



Professor honoured for beneficial work

by Patty Pitts

UVic biologist Dr. Nigel Livingston is this year's recipient of the inaugural Lieutenant Governor's Technology and Innovation Award from the BC Innovation Council.

The award recognizes the development of highly innovative, new technology based on applied research that has a positive impact on the province.

For several years Livingston has led the UVic Assistive Technology Team (UVATT), a group of UVic faculty, staff and students who have volunteered their time and expertise to develop and test new devices for people with disabilities.

"I feel so privileged to be part of UVATT and to work with such incredible people—students, faculty, staff, community volunteers and, most especially, those people with special needs and their caregivers," says Livingston. "It's really wonderful that the work done by members of the team and their supporters has been recognized in this way."

UVATT's current projects include hands-free communication

systems that can be activated by eye or tongue, adjustments to wheelchairs to make them comfortable in inclement weather, and a glucose meter that will voice test results for people who are visually impaired.

Earlier this year, a new spin-off company, Inspired Devices (IDI), was formed to work with UVATT to deliver its innovative solutions to people with special needs on a local, national and international level.

"Nigel's achievements are truly exceptional and UVic is proud to be the base for these extraordinary contributions to the health and well-being of the communities we serve regionally and nationally," says Dr. Martin Taylor, UVic's vice president research.

"The innovative technologies that Nigel and his UVATT team have developed are transforming the lives of those disadvantaged by physical and cognitive challenges. From a young developmentally disabled boy learning to walk with musical footprints to a young girl with cerebral palsy triggering a talking toy with the nod of her head, all have benefited from the work of UVATT and Nigel's leadership."

The BC Innovation Council (formerly known as the Science Council of B.C.) supports applied research and commercialization of science and technology to foster province-wide economic development.

Livingston and the UVATT members will be recognized at a gala awards dinner in Vancouver next month.

In April, Livingston was named Academic of the Year by the Confederation of University Faculty Associations of B.C. In June, he won the Vancouver Island Advanced Technology Centre's Community Involvement Award. He's also the recipient of the 2005 University of Victoria Community Leadership Award.



Arline Parrish with photos of her sister, Marion Small, and her brother-in-law, Hugh.

Donation establishes Scottish studies program

by Beth Haysom

The plaintive skirl of bagpipes and a haunting Gaelic lament echoing around the campus heralded the realization of the late Marion Alice Small's dream of bringing Scottish history and culture studies to the University of Victoria.

A former UVic professor, Small shared a passion for all things Scottish with her late husband Hugh Campbell, and in her will bequeathed \$56,000 to create the Hugh Campbell and Marion Alice Small Fund for Scottish Studies.

The gift is the largest single donation to the faculty of humanities and the first donation ever designated to support the study of Scottish history and culture at UVic.

The endowment will support a faculty fellowship, a graduate scholarship and an annual public lecture delivered to the St. Andrews and Caledonian Society of Victoria. The fund will also provide for the acquisition of new ma-

terials by the university's McPherson library to support Scottish studies.

"The study of Scottish literature, thought, culture, society and history will become a focal point of activity here at the faculty of humanities as a result of this gift," says Dr. Andrew Rippin, dean of humanities. "It will be of tremendous benefit to our faculty, our students and the community as a whole."

Small was a professor in UVic's faculty of education, where she taught art education until her retirement in 1986. She was born in Saskatoon in 1920, and lived the first 17 years of her life on a farm near Seamans, Saskatchewan. The family moved to Victoria in 1937 after the farm—in her words—"blew away."

Small graduated from Victoria Normal School and went on to receive an MA in education from UBC. Her teaching career spanned more than 40 years. In 1959 she married Hugh Campbell Small, a native of Glasgow, and soon thereafter they

both joined the St. Andrews and Caledonian Society. Marion was actively involved in the affairs of the society and served as president on four occasions.

Small's gift was announced at a special ceremony held Sept. 20 at the university, attended by her sister, Arline Parrish, other members of the couple's family and representatives of Victoria's Scottish community. UVic President David Turpin, special guests and dignitaries were led in procession to the outdoor event by members of the Canadian Scottish Regimental Pipe Band.

The ceremony closed with a poignant Gaelic song about a Scottish soldier dying on a far off battlefield and his longing to go home, performed by Laurie McCuaig-MacDougall, who said, afterwards: "It's an appropriate song because we Scottish people make ourselves at home by celebrating our culture wherever we are, and that's Marion's gift to the University of Victoria."



Livingston

Administrative changes designed to provide more support

The University of Victoria is fine-tuning some of its senior administrative portfolios to provide a more integrated response to the needs of students, faculty and staff.

"We operate in a rapidly changing and highly competitive environment," says UVic President David Turpin. "These changes will help us accomplish our objectives of offering an outstanding student experience and providing our students, faculty and staff with the technological systems and support they require."

"I really appreciate all the insights and advice we received from the campus community and particularly those who took the time to participate in the university's administrative review process this year. That input played a key role in informing the decisions

about the most effective structures to allow us to meet our goals."

The review of the roles, responsibilities, and structures of the senior portfolios which report to the president was conducted by Alice Mansell and Glenn Harris of Leading By Design. It included 78 interviews with members of the UVic community, as well as an open invitation for comments from the campus community.

"UVic is in an enviable situation," says Harris. "Alice and I were struck during our interviews by the remarkable levels of support enjoyed by the executive team and a consistently positive view of the university's direction and prospects."

"Drawing on insights gained through the interviews, a review of structures at other universities

and our own experience, we recommended several modest organizational changes. These changes build on the strong foundation that already exists, and should enable the development of more integrated approaches to planning and the pursuit of new initiatives."

The changes directly affect student and ancillary services (STAS) computing and systems services (CASS), and graphics and photographic services, and also involve positions in the offices of the vice president finance and operations (VPFO) and vice president research. Changes in reporting relationships will be effective Jan. 5.

Support for students will be brought together by moving STAS to the vice president academic's area, with associate vice president Jim Anglin assuming

a new "student affairs" portfolio.

"It's part of a move to more fully integrate the student experience at UVic from first contact with the student recruitment and admissions offices right through to graduation," says vice president academic Jamie Cassels. "Placing STAS within the academic fold speaks to our desire to put more emphasis on coordinating student services throughout the institution."

Bringing together academic and student affairs responsibilities within a single AVP portfolio will mean that there is someone involved at the senior levels of decision-making who is focused on the full range of the student experience, says Cassels.

He emphasizes that the ancillary units such as athletics and recreation

will maintain a strong relationship with the office of the vice president finance and operations to support their unique financial and business planning functions.

