Upcoming:

Wednesday, Jan 31, 12:30 p.m., Room 346 Ellis Building – Soil Science seminar series. Presenter: Dr. Steve Crittenden, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Brandon. Title: A Soil Quality Story from The Netherlands.

News:

Amy Mangin packs the room at Ag Days

On Tuesday, January 16th, Amy Mangin gave an oral presentation at Ag Days in Brandon on “Nitrogen Management for High Yielding Spring Wheat in Manitoba.” The room was packed to the point where it was “standing room only” with at least 875 people. Congratulations, Amy!
Happy Retirement to Dr. Tee Boon Goh

On Thursday afternoon, friends and colleagues gathered in the seminar room for a reception and best wishes to Tee Boon on his retirement. He worked in the department for 31 years and was just as entertaining at this event as he has been throughout his career. We all wish him well.

Paper of the week:
Opportunities:

Bell MTS Internet of Things Summer Internship, Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sci, U of Manitoba

The vision of the Bell MTS Innovations in Agriculture Program is to provide students in the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences with enhanced awareness along with research and training opportunities in IoT applications as related to agri-food and bioresource issues. Proposals are being accepted for summer internships that will provide a maximum of $10,000 per project for undergraduate student support plus a maximum additional amount of $5,000 per project for associated technology support/costs. Bell MTS has graciously agreed to provide additional advice and technical support as needed. Four of these positions will be offered over the summer of 2018 (in exceptional circumstances a winter or fall internship would be considered) and will be awarded on a competitive basis. Note that current graduate students are not eligible for support under this program but students graduating in May and beginning their graduate studies in Fall 2018 are eligible. Successful applicants will be notified by Friday, February 2nd and will be required to provide the name of the student recruited before the end of February to ensure the internship can move forward as scheduled beginning in May.

Proposals (maximum two pages) should be submitted by 4:30 pm on Wednesday, January 31st to Dr. Jared Carlberg, Associate Dean Academic (Jared.Carlberg@Umanitoba.ca) and should include the following information:
- Title of Project
- Project Description & Timeline
- Specific Role of Undergraduate Student in Project
- Description of How Project Enhances Student Training in IoT

University of Manitoba Distinguished Dissertation Award

The Faculty of Graduate Studies will offer six awards to graduate students, one in each of the following areas: applied sciences, health sciences, humanities, interdisciplinary sciences, natural sciences, and social sciences. A citation certificate and a cash prize will be awarded recognizing the successful nominee at an award reception, hosted by the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

Eligible dissertations must have been completed (final copies of thesis submitted) between January 1 and December 31 of the previous calendar year. In case there are no qualified candidates in a given Faculty/School, the Faculty/School selection committee may choose not to submit a nominee. The Faculty of Graduate Studies will verify the eligibility of nominees submitted.


Mitacs Canadian Science Policy Fellowship

The Canadian Science Policy Fellowship is now accepting applications from prospective fellows interested in undertaking a 12-month policy project with a Canadian government host office. Applicants can apply to up to six approved projects in their area(s) of interest.

Eligible applicants must be:
- Faculty members at Canadian universities or PhD graduates
- Canadian citizens or permanent residents (applicants are responsible for confirming their eligibility for individual projects)
- Able to negotiate a leave of absence from their university or employer, as applicable

The 2018 cohort of fellowships will begin in September 2018. Approved fellows receive remuneration from their host offices and professional development training and networking events facilitated by Mitacs.

Applications will be accepted until March 4, 2018, at 11:59 p.m. PT. For more information, please visit Canadian Science Policy Fellowship or contact policyfellowship@mitacs.ca.

Post-doctoral fellowship in ecosystem ecology and land reclamation, Laurentian Univ, Sudbury, ON

A post-doctoral fellow is being sought beginning May, 2018 to explore carbon storage and greenhouse gas dynamics across reclaimed model industrial landscapes. The Sudbury region—once the world’s largest point source of S, Ni, and Cu pollution—will be used as a model system representing gradients of brownfield mine waste management areas to barren and semi-barren smelter-impacted terrestrial, peatland, and aquatic ecosystems. Over $2B has been invested in pollution emissions reductions by our industrial partners, which continues to facilitate the return of functioning ecosystems and now allows for managed carbon sequestration. Our partners are on the top 100 carbon emitters list in Ontario, and are actively committed to reductions in GHG footprints. The broader NSERC and Ontario Centres of Excellence-funded research project will examine ongoing reclamation strategies develop and test novel reclamation approaches on polluted industrial landscapes with impaired ecosystem functioning including low net primary production and storage of carbon in soils, sediments, and waters. The PDF will focus on C cycling and associated processes and biological communities primarily in upland (forest) and in actively managed mine waste management systems. They will be paid $45,000 plus generous benefits per year for 2 years, with potential for a merit-based raise in the 2nd year. The primary supervisors will be the project co-PIs, Nathan Basiliko (Canada Research Chair in Environmental Microbiology) and John Gunn (Canada Research Chair in Disturbed Aquatic Ecosystems) at Laurentian University, and there will be important opportunities to work with other project investigators and collaborators from Laurentian, Trent University, McMaster University, Queens University, Université de Sherbrooke, Université du Québec à Montréal, Cambridge University (UK), Cornell University (USA), Canadian Forest Service, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, and the Ontario Ministry of Environment and Climate Change. The PDF will be based at the world-class Vale Living with Lakes Centre, which opened in 2011 and consists of two LEEDsPlatinum buildings just meters from the shore of Lake Ramsey and a 5 minute walk to the main Laurentian campus (http://www3.laurentian.ca/livingwithlakes/).

Qualifications: PhD in environmental science (e.g. soil or plant science, ecology, environmental chemistry, micrometeorology, etc.) from a Canadian or equivalent university with clear evidence of strong scholarly research and communications abilities; fluent in the English language; ability to work both independently and in collaborative group research settings with other academics and governmental and industrial stakeholders; ability to conduct field work; an unrestricted Ontario driver's license or ability to obtain this quickly. An application should consist of a CV, cover letter or statement of your experience and interests, and contact information for 3 potential referees. For more information please contact Nathan Basiliko: nbasiliko@laurentian.ca.
Mitacs Globalink Research Award

Mitacs is now accepting applications for competitive international research opportunities for UM student travel. Effective January 2018, the Globalink Research Award (GRA) has increased its list of eligible destinations. The award provides $6,000 for research collaborations between senior undergraduate and graduate students at Canadian universities. Students interested in travelling in Fall 2018 are encouraged to submit their completed applications in May. For further details visit the Mitacs website: click here.

Events:

21st World Congress of Soil Science, Aug 12-17, 2018, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

The WCSS will gather a large number of scientists and industries. It is expected the attendance of 7,500 participants, from more than 140 countries around the world. This will be an excellent learning experience, an opportunity for knowledge exchange toward technological advances, as well as a business opportunity for companies dealing in areas related to Soil Science.