



IDC expands services across Vancouver Island

by Maria Ironi

Vancouver Island post-secondary students and researchers who want to launch businesses have a new resource to help them take their research to the marketplace.

Thanks to more than \$1 million in federal funding, the University of Victoria's Innovation and Development Corporation (IDC) is expanding its services to assist four other post-secondary institutions: Camosun College, Royal Roads University, Malaspina University-College, and North Island College.

IDC's mandate is to move research and innovations into both the public and private sector through partnerships, licensing of technologies, and the formation of new spin-off companies. As well, it provides one of the most comprehensive packages of tech transfer services to students in Canada—graduate and undergraduate—at the same level it gives to faculty.

Technology transfer is the transfer of intellectual property (patents, licenses and spin-off companies) from the university to the marketplace. It encompasses all the various life cycles

of a product, from the initial thought through design to marketing and selling the product.

"This initiative enables university and college students and faculty to more effectively transfer their innovations to the marketplace which, in turn, will create local jobs and opportunities for partnerships," says Murray Coell, B.C.'s Minister of Advanced Education and Minister Responsible for Research and Technology. "What's more, it'll be great for regional economic development."

"Currently at UVic, student invention disclosures make up approximately 20 per cent of IDC's overall annual projects," says UVic President David Turpin. "In fact, of the 24 spin-off companies that IDC has helped found since 2002, seven have been exclusively with UVic students. I'm excited that students and faculty from across Vancouver Island can now take advantage of these services."

"The synergies emerging from this new partnership will not only help our students," says Camosun President Liz Ashton, "but they will also foster the

SEE IDC EXPANSION P.3

Moderate drinking brings dubious benefits, research team finds

by Maria Ironi

The majority of research suggesting "moderate" drinking helps prevent heart disease may be flawed, says an international research group led by the University of Victoria's Centre for Addictions Research of B.C. (CARBC) and the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) school of nursing.

The group analysed 54 research studies linking how much people drink with risk of premature death from all causes, including heart disease. These studies included hundreds of thousands of individuals who were followed for a number of years.

Most studies were from North America and Europe, some from the Caribbean and Asia. Most results were published in the 1980s and 1990s, with one study published in 1974 and one as recently as 2004.

The research team from the U.S., Canada and Australia investigated a suggestion first made by eminent British heart specialist Gerry Shaper. He said that most of the studies made a consistent and serious error of including as "abstainers" people who had cut down or quit drinking due to declining health, frailty, medication use or disability. They found that the few studies without this error showed

no evidence of health benefits.

The team identified only seven studies that properly compared light drinkers with long-term abstainers. The results of these seven studies showed no reduction in risk of death among the light drinkers compared with abstainers. The other 47 studies showed significantly lower risk of death among light drinkers, compared to a group of "abstainers" that included people who had recently cut down or quit drinking.

The authors caution that their report, published in the April 2006 issue of *Addiction Research and Theory*, has not disproved the notion that light drinking is good for health, as too few error-free studies have been performed. They suggest, however, that the extent to which these benefits actually translate into longer life may have been exaggerated.

"We know that older people who are light drinkers are usually healthier than their non-drinking peers," says Kaye Fillmore of the UCSF school of nursing. "Our research suggests light drinking is a sign of good health, not necessarily its cause. Many reduce their drinking as they get older for a variety of health reasons."

SEE DRINKING BENEFITS P.2



VALERIE SHORE

"The plant lady"

Dr. Nancy Turner (environmental studies), winner of the 2006 Craigdarroch Gold Medal for Career Achievement in Research, holds up some crab apples in a photo taken last fall in Hartley Bay, B.C. Turner, considered a world authority on the ethnobotany of the Pacific Northwest, is known as "the plant lady" in the Gitga'at community, where she's been helping elders and educators document and revive traditional plant knowledge. For more details on the 2006 Craigdarroch Research Awards, see page 5.

Board approves 2006/07 budget framework

The University of Victoria's board of governors has approved a 2006/07 budget framework that provides for more student spaces, operating costs for new buildings to help ease a critical space shortage on campus, program quality improvements, and additional student financial assistance to keep UVic among the leaders in student aid.

The \$253.5-million operating budget includes a provincial operating grant of \$140.8 million—up \$7 million over 2005/06. The framework contains a two per cent increase in tuition fees, bringing annual domestic arts and science undergraduate tuition to \$4,412 from \$4,325 effective May 1. Domestic graduate tuition rises to \$4,582 from \$4,492, effective May 1.

The university will invest a further \$430,000 in student financial assistance, keeping UVic among the top 20 per cent of Canadian universities in terms of student assistance pack-

ages. Another \$400,000 will go to the library for its acquisitions budget and \$2.4 million is targeted to support program growth.

"This budget ensures UVic will provide space and support for our growing student body and further invest in student financial assistance and library resources," says UVic president David Turpin. "It will allow us to continue to offer outstanding education, research and career opportunities to students, faculty and staff."

The budget framework funds 16,523 full-time equivalent (FTE) undergraduate and graduate students, an increase of 243 FTEs over the 2005/06 academic year. This student growth includes the final component of 23 electrical engineering and computer science FTEs in the provincial government's "Double the Opportunity" initiative, 37 FTEs in nursing programs, and 183 FTEs in general programs.

Funds worth \$1.4 million are

also allocated toward the operating costs of UVic's new building projects, including the Mearns Centre for Learning, and the science, social sciences and mathematics, and support services buildings.

As part of UVic's commitment to reduce the amount of traffic to and from campus, general parking rates have been increased by just over \$4 a month to bring them closer to rates on other university and college campuses. The additional funds will support the university's transportation demand management (TDM) initiatives and provide for a special reserve fund for future parking needs.