A new advisory council to the provost will be established, co-chaired by the AVPs academic planning and student affairs, to ensure collaboration and communication among all units with a role in supporting the student experience, and integration across the academic and other functions.

Cross-membership between this body and deans' council will ensure there is also close integration between the two groups.

As part of an initiative to ensure that the university as a whole has

First associate VP for alumni and development named

by Mike McNeney

Shannon von Kaldenberg, a proven "relationship builder" with more than 25 years of experience in fund development and working with alumni and volunteers, has been appointed the university's first associate vice-president for alumni and development. She starts on Oct. 17.

"I'm very pleased that Shannon will be joining us," says Dr. Valerie Kuehne, acting vice-president of external relations. "Her appointment emphasizes the importance of our relationship with alumni and the growing role of development activities in supporting our core academic and research missions."

"Shannon brings considerable university-based experience to this position and we're delighted that she'll be providing senior leadership to our alumni and development activities across the university."

"I'm looking forward to joining the UVic team," says von Kaldenberg, who comes from UBC's Sauder School of Business where she was the assistant dean of external relations. "It's no secret that the university is seeking to do a better job of serving its alumni and establishing the new position confirms that. I look forward to meeting many alumni."

At UBC, von Kaldenberg was responsible for developing and implementing a three-year alumni relations plan with new programs



von Kaldenberg

and a new communications strategy for more than 24,000 alumni around the world.

Alumni relations go hand-in-hand for von Kaldenberg. "I feel that we, as an institution, have to build the strongest possible relationships with all of our alumni and donors before we can expect them to give back of their time, talent and treasure."

Prior to her work at the Sauder School, she ran UBC's development office for four years, closing out a \$240-million campaign and converting UBC's fundraising structure to a faculty-based model. Her career in fundraising began with the United Way where she was director of development in charge of 5,000 staff and volunteers.

Von Kaldenberg has already been on campus to meet individually with staff members and says listening and learning will be her main focus during her first six months on the job.

Your participation needed in equity survey

Sharpen your pencils, UVic faculty and staff. The university is seeking your help to ensure we have a diverse and equitable campus environment.

On Oct. 21 all employees will receive an employment equity workplace survey. The questions, defined by the Federal Contractors Program for Employment Equity (FCP), will ask whether you consider yourself a member of one of the groups designated under the Employment Equity Act—women, aboriginal persons, visible minorities or persons with a disability.

As well, you will be asked whether you wish to identify as a member of a group that is protected by the B.C. Human Rights Code. You'll also have the opportunity to provide comments.

While responding to the questions on the survey is voluntary, returning the survey is mandatory. You can decline to answer specific questions if you wish. Employment equity regulations require the university to achieve



Everyone counts

a high response rate to the survey.

Although UVic surveys new employees on their equity group membership, there hasn't been a campus-wide employment equity survey since 1990. The FCP requires that UVic conduct a campus-wide equity survey if it wants to continue receiving the federal funding that is so critical to its research and teaching mission. The university received more than \$48 million in federal contract funding for research and equipment in 2003-04.

Your answers to the survey will be confidential. All information supplied will be stored in a secure database accessed only by designated staff in the equity and human rights office and will not form part of personnel files. The data will be used by the university in an aggregate, summarized form that protects your privacy, does not identify individuals, and is used only to meet UVic's obligations under the FCP and the federal Employment Equity Act and regulations.

The survey must be returned by Nov. 4. Those who return the survey will be eligible to win one of eight dinners for two.

An equity office representative will make the draw using the employee identification numbers on the returned forms to determine the winners.

For more information on the survey, the FCP or employment equity initiatives at UVic visit the FCP survey website at www.uvic.ca/fcpsurvey or e-mail fcpsurvey@uvic.ca.

Information session outlines disc golf proposal

The sport of disc golf is becoming increasingly popular in Canada and at UVic but on campus, flying frisbees and pedestrian traffic, trees and buildings were becoming an uneasy mix.

Last week, the newly formed UVic student disc golf club presented a possible solution—a nine 'hole' temporary course layout on the southwest portion of the university's Cedar Hill Cross Road property.

"There is a growing demand for disc golf facilities among students at UVic and the university is attempting to meet their recreational needs," says Clint Hamilton, director of athletics and recreation.

Brad Love of the disc golf club made a presentation on the sport and the course layout to more than 30 people who use the property at a Sept. 29 community information session. The club will use tees, matting to protect the grass and disc baskets to discourage the use of trees and other natural markers as targets. Only members of the UVic disc golf club will be authorized to play on the proposed course.

The club members spent a great deal of time designing a course that has a minimal impact on the property's natural surroundings and current recreational activities on the

property. The property has become a popular place for dog owners to walk their pets.

The university is considering whether suggestions made at the information session can be incorporated into course design. The course could be active by early November.

UVic is not the first location to introduce a multiple-use facility. Disc golf courses in Nanaimo, Coquitlam and other sites in Greater Vancouver currently share their facilities with dog walkers, and recreation officials in those areas say the different groups co-exist peacefully.

University welcomes new registrar

Lynda Wallace-Hulecki has joined UVic as the new administrative registrar. She replaces Cled Thomas, who retired after 18 years in the position.

"I was drawn to the opportunities at UVic when I researched Project Nova, the university's vision, and the strategic plan on the website," says Wallace-Hulecki, who has worked at Mount Royal College in Calgary for the past 27 years.

"UVic is an outstanding, forward-looking university with a compelling vision and exciting future prospects. It places a high value on investing in and supporting people, as well as on creating a community, and these are the values that have kept me at Mount Royal College for so long."

At Mount Royal, Wallace-Hulecki was most recently executive director of enrolment management and registrar. For the first 23 years of her career at the college, she led the development of

the office of institutional analysis and planning and served as its managing director.

"I'm very pleased that Lynda has chosen to join us," says Jamie Cassels, vice president academic and provost. "Her extensive experience and knowledge of the post-secondary system gained through her years at Mount Royal College will be a great benefit to us as UVic moves into a new period of growth."

Wallace-Hulecki holds a degree in mathematical sciences from the University of Manitoba, and is completing a masters of education in higher education leadership, with a specialization in enrolment management, at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln.



Wallace-Hulecki

John Albert Hall LECTURES

The Spirit of Democracy: Responsibility and Religion in a Secular Polity

Jeffrey Stout

Professor of Religion, Princeton University

LECTURE I WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2005 7:30 PM
A Citizen's Responsibility in Dark Times

LECTURE II THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2005 7:30 PM
What the West Can Learn about Itself from Bin Ladin

LECTURE III WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2005 7:30 PM
The Gospel of Life and the Politics of Reconciliation

LECTURE IV THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2005 7:30 PM
Deep Diversity and the Monologue of Secularism

"(Stout's) vision of democracy is compelling, simultaneously inspiring and comforting. Stout speaks to us as citizens, asks us to read him as citizens, and encourages us to reflect on what sorts of citizens our theologies invite us to be."

