Hello Partners and Friends,

I’m writing to invite you all to the **2019** [**Master of Environmental Studies**](https://www.evergreen.edu/mes) **Thesis Idea Fair**! This year’s event will be on Tuesday, **November 5** from 4-6pm**.**

**What is the Thesis Idea Fair?** This event was created by MES alumni Dennis Buckingham to serve two major purposes:

1) Give MES students the chance to connect with community members, conservation organizations, and scientists that may be fruitful partners for their upcoming thesis research.

2) Connect local environmental leaders and scientists with excellent graduate students who can help conduct much-needed research!

In addition, the fair has also become a great space for community organizations and agencies who have internship opportunities to connect with students who are excited to develop their skills and professional networks.

**The date in early November** is selected specifically to be most beneficial to first-year MES students who will soon be starting their Candidacy Paper in January. The Candidacy Paper is the first independent research project of the program, and for many students it’s a way to pilot their thesis ideas. Connecting with interested students in the fall can give you a great opportunity to spark their interest in a subject that will continue throughout their MES career. Many students find mentors who guide and inspire their research.

**What are students looking for?** In the past, groups and individuals who brought lists of a few high-priority, appropriately-scoped (can be completed in about one year), actual thesis projects and/or internship position descriptions were most successful in recruiting student researchers. General topic areas have historically been less successful but often lead to fruitful networking conversations.

Please also consider how one master’s thesis could benefit your work area, agency or organization. Maybe you have data you need analyzed, or you need a study to be repeated, or you want to reach alumni or customers of your programs through surveys? There are a lot of possibilities, and we want to help you meet your goals.

**Format and Details**: The fair is an informal tabling event, and students will come to speak with you between 4 and 6pm. You’re welcome to set up starting at 3:30.

         Location: All the fun will take place in the **Seminar 2 building, room A2105**. Use this campus map (and some handy signs) to find us.

         Parking: Parking in Lot C is the most direct to the Seminar 2 building. **Please RSVP directly to me by November 1** so we can get you a complimentary parking pass.

Please get in touch if you have any questions, and feel free to forward this message on to colleagues you think may be interested. I hope we’ll see you soon!

Best,

Andrea