The 2006/07 TDM initiatives include a continuation of the highly-successful employee bus pass, cycling infrastructure improvements, road and pathway improvements to improve safety, and a flexible parking pass for employees who still need to bring their vehicles to campus from time to time.

CFI grants fund five UVic researchers

A laboratory to better understand how young children perform basic movements such as running, throwing and catching is one of five University of Victoria research initiatives recently funded by the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI).

"Being physically active is important for health and well-being throughout life, yet very little is known about basic movement skills in young children," says Dr. Vivienne Temple (physical education). "We need to know more about the link between movement 'competence' at a young age, and levels of physical activity in adulthood."

Using a \$22,949 grant from CFI, Temple will establish a movement skill research lab equipped with specialized instruments to measure and assess the physical activity levels of children and people with disabilities.

Research shows that childhood obesity has tripled in Canada in the last 15 years, and current estimates indicate that 36 per cent of boys and 25 per cent of girls in B.C. are overweight or obese.

"This pattern has been caused by increased exposure by children to

high-calorie foods and sedentary pastimes," says Temple. "Healthy behaviours and obesity track into adulthood so it's important that children learn to contribute to their physical well-being as they grow."

Temple's ongoing research focuses on creating the physical and social environments that support the development of movement skills. Her approach is to transfer this knowledge to parents, care providers and teachers who can help young children nurture a long-term commitment to physical activity.

Temple and the other four UVic researchers were awarded a total of more than \$330,000 by the CFI under the new Leaders Opportunity Fund. The four other researchers are:

Fraser Hof (chemistry), who will use \$127,347 to equip a facility for fundamental and applied studies in biomolecular recognition and medicinal chemistry. The facility will design, synthesize and test new molecules for potential use in the development of new antibiotic drugs.

Patti-Jean Naylor (physical education), who will use \$44,007 to establish a research unit that will

bring together researchers, students, practitioners and policy-makers to work on problems and activities related to physical activity, obesity and chronic disease prevention in children and youth.

Steven Perlman (biology), who will use \$94,806 to establish a laboratory for studying how infectious organisms affect the evolution and ecology of their insect hosts. The research has potential applications in disease treatment and insect pest control.

George Tzanetakis (computer science), who will use \$42,538 to establish a laboratory for developing new ways of processing and analysing large amounts of audio data, especially music. Potential users include archives, libraries, recording studios and companies that deal with large amounts of multimedia data.

The Canada Foundation for Innovation is an independent corporation created by the federal government to strengthen the capacity of universities, colleges, research hospitals and non-profit research institutions to carry out world-class research that benefits Canadians.

Ringers

The Canadian Mathematical Society has awarded its 2007 Krieger-Nelson Prize to UVic mathematician **Dr. Pauline van den Driessche**. The prize recognizes outstanding research by a female mathematician. Van den Driessche is one of Canada's leading applied mathematicians and is known for her work on disease transmission mathematical models. The mathematical tools she has developed have been applied by her and others to multi-city disease dynamics, HIV-AIDS control, and more recently, West Nile virus outbreak predictions. The referees for the prize cite her "tremendous productivity and vision" and describe her as an inspiration for new generations of mathematical researchers, women and men alike.

UVic professor emeritus **Mowry Baden** (visual arts) has been named by the Canada Council for the Arts as one of seven recipients of the 2006 Governor General's Award in Visual and Media Arts. Baden, a sculptor, is the first-ever Victoria-based recipient of this prestigious national award, which celebrates lifetime achievement and outstanding contributions to the visual and media arts through voluntarism, philanthropy, board governance, community outreach or professional activities. Baden's work is represented in collections in Canada and the U.S. and he has been commissioned to create public art works in Vancouver, Seattle, San Francisco, Santa Barbara, Pittsburgh, Washington and Victoria. The Art Gallery of Greater Victoria is currently showing the works of Baden as part of the exhibition *Mowry Baden & Roland Brener*. The exhibition continues until April 16.



UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

Renowned Victoria artist Carole Sabiston poses with 12 brightly coloured tapestry banners she has donated to the faculty of education's curriculum library. The banners were originally commissioned in 2000 for the Crystal Gardens Conservation and Botanical Centre in downtown Victoria. When the centre was closed in 2004, the banners were rescued and Sabiston chose to give them a permanent home at UVic.

Drinking benefits continued from p.1

Light drinking was defined as having two drinks or fewer per day (or about 30 mls of pure alcohol per day) and drinking at least once a month. The effects of many other important factors that influence health and life expectancy were controlled as far as possible in the study.

"The widely held belief that light (or "moderate") drinking protects against coronary heart disease has had great influence on alcohol policy and the clinical advice of doctors to their patients throughout the world,"


says CARBC director Tim Stockwell. "These findings suggest that caution should be exerted in recommending light drinking to abstainers."

The authors are calling for more well-designed studies that assess people's alcohol intake and abstinence more precisely as their drinking patterns change with the years.

"This study was performed in the spirit of the tradition that all scientific findings are open to challenge," Fillmore says. "Competing hypotheses, even if unpopular, should

be encouraged and tested to be sure that accepted beliefs about health are sound."

The research was funded principally by the Australian Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation, an independent agency established by the Australian government with funds collected from beer taxes. Seed money for development of the work came from the school of nursing at the University of California, San Francisco, and from NordAN in Stockholm, Sweden.



