Celebrating BITS Student Mentors

Professor Don Smith

**Dr. Don Smith** is a Professor, and former Chair of the Plant Science Department of McGill University. He has published prolifically in varied agronomic fields, including: nitrogen-fixation, plant-microbe signaling, use of plant growth regulators, inter-plant competition, and most recently, affects of climate change on crop plants and biofuel production. This has lead to nine patents and a spin-off company (Bios Agriculture Inc.). Don led the Green Crop Network for 5 years; this was a federally funded nation-wide research network, looking at sustainable greenhouse gas management in agriculture. He now leads BioFuelNet Canada, a Network of Centers of Excellence, funded at 5 million per year for 5 years.

Dr. Smith participates in teaching the Tropical Energy & Food course. He takes students to visit several different institutions across the island; a sugar cane factory is the highlight. Don’s particular contribution to the course is a complete picture of the costs and benefits of bioenergy and bioproducts, as well as discussion of the feasibility of biofuels on an island nation such as Barbados.

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