—Lauren F. Winner, Books & Culture

All lectures 7:30 PM, University of Victoria Matthews/McQueen Theatre, David Strong Building C103

A free series sponsored by the Centre for Studies in Religion and Society and the Diocese of British Columbia (Anglican Church of Canada).

For more information visit www.csr.uvic.ca or phone 721-6325.

CENTRE FOR STUDIES IN RELIGION & SOCIETY
UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA



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Conference looks at issues faced by grandparent "parents"

In B.C., nearly 9,000 grandchildren are being raised solely by their grandparents, according to the 2001 Canadian census. The challenges and rewards of inter-generational child-rearing are many but often grandparents have few resources at their disposal and little support for their child-raising role.

An upcoming conference, "Gathering: Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren," will give grandparents, other relatives raising children and those who support

them valuable information on their special role.

The conference is sponsored by the "Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren" project, a partnership of UVic's school of social work, Parent Support Services of B.C., and the Association of Family Serving Agencies of Victoria. It takes place Nov. 4 from 4:30 to 8 p.m. and Nov. 5 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at James Bay Community School (140 Oswego Street).

Conference sessions will address the issues that grandparents raising

grandchildren face: legal rights, financial strains, family tensions, and relationships with government agencies. Grandparents raise grandchildren for a variety of reasons—death of natural parents, divorce, family breakdown due to illness or drug use—and often had no plans to assume their new responsibilities.

The conference is open to grandparents of all ages and circumstances and will provide a program for children. For further information contact project coordinator Marion Gracey at 472-4129 or mgracey@uvic.ca.

"TEN PER CENT MORE" IS UNITED WAY GOAL

The University of Victoria's United Way 2005 campaign is off to a great start. Pledge forms were distributed on campus at the end of the month and donations are already coming in.

The goal for this year's United Way campus campaign is \$220,000, up from the \$208,000 raised last year. The overall goal for the Greater Victoria United Way campaign is \$5 million.

"I want to make our key strategy 'last year plus 10 per cent,'" said UVic campus campaign chair Dr. Ron Skelton (psychology) at the campaign's kick-off breakfast on Sept. 22. "Let's try to get 10 per cent more people participating. Let's try to get people

who haven't given before to start with \$10 a month. Let's try to get people who are already giving to give just 10 per cent more than last year. Let's try to get every event to raise 10 per cent more than last year."

Fundraising events for the campaign have already started. The Sept. 28 lunchtime barbecue at the fountain raised \$2,000 from students, faculty and staff. The Engineering Students' Society's held its annual 24-hour Bug Push around Ring Road on Sept. 30-Oct. 1 raising \$2,700.

Collection boxes in departments and faculties across campus are already filling up with donated books for the ever-popular United Way book sale. This year's event takes

place in the library Nov. 1-2 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Book-lovers can score some good deals since everything—books, CDs, videos, albums and DVDs are only a toonie each.

The Hearts and Hands Craft Fair takes place Nov. 15 in the University Centre lobby. Members of the UVic community will be selling crafts and it's a great chance to get a head start on holiday shopping.

Other upcoming events include a raffle, student group challenges, Smoothie Day at Village Greens, and the Commerce Students' Society fundraiser.

For more event information or to donate online visit the campus campaign website at unitedway.uvic.ca.

Honorary degrees go to astronaut and eco-forester

Honorary degrees will be granted in November to Bjarni Tryggvason, a Canadian astronaut whose research has contributed widely to space-based experiments and to Merv Wilkinson, a Ladysmith eco-forester known for his lifelong commitment to sustainable logging practices.

Tryggvason, of Vancouver, flew on the space shuttle mission in 1997 and is widely respected in the international space science and engineering community. His research has helped advance our understanding of microgravity and its effect on scientific experiments conducted in space.

With colleagues at the Canadian Space Agency, Tryggvason developed

a mounting device that protects sensitive experiments from the vibrations that occur while a space vehicle is in orbit.

The "microgravity-vibration isolation mount" was tested on the Mir space station and Tryggvason operated a second generation of the device during his space shuttle flight. The equipment is considered one of the major contributions of the Canadian space program.

Wilkinson has owned "Wildwood," a 55-hectare woodlot at Yellowpoint since 1938. Inspired by Scandinavian selective logging techniques, Wilkinson embarked on a "productivist" approach to timber harvesting that

emphasizes retention of forest structure and the wildlife that depends on it.

Since 1945 the pioneering environmentalist has harvested 2.1 million board feet of lumber while the standing volume has actually grown by 10 per cent. Over the years, the university's environmental studies program has conducted regular field trips to see Wilkinson's property and hear his philosophy on eco-forestry. He has been previously awarded the Order of Canada and the Order of B.C.

The honorary degrees will be presented during fall convocation ceremonies Nov. 9-10 in the University Centre Farquhar Auditorium.

Ringers

Dr. **Olivier Abrioux**, professor emeritus and former chair of the French department, has been appointed a Chevalier of the Ordre National du Mérite by the French government. The award, second in importance only to the légion d'Honneur, recognizes distinguished civil or military service to France. At the medal presentation in August, the Consul General of France in Vancouver cited Abrioux's outstanding contributions to the furtherance of French language and culture, while serving both the academic and wider communities at the University of Aberdeen, University of Saskatchewan (Regina campus), and UVic.

Dr. **Norman Ruff**, who retired in June after 36 years as a faculty member in political science, has been awarded the 2005 Pierre De Celles Award from the Institute of Public Administration of Canada (IPAC). The national award, named in memory of the director general of Quebec's École nationale d'administration publique, recognizes "exceptionally effective and creative teachers." At the awards ceremony in August Ruff was cited for his commitment to the continuing education of public servants and scholars. Said one of his nominators: "[Norm's] insightful knowledge is communicated in a way that helps both the layman and the sophisticated observer understand and appreciate the nuances of complicated government decisions."

UVic playwright **Joan MacLeod** (writing) is on the short list for Canada's richest theatre award, the \$100,000 Siminovitch Prize in Theatre. The seven writers short-listed for the Siminovitch are nominated for the body of their work rather than for a single play. The award winner receives \$75,000, with the remaining \$25,000 going to an organization or individual of the winner's choice. The award is presented Oct. 25 in Toronto. The Belfry Theatre has staged four of MacLeod's six plays. Her latest, *Homechild*, goes into rehearsal in early December at Toronto's CanStage.

