5 April 2019

Staff/Student News and Announcements

REMINDER: CAP Call for Letters of Intent - Research & Innovation

DEADLINES:
Dean's Office: Mon April 8 by 12 NOON to agresear@umanitoba.ca (No FAAF needed)
ORS: Mon April 8 at 4:30 pm
MB Agriculture: Mon April 15 at Midnight (It is the researcher's responsibility to submit directly to MB Agriculture)

Department of Soil Science Annual Orientation / Safety Session
8:45 AM, Monday April 29, 2019, Room 346 Ellis Building.
All Soil Science staff and students must attend.

Sri Lankan New Year Celebration 2019
Sri Lankan students and staff (past and present) in the Department of Soil Science invite you all to the Sri Lankan New Year party on Wednesday, 10 April at noon in 346 Ellis Building. This will be immediately followed by a seminar presentation by Dr. Uday Vitharana (see below).

Seminars:

Department of Soil Science Seminar Series
Dr. Udaya Vitharana, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka, and Visiting Scholar, Department of Environmental Studies and Sciences, University of Winnipeg, will present a seminar titled "Global Spatial Estimates of Soil Organic Carbon Stocks: Present Status and Future Needs" on Wednesday April 10, 12:30-1:30 pm in 346 Ellis Bldg. See poster on page 5 for details.

Upcoming:
The UofM Food Systems Research Group is holding a special student seminar "Bridging the Gap: The Power of Collaborative Research" on Wednesday, April 10th at 9:30 am in 320 Sinnott Building, by graduate students
Hannah Bihun and Roxie Koohgoli, members of the Food Systems Student Symposium (F3S) planning committee.

CSSS/CSAFM meeting: Profiling Change: A Century of Soil Science
***Please note that the deadline for abstract submissions is Monday April 15, 2019.

The 2019 Joint Annual Meeting of the Canadian Society of Soil Science (CSSS) and the Canadian Society for Agricultural and Forest Meteorology (CSAFM) will be held in Saskatoon, SK, July 9-13.

NB: This joint annual meeting will overlap with Rhizosphere5 in Saskatoon July 7–11th. Those who wish to register for both conferences can do so at a reduced rate. For more details, see the registration and abstract submission page and related registration link.

Department Staff Away:

Francis Zvomuya is away in Saskatoon on Monday, 8 April. He will be checking email in case you need anything signed electronically.

Paul Bullock, July 1/2018 – June 30/2019 (administrative leave)

Graduate Students

Summer Institute of Agronomy: Conservation Agriculture in Africa
Non-credit Certificate Field Course for Graduate Students, July 22-24, 2019.
For details, see poster on last page or contact Dr. Martin Entz m.entz@umanitoba.ca.

Registration Reminder: Summer 2019 & GRAD 7500 Academic Integrity

Please read the below information carefully as it concerns important information about graduate student registration.

NB: In addition to the re-registration courses below, please register for your appropriate thesis course:
Master’s Thesis - 1598 - GRAD 7000 - A03
Doctoral Thesis - 1603 - GRAD 8000 - A03
No approval form is needed for Summer registration.

Information for all Master’s and Ph.D. students who are continuing in their programs*:
All graduate students are required to register every academic term which includes Fall, Winter and Summer. If students do not register by June 15, 2019, they will be discontinued from their program of study. As Summer 2019 term is approaching, ensure you are registered for the re-registration course:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>CRN</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Master's Re-registration</td>
<td>GRAD 7020</td>
<td>Summer 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctoral Re-registration</td>
<td>GRAD 8020</td>
<td>Summer 2019</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

This re-registration should be over and above any course registration(s) you complete. So long as you are in a re-registration course for each term, you will retain status in your graduate program even if you withdraw from other courses.

*MBA and MPA students: if you need to register for re-registration only, please contact your departmental/unit graduate program assistant.

Exceptions to Summer 2019 term re-registration:
o **Students on a Parental or Exceptional Leave** do not have to register in the term(s) for which this kind of leave is approved. Students on a *Regular Leave* are still required to register for the re-registration course in each term.

o **Students who anticipate graduating in May 2019** are not required to register for the Summer 2019 term.

