soil Landscapes of British Columbia: overdue for an update!*".

A crew of 15 assembled on 7 March to boldly go to the annual Western Division meeting of the Canadian Association of Geographers (WDCAG), held this year in Lethbridge, AB, with field treks en route to Athabasca Glacier, the Okotoks Big Rock and Vulcan (pictured). This was the 23rd consecutive such mission led by Jim Windsor, assisted by first officers **Catherine Nolin** and **Roger Wheate**, and accompanied by 12 graduate and undergraduate ensigns; the latter included two European students seeing the Rockies and Prairies for the first time. The program featured a keynote on the historic eruption of Mount Mazama along with 72 papers, mostly student authored. The Geography Program sends congratulations to BA geography student Jed Zimmerman who was Runner-up for the Best Undergraduate Paper Presentation (co-authored with fellow geography student Shane Doddridge) titled 'Interdisciplinary delegation to Ayacucho, Peru: Exemplifying potential for human rights advocacy through GIS'. The 2014 enterprise will be hosted by the University of Victoria in early March.



photos by Les the bus driver

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