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NEW SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE

The Canadian Centre for Energy Information has created an award called the Petroleum Communication Foundation Legacy Scholarship for Excellence in Communication. A scholarship of \$1,250 will be awarded to a student in the UVic Public Relations Certificate Program who demonstrates an interest in a career in communications with the oil and gas industry.

Application deadline: October 10

For more details go to www.uvcs.uvic.ca/pr/pcf-scholarship.aspx

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ELECTION Convocation Senators

University of Victoria

The University of Victoria is conducting elections for four representatives of its Convocation to serve on its Senate. If you are a UVic alumnus or alumna, Board of Governors or Senate member (past or present), faculty member (including retired faculty), staff member with a degree who has been employed for at least 12 months, or you completed one full year at Victoria College prior to 1963, you are entitled to vote in this election. The election begins on Monday, October 17, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. PST and runs until Friday, November 18, 2005, 4:30 p.m. PST.

Cast your vote online at <https://webvote.uvic.ca> or by mail. To request a paper ballot, telephone 250-721-8102 or fax 250-721-6223.

Paper ballots must be received by the Office of the University Secretary by **Friday, November 18, 2005 at 4:30 p.m. PST.**

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721-2441



Bob Reimer

Look before you cross the road

The return to classes means increased pedestrian and vehicle traffic on Ring Road and other campus streets, but not all pedestrians are checking the traffic flow before they step off the curb. David Guthrie, B.C. Transit manager of safety and training, reports several bus operators have had “close calls” with pedestrians who stepped out in front of moving buses. He asks pedestrians to look both ways (or one way along Ring Road) before stepping out into traffic—even if they’re using a marked crosswalk. He reminds pedestrians to use the same caution on campus roads that they would use on streets elsewhere in Greater Victoria.

Exhibit illustrates the unseen

Art and science merge at an unusual exhibit at the McPherson Library Gallery this month. In a series of images and movies contributed by scientists and research institutions around the world, “The Art of Physics” reflects the efforts of physicists and astronomers to render the unseen seen—from impossibly tiny quarks to the mind-numbing immensity of the universe. “Imagery of the physical sciences truly straddles the boundary between science and art,” says Dr Arif Babul (physics & astronomy), who organized the exhibit with departmental colleague Margret Fincke-Keeler. “Throughout history, physics and astronomers have always made extensive use of visual imagery,” says Babul. “It’s one of the key elements that can spark the imagination, leading to the discovery of the unexpected.” The exhibit, which celebrates the International Year of Physics, runs from Oct. 7-27. For more information visit the events page at www.maltwood.uvic.ca or call 721-6562.

UVic Speakers Bureau turns 25

For a quarter of a century, the UVic Speakers Bureau has served community groups, schools, clubs, and other not-for-profit organizations looking for knowledgeable speakers. This year, the free community service includes 142 faculty, staff, graduate students and retirees who are sharing their expertise and enthusiasm on a total of 372 topics. Last year, the bureau provided speakers for 384 talks and reached an estimated audience of 13,000 people. To receive a list of topics or more information about the Speakers Bureau visit the bureau website at www.uvic.ca/speakers or contact Mandy Crocker, UVic Speakers Bureau coordinator, at 721-8587.

University salutes contribution of local seniors

The UVic centre on aging is acknowledging the range of contributions that local seniors have made to the capital region by presenting five people with Valued Elder Recognition Awards (VERA). The recipients are: Victoria resident Michael Brodsky for his work with the Victoria READ Society and the Canadian National Institute for the Blind; Saanich’s George and Ruth Cook for volunteering with the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres and the Tsow-Tun Le Lum Society’s Substance Abuse Treatment Centre; Victoria resident Joyce Norris-Jones for lending a hand at local schools and the Vancouver Island Cancer Lodge; and Esquimalt’s June Pryer for her work with the Schizophrenia Society and the Saanich Health Unit.

Come celebrate UVic’s aboriginal alumni

Join the UVic Alumni Association and the aboriginal alumni chapter in a celebration of the achievements of aboriginal alumni. Guest speakers will be Mary Burgaretta, BA ’77 of the Mnjikaning First Nation, and Frank Conibear, BEd ’88 of the Lyackson First Nation. The event starts at 5 p.m. on Oct. 19 inside Mungo Martin House at Thunderbird Park (near the Royal BC Museum). Admission is free. Register online at alumni.uvic.ca/events.

Courses offer help on living with chronic conditions

UVic’s centre on aging is offering a series of free courses designed to help people experiencing chronic conditions—such as asthma, bronchitis, heart disease, arthritis and depression—improve their quality of life. The six-week courses are part of the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program, a partnership with the Vancouver Island Health Authority and the Silver Threads service. Family, friends, caregivers and neighbours of people experiencing chronic conditions are also welcome to attend the courses, which offer information, problem-solving strategies, and more. The courses are offered on a variety of dates in different locations throughout Greater Victoria. For more information or to register, visit www.coag.uvic.ca/cdsmtp/cdsmtp_viha.htm or contact Sherry Lynch at (604) 940-3572 slylnc@dcnet.com

HR offers professional development courses

Are you a supervisor looking for information on the basics of managing? Maybe you’re a faculty member who wants to learn how to be a better communicator, or a staff member who wants to learn how to find solutions to conflicts in the office?

The human resources department is offering a wide range of professional development courses this fall.

“These initiatives are part of our response to the university’s strategic plan goal to attract and retain outstanding people to campus,” says Terrie Conway, director of organization and employee development. “We’re also considering a UVic career fair to make employees aware of employment opportunities on campus. And we’ll be recruiting staff volunteers for an employee orientation peer host program whose members help new employees feel welcome and ‘at home’ at UVic.”

“Selecting for Success,” a course designed for university leaders responsible for managing and supervising others, will cover good interviewing techniques and questions, how to identify the skills and experience needed for a job, and other important parts of the selection process. Other management courses include “Coaching for Top Performance” and “Accelerating Team Productivity.”

For all employees, a two-day course in interpersonal communication is offered. The course is an introduction to the dynamics of human interaction and includes units on “Expressing Yourself with Clarity” and “Effective Listening.” A problem-solving course is also offered for unit leaders, staff and faculty.

For more information, visit web.uvic.ca/hr/training or call Judy Cryderman at 721-8088.



Schreiber, left, and MacDonald.

IMPROVING YOUR ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE

UVic research helps create B.C.’s first crop of nurse practitioners

by Debbie Willis

When the University of Victoria’s first class of nurse practitioners graduates this fall, the new grads will have reason to thank two UVic researchers.

Nurse practitioners are advanced practice registered nurses who can provide a range of primary health care services. They can diagnose and treat common illnesses, order tests, prescribe medications, and refer to specialists. They can also help patients with chronic problems such as depression, hypertension, diabetes and asthma.