**Note:**

**Students who anticipate graduating in October 2019** must register for their final Thesis/Practicum/Comprehensive Exam/Project or the final course specific to their program in Summer 2019 term. Re-registration in GRAD 7020/GRAD 8020 is still a good idea in case your graduating term is delayed.

Students will not be assessed Program Fees or Continuing Fees in Summer Term. Applicable student organization and ancillary fees will be assessed. [http://umanitoba.ca/student/records/fees/988.html](http://umanitoba.ca/student/records/fees/988.html)

All course numbers and CRNs can be found by searching the Class Schedule link at [https://aurora.umanitoba.ca/](https://aurora.umanitoba.ca/).

If you have questions about registration please contact your departmental/unit graduate program assistant.

### Compulsory GRAD 7500 Academic Integrity Tutorial

Academic Integrity is a matter of paramount importance in academia. It is the foundation of scholarly work. Breeches of Academic Integrity, whether intentional or unintentional, have potentially very serious consequences to a student’s status in the Faculty of Graduate Studies and at the University of Manitoba. To help graduate students better understand the issues surrounding Academic Integrity, the Senate of the University of Manitoba passed a motion that requires all graduate students to take a compulsory tutorial on Academic Integrity.

All graduate students must register for and complete GRAD 7500 Academic Integrity Tutorial one time. This is a zero (0) credit-hour course intended to introduce students to their basic responsibilities regarding academic integrity and to the resources available to them.

**Graduate Students who are starting their graduate program in Summer 2019, or who have not yet registered for the course, must register for GRAD 7500:**

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>CRN</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GRAD 7500</td>
<td>Summer 2019</td>
<td>1929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRAD 7500 (French version for USB students only)</td>
<td>Summer 2019</td>
<td>1927</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Failure to successfully complete this course within the first term of registration will result in suspension of registration privileges, and ultimately, a failed grade and Required to Withdraw action.

**Note:**

o Please only register for GRAD 7500 once. Do not register in subsequent terms while admitted to the same degree program.

o Students on an exceptional/parental/regular leave of absence must register in GRAD 7500 upon return from leave if it has not already been completed.

o Students MUST complete GRAD 7500 even if:
  - They have already completed the Research Integrity course.
  - They have already completed a similar departmental seminar course.
  - Their thesis is in the middle of distribution.
  - They are a Visiting, Occasional, or Pre-Masters student.
- A span of time of one (1) or more term(s) separates one graduate degree program from another graduate degree program (for instance, if a student completed GRAD 7500 at the Master's level, took a break of one (1) or more terms and was admitted to another Master’s or Ph.D. program)
  - Students are not required to complete GRAD 7500 if:
    - They are a Ph.D. student who already completed GRAD 7500 during their Master's program (without a span of time between programs)

Students must register for the course in Aurora in order to access it in UM Learn. **We strongly suggest you review the course instructions prior to starting the course:**
http://umanitoba.ca/graduate_studies/htmlmail/Academic_Integrity_Instructions.pdf

FAQs can be viewed at: umanitoba.ca/faculties/graduate_studies/registration/grad7500FAQ.html.

Always remember to plan your program carefully. It is imperative that you ensure you are registering for only those courses that are a major part of your Master's or Ph.D. program. If they are not part of your major program then they should be added through your department/unit office as an Auxiliary course “X”, Audit course “A” or an Occasional course “O”. If you have questions about this, contact your department/unit. Do not register for more courses than your program allows because you may be assessed extra fees at the time of graduation.

As per SECTION 2: Academic Performance of the Faculty of Graduate Studies Academic Guide
http://crscalprod.ad.umanitoba.ca/Catalog/ViewCatalog.aspx?pageid=viewcatalog&catalogid=341&chapterid=4090&loaduseredits=False:

**“Students are ultimately responsible for ensuring that they meet all degree and program requirements.**
The advisor (and if appropriate co-advisor), advisory committee, and unit must ensure that each student follows the guidelines and meets the program requirements. The Faculty of Graduate Studies performs a final check of program requirements for each student just prior to graduation. Students are cautioned, therefore, to periodically check all regulations with respect to the degree requirements. Failure to meet all the requirements will render a student ineligible to graduate.”

