

the insider

A newsletter published for everyone in the Athabasca University community

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COVER IMAGE »

No, Robert Holmberg is not being attacked by a giant insect. This is a photograph from his January presentation, "Unwanted Guests: Bed Bugs, Lice and Fleas," hosted by the Wellness Committee. Recordings of the **Wednesday** and **Thursday** versions of the presentation are available on Adobe Connect (The presentations are identical, but participant questions and discussion vary).



Robert Holmberg



Posted on The Landing:
<https://landing.athabascau.ca>

Athabasca University

Ross and Ellerman Receive PARSE Awards

DR. LYNDA ROSS, ASSOCIATE professor of women's studies, and Dr. Evelyn Ellerman, associate professor of communication studies, both in the Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies, are the 2012-13 recipients of the President's Award for Research and Scholarly Excellence.

The award recognizes a record of excellence in research scholarship by a full-time faculty or staff member and is given for the specific purpose of bringing a major project to completion in a publishable monograph at the completion of the grant period. The award will permit Ross to complete her book **Motherhood/Mothering in the Real World** and Ellerman to complete **Sponsoring Print Culture in the Colonies: A Theoretical Overview**.

“The award recognizes a record of excellence in research scholarship by a full-time faculty or staff member ...”

This annual award competition is adjudicated by the General Faculties Council Academic Excellence Awards Committee.

Wellness Expo Receives Communities ChooseWell Award



AU Community Wellness Expo organizers (left to right) Sherri Byrtus, Lorraine Duma, Jackie Twining, Mel MacGregor, Ruby Jackson (daughter of Joelle Jackson) and Nichole Collins and her daughter Quinn Dubie are congratulated by representatives of the Communities ChooseWell program.

THE ANNUAL COMMUNITY WELLNESS Expo, organized by AU in collaboration with other Athabasca community organizations, has received a Communities ChooseWell award for reducing barriers to healthy living.

Communities ChooseWell is a healthy eating and active living initiative supported by Alberta Health and Wellness and managed by the Alberta Parks and Recreation Association. Now in its fifth year, the program seeks to recognize and empower Alberta communities to offer innovative programming, promotion, participation and community partnerships toward achieving a healthier Alberta.

The Community Wellness Expo provides people of all ages and backgrounds with information on a wide variety of wellness

related topics. It includes fitness and cooking demonstrations and provides opportunities to buy wellness products from local artisans.

"It is great to see AU and our community partners being recognized for the work we are doing to advance wellness in the community," AU's occupational health and safety advisor, Nichole Collins, said. "This annual one-day event continues to expand in depth and popularity and is such a positive contribution to overall community wellness. AU is proud to be part of the project and very grateful for the recognition."

Collins said AU will continue to participate in the Wellness Expo as part of its commitment to the advancement of employee wellness.



Moore Captures the Faces of Aging



"Together in Faith," a photo in Moore's exhibit.

THE SPIRIT OF AGING, A PHOTOGRAPHIC exhibit by Dr. Sharon Moore, a professor in the Centre for Nursing and Health Studies, is on display at the McMullen Art Gallery on the main floor in the University of Alberta Hospital in Edmonton until March 24.

Moore's photographs offer a new perspective on growing older, and she is receiving accolades for them. In 2012, she received an honorary degree in photography from the International Federation on Ageing.

She still has much to learn about photography, Moore said, but she knows that it enables people to see aging differently, and it can be a powerful tool in her teaching and research at AU.

"When I travel, the camera can bridge

the gap of language and culture," she said. "We may not be able to speak the same language, but we can share an image and share something personal. Photography requires a connection and interaction with people, and the camera makes visible our differences and our commonalities."

This became clear to Moore in 2010, when she spent two months in Nepal and Africa and another two months living in the Jamgon Kongtrul III Memorial Home for Destitute Elderly and Children in Kalimpong, India. "It was one of the most meaningful experiences of my life," she said. "I was able to bear witness to joy and sadness, dreams and disappointments, humility and grief. I tried to reflect that in my photography and have people feel it."

Moore also uses photography and music in teaching qualitative research. Using these artistic strategies in a multimedia presentation, for example, drives home the point that, while students may look at the same thing, their interpretations are quite different. "What you see is personal and influenced by the context and your own background, perceptions and experiences," she said

In her research, Moore is further exploring recent evidence that points to art as a healing strategy in health care and the use of hope as a healing strategy.

Moore will be at the McMullen Art Gallery on select Thursday afternoons. Contact [her](#) for more information.

Killer Electrons

DR. MARTIN CONNORS VIDEO

The Pleasures and Perils of Chorus Waves

Waves explains how the radio antenna at the Athabasca University Geophysical Observatory II, one of only two such antennas in the world, is working with NASA's Van Allen Probes to help better understand chorus waves, killer electrons, and the radiation belts that surround our planet.

AUGO II's radio antenna is provided by Nagoya University's Solar-Terrestrial Environment Laboratory, a key partner with NASA in this research.



This NASA illustration shows the Van Allen Probes that orbit earth detecting chorus waves generated by electrons in Earth's radiation belt.

Colours of Winter Nature Photography Exhibit

YES, THE DOMINANT COLOURS OF winter are white and blue (snow and sky), but winter also shows greens, browns, yellows, reds, pinks and many other colours, as demonstrated by an exhibit of nature photography by emeritus professor Dr. Robert Holmberg now on display in the main campus building at AU Athabasca.

The exhibit, held with the co-operation of the Art Committee, will continue until April 15. It can be found in the hallways between the library and the main door of the science laboratories. Please direct comments or questions to [Holmberg](#).