The new occupation is being introduced in B.C. to improve access to health services. Ten students at UVic and seven at UBC will complete master’s degrees in 2005 to become nurse practitioners.

Research carried out by UVic nursing professors Marjorie MacDonald and Rita Schreiber—in collaboration with government, professional association and health authority partners—helped make this possible.

MacDonald and Schreiber have researched the role of the nurse practitioner for more than five years, working with the Registered Nurses Association of B.C., the Vancouver Island Health Authority, and the B.C. Ministry of Health. They interviewed nurses, doctors, patients, and employers and studied areas where nurse

practitioners already practise.

Their work resulted in recommendations that were adopted by the B.C. government. “What we see happening now is informed by our research,” says MacDonald.

MacDonald, Schreiber and their team recommended that nurse practitioners have sole authority for their practice rather than being supervised by physicians, that they receive master’s-level education, and that the position be implemented only when stable funding to sustain the role is assured.

These and other recommendations were adopted by policy-makers and regulations allowing nurse practitioners to practise in the province were approved in 2005.

At a time when more than two million Canadians don’t have a primary health care provider, the hope is that nurse practitioners will improve access to health care, say Schreiber and MacDonald. Their research in other jurisdictions has shown that people consult a nurse practitioner as they would a family physician, and that they’re satisfied with the care they receive.

“Nurse practitioners provide a unique value-added service,” says MacDonald. “Their work is often structured to allow them to spend more time with patients than physicians can, and to work with other health and social service providers such as social workers, nutritionists and occupational therapists.”

Some nurses and doctors remain opposed to the nurse practitioner role because it overlaps with medical practice. “On the nursing end, they don’t see it as nursing. And on the medical end, they don’t see it as nursing either,” says Schreiber.

She’s certain, however, that the students in UVic’s nurse practitioner program—all registered nurses with 10 to 15 years experience—will impress the public and other health care providers. “They are so smart and competent, I could weep!”

After the first students graduate, Schreiber and MacDonald will help ensure that they’re smoothly and successfully included in B.C.’s health care system. They plan to study sites where nurse practitioners are employed and to interview the nurses, their colleagues, and patients.

“We have to make sure they’re effectively integrated,” says MacDonald, “because we think they have something really significant to contribute to the health of British Columbians.”

Schreiber and MacDonald’s research has been funded by the Canadian Health Services Research Foundation, the Nursing Research Fund, the B.C. Ministry of Health Services, the Vancouver Island Health Authority, and UVic.

This article was written by Debbie Willis, a student in the departments of English and writing, as a participant in the UVic SPARK program (Students Promoting Awareness of Research Knowledge).



- There are nurse practitioners working in most Canadian provinces and territories. Canadians are more likely to receive treatment from one if they live where there is a shortage of doctors, such as rural or remote areas.

- In B.C., nurse practitioners can work in a variety of primary health care settings, including clinics, community health centres, hospitals and nursing homes, as well as in home care. Nurse practitioners can also work extensively in palliative care, diagnosing and treating

people with chronic or terminal illnesses.

- For more information on nurse practitioners in Canada, visit www.can-nurses.ca/cna and click on the Canadian Nurse Practitioner Initiative.



Is aboriginal knowledge science?

Yes it is, say two UVic researchers who are helping to reshape the science curriculum in B.C. schools

by Jessica Gillies

Lorna Williams and Gloria Snively are on a mission—slowly but surely, the two University of Victoria researchers are changing how science is taught in B.C. schools.

Williams, an assistant professor and director of aboriginal teacher education at the university, and Snively, an associate professor of science, environmental and marine education, are spearheading recent revisions to the provincial science curriculum that are bringing traditional aboriginal knowledge to B.C.'s science classrooms.

"Aboriginal knowledge, until now, has been invisible and devalued," says Williams, who is a member of the Lil'wat Nation from the B.C. Interior. "It was thought that in order to join the modern world we had to give up our traditional knowledge. We're here to say that it continues to exist and that it's valuable."

In 2002, when Williams worked as director of the aboriginal education enhancements branch of the B.C. Ministry of Education, she

discovered that very few indigenous students were enrolled in senior-level high school science—courses that are essential for entry into post-secondary education and science-related careers.

"The statistics showed that the high school graduation rate of aboriginal students was increasing, but what was that graduation leading to? They weren't taking the classes that would get them into university. This creates barriers and limits their career opportunities."

Something had to be done, so Williams called on Snively, a longtime friend. In partnership with the B.C. Ministry of Education, they created the Aboriginal Knowledge and Science Education Research Project to determine why aboriginal high school students are under-represented in the sciences and to find solutions.

Guided by Williams and Snively, 10 aboriginal and four non-aboriginal graduate students from UVic are working with First Nations elders, community leaders and educators to identify science content elements of aboriginal knowledge and determine the most culturally appropriate and effective ways of

teaching and learning science.

"The big, central questions here are what is science, and is aboriginal knowledge science?" says Snively. "We're saying it is science, and that every culture has its own science. Right now, there's a complete blank—traditional knowledge is not only devalued, for most teachers it doesn't exist."

Using case studies, field studies, surveys, informal interviews and ethnography (such as elder circles, songs and traditional stories) the graduate students are investigating topics as wide-ranging as how elders transmit ecological knowledge and wisdom, how science is taught through traditional storytelling, and how to use digital video as a learning tool for retaining and transferring aboriginal knowledge.

The results are being used by the ministry, program planners and teachers to develop culturally informed science materials for elementary and secondary schools across the province.

Examples of aboriginal knowledge already integrated into the K-7 curriculum as a result of this study are: the activities of aboriginal peoples in B.C. in each seasonal cycle; how animals are important in the lives of aboriginal

peoples; demonstrating the special significance of celestial objects for aboriginal peoples; and how aboriginal views of the interconnectedness of the environment are reflected in resource stewardship.

The changes should make science more relevant for aboriginal students who may previously have rejected it because it conflicted with their cultural value systems. "Our goal is to change the way science is taught so that indigenous knowledge has a respected place and children don't have to deny their identity to study a subject in school," says Williams.

Ultimately, the changes will benefit all students—young and old. "People tend to think that indigenous knowledge is only for aboriginal students, but it is of importance to everyone," says Snively. "It incorporates ecological wisdom in a very strong, holistic way, which is a key concept that all students should be learning."

The Aboriginal Knowledge and Science Education Research Project is funded by the aboriginal enhancements branch of the B.C. Ministry of Education.

Committee seeks women guest speakers

The Women Scholars Lecture Series committee is seeking nominations for guest speakers for the 2006-07 academic year.

