



Shane Gunster is an Associate Professor of Communication at SFU. His research interests include environmental communication and news media.

The School of Communication presents:

## Shane Gunster & Robert Hackett “Journalisms for Climate Crisis”

Brown Bag Seminar Series

Wednesday March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at Noon.

Mallinson Conference Room (K8652)



Robert A. Hackett is Professor of Communication at SFU. He has written extensively on media democratization, and journalism as political communication.

### **Shane Gunster: Solutions vs. conflict framing: Alternative media, climate news and public engagement**

Some have suggested that news about climate change contributes to excessive and unproductive polarization, reinforcing political and ideological divisions which make it difficult to make progress on policy solutions. Others counter that sharpening, intensifying and focusing the unavoidable contrast between ecological well-being and neoliberal capitalism -- 'Capitalism vs. The Climate' -- is essential in generating awareness and mass political mobilization. In this talk, I will discuss how these two perspectives shape and inform alternative media in British Columbia, drawing primarily upon the results of a dozen interviews with leading alternative media journalists, editors and publishers, as well as leading BC environmental advocates and activists.

### **Robert Hackett: Greening Democracy: What kind of journalism do we need for climate crisis?**

Climate change is not just a scientific, technical, or economic matter. It poses profoundly ethical and political challenges to human institutions, including journalism. If “global climate crisis” describes our shared civilizational condition, what kind of journalism can help – in however a modest but indispensable way – to fashion an effective response? In this talk, I consider some normative dimensions of a triangular relationship – journalism, democracy, and planetary emergency -- and raise questions about whether global climate crisis necessitates different ethical touchstones.