23 February 2018

Upcoming:

**Wednesday, Feb 28, 12:30 p.m., Room 346 Ellis Building** – Soil Science seminar series. Presenter: John Heard, Crop Nutrition Specialist, Manitoba Agriculture. Title: John's Top Picks: The Soil Safari’s Greatest Trophies.

**Wednesday, Mar 14, 12:30 p.m., Room 346 Ellis Building** – Soil Science seminar series. Presenter: Wennong Kuang, Visiting PhD student, Department of Soil Science. Title: Linkage between Soil Profile N₂O Accumulation and Surface Emission: Effects of Soil Moisture and Fertilizer Nitrogen.

**Department Staff Away:**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Brian Amiro</td>
<td>March 2</td>
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<td>Paul Bullock</td>
<td>March 1-2</td>
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**News:**

*NSERC Community Engagement Visits*

Information for NSERC eligible students. NSERC engagements visits have been a successful tool for the Agency and the community to share information and build linkages. Over the last five years, NSERC officials have made 54 visits to 39 universities. These visits also offer a platform for the community to ask questions and seek direct information from some of NSERC’s staff. The visits are planned for three hours and feature presentations by NSERC staff, interspersed with opportunities for questions from attendees. NSERC is also providing the Engagement visits in Webinar format.

Webinar (English):
Thursday, June 14, 2018, 1:00 to 3:00 (ET), Call: 1 877 413 4790, Conference ID: 7462843

In addition to the Engagement visits and webinars, NSERC is hosting webinars to assist the research community on “How to complete an application” using the Research Portal and the NSERC Canadian Common CV (CCV). Visit [Connect page](#) for more details.
IUSS book on Global Soil Proverbs

Every year on World Soil Day the IUSS publishes a book under the umbrella of the International Decade of Soils 2015 – 2024. So far three books have been published: http://iuss.org/index.php?article_id=667.

In 2018 IUSS intends to publish a book on Global Soil Proverbs. Therefore, the editors kindly ask you and your society members to contribute to this book. This would be a great opportunity to work together under the umbrella of the International Decade of Soils 2015 – 2024 and to reflect the variety of soil-related proverbs on the globe. It shall show that the term soil is very commonly used in every day language and shall help to give this precious resource more visibility and attention. Click here to see guidelines for writing a contribution to this book:

If you wish to contribute a chapter, please send a Letter of Intent by March 31, 2018 to yangjay@kangwon.ac.kr and Cc the message to iuss@umweltbundesamt.at.

Paper of the week:

Li, R; Tun, HM; Jahan, M; Zhang, ZX; Kumar, A; Fernando, D; Farenhorst, A; Khafipour, E. 2017. Comparison of DNA-, PMA-, and RNA-based 16S rRNA Illumina sequencing for detection of live bacteria in water. Scientific reports 7, Article number: 5752, doi:10.1038/s41598-017-02516-3

Opportunities:

Research Scientist-Integrated Crop Production Systems Agronomist, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Morden, MB


Student Initiative Fund

The Student Initiative Fund has been established by students in the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences. Its purpose is to provide support for undergraduate student activities, initiatives, events, or in support of services that benefit students in the Faculty.

Initiatives may include:
- Educational equipment
- Renovations
- Student professional development
- Maintenance of spaces used exclusively or almost exclusively by students (e.g. FASO offices; student lounge)
- Other worthy initiatives.

Applications may be made by students and/or staff. Application deadline: Wed, February 28 at 12 noon.

Warkentin Prize 2018

Annually, the Pacific Regional Society of Soil Science (PRSSS) accepts nominations and applications for the Warkentin Prize. The $500 Prize is awarded to a student, or someone who has graduated within the last two years, that has published a peer-reviewed article in the field of Soil Science. You can apply by directly sending a copy or link to the publication as well as two letters of support and a statement explaining how the article has contributed to soil science advancement to prsssemail@gmail.com. You can also nominate a student by sending a link or copy of their publication, along with a statement supporting your nomination.


Technical Support Specialist, Arysta LifeScience, Manitoba

This opportunity will be exciting for a motivated professional with a strong interest in providing agronomic support and technical expertise to farm customers, industry partners, and Territory Sales Managers within the Manitoba Region. The Technical Support Specialist will work with the Development Manager to assess agronomic challenges and find solutions to meet those challenges.

Qualifications include:
- BSc or BA Degree in Agriculture or Business; Master’s degree in agronomy considered an asset;
- 3+ years of research, agronomy and/or sales experience in the life science or related agriculture industry;
- excellent customer service skills with a proven track record of success working with growers, retailers and agronomic consultants;
- strong negotiation and collaboration skills;
- strong organization skills in areas of time management and priority allocation;
- excellent written and oral communication skills, including strong listening and presentation skills, good judgment and high ethics;
- proficiency with various word processing and spreadsheet applications; and,
- ability to maintain a home-based office.
- This position requires registration with the Agrologists Institute in Manitoba.

Salary commensurate with experience, qualifications and ability. Apply with resume, to: email: patti.mckenzie@scottwolfe.ca by **March 9, 2018**.

PhD Graduate Research Assistantship, Department of Soil Science, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND

The Department of Soil Science, North Dakota State University, is seeking a highly motivated and skilled PhD graduate research assistant (GRA) to lead field research on cover crops and tillage practices to enhance soil water management in the northern Great Plains.

Qualifications:
- A recent M.S. in Soil Science, Agricultural Engineering, Hydrology, Agronomy, Plant Science or closely related field,
- Evidence of field and laboratory research skills,
- Evidence of excellent oral and written communication skills and organizational skills,
- Evidence of collegiality and civility in the workplace, and
- Valid driver's license and excellent driving record.

Preferred Qualifications:
- Experience in soil moisture, soil-water-plant relations, and field water balance monitoring and modeling,
- Demonstrated ability to manage and analyze large datasets,
- Demonstrated ability to perform field work under physically demanding conditions,
- Demonstrated ability to work and communicate collegially in collaborative teams,
- Demonstrated ability to work and communicate effectively with agricultural producers, and
- Available to begin summer 2018.

Send a letter of interest, copy of academic transcripts, and CV to: Aaron L.M. Daigh. Assistant Professor of Soil Physics, Department of Soil Science, North Dakota State University, aaron.daigh@ndsu.edu.

Events:

**AIC2018, Apr 23-24, 2018, Guelph, ON**


Registration and all plenary/concurrent sessions will take place in the Rozanski Hall at the University of Guelph. Accommodations are available at a discounted rate at the Delta Hotel Guelph Conference Centre located down the street from the University. The deadline to book a hotel room at the Conference rate is March 22. ([click here](http://www.aic.ca/aic2018/aic2018-conference-program/)).

**Joint CGU-CSSS-CSAFM-ES-SSA-CIG Meeting, Jun 10-14, 2018, Niagara Falls, ON**

The online abstract submission portal and a full list of special and general sessions are available at: [https://meeting2018.cgu-ugc.ca/program/](https://meeting2018.cgu-ugc.ca/program/). Deadline: **March 9, 2018**.

**Soil Health Institute Annual Meeting, Aug 1-3, 2018, Alberquerque, NM**

Registration for the Soil Health Institute’s 3rd Annual Meeting is now open. To register, [click here](https://www.soilhealthinstitute.org/). The meeting will take place at the Hyatt Regency Albuquerque. To reserve a room, [click here](https://www.soilhealthinstitute.org/). If you have any questions, contact brath@soilhealthinstitute.org.