The series, which brings distinguished women scholars to UVic, is sponsoring up to four speakers for the 2006-07 year. Each guest speaker is requested to give one public lecture suitable for the university and community audience, as well as lectures/seminars within the appropriate academic units on campus.

An average speaker visit lasts three to five days and the proposing faculty member/academic unit is responsible for arranging most of the details and is expected to act as host.

The primary criterion is the candidate's scholarly excellence, but support by more than one constituency or academic unit or by a unit which hasn't recently hosted a Women's Scholar Lecture, or sponsorship by a unit under-represented by women may also be considered relevant factors.

A budget for each speaker is available. Nominators are asked to supply a complete *curriculum vitae* for their candidate as well as information about the individual's proposed public lecture topic and campus participation during the visit.

Send nominations to the office of the vice president academic and provost by Monday, Oct. 31.

Four alumni to share Legacy Awards limelight

by Mike McNeney

A pair of business leaders, one of the country's leading corporate lawyers and a rising star in health information science will join the ranks of the university's "Distinguished Alumni" Nov. 22 at the fourth Legacy Awards gala dinner at the Victoria Conference Centre.

The UVic Alumni Association selects Distinguished Alumni Award recipients from nominations submitted by alumni and the campus community.

Last year nearly 500 university supporters attended the Legacy Awards in honour of the association's Distinguished Alumni and Excellence in Teaching Award winners, as well as inductees to the Sports Hall of Fame. The event raised upwards of \$30,000 for scholarships and athletic awards.

This year will also recognize the top-level recipients of the Blue and Gold Awards for student service and academic achievement. For tickets, call the ceremonies office at 721-7445.

The Distinguished Alumni Award winners are Richard Flury, Brad Forth, Sheridan Scott and Jeremy Smith.



Flury (BSc, 1970) built a remarkable career in the oil and gas industry, retiring in 2001 as chief executive of industry giant BP (British Petroleum). He's one of a small number of Canadians to reach such heights on the international business stage.

As head of the largest business segment in the company, Flury had responsibility for BP's worldwide gas marketing, trading and renewable businesses. He says his physics degree was essential in that it introduced him to a disciplined approach to problem-solving as well as the connection between philosophy and physics.

Forth (BEng, 1988) was a UVic co-op student when he first walked in the door of Victoria's Power Measurement. Today he's president of the company, a highly successful manufacturer of digital power and billing meters and Vancouver Island's largest technology firm. He leads a group of more than 300 employees (about a third of whom are UVic

alumni) with annual revenues upwards of \$70 million from products that save money and reduce energy usage.

As the head of the Competition Bureau of Canada, Scott (LLB, 1981) is one of the country's most influential public servants. After graduation she became law clerk to Chief Justice Bora Laskin. Later, she worked in senior legal and regulatory positions at the CRTC, CBC and Bell Canada.

Scott's arrival at her current post led the *Globe and Mail* to describe her as "the poster person" for Canada's legal community, representing the rise of women in corporate law.

In health information science—an increasingly critical area of health care—Smith (BSc, 1999) is a rising star. In only a few years, he has worked his way to the influential position of chief information officer for the Calgary Health Region, leading the creation of an electronic health record for each resident of the area. The 2002 Romanow Report said that a functional electronic health record will be essential in the future. Smith is at the forefront of that move toward better, safer health care delivery.

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Local students win cash for business ideas

by Maria Lironi

University of Victoria and Royal Roads University student teams grabbed \$15,500 in prizes for their business ideas last month. They were participating in a competition hosted by UVic's technology transfer office, the Innovation and Development Corporation (IDC).

The first annual IDC Challenge, which ran from May to September, featured more than 65 Vancouver Island students from university and college in various age groups, disciplines and programs. The participants presented their business plans to a panel of entrepreneurs, business experts and investors.

The winning ideas include a vehicle security system, an au-

tomated vending device for the tourist industry, a web-based "customer relationship management tool" for the multi-level marketing industry, a device for sport fishing, a new approach to video game advertising, and an indoor surfing complex.

"This competition provided the necessary catalyst to encourage students to act on their ideas," says Doug Tolson, IDC's vice-president. "By taking part in this competition students learned about the entrepreneurial process of developing a business plan, moving ideas into action, and converting concepts into companies. They received the support they needed to succeed, whether it was start-up funding, the creation of a network or guidance

from a mentor. It was a tremendous experience for the students."

The competition was supported by the National Research Council's industrial research assistance program, Vancouver Island Advanced Technology Centre, IDC, UVic's faculty of engineering and its alumni association, and the business faculties at UVic and Camosun College.

IDC is the link between the university's researchers, their intentions and innovations, and the marketplace. Its mandate is to move research into the public and private sectors through partnerships, licensing of technologies, and the formation of new spin-off companies.

For more information visit www.idcchallenge.com.

Admin changes designed to provide more support continued from p.1

access to the resources, support and up-to-date technology it requires on both the academic and non-academic sides, CASS will report to vice president finance and operations Jack Falk.

According to Falk, finance and operations is ideally placed to accomplish this goal, given its responsibility for budget, capital, and general campus infrastructure planning, its leadership of the Project Nova effort to replace the university's administrative systems, and the accompanying redesign of many of UVic's business processes.

"It's important that there be a continued strong relationship between the chief information officer and the vice president academic so that the academic priorities of the institution are reflected in CASS activities. At the same time, we want to put the right technology and tools into the hands of our administrative departments," he says.

In addition to the CASS change, the increasing number of strategic issues and initiatives managed by finance and operations has led to the upgrading of two executive director positions to associate vice president.

Kristi Simpson, currently execu-

tive director of budget and capital planning, will, as AVP financial planning and operations, assume additional responsibilities for campus planning, financial planning and involvement in specific initiatives such as Project Nova. The transfer of campus planning from facilities management combines campus and capital planning in the one office.

Peter Sanderson's appointment as AVP human resources reflects the expanded mandate and scope of that department. Human resources has taken on major new responsibilities in supporting faculty and staff recruitment, hiring and retention, as well as a larger role in skills training and leadership development for faculty, staff and student employees.

Dramatic growth in the university's research activities, its increasing recognition as a research-intensive institution, the increased complexity in the research environment, and the fierce competition for federal and provincial research funding have led to the need to create a new director of research services position in the office of vice president research Martin Taylor.

The new position will allow for additional support and assistance

to help faculty members identify research funding opportunities and to build on UVic's record of success in the range of funding competitions.

Success in the increasing competition for financial support and for outstanding students, faculty and staff is also the motivation behind the move of graphic services and photographic services into the university's new marketing department under acting vice president external relations Valerie Kuehne.

