

FOUNDERS FETE

Please join our department for this end-of-term Research Panel.

Wednesday, April 3rd 2024

Time: 2:30 - 4:30 pm Location: Loeb A220

Tori Miller

Title: Metabarcoding Soil Mesofauna in Agricultural Landscapes Across Ontario and Quebec.

Abstract: This presentation will focus on my MSc thesis project exploring soil mesofaunal communities present in agricultural and natural landscapes in Ontario and Quebec. Covering progress, challenges and ongoing work. This research is nested within the Canadian Soil Biodiversity Observatory (CSBO) and funded by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

Nicholas Pantone

Title: Mapping Canada's peatlands using Multi-Sensor Remote Sensing: A hierarchical Classification Framework.

Abstract: Peatlands in the Canadian Boreal Forest are being negatively impacted by anthropogenic climate change, the effects of which are expected to worsen. Peatland types and sub-classes vary in their ecohydrological characteristics and are expected to have different responses to climate change. Large scale modelling frameworks such as the Canadian Model for Peatlands, the Canadian Fire Behaviour Prediction System and the Canadian Land Data Assimilation System require peatland maps including information on sub-types and vegetation as critical inputs. This research aimed to create a peatland sub-class map (bog, poor fen, rich fen, permafrost peat complex) and inventory peatland vegetation height characteristics using ICESat-2 data. Employing a three-stage hierarchical classification framework, peatland sub-classes were mapped using diverse data sources including optical data, SAR backscatter, forest structure, and ancillary variables.

Julia Sterling

Title: The Climate Virus: Garnering Lessons from COVID-19 towards urgent climate action in Canada.

Abstract: Julia's two-step mixed methods research project investigated the Canadian response to two compounding global crises: the COVID-19 pandemic and the climate crisis. The unprecedented scale, speed and intense cross-sectoral mobilization during the COVID-19 pandemic sparked inquiry into the potential for cross-crisis learning for Canada's approach to climate action. This research project asked: How can Canada's COVID-19 experience inform a more urgent and effective approach to climate action? This work analyzed reflections from diverse members of Canadian civil society organizations (CSO) active on climate issues to capture cross-crisis lessons learned. Insights were gathered from 11 guided semi-structured interviews. Participants were also led through an imaginative futures exercise to envision a pandemic-level climate action plan in Canada. A thematic analysis of the results reveals key lessons about social supports, communication, and political polarization in times of crisis, and the key role the government plays as a supporter, communicator, and convenor in catalyzing change. Findings suggests there is an urgent need for a radical reorientation of values to materialize a more effective climate action plan in Canada that meets the threats we face.

Refreshments will be served

Faculty, Staff, Students and Alumni from the DGES welcome

The Geography and Environmental Studies Departmental Seminar Series is committed to accessibility for persons with disabilities. Please send requests for accommodation to Natalia Fierro natalia.fierromarquez@carleton.ca