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	AGE	55	60	65	69	75	80
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Total Payout to Age 100		\$232,910	\$204,695	\$180,568	\$163,803	\$146,342	\$133,389
Accelerated Payout:		Income over 5 years \$1,851		Total 5 year payout \$111,081			
		Income over 10 years \$1,023		Total 10 year payout \$122,734			
		Income over 15 years \$750		Total 15 year payout \$135,113			

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	AGE	55	60	65	69	75	80
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...payments cease at death		\$537	\$600	\$684	\$773	\$944	\$1,164
...10 years guaranteed		\$526	\$580	\$645	\$703	\$803	\$924
Female							
...payments cease at death		\$490	\$536	\$604	\$676	\$822	\$1,014
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Left to right: Krystyna Miedzybrodzka, NSERC; Murray Coell, Minister of Advanced Education and Minister Responsible for Research and Technology; Nina Grewal, MP for Fleetwood-Port Kells; Tim Walzak, IDC president and CEO; David Turpin, UVic president; Liz Ashton, Camosun College president; and Martin Taylor, UVic vice-president research.

IDC expansion continued from p.1

development of Vancouver Island's advanced technology sector. When it comes to the growth of the total number of companies, this sector is growing faster than in any other region in B.C."

The initiative is the first of its kind in B.C. It is strongly supported by the three federal granting agencies — the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, the Social Science

and Humanities Research Council, and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research — with a total of \$930,000 over three years.

The funding is part of the joint Intellectual Property Mobilization program, designed to encourage Canadian universities, hospitals and colleges to work together in accelerating the transfer of knowledge and new technology for use in the Canadian economy. Western

Economic Diversification Canada has also contributed \$232,500.

The announcement took place in March at the Vancouver Island Technology Park (VITP), which is owned by UVic. Through VITP, UVic provides a range of commercial space for UVic research-generated spin-off businesses and outside high-tech companies. UVic is the only university in B.C. to own its own research park.

"We make it happen"

To date, the Innovation and Development Corporation has helped found 37 new companies

by Beth Haysom

UVic-born companies are breaking new ground in the marketplace—literally. In fact, if you have a medium to large dog with a penchant for digging holes and you live in the Greater Victoria area, 6th Dimension Devices would love to hear from you.

The company needs about 100 dogs to test technology for a device that will alert pet owners that their dogs have started digging holes in their yards.

"We're looking for fairly large dogs, ideally dogs that are comfortable wearing a harness and can't resist the urge to dig," says Andrew Kyle, company president. "We'd like to take them to the beach, and observe and record them digging for tennis balls in the sand."

The anti-dog-digging technology is a sideline for 6th Dimension Devices, one of six companies launched last fall by UVic's Innovation and Development Corporation (IDC). IDC acts as a knowledge broker linking university researchers and student entrepreneurs, their inventions and innovations to marketplace and business opportunities.

The main focus of 6th Dimension Devices is an A-Pod™ Performance System, a wireless tool, designed for use by sports trainers or team coaches to track an athlete's performance. Highly sensitive, it can gauge how high the athletes jump, how fast they run and what has to be changed to improve performance.

"IDC played a big part in getting our company going," says Kyle. "It gave us the structure and logistical support we needed to get off the ground." 6th Dimension Devices is now at the field testing stage with UVic and local sports teams and

expects to get its products to the marketplace next year.

"This company is typical of the outside-the-box thinking and entrepreneurial spirit that flourishes at UVic at all levels—faculty, undergraduate and graduate," says Doug Tolson, IDC vice-president. "Our role is to move research and innovation into the public and private sectors. We make it happen through partnerships, licensing of technologies, and the formation of new spin-off companies. And, most enjoyably, we have our work cut out for us keeping up with all the exciting possibilities."

Since 1992, IDC has helped found 37 new companies, based on UVic research or UVic student entrepreneurial initiatives. These include B.C. businesses producing vaccine and

diagnostic solutions for aquaculture, secure electronic forms, environmentally safe herbicides, laboratory information management systems, and market research for e-commerce platforms.

"We're involved in a tremendous variety of ideas. That's the fun part of what we're doing. We're never quite sure what's coming next," says Tolson. "And of course, we like to support the companies we've already launched. You don't happen to know of a dog that likes to dig, do you?"

People with digging dogs or looking for more information can check the 6th Dimension Devices website at www.6dd.ca or e-mail the project supervisor at kstarchuk@6dd.ca. For more information on IDC, go to www.uvic.ca/idc.



Aimee Teteris, a world-class 800m runner, is monitored by 6th Dimension Devices technology while practising on a UVic track.

Psychologist part of national obesity research network

by Suzanne Connell

Building designers and community planners could be doing a lot more to encourage physical activity among Canadians, says UVic environmental psychologist Dr. Robert Gifford.

Gifford is one of more than 130 researchers from 21 universities across Canada involved in the Canadian Obesity Network, announced March 28 in Ontario. The network, hosted by McMaster University, brings researchers, health professionals, policy-makers and industry partners together to conduct research on the prevention and treatment of obesity.

The network is funded with an initial \$800,000 federal investment over two years under the Networks of Centres of Excellence program.

Obesity, a growing epidemic among Canadians, affects approximately 18 million people and costs Canada's health care system over \$4.3 billion dollars a year. Among young Canadians, adolescents have experienced the biggest increases in obesity, tripling from three per cent to nine per cent over the last 25 years.

For adults during this same time period, the most significant increases have occurred for those aged 25 to 34 and 75 or more, with obesity rates doubling to 21 per cent and 24 per cent respectively.

Research has shown that obesity

is linked to diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, osteoarthritis, depression, asthma, sleep apnea, hormonal disorders, infertility, certain kinds of cancer and a multitude of other illnesses.

Gifford leads a section of the network concerned with the socio-cultural aspects of obesity. His group will look at methods for encouraging physical activity both inside and outside the workplace.

"Workplaces can be designed in ways that promote exercise by requiring people to walk within and between buildings, and encouraging the use of stairs over elevators," says Gifford. Neighbourhoods can also be designed in ways that encourage more physical activity by incorporating more green space, attractive retail areas and bike paths.

Studies show that between 1975 and 1999, people walked about one per cent less every year. People who are considered sedentary generally walk about 3,000 to 4,000 steps per day through normal movement. One goal of the Canadian Obesity Network is to increase this number to 6,000 to 8,000 steps per day.

