Upcoming:

Wednesday, Apr 11, 12:30 p.m., Room 346 Ellis Building – Soil Science seminar series. Presenter: Dr. Said Nawar, Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Soil Management, Ghent University, Belgium. Title: Proximal soil sensing for variable rate nitrogen fertilisation.

Tuesday, May 1, morning – Soil Science annual spring orientation. More details to follow.

Department Staff Away:

- Wole Akinremi Apr 23-May 7
- Paul Bullock Apr 16-27
- Mario Tenuta Apr 15-27

News:

**Successful Defence**

Melody Caron successfully defended her M.Sc. on Thursday. Well done!

**Sri Lankan New Year**

You are invited to

**Sri Lankan New Year Celebration**

April 16, 2018
10am to 11am
346 Ellis Building

Come join us
For FREE traditional Sri Lankan food and fun!!
March for Science on April 14

Join thousands of other science enthusiasts around the world to take part in this year’s March for Science on April 14. Last year’s march included events from coast to coast, bringing out nearly 7,000 Canadians. This year the March for Science events are about celebrating, encouraging, and working towards science that is for everyone. Science isn’t just for scientists, it impacts all of us - by protecting our health and our environment, and providing us with facts and evidence to hold our governments accountable. Local March for Science event details are happening in St. John’s, Halifax, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Windsor, Regina, Vancouver and Victoria. More info

When scientists, whether at home or abroad, are silenced, we all suffer. When knowledge generation is underfunded or suppressed, our communities and democracies suffer. Join us on Saturday, April 14, at your local event and/or send us an email to let us know why science matters to you. (info@evidencefordemocracy.ca)

Katie Gibbs, Executive Director, Evidence for Democracy

Innovative Design for Accessibility (IDeA) Competition

The Innovative Design for Accessibility (IDeA) student competition is being run by Universities Canada to raise awareness among students about accessibility and to inspire students to explore creative ways to remove barriers for people with disabilities. The competition commenced on March 1 and will run until May 31, 2018.

The Innovative Design for Accessibility (IDeA) student competition program objectives are:

- To contribute to the creation of a culture of accessibility in Canada;
- To motivate students to think about accessibility issues and to include accessibility in their creation of social and technological innovations now and in the future; and
- To develop cost-effective, practical and innovative concepts, programs, initiatives or designs that address every day accessibility issues.

More details regarding the competition and criteria can be found at the Universities Canada website, or our Accessibility Hub.

Each university is eligible to nominate up to 10 students for the competition. We are hoping to nominate a range of U of M students from many disciplines and faculties. To ensure a diverse range of students, we are holding a competition that will allow us to collect many entries prior to nominating students for the IDeA competition. This will also allow us to award a prize of $1000 to the top U of M submission. Our competition will follow the same criteria as the IDeA’s competition criteria.

The IDeA student competition is a continuation of the work with respect to the Accessibility for Manitobans Act (AMA). The students’ work will help raise awareness of our goal to improve accessibility on our campuses, something that has caught the attention of the Disabilities Issues Office from the Government of Manitoba. The Office would like to showcase all the U of M submissions at this summer’s Manitoba Access Awareness week to provide further opportunities for students to network and celebrate accessibility.

If you have further questions about the competition, please contact the University of Manitoba Accessibility Coordinator Krystyl Bergen (Krystyl.bergen@umanitoba.ca) or 204-474-8508 for more information.
**Paper of the week:**

**Opportunities:**

**Graduate Student Positions, Soil Ecology Laboratory, Department of Soil Science, Univ. of Manitoba**

The laboratory for Applied Soil Ecology at the University of Manitoba ([http://soilecology.ca/](http://soilecology.ca/); Twitter @soilecologyUMan) is seeking highly motivated and talented candidates for training leading to MSc or PhD degrees. The Lab is very active in soil ecological research with state-of-the-art facilities and a diverse array of multidisciplinary projects in crop nutrient management, plant disease management, and soil ecology of major field and horticultural crops in Manitoba. The laboratory employs 4 permanent technicians, and routinely 2-3 research associates, 5-10 graduate students, and 10-15 summer students/term technicians. The University of Manitoba is in the City of Winnipeg, with a vibrant metro area of 750,000 people and is less than an hour by car to Prairie, Boreal and Canadian Shield landscapes, and the U.S.A. Positions are available starting April 2018 to April 2019. The Applied Soil Ecology Laboratory is committed to a training environment with gender equality and encouragement of participation of First Nations and Metis peoples and minorities.