The three dozen photographs in the exhibit include winter scenes, animals (vertebrates, insects, spiders), plants, fungi and depictions of exotic locales. It is Holmberg's second exhibit at AU. His first, in 2011, included two dozen nature photographs.

Research Buzz

Grant Application Deadlines

UPCOMING GRANT APPLICATION deadlines are posted on the [Research Centre website](#). For internal deadlines and processes, contact [Jill Calliou](#).

Upcoming Events

International Graduate Research Workshop, Adaptivity and Personalization in Informatics

(EDMONTON, MARCH 23 TO 24): IGRW 2013 aims to provide learning and networking opportunities to advance research on the innovative paradigms, architectures and implementations of wireless applications and systems for individualized and adaptive learning. Topics covered in the workshop will include adaptivity and personalization

concepts and approaches, advanced learning analytics, context aware learning systems and technologies, mobile and ubiquitous learning, and social interaction technologies. More information is available on the Research Centre's [Upcoming Events web page](#).

EdTech Innovation

(CALGARY, MAY 1 TO 3): THIS NATIONAL conference, to be hosted by AU in Calgary, will bring together start-ups, researchers and technology purchasers and venture capitalists and profile innovative research being conducted in Canadian universities and start-ups that are developing new technologies, products and services. Connecting researchers with start-ups will enable new forms of innovation and partnership opportunities in Canada's growing educational ecosystem. Two hundred attendees are expected. An open trade show will allow the general public to

see new educational tools and techniques. For more information and to register, go to the [conference website](#).

Island Studies: West Coast Canada and Beyond: Call for Proposals

(THE HAVEN, GABRIOLA ISLAND, B.C., May 10 to 12): For more information, contact [Gloria Filax](#).

An open trade show will allow the general public to see new educational tools and techniques.

Research Ethics FAQ #3

As an AU staff member or student, do I require an AU research ethics review if my research is taking place outside AU?

For the answer, go to [Research Centre FAQs](#)

AU Press Spring 2013 Catalogue



ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY PRESS
has released its Spring 2013 catalogue.

This season AU Press texts reflect a wide range of research and art, including contributions to Canadian studies, cognitive science, poetry, the science of nonviolent action, education, computer science and the intersection of sport culture and law.

The catalogue is available as a [pdf download](#) or in print from [AU Press](#).

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Science Outreach - Athabasca Presents

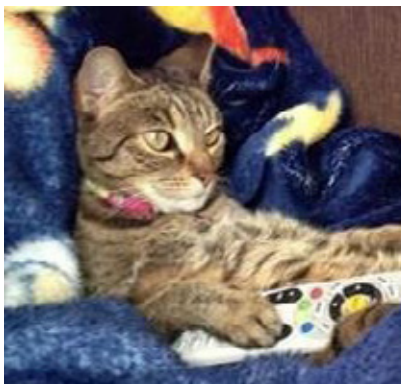
Science Outreach – Athabasca will be offering two presentations in February. Admission is free to both presentations, and refreshments will be available.

Cats

AU Computing Services senior systems administrator Richard Loken will present “The Origin of the House Cat” on Tuesday, February 26, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Governing Council Chambers at AU Athabasca.

Cats are curled up on soft chairs in front of warm fires on every continent except Antarctica. There are an estimated 600 million domestic cats in the world plus perhaps another 600 million feral domestic cats. How can an animal that does so little be so successful?

Loken will discuss the 10,000 year history of the domestic cat and its relationships with humans, house mice and its wildcat relatives. Recent discoveries suggest that a lot of what we thought we knew about the origin of the house cat is incorrect.



Northern Forest

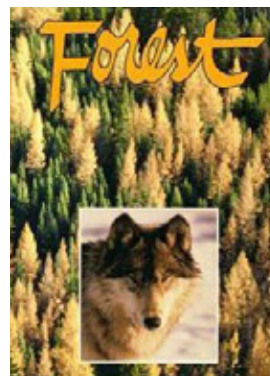
From 7 to 8:30 p.m. on February 21, the Boyle Public Library and Science Outreach – Athabasca will present a Family Film Night with the Karvonens, featuring filmmaker and environmentalist Albert Karvonen, at the Boyle Community Centre.

Karvonen's documentary Great Northern Forest explores an area near Boyle and Amisk Lake that is richly populated with wildlife. Participants will hear the

plaintive howling of coyotes and the clash of moose colliding and observe the lives of these and many other creatures as the seasons unfold in this boreal wilderness.

Great Northern Forest was nominated for the Best Documentary Award at the Alberta Film Festival, and the film's music, composed by Roger Degan, won the Best Music Award.

Door prizes and special posters and educational material from the Alberta Conservation Association will be available at this event.



Dealing with Conflict

THE ART OF MANAGING CONFLICT, THE second session in the three-part Wellness Committee presentation series Dealing with Conflict, will be held in the Governing Council Chambers and through Adobe Connect on Wednesday, February 20 from noon to 1 p.m.

Wednesday, February 20 from noon to 1 p.m.

Anyone who was unable to attend the first session in this series, Dealing with Difficult Personalities, on January 16 can view the

[recorded session](#) and provide [feedback](#) on the presentation.

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The Insider is published for AU faculty and staff members and other members of the AU community by the Advancement Office.

Please send any information or photographs for inclusion to the [co-ordinator](#). If a photo opportunity presents itself, please contact [Blaise MacMullin](#). Due to FOIP regulations, a release form must accompany all photos. Please contact *The Insider* co-ordinator for a copy of the release form.

The next issue of *The Insider* will be published on February 25. Deadline for submissions is February 15, 2013.

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