The network will also explore options for helping people get this additional exercise within their normal day, since taking an extra 30 minutes for exercise can often be problematic for time-starved schedules.

For more information visit www.obesitynetwork.ca/.

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Continuing Studies

uSource is now available for faculty and staff

by Natasha Chetty

After more than one year of planning, programming and testing, two major components of Project Nova are now available for faculty and staff to use.

Project Nova is part of the strategic plan objective to provide the UVic community with an advanced technology infrastructure. Both uSource, the new web portal, and FAST, an upgraded financial reporting system, will ease collaboration and information-sharing, and create efficiencies in the way faculty and staff search for internal documents.

uSource is a portal into online information, forms and tools. It organizes links to related UVic web pages into intuitive “channels.” For example, the “Employee Forms” channel contains an alphabetized set of links to forms from departments and units across campus.

Also contained in uSource is an e-mail program (convenient when checking messages from off-campus locations), a “groups” tool to communicate with work groups, clubs or classes, and several teaching resources.

Mary Sanseverino, a computer science instructor and associate director of information technology development at the learning and teaching centre, says “faculty will likely use it to enhance e-communications with students, especially if it integrates well with the hundreds of courses that use course management applications like WebCT and Blackboard.”

The portal is also the gateway to FAST, an upgraded version of the EASY financial reporting system. Anyone with a research or specific purpose account can access it using the new organization codes they were assigned on April 1. This summer, “Webreq”—a tool to make and track purchase requests online—will be launched.



“Bringing our campus community together through the portal will broaden our experience as UVic community members. It will encourage each of us to make new discoveries about our campus and each other,” says Janice Johnson, co-director of Project Nova.

The portal contains fun elements, too. Community members are encouraged to submit a digital photo of campus life as one of the weekly feature photos. The news channel can be set to automatically receive up-to-the-minute headlines (RSS feeds) from news media such as BBC or CNN.

An online scavenger hunt is being held until April 15 to familiarize staff and faculty with the portal. Contest details are posted in the “Campus Announcements” section in the Home tab. In-person and online tutorials on portal use are available for those interested in learning more.

What are the next steps? Students will be given access to uSource in May. They’ll be able to register for classes, track tuition payments, set up schedules using the calendar tool, and more.

Further project components will be rolled out during the next few years. These include implementation of a new human resources information system and a student system to replace ISIS, the current mainframe for the student record database.

Log into uSource at: <https://usource.uvic.ca>. If you have questions about the portal, contact Dave Bachmann, project manager, at 721-5632 or dbachman@uvic.ca.



Alicia Ulysses leads a University 101 class.

“Hard knocks” grads discover joy of learning at University 101

by Beth Haysom

It’s 7 p.m. on Tuesday evening in Victoria, and the city is winding down. Straggling workers wearily make their way home while panhandlers set up new stations for their nighttime vigil.

But beneath the city streets in UVic’s downtown campus classroom an unusually diverse group of 20 adult students is wide awake, eagerly waiting for Alicia Ulysses to begin her lecture on Mexican poet and feminist writer, Rosario Castellanos.

This is University 101, a new, and thriving, 10-week introductory course in humanities. It’s offered by UVic free of charge to adults in Victoria whose economic and social circumstances normally pose obstacles to university education.

Many of the students are graduates of the school of hard knocks—recovering drug addicts, single parents, people with disabilities or mental health issues and those close to the poverty line. But at University 101 none of that matters. They’ve checked all that baggage at the door and for the next two hours they’re just like any other students, listening intently to Ulysses, asking probing questions, soaking up all the knowledge they can.

Among them is Lauri Nerman, who used to love learning until drug addiction and depression took her life down a different path. Now she’s successfully overcoming those challenges but, until she joined University 101, she thought university education was a vanished dream.

“I was afraid, I thought my memory would be shot, but then I told myself I’ve conquered other

things, so I should try this. Honestly, it’s been the most wonderful thing in my life,” says Nerman, who wrote her first essay in 20 years on “the definition of justice” and hasn’t looked back.

Now Nerman and fellow students who share her passion for learning are celebrating completion of their class with a convocation-style ceremony at the university on April 11.

“It’s a great achievement,” says Becky Cory, University 101 project coordinator. “The students are thrilled by their educational experience, and so are we. This course has been a resounding success.”

UVic’s faculty of humanities and office of the vice-president academic joined with sponsors and volunteers from community groups and social agencies to set up the university studies course, based on similar programs in New York and Vancouver that offer education to disadvantaged citizens.

Since mid-January, University 101 classes have been running twice a week at UVic’s downtown campus. Students are given a meal to begin the evening, then have a two-hour class, usually a lecture followed by discussion. Topics include the classics, critical thinking, creative writing, history, English and indigenous literature. Students receive a UVic student card and have access to the library.

“Critical thinking and a passion for learning are elements of citizenship that can and should be shared among everyone,” says Andrew Rippin, dean of humanities, who was delighted to discover there was no shortage of UVic professors and graduate students willing to volunteer their time to teach the

current class.

Greek and Roman studies professor Greg Rowe taught his session on the ancient Greek classics and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. “These students are so motivated, they even like having homework assignments,” says Rowe, who appreciated the diversity of perspectives in class discussions.

“They’ve faced all kinds of ordeals in their lives but these students are still hopeful about our society,” he says. “I really hope that some of them will end up in my regular class.”

It might well happen. Nerman and several others plan to continue their studies and are looking for ways they can join regular courses at UVic.

Ivan Livingstone of the Métis First Nation, who was turned off education by his early experiences in Nova Scotia, now plans to take political science. He has high praise for University 101. “I thought there was going to be a gimmick here; that they were going to psychoanalyse me or something. But this course has been fantastic. I’ve been treated like an adult and with respect. It’s excellent.”