**Plant Parasitic Nematode Management**
Students will undertake graduate research to understand host and environmental preferences, yield damage, and control strategies of plant-parasitic nematodes in the Canadian Prairie Provinces. The nematodes to be examined include members of the genus *Ditylenchus* and *Pratylenchus*. Crops examined include major field, pulse and horticultural crops grown on the Canadian Prairies. The research involves microscopic and molecular identification of nematodes. Candidates will have excellent oral and written skills in English and have completed a 4-year equivalent BSc in the agricultural or natural sciences. Students with experience in nematology are encouraged to apply. Candidates will have excellent oral and written skills in English and have completed a 4-year equivalent BSc in the agricultural or natural sciences. Salary is $18,500/yr for two years to MSc students and $21,000/yr for four years to PhD students. Students who already have scholarships are encouraged to apply as a top-up salary is available to them. The training is funded by several government and industry sources to projects lead by the Applied Soil Ecology Laboratory. For more information on this opportunity please send a detailed CV, statement of relevant experience, availability, and list of three referees by email to Dr. Mario Tenuta, Professor of Applied Soil Ecology, mario.tenuta@umanitoba.ca, please use the subject heading “Graduate Studies Nematology”.

**Potato Early Dying Management**
Students will undertake graduate research to limit yield losses from the disease, Potato Early Dying. Field research will be conducted examining treatments including fungicides, green manures, compost, and fumigation to reduce levels of the pathogen, *Verticillium dahliae* in soil, and farm surveys of disease incidence, yield and pathogens. Candidates will have excellent oral and written skills in English and have completed a 4-year equivalent BSc in the agricultural or natural sciences. Students with experience in plant pathology are encouraged to apply. Salary is $18,500/yr for two years to MSc students and $21,000/yr for four years to PhD students. Students who already have scholarships are encouraged to apply as a salary is available to them. The training is funded by several government and industry sources to projects lead by the Applied Soil Ecology Laboratory. For more information on this opportunity please send a detailed CV, statement of relevant experience, availability, and list of three referees by email to Dr. Mario Tenuta,
Professor of Applied Soil Ecology, mario.tenuta@umanitoba.ca, please use the subject heading “Graduate Studies PED”.

**4R Nitrogen Management and Reduction in Nitrous Oxide Emissions**

Students will undertake graduate research examining 4R Nitrogen Fertilizer Management (right source, rate, timing and placement) on canola or grain corn agronomy and N use efficiency or emissions of the greenhouse gas, nitrous oxide (N2O). Treatments examined include the range of currently available enhanced efficiency N fertilizers as well as products under development as well as in-crop N application practices including developing passive and/or active spectral sensor approaches to optimize N application rates. Candidates will have excellent oral and written skills in English and have completed a 4-year equivalent BSc in the agricultural or natural sciences, or engineering. Candidates with experience in production agriculture are encouraged to apply. For more information on this opportunity please send a detailed CV, statement of relevant experience, availability, and list of three referees by email to Dr. Mario Tenuta, Professor of Applied Soil Ecology, mario.tenuta@umanitoba.ca, please use the subject heading “Graduate Studies 4R”.

**Cover Crop Agronomy and Increased Crop Nitrogen Use Efficiency**

Students will undertake graduate research in the area of development of cover cropping systems in the Red River Valley region of Manitoba and benefit to fertilizer nitrogen use efficiency of crops. Benefits to be examined include reduced emissions of the green house gas nitrous oxide (N2O), lowered residual fall soil nitrate tests, and improved coincidence of nitrogen mineralization and crop uptake. Candidates will have excellent oral and written skills in English and have completed a 4-year equivalent BSc in the agricultural or natural sciences, or engineering. Candidates with experience in production agriculture are encouraged to apply. For more information on this opportunity please send a detailed CV, statement of relevant experience, availability, and list of three referees by email to Dr. Mario Tenuta, Professor of Applied Soil Ecology, mario.tenuta@umanitoba.ca, please use the subject heading “Graduate Studies Cover Crops”.