"The move recognizes that close interaction between the graphic design and photography areas, and marketing and communications. This interaction is absolutely essential to our ability to present a compelling and coordinated case to potential faculty, staff, students, funders and supporters about why UVic is the best university in the country in which to invest their time, careers or financial support," says Kuehne.

Each of the vice presidents will be working with staff in their areas of responsibility to determine whether additional measures would help to support the goals of the changes and to effect a smooth transition to the new structures.



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Total 10 year payout						\$120,259	
Total 15 year payout						\$131,184	

*Based on best current GIC of 3.85%. Returns will vary depending on investment vehicle.

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At the Galleries

www.maltwood.uvic.ca
721-6562

The Art of Physics Exhibit. (Oct. 7-27) The construction and use of visual imagery in science. McPherson Library Gallery.

Three River/Wild Waters, Sacred Spaces (until Dec. 23) Exhibit of eight nationally acclaimed artists who journeyed down the Peel, Snake and Bonnet Plume Rivers in 2003. Maltwood Art Museum and Gallery.

At the Theatres

www.phoenixtheatres.ca
721-8000

Accidental Death of an Anarchist (until Oct. 22)

A farce based on a true incident when a railway worker "accidentally" fell to his death from a police headquarters window.

Thursday, October 6

Lansdowne Lecture 7:30 p.m. *Women on Top: Livia and Andromache.* Dr. Alessandro Barchiesi, Univ. of Siena at Arezzo/Stanford Univ. Cornett B143. 721-8528.

Friday, October 7

Music 12:30 p.m. *Fridaymusic.* School of music students in a program for various instruments. MacLaurin B125. 721-7904

Saturday, October 8

Music 7:30 p.m. *Cappriccio Vocal Ensemble, Hospice Fundraiser.* Voices for Hospice, the world's largest simultaneous singing event in aid of hospice palliative care to coincide with the 25th anniversary of the Vic-

toria Hospice Society. Univ. Centre Auditorium 721-8480

Monday, October 10

Open Life Drawing Session 5:30 p.m. Also on Oct. 17/25/31. An open session of drawing with a live model. All skill levels welcome. Visual Arts A150. Tickets \$3. 721-8011

Tuesday, October 11

Asian Pacific Initiatives Lecture 12:30 p.m. *Chinese Advancements in Human Rights and the Rule of Law: The Assessment of a Senior Chinese Lawyer.* Guo Guoting, lawyer, Shanghai. Fraser 152. 721-7020

CEOR Lecture 3:30 p.m. *Geoscience in British Columbia—Who's Involved? What's Happening? Where's it Heading?* Brian Grant, B.C. Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources. Cornett B143. 721-8848

Sessions in Spirituality 4 p.m. *A Holistic Approach to: Overseas Humanitarian Assistance.* Monty Crisp, aid worker, Louisiana. Interfaith Chapel 721-8338

Wednesday, October 12

Grad Year Connections Info Fair & Coffeehouse 11 a.m. Connect with other graduating students and learn about post-UVic opportunities for careers, grad school or travel. SUB, Michele Pujol room. 472-4678

Brown Bag Lunch Series 12 p.m. *Managing your workload/schedule.* David Palmer-Stone, UVic. Grad Centre 108. 472-4543

Studies in Religion & Society Lecture 4:15 p.m. *Born Again Ideology: The New Protestant Ethic and American Empire.* Dr. Arthur Kroker, UVic. Hickman 110. 721-6695

Friday, October 14

Music 12:30 p.m. *Fridaymusic.*

School of music guitar students. MacLaurin B125. 721-7904

Sunday, October 16

Music 2:30 p.m. *Victoria Symphony.* The first concert in the Victoria Symphony's classics series. Tania Miller, conductor. Univ. Centre Auditorium. Information and tickets 721-8480

Tuesday, October 18

Sessions in Spirituality 4 p.m. *Syntropy: The Universe in Evolution.* Guy Dauncey, author of *Stormy Weather: 101 Solutions to Global Climate Change.* Interfaith Chapel 721-8338

Genome B.C. Public Forum 7-9 p.m. *Genomics Research: Applications & Implications.* Dr. Joerg Bohlmann, and Dr. Michael Burgess, UBC, and Dr. Ben Koop, UVic. Royal B.C. Museum. To register visit www.genomebc.ca. (604) 738-8072

Wednesday, October 19

Brown Bag Lunch Series 12 p.m. *Supervisor Relationships.* Sheryl MacMath & Dr. Vern Storey, UVic. Grad Centre 108. 472-4543

Music 12:30 p.m. *Lieder at Lunch.* Explorations of the German Lieder repertoire with Sharon and Harald Krebs. MacLaurin B037. 721-7904

Studies in Religion & Society 4:15 p.m. *Christian Theology and the Rise of Modern Science.* Paul Teel, CSRS graduate student fellow, UVic. Hickman 110. 721-6695

Friday, October 21

Music 12:30 p.m. *Fridaymusic.* School of music string students. MacLaurin B125. 721-7904

Anthropology Lecture 2:30 p.m. *Aging, Ethnicity and Agency in Almere: Social Contradiction in the Lives of Marginalized People in a New City in the Netherlands.* Peter Stephenson, UVic. Hickman 116. 721-7047

Saturday, October 22

Music 7 p.m. *Diwali Festival.* Performers include the Young Stars Dancing School, Classical Dancers, Punjabi Bhangra Team from Vancouver. Univ. Centre Auditorium 721-8480

Tuesday, October 25

Sessions in Spirituality 4 p.m. *Science and Religion: Can They be Reconciled?* John Park, an active Christian Scientist. Interfaith Chapel. 721-8338

Lansdowne Lecture 7:30 p.m. *Death Makes a Holiday.* Author David J. Skal examines Halloween's ancient roots in harvest rituals and human sacrifice and the origins of Halloween icons. Human & Social Development A240. 721-7316

Wednesday, October 26

Brown Bag Lunch Series 12 p.m. *Human Rights on Campus.* Cindy Player, UVic. Graduate Student Centre 108. 472-4543

John Albert Hall Lecture Series 7:30 p.m. *A Citizen's Responsibility in Dark Times.* Dr. Jeffrey Stout,

Princeton Univ. Strong C103. 721-6695

Thursday, October 27

In Pursuit of Knowledge Lecture Series 9:30 a.m. *Monumental Thebes: Egyptian Temples of the New Kingdom.* Peter Smith, UVic. Commons Block Haro room. Tickets \$16.05 Register 472-4747

John Albert Hall Lecture Series 7:30 p.m. *What the West Can Learn About Itself From Bin Laden.* Dr. Jeffrey Stout, Princeton Univ. Strong C103. 721-6695

Friday, October 28

Music 12:30 p.m. *Fridaymusic.* School of music brass students. MacLaurin B125. 721-7904