Ulysses told the class that she would be back on Thursday for the next lecture unless she won the lottery, to which one of the students replied: “If you do that, you can take all of us to university!”

Lottery winnings aside, University 101 organizers are looking for more sponsors to continue and expand the program. For more information contact Becky Cory at uni101@uvic.ca or phone (250) 361-7014.

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Top UVic researchers make their mark in the world



A world expert on the human use of plants, an internationally renowned physicist, and a historian who brings Canada's colourful past alive to the world via the Internet are among this year's winners of the University of Victoria Craigdarroch Research Awards.

The annual awards, which recognize excellence in research, were presented on March 27 at their namesake, Craigdarroch Castle. The castle was home to UVic's predecessor, Victoria College, from 1921 to 1946.

"We're very proud of the achievements of this year's winners," says Dr. Martin Taylor, UVic's vice-president research. "Their work clearly demonstrates the world-class calibre of our research and its contributions to the advancement of knowledge and the betterment of society."

Craigdarroch Gold Medal for Career Achievement in Research

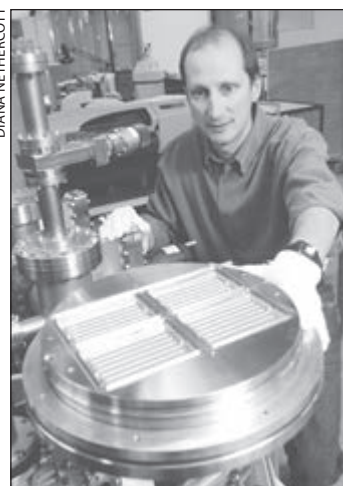
Described by her international peers as one of Canada's "national treasures," **Dr. Nancy Turner** (environmental studies) integrates the scientific practice of botany with a rich cultural understanding of the traditional use of plants, especially among First Nations in British Columbia.

From Haida Gwaii to the Hesquiat; from the Ulkatcho Band to the Nitinaht people, Turner is well-known in First Nations communities for helping to document and revive their rich, cultural connection to plants. In fact, Turner is widely acknowledged as *the* authority on the ethnobotany of the Pacific Northwest.

Throughout her career, Turner has shared that knowledge in the classroom, in community workshops, in the news media, and in more than 20 books where she raises awareness of the fragility of ecosystems and the importance of maintaining a connection to the earth.

Among Turner's many honours are the Lawson Medal for lifetime contributions to Canadian botany (2002) and the R.E. Schultes Award (1997), which is considered the top international award in ethnobotany. She is a member of the Royal Society of Canada and a University of Victoria Distinguished Professor.

Craigdarroch Silver Medal for Excellence in Research



Lefebvre

Dr. Michel Lefebvre (physics and astronomy) is an internationally respected physicist who has made significant contributions to the reputation of Canada and UVic on the world stage of particle physics research.

Lefebvre's outstanding contributions to science began shortly after earning a PhD from Cambridge University in 1989. Two papers he co-wrote were published in the prestigious journal, *Physics Letters*. He has since published four dozen or so papers in top journals describing experimental techniques of particle detection.

In the early '90s Lefebvre was instrumental in organizing Canada's participation in ATLAS, the particle detector component of the massive new proton collider facility being built by the European Laboratory for Particle Physics, or CERN. ATLAS-

Canada now consists of 80 scientists from eight institutions, including UVic where Lefebvre led a \$5-million project to design and build a key part of the ATLAS detector.

Craigdarroch Award for Societal Contribution



Fleming

For more than 15 years, **Dr. Tom Fleming** (curriculum and instruction) has been helping teachers in some of Argentina's most impoverished areas improve their instructional methods.

In the Basic Education Project (2001-05), he co-led a UVic partnership with the Argentina Ministry of Education and the Canadian International Development Agency to improve basic education for at-risk children in six barrios of Rosario.

The courses, curriculum and resources developed for the project will be used for school reform in another 18 schools in Rosario and 20 more elsewhere in the province of Santa Fe province. The resources will also be compiled into a book and distributed to Argentina's 23 other provincial ministries of education.

Under Fleming's direction, the project has made an exceptional contribution to the betterment of

society in Argentina. All of the project's objectives were met or surpassed, changing lives and giving new hope to the country's most vulnerable social groups.

Craigdarroch Award for Project Excellence



L-r: Smyth, Schofield and Lefebvre

Under the **B.C. Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources-UVic Partnership Project**, created in 2003, university researchers and co-op students in the faculties of engineering, science and the social sciences work side-by-side with ministry staff on a variety of projects related to alternative energy, minerals, and onshore and offshore oil and gas.

Benefits for both parties include increased access to infrastructure, additional research capacity for the ministry, experiential work for students, and additional funding for UVic research. The project has provided UVic with more than \$850,000 for 18 research projects and more than 15 co-op student work terms.

On behalf of the project, the award recipients are UVic's **Dr. John Schofield** (economics) and **Ross Curtis, Dave Lefebvre** and **Ron Smyth** from the ministry.

Craigdarroch Award for Research Communication



Lutz

For **Dr. John Lutz**, history has never been simply a subject to study, research and teach. Instead, he harnesses every opportunity he can to share history with as many people as possible.

Lutz studies the history of the Pacific Northwest, the history of aboriginal and non-aboriginal relations, European colonialism in the Pacific, and the history of race and racialization. He's perhaps best known for his popular, award-winning "Great Unsolved Mysteries in Canadian History" website, which invites would-be sleuths to solve real crimes in Canadian history. Other websites focus on the histories of Victoria and Vancouver Island.