Professeure adjointe ou professeur adjoint en Ingénierie des infrastructures, constructions et équipements agricoles et agroalimentaires, Université Laval, Québec QC

Le Département des sols et de génie agroalimentaire de l’Université Laval (Québec, QC, Canada) recherche des candidates et candidats qualifiés afin d’exercer la fonction professorale dans le domaine de l’ingénierie des infrastructures, constructions et équipements agricoles et agroalimentaires. Ce poste s’inscrit dans le cadre d’une chaire de leadership en enseignement (bâtiments verts durables) dont le montage financier est actuellement complété.

Description du poste

- Enseigner et développer des cours dans le domaine de l’ingénierie des infrastructures, constructions et équipements agricoles et agroalimentaires aux niveaux des trois cycles de formation.
- Développer un programme de recherche original dans le domaine de l’ingénierie des infrastructures, constructions et équipements agricoles et agroalimentaires.
- Encadrer (direction et co-direction) des étudiants aux 2e et 3e cycles dans le domaine du poste visé.
- Participer à l’encadrement des étudiants de 1er cycle.
- Participer à la vie de l’Université Laval.


DOSSIER DE CANDIDATURE :
l’attention de : Dr. Antoine Karam, Directeur, 2425, rue de l’Agriculture, Département des sols et de génie agroalimentaire, FSAA, Pavillon Paul-Comtois, Université Laval, Québec, QC, Canada, G1V 0A6

Les documents peuvent être envoyés par voie électronique à l’adresse: antoine.karam@fsaa.ulaval.ca.
performance contracts. The incumbent will serve as a central SHI liaison to numerous stakeholder Action Teams who volunteer their time and expertise to advance soil health.

Duties include:

- Regularly organizing and facilitating video-conferences/face-to-face meetings with numerous Action Teams to advance SHI priorities in research, measurements, economics, communications/education, and policy;
- Serving as a positive, helpful contact for ensuring strategies for advancing soil health are implemented in a timely manner;
- Coordinating and communicating Action Team needs and progress to SHI leadership;
- Preparing reports documenting progress of all Action Teams for distribution via SHI’s newsletter, website, and social media outlets; and
- Assisting SHI staff with travel, meeting, and other logistics, as requested.

Experience that has clearly demonstrated proficiency in personal relationship skills and organizational skills, while working with groups of individuals is required. At least one college degree in a Natural Resources related field (e.g., Soil Science, Environmental Management/Science, Agronomy, Ecology, Economics, etc.) is desired. The position is located at the Soil Health Institute’s office near Research Triangle Park, NC. Compensation to be commensurate with experience. To apply, email a letter of application addressing the experience required, curriculum vitae, college transcripts and the names/contact information of four references to Mr. Byron Rath: brath@soilhealthinstitute.org. Please include “Soil Health Liaison” in the email subject line. First review of applications will begin on April 22, 2018, but the position will remain open until filled.

Events:

2018 MIA Professional Development and Annual General Meeting, Apr 11, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Portage la Prairie, MB

More information. If you are at the university and would like a ride, please contact Brian Amiro (Brian.Amiro@umanitoba.ca). To register, click here.

Food Systems Research Group Graduate Student Symposium, June 27, 2018

**CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**

On June 27, 2018, graduate students across departments and faculties (arts, agriculture, biological sciences, environment, engineering) – in conjunction with the Food Systems Research Group - are putting on the inaugural Food Systems and Sustainability Symposium. This 1-day event includes 2 keynote speakers, student presenters, poster competitions, coffee breaks, lunch and an off-campus social following the closing ceremonies! Graduate students from ANY department at the University of Manitoba wanting to share their research towards understanding and improving our shared food system are invited to submit an abstract. Are you curious about where your food comes from? Does the sustainability of what you eat matter? Does your research fall underneath the vast umbrella of food systems and its sustainability? Do you want a chance to present your research to your peers, with a chance to win $$$ prizes?

Student PRESENTATION ABSTRACTS due FRIDAY, APRIL 27 and POSTER ABSTRACTS due FRIDAY, MAY 11.
For more details and to register: https://uomfssc.wordpress.com. ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!!

Students: $30; Non-Students: $60