Sunday, October 30

Music 2:30 p.m. *Greater Victoria Youth Orchestra.* Janos Sandor, conductor GVYO gets Halloween spooky! Dress up for an afternoon of haunted, ghostly and chilling music. Univ. Centre Auditorium. Tickets: Adults \$19, seniors \$15, students/children \$8 721-8480

Tuesday, November 1

Sessions in Spirituality 4 p.m. *Gods and Doctors, Saints and Sinners, Health and Ethics.* Jan Storch, UVic. Interfaith Chapel. 721-8338

Wednesday, November 2

John Albert Hall Lecture Series 7:30 p.m. *The Gospel of Life and the Politics of Reconciliation.* Dr. Jeffrey Stout, Princeton Univ. Strong C103. 721-6695

Fall 2005 Ring Schedule

Calendar items should be sent by 4 p.m. on the copy deadline date shown below to UVic Communications (Sedgewick C149, fax 721-8955, e-mail ucom@uvic.ca) or entered into the online calendar (www.uvic.ca/events).
For more information call 721-7636.

Publication Date	Copy Deadline
*Thursday, Nov. 10	Wednesday, Nov. 2
Thursday, Dec. 1	Wednesday, Nov. 23

*Please note date change



Vikes Upcoming Events

Oct 7	M&W Soccer vs. Trinity Western University	5:30 p.m.
Oct 9	Women's Soccer vs. UBC	2:15 p.m.
Oct 9-11	Vikes Invitational—Golf at Cordova Bay Golf Course	
Oct 13	Women's Soccer vs. University of Regina	6:00 p.m.
Oct 14-16	Women's Field Hockey	
Oct 14	Men's Exhibition Basketball—University of Lethbridge	7:00 p.m.
Oct 15	Men's Soccer vs. UBC	2:15 p.m.
Oct 15	New Balance Invitational—Cross Country	
Oct 15	Men's Exhibition Basketball—University of Lethbridge	7:00 p.m.
Oct 16	Women's Soccer vs. University of Manitoba	12:00 p.m.

Full schedule information at www.athrec.uvic.ca

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Go Vikes! Thanks to the generous support of **Thrifty Foods** and the **Pepsi Bottling Group**, the department of athletics and recreation will have more financial resources to create athletic awards for student-athletes, and at the same time, promote an exciting season of Vikes team sports. From Sept. 21 to Dec. 31, 2006, the Pepsi Bottling Group will donate 50 cents (up to \$10,000) for every 12-pack or 6 x 710ml sold at all 19 Thrifty Foods locations on Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland.

UVic business students are going places. Graduates of the **Hospitality Management Program** in the faculty of business work in some of the world's top-ranked hotels and hospitality businesses. Now, Delta Hotels has donated funds to establish the **Delta Hotels Hospitality Scholarship**, a \$1,500 award to an undergraduate student entering the faculty's hospitality management program. The award recipient will have demonstrated outstanding achievement in academics, leadership and community service.

A donation from **Nancy's Very Own Foundation**, (founded by Toronto's Nancy Jackman, a renowned supporter of women's causes) will provide employment for a law student working in UVic's centre for global studies. The student's work will support the centre's international women's rights project, including support for the upcoming conference "Women's Activism in Constitutions: Putting Women on the Agenda." A second grant will support the creation of a policy document on integrating gender concerns into the "Responsibility to Protect" doctrine, a key Canadian foreign policy initiative recently adopted at the UN Reform Summit.



Strength and fitness programmer Tyler Goodale (centre) with SAA members (clockwise) Jeremy Wallace, Jennifer Wingert and Erica Grainger in front of the McKinnon fitness centre's new exercise station.

Student ambassadors exercise generosity

The McKinnon Building has its first new equipment in a long time—a state of the art multi-station resistance training centre—thanks to a donation from the Student Ambassador Association.

The \$6,600 Life Fitness station was purchased from funds raised by the SAA during its diploma frame and flower sales at convocation ceremonies.

"We were looking for (a service project) with wide benefits and thought this would be perfect," says SAA president Jeremy Wallace, a

fourth-year biology/environmental studies undergrad. "Hopefully, it will help keep students active and making good lifestyle choices."

"We know that physical activity enhances academic life," adds recreation co-ordinator Winona Pugh, who is thrilled with the equipment. She says the gear allows users to exercise muscle groups with precision, control and full range of motion.

The circuit can accommodate four users at a time and because it's located in the McKinnon fitness centre, it's available free of charge to

students, staff and faculty. It'll have an expected lifespan of up to 20 years—far longer than other potential additions that were considered, such as cardio machines that tend to break down faster.

The SAA's other notable contribution to campus life was a \$15,000 gift last year toward the purchase of 28 new armchairs for the McPherson Library study area.

The student group is affiliated with the UVic Alumni Association. Orientation sessions on the new gym equipment are planned, call 721-7822.

Program aims to prevent seniors from falling

by Maria Lironi

For some seniors, falling can be fatal. In fact, according to a recent falls prevention study conducted by the B.C. Injury Research and Prevention Unit (BCIRPU), one-third of all seniors fall at least once a year, 90 per cent of hip fractures are the result of a fall, and 20 per cent of seniors die within a year of sustaining a hip fracture.

That's why BCIRPU and researchers from the UVic's centre on aging are joining together to create a unique national curriculum aimed at preventing falls among seniors. The \$300,000, three-year Canadian Falls Prevention Curriculum Project, which is funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada's Population Health Fund, is a national initiative which

will provide health professionals and community practitioners with proven methods of preventing falls.

The Ministry of Health also funds the B.C. Injury Prevention and Research Unit by providing just over \$600,000 annually through the Provincial Health Services Authority to support the development of ongoing evidence and prevention activities. From this, approximately \$245,000 is directed toward the prevention of falls in seniors, which includes the Canadian Falls Prevention Curriculum project.

Drs. Vicky Scott and Elaine Gallagher, who lead the Adult Injury Management Network in UVic's centre on aging, are recognized leaders in the field of falls and fall-related injury prevention among older people. Scott will be the principal investigator on

this project and Gallagher will be assisting with the evaluation.

"One way seniors can reduce the risk of falling is by ensuring their environments are well lit and have clear walkways," explains Scott. "We know what strategies work, but what was missing until now was a standardized way of imparting this message to all those who work with seniors in the community, hospitals or in residential care facilities. That's why the curriculum project is such a great idea."

The two-day course will be pilot-tested in Vancouver and Halifax, and revised based on participant feedback. A final pilot will be conducted in Ottawa. The course will be coordinated through BCIRPU and delivered by trained facilitators across the country on a cost recovery basis.



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