Lutz frequently and enthusiastically shares his passion for history with the news media and community groups, speaking on topics as disparate as sex in the fur trade and the history of municipal landscapes. He

was also a vocal advocate, through media interviews, for the bid to keep Victoria's land titles records in this city and accessible to all.

University of Victoria Innovation and Development Corporation Entrepreneurship Award



de Greef, left, and Kerr

In partnership with the Innovation and Development Corporation, **James de Greef** and **Jonathan Kerr**—UVic undergraduate students at the time—founded Genologics Life Sciences Software Inc. in 2002.

The company, which is housed in UVic's Vancouver Island Technology Park (VITP), helps life science researchers and pharmaceutical laboratories to manage, integrate and analyse the large volumes of data generated by genomics and proteomics research. It now employs more than 40 people, has sales offices in Boston, Atlanta, Philadelphia and London, England, and is the worldwide market share leader in its field.

While Kerr is now developing software for Kodak Graphic Communications Canada Co., de Greef remains with Genologics as vice-president of product management. Last year, VITP presented Genologics with the Emerging Technology Com-

pany of the Year Award for its excellence in innovation while increasing profitability and community involvement and maintaining sound business principles.

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Trumpy awarded President's Cup at annual awards ceremony

Vikes basketball player Chris Trumpy took home the top honour—the President's Cup—at this year's varsity athletic awards banquet, held on March 28.

The President's Cup is given to the student-athlete in fourth or fifth-year who best combines scholastic achievement and athletic ability. Trumpy, a co-captain of the men's basketball team, recently graduated with a degree in economics and is now studying for a master's degree in public administration.

Trumpy played his final game as a Vike in a narrow loss to the Carleton University Ravens in the Canadian Interuniversity Sport national championship game on March 12. The Vikes mounted a valiant effort in a nationally televised contest, coming from behind to within one point of the Ravens, who ultimately won the game 73-67 for their fourth consecutive championship.

Trumpy earned a spot on the second CIS all-star team, following up being named a Canada West all-star. He's a three-time academic all-Canadian, and his grades from this year will likely earn him the honour for a fourth time. During his career, he was twice named Canada West defensive player-of-the-year.

"Chris exemplifies what it means to be a Vike—on the court, in the classroom and in the community," says head coach Craig Beaucamp. "Over the past five years he's been



a great ambassador for UVic. As a future member of our basketball alumni, he's a perfect role model for all future players."

Trumpy's teammate Jacob Doerksen was named UVic's male rookie-of-the-year. He was the team's leading scorer at the CIS championship, was named CIS and Canada West rookie-of-the-year and was named to the tournament all-star team along with teammate Brandon Ellis. Vikes swimmer Anne Schmuck was named female rookie-of-the-year. She also won Canada West rookie-of-the-year honours.

The outstanding male and female athlete-of-the-year awards went to rugby player Mike Danskin and rower Lindsay Jennerich. Both were in the spotlight on the international stage this year with Danskin on the Canadian national men's 7's and 15's rugby teams and Jennerich finishing first in the lightweight four at the Head of the Charles and fifth at the World Indoor Rowing Championships.

For more information on the other athletic award winners, visit vikes.uvic.ca.

Last month the Vikes men's 4 x 800-metre relay team ran to a gold medal performance at the CIS track and field championships in Saskatoon. Daniel Mallie, Brandon Green, Rich Lehman and Geoff Martinson were all named first team all-Canadians. Vikes swimmer Mackenzie Downing collected three bronze medals at the CIS swimming championships in Quebec City. She set a Vikes record in the women's 100m butterfly at the March event.

Meanwhile, several Vikes athletes and coaches are nominated for 2005 Victoria Sport Awards. Paralympic World Cup swimming multi-medalist and Vikes swim team member Stephanie Dixon is nominated for female athlete-of-the-year along with UVic field hockey alumnus Andrea Rushton.

The Vikes women's soccer team, current CIS champions, are nominated for team-of-the-year and head coach Tracy David is nominated for coach-of-the-year. Nominated in the same category is Vikes golf team coach Brian Carbery. Vikes women's field hockey player, Ali Lee, is nominated for the Victoria junior athlete-of-the-year award.

The winners will be announced at the 2005 Victoria Sport Awards Banquet on April 29.

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Calendar highlights

Events free unless otherwise indicated. For a complete list of events, see www.uvic.ca/events

At the Galleries

www.maltwood.uvic.ca
721-6562

Dinner With Jane Austen. Runs to May 3. A collection of Georgian silver given to UVic by Bruce and Dorothy Brown. Maltwood Art Museum & Gallery.

Beauty in the Rocks April 11 to May 4. David Baird, professional scientist, educator and author of several books, presents an exhibit of 30 photographs with accompanying poetry. McPherson Library Gallery.

Thursday, April 6

Sociology Lecture 4 p.m. *Social Exclusion of Street-involved Youth in the Victoria Region.* Cecilia Benoit and Mikael Jansson, UVic. Strong C112. 721-6444

Women Scholars Lecture 7:30 p.m. *The Big Bang: Truth or Nonsense?* Sandra Faber, Univ. of California, Santa Cruz. MacLaurin A144. 721-7700

Friday, April 7

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

Monday, April 10

Sessions In Spirituality 9 a.m. *Stressed? Come Walk the Labyrinth.* April 11, 12, 13, 14, 18, 24, 25. Interfaith Chapel. 721-8338

Sessions In Spirituality 7 p.m. *Workshop: Walking the Labyrinth.* Henri Lock, UVic United Church chaplain, will lead this workshop on walking the labyrinth. Interfaith Chapel. 721-8338

Tuesday, April 11

Centre for Earth & Ocean Research Lecture 3:30 p.m. *Destruction of the Village of Kwalate by a Rockfall-generated Tsunami.* Brian Bornhold, NEPTUNE/UVic, and Duncan McLaren, grad student, UVic. Cornett B112. 721-8848