Thank you for your attention to these important graduate student matters.

Andrea
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Andrea J. Kailer, B. Comm. (Hons). Confidential Assistant to the Associate Deans & Programs Coordinator
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**Writing Tutor Support for Graduate Students**
The Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences has partnered with the Academic Learning Centre (ALC) to offer tutoring in writing for graduate students in the Faculty. The writing tutors are Desmond Essien and Hannah Oduro-Obeng and they will offer four hours of tutoring each week through the fall and winter terms.

Tutoring sessions will begin next week in the Dafoe Library with the following Fall Schedule:

Hannah: 6:00-8:00pm on Tuesdays
Desmond: 11:30am - 1:30pm on Thursdays

**Graduate Students:** Appointments must be booked through the ALC’s online booking system. The procedure to book appointments is outlined in the attachment.

**Faculty Members:** If you would like someone from ALC to announce the service to students in your classroom, please contact them through the ALC email account to make the request: academic_learning@umanitoba.ca
Soil Science Seminar Series

Global Spatial Estimates of Soil Organic Carbon Stocks: Present Status and Future Needs

Dr. Udaya Vitharana, Senior Lecturer, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. Visiting Scholar, Department of Environmental Studies and Sciences, University of Winnipeg

Soils constitute the Earth's largest terrestrial carbon (C) pool and it is important to the global climate system because of their potential to release greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. Many global initiatives targeted to mitigate climate change are relying on accurate and detailed data bases of soil organic carbon stocks. Presently, few global digital data bases (inventories) of soil organic carbon are available. However, proper understanding on the nature of these data-bases, detailedness and accuracy is important. Moreover, further improving the accuracy of global data bases and monitoring temporal stability of soil organic C are challenging.

This seminar addresses the present status of global estimates of soil carbon stocks, future needs of improving these estimates and generating sampling schemes for monitoring soil carbon stocks.

Dr. Vitharana is a senior lecturer attached to the Department of Soil Science at the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. Udaya completed his Ph.D. and M.Sc. at Ghent University, Belgium and his undergraduate studies at the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. His research interests lie in the area of geo-spatial modelling ranging from geo-spatial information acquisition methods, pedometrics to digital soil mapping. He is currently serving as a visiting scholar at the Department of Environmental Studies and Sciences, University of Winnipeg, Canada.
Summer Institute of Agronomy: Conservation Agriculture in Africa
Non-credit Certificate Field Course for Graduate Students
July 22-24, 2019

Background
Conservation agriculture (CA) is a practice that combines the principles of minimal soil disturbance with soil cover and plant diversity. When these principles are appropriately applied to farming systems, CA can increase crop productivity and improve soil and ecosystem function. Conservation Agriculture is being actively promoted around the world by the FAO and many NGO development agencies.

The University of Manitoba has been working with the Canadian Foodgrains Bank and their international partners on Conservation Agriculture in Asia and Africa since 2009. Martin Entz led the Asian project and a 4 year IDRC funded project in Zimbabwe. Mario Tenuta, Marla Reikman (Man Agric), Martin Entz and Plant Science graduate student April Stainsby are now working on CA programs in Eastern Africa (Tanzania, Kenya, Ethiopia). We use a diversity of tools; working together with partners in host countries, webinars and other media, and joint publication of results at conferences and workshops. Last summer, we held our first “Summer Institute for Development Agronomists” where Asian visitors spent one week at the Carman Research Station learning about the theory and practice of CA. Several Plant Science and Soil Science graduate students assisted in the Institute.

Graduate student non-credit certificate course
This July, we will host approximately 10 African agronomists plus a number of agronomists from Canadian-based development organizations for a 3-day Summer Institute of Agronomy. The summer institute will focus on the principles of CA and their application in a range of agricultural contexts around the world.

University of Manitoba graduate students are invited to participate in this institute alongside our international visitors. The 3-day course will provide U of M students with a certificate in “Development Agronomy: Conservation Agriculture”. But perhaps more importantly, U of M students will gain valuable experience from International agronomists, learn more about issues of food security in Africa, and join the worldwide network of agronomists working to develop sustainable food production systems.

Interested? For more information, please contact Martin Entz m.entz@umanitoba.ca.