Public Administration Lecture 4 p.m. *Engaging Citizens in Mega Events: How do the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Games Impact Urban Policies and Citizens?* Bertille Bourdellon, UVic. Strong C108. 721-6444

Thursday, April 20

Lansdowne Lecture 7 p.m. *Three Principles in Social Sciences.* Yu Xie, Univ. of Michigan. Strong C116. 721-4949

Saturday, April 22

2006 Alumni & Friends Travel Expo 11 a.m. UVic Bookstore, Campus Services Bldg. Registration required by calling alumni services at 721-6000 by April 17. 721-7315

Monday, April 24

Beck Lecture 7:30 p.m. *Paternity Leave in Iceland.* Dr. Thorgerdur Einarsson, Univ. of Iceland. Strong C126. 853-7656

Tuesday, April 25

Lansdowne Lecture 7 p.m. *Globalization and the Multiple Crises in Care.* Mary Zimmerman, Univ. of Kansas. Strong C112. 721-4949

Friday, April 28

Fragments on Fridays Lecture 3 p.m. *Hidden Medieval Treasures: Fragmentary History of Medieval Devotion.* McPherson Library, room 210. 721-8257

Spring/Summer 2006 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, May 4	Wed. April 26
Thursday, June 8	Tues. May 30
Thursday, July 6	Tues. June 27

Take a deep breath

A UVic research team contributes to a major cross-border study on air quality and health

by Suzanne Connell

Have you ever wondered about what effects air pollution may be having on your health?

A University of Victoria research team is working with researchers from the University of British Columbia and the University of Washington to find some answers.

It's part of an ambitious international project called the Canada-U.S. Border Air Quality Study (BAQS). The ultimate aim of the study is to reduce the pollution that contributes to poor air quality in the Georgia Basin-Puget Sound air-shed, which includes the Capital Regional District, the Greater Vancouver area and northern Washington State.

Although air quality in the region generally meets federal air quality guidelines, research shows that health impacts from air pollution continue to occur. The problem is expected to intensify as the region's population rises from six million to a projected nine million by 2020.

The study aims to address the issue of air pollution by providing opportunities for Canadian and American authorities to coordinate air quality management in the air space shared by both countries. Over the next year, Health Canada is providing \$1 million in funding to this initiative, which is being overseen by the B.C. Centre for Disease Control.

Specifically, BAQS researchers are looking at the health effects of fine particulates caused by traffic and wood smoke on the birth outcomes of pregnant women, and then tracking the respiratory health of their newborns over a period of three years. Also, the researchers are studying the implications of air pollution on the cardiovascular health of one million adults aged 45 and older.

The UVic research team—con-

sisting of geographer Dr. Peter Keller (lead investigator) and graduate students Eleanor Setton, Perry Hystad and Christy Lightowlers—is playing a key role in this initiative. The team is developing three techniques for measuring the exposure of each study subject to air pollution. The results will be used by UBC epidemiologists for statistical analyses of the relationship between exposure and negative health impacts.

Working from UVic's spatial sciences research lab, Setton has developed a model for adjusting measures of exposure to air pollution by simulating how people move through changing air pollution levels.

"Typically, air pollution studies base exposure on a person's residential address, but my model adjusts for the time that most people spend at work in locations with varying levels of pollution," says Setton. "This kind of information can effect change at a policy level, because it shows decision-makers exactly where to target air quality programs for the best results."

Hystad is developing a second

model for predicting exposure to air pollution, but this one looks at the level of outdoor air pollution that seeps into our homes, school rooms and workplaces. This is important because most large air pollution studies fail to account for the time that most people spend indoors.

Hystad is measuring pollutants inside and outside a sample of homes in the Capital Regional District. If you live in a non-smoking household and you're interested in having your home tested, contact Hystad at phystad@uvic.ca or 858-0922.

Lightowlers and colleagues at UBC are working on a third model focussed solely on wood smoke. During winter evenings, Lightowlers drives mobile equipment through the CRD to measure pollutants released from wood smoke. The data will be used to refine the UBC wood smoke model so that it can be applied to the CRD.

To learn more about the study and the implications it has for cleaning up our air-shed now and into the future, visit www.cher.ubc.ca/UBCBAQS/welcome.htm.



L-r: Hystad, Lightowlers, Keller and Setton. The instrument is a nephelometer, which measures particulate matter.

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UVic softens bus pass increase for employees

BC Transit raised the cost of monthly adult bus passes from \$60 to \$65, effective April 1. UVic will be investing additional funds from the transportation demand management (TDM) program to cover the fee increase and keep the price at \$38 per month for UVic employees. The increase brings the UVic investment to \$21 per pass. In compliance with Canada Revenue Agency policy, the UVic supplement is considered a taxable benefit for those participating in the program. The deduction from participating employees will be the tax on \$21, translating to approximately \$6.50 per month. "At \$38 a month, the pass can save an individual or a family thousands of dollars a year over the cost of owning and operating a car or a second vehicle," says Allan Dunlop, UVic TDM coordinator. "I'm happy to help people with route planning and how to work transit in with other ways of getting to work, such as cycling, walking and carpooling."

What's in a name? Maybe a prize

UVic's diversity advisor is looking for a great name for the new diversity newsletter to be launched in the fall. Feeling creative? Send your suggestions to Grace Wong-Sneddon at (gwongsne@uvic.ca) by April 28. If your submission is chosen, you'll win a \$50 gift certificate from the UVic Bookstore. Watch for the inaugural issue in early September, which will be packed with news about diversity and equity initiatives and resources across the university. There will be ideas and best practices about what we, both individually and collectively, can do to make UVic a welcoming, inclusive and supportive place to work and learn. This is an opportunity to hear different perspectives of our campus community and where differences can be openly explored, enjoyed and understood.

Was it a big bang or a big bust?

Professor Sandra Faber of the University of California's Lick Observatory will give a guided tour of that most momentous of astronomical events—the Big Bang in the next Women Scholars lecture. In her presentation "The Big Bang: Truth or Nonsense?" on April 6 at 7:30 p.m. in the David Lam Auditorium (MacLaurin room A144), Faber will discuss our theoretical and experimental route from the cosmic dawn. She has had a long and distinguished career in observational astronomy, but is particularly well-known for her work related to distant galaxies.

Psychology grads score highest in Canada

Graduates of UVic's clinical psychology doctoral program recently achieved the top average in the country for their performance in the exam required for registration as a psychologist. The Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP) is a standardized test written by anyone in North America seeking to become registered psychologists. Exam results from 1997 to 2005 show that UVic grads scored a mean of 172.1, a full 10 points above the Canadian average. "This achievement demonstrates the high quality of the students and our training program," says Dr. Marsha Runtz, acting director of clinical training. "These graduates will be exceptional additions to the profession of clinical psychology."

Don't let the pain get you down

If you have a chronic health condition—such as diabetes, arthritis, fibromyalgia or stroke—UVic wants to help you. The university is offering a free course designed to help you cope with living with a chronic condition. The six-week course will also give you techniques that can help you take control of your life. The course is also open to caregivers, family and friends of people living with a chronic condition. The next sessions run on Wednesday evenings from April 5 to May 10, from 5:30 – 8 p.m. in room C114 of the Strong Building. More information is available (toll free) at 1-866-902-3767 or www.coag.uvic.ca/cdmsp.



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At left, graduate student Greg Mulligan points a monitor at firefighters as they work at the scene of a mock traffic accident.

Internal transmitters assist in firefighter stress test

by Patty Pitts

The smashed and crumbled cars, the concerned teenage onlookers and the hovering television news cameras indicated another tragic story of young lives lost. But no ambulances stood by while members of the Victoria Fire Department cut through shattered glass and pried open twisted car doors in front of Victoria High School. This was an exercise aimed at saving the firefighters.

While they worked, University of Victoria physical education graduate students stood nearby holding palm-sized monitors. They were reading the vital signs of the firefighters, transmitted via body monitors and tiny internal transmitters the men had swallowed earlier that morning.

Even during a simulation, the firefighters' heart rates soared and their blood pressure rose. UVic researcher Dr. Lynne Wolski hoped the transmitter technology, being used for the first time in B.C., would

give a truer assessment of job stress on firefighters.

"Heart attacks are the number one killer of working and retired firefighters," says Wolski. "Their cardiovascular systems are put under enormous stress because of the combination of heat stress (from wearing protective gear) and the physical demand of their duties."

"These transmitters mean we can monitor vital statistics from the moment firefighters hear the alarm, through the rescue and during their recovery. Once we have more sufficient data, we'll be able to establish more accurate working standards."

Wolski and her team will conduct several more mock accident exercises using the transmitters with other fire department members before applying the technology in actual firefighting scenarios. That's when firefighters can face temperatures of up to 200° C.

Until now, paramedics staffing firefighter rehabilitation stations at fire scenes had to rely on readings

from ear thermometers to establish the cool-down times firefighters had to wait before resuming their duties. Informal results from transmitter testing indicate ear temperature readings might not be completely accurate, and firefighters may be putting themselves at risk by returning to action too soon.

"This collaboration between UVic and the Victoria Fire Department is providing valuable and groundbreaking insights into the demands of firefighting," says assistant Victoria fire chief Scott Woodburn. "The results will definitely help make working conditions safer for our members."

Not all of Wolski's data will come from simulated situations. Just as the crew were wrapping up their exercise at Victoria High, a call came through for a real car accident not far away. So the crew responded, still carrying their internal transmitters, with Wolski and her research team in hot pursuit.

Project encourages nurses to opt for geriatrics specialty

by Patty Pitts

Nursing graduates are in high demand in B.C. and can often choose where they want to work. Yet few choose psycho-geriatrics—working with senior patients with mental health and/or addiction challenges.

The University of Victoria's school of nursing, working with the Vancouver Island Health Authority, hopes to address this shortage with a pilot project involving nursing students who graduate this spring.

The students have spent their final 12-week on-the-job practice experience with hospital units and community outreach organizations on Vancouver Island that deal directly with psycho-geriatric issues.

Project administrators hope that by exposing the students to both the challenges and rewards of working with these senior patients, more nursing students will choose this area for

their career.

"We made sure that students were aware of the need in this area and had health care professionals come in and discuss the benefits they receive from their work," says UVic nursing professor Jeannine Moreau.

"As a result, six students chose the area for their practice experience. No students chose it last year. The reports from both the students and their supervisors are very positive."

Students gained experience in the wide spectrum of care needed for seniors by working with a variety of health care professionals in the field of psycho-geriatrics. During their six weeks at Victoria's Royal Jubilee Hospital and six weeks at EOS (Elderly Outreach Services), VISTA (Victoria Innovative Seniors Treatment Approach) or with Nanaimo/Courtney Seniors' Outreach teams, students were able to follow seniors through the health care system. Their learning was

enhanced with seminars, workshops and attendance at conferences.

"I appreciated being able to see what community assistance is available to seniors to enable them to remain at home and to be able to follow the progress of a patient who might later require hospitalization," says nursing student Michelle Chequer. "In traditional nursing practicums you don't have the opportunity of seeing patients in a variety of settings."

Moreau says that the program prepares the students to take a leadership role in the area of psycho-geriatrics upon graduation. UVic researchers will evaluate the outcomes of the program to see if more nursing graduates do seek work in this underserved area of care.

Funding for the program came from the provincial ministries of Health and Advanced Education through the B.C. Academic Health Council.