

UVic congratulates Nobel Prize-winning researchers

Several University of Victoria-based researchers woke up on the morning of Oct. 12 to find out they were co-winners of the most coveted award on the planet—a Nobel Prize.

As is now widely known, the Nobel Peace Prize for 2007 is being shared by environmental activist and former US Vice President Al Gore and the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

The award cites the efforts of Gore and the IPCC “to build up and disseminate greater knowledge about man-made climate change, and to lay the foundations for the measures that are needed to counteract such change.”

In announcing the prize, the

university’s growing reputation as an international leader in climate change research, notes Brunt.

“These strengths are enhanced by our close links with federal laboratories, especially the Canadian Centre for Climate Modelling and Analysis (CCCma), the Institute of Ocean Sciences (IOS) and the Water and Climate Impacts Research Centre (W-CIRC), all of which are located on or near the UVic campus.”

The CCCma is an Environment Canada research centre, W-CIRC is a joint initiative of UVic and the National Water Research Institute of Environment Canada, and IOS is part of Fisheries and Oceans Canada.



Nobel Committee said they are highlighting the link they see between the risk of accelerating climate change and the risk of violent conflict and wars.

The IPCC was established by the United Nations Environmental Program and the World Meteorological Organization in 1988 to provide policymakers with neutral summaries of the latest information related to human-induced climate change.

There are currently three working groups within the IPCC, focusing on the science, impact and mitigation of climate change. The views of the working groups are presented as “assessment reports” which are produced every five years; 2007 is an assessment year.

Assessment reports are based on peer-reviewed scientific and technical literature and are written by teams of authors from all over the world who are recognized experts in their field. Hundreds are involved; none are paid for their time.

More than a dozen researchers associated with UVic were involved with the 2007 IPCC assessment as coordinating lead authors, lead authors or contributing authors.

“We congratulate everyone associated with UVic who contributed to the IPCC’s work,” says Vice-President Research Dr. Howard Brunt. “Through their research, the world has become more aware of the challenges ahead of us and how we can mitigate the impacts of global warming.”

The high number of IPCC contributors at UVic underscores the

At press time, *The Ring* was aware of the following IPCC contributors (listed by level of involvement) associated with UVic:

• **Coordinating lead authors**—

Dr. Ken Denman, an adjunct professor in the School of Earth and Ocean Sciences (SEOS) and a research scientist with the CCCma and IOS; and Dr. Francis Zwiers, an adjunct professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, and a research scientist with the CCCma.

• **Lead authors**—Drs. Greg Flato and John Fyfe, both adjunct professors in SEOS and research scientists with the CCCma; Dr. Terry Prowse, professor and Chair in Climate Impacts on Water Resources in the Department of Geography and a research scientist with W-CIRC; Dr. Andrew Weaver, head of the climate modelling group in SEOS and the Canada Research Chair in Climate Modelling and Analysis.

• **Contributing authors**—Drs. Vivek Arora, Jim Christian and John Scinocca, adjunct professors in SEOS and research scientists with the CCCma; Drs. Adam Monahan and Mike Eby, a professor and research associate, respectively, in the climate modelling group in SEOS; Dr. Fred Wrona, a professor in the Department of Geography and a research scientist with W-CIRC; Dr. Cornelis “Case” van Kooten, a professor in the Department of Economics; and Terry Lee, a PhD student in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.



Dickie

Writing student wins national Aboriginal writing prize

By Maria Lironi

Her powerful tale of the life of a young girl at a residential school has earned writing student Kerissa Dickie a top prize (for the 19–29 age category) in The Aboriginal Writing Challenge—a short story contest for young Aboriginal Canadians. Dickie’s winning story, “Wild Flowers,” is about longing, loss, and connection as part of the residential school experience.

She wrote it as part of UVic writing professor Lorna Jackson’s writing workshop. “Her story is full of heart, and she has taken such care with the depiction of another time and place,” comments Jackson. “Only a compassionate, talented writer can write this way. I’m so pleased that Kerissa’s work

will reach a larger audience.”

A member of the Fort Nelson First Nations community, Dickie describes her stint as the project assistant to the Residential School Healing Project as one of her inspirations for the story. One of the project’s goals was to create a book using a compilation of survivors’ stories and artwork aimed to help in the healing process for each storyteller, to bridge the gap of understanding for younger generations, and to preserve a part of Aboriginal history that might otherwise be lost.

“Through reading their stories, I was given the opportunity to better understand what my grandparents, mother, aunts and uncles have been through and how it has shaped who they are today,” says Dickie. “It has

given me an even greater sense of respect for the strength of those who came before me. I am a member of the first generation not to go to residential school in my community, and acknowledging that comes with a feeling of responsibility.

“There is nothing we can do to fix past sorrows, but we can honour them by emulating their strength in our own lives,” Dickie explains. “As to where the inspiration for ‘Wild Flowers’ came in, I must say that the stories of the survivors in my family and community have made a huge impact on the way I see the world and on the kind of stories I want to tell.”

“Wild Flowers” is now taught as

SEE ABORIGINAL WRITING P.4

“Cosmic train wreck” baffles astronomers

A recent study by a team of University of Victoria researchers has raised new questions in the international astrophysics community about the fundamental nature of dark matter.

The study, led by Dr. Andisheh Mahdavi, a postdoctoral fellow in UVic’s Department of Physics and Astronomy, detailed new observations of a massive “cosmic train wreck”

between giant galaxy clusters three billion light years from Earth in a system known as Abell 520.

Each galaxy cluster in the collision contains up to 1,000 galaxies, and each galaxy has billions of stars like our sun. Cluster collisions provide an ideal opportunity for researchers to study the nature of matter and gain a better understanding of how the universe is evolving.

Using NASA’s space-based Chandra X-ray Observatory as well as the Canada-France-Hawaii optical telescope, Mahdavi and his colleagues were surprised to discover a chaotic scene in the debris left over by the merging clusters.

“Whatever happened did something really unusual to the galaxies,” he says. “It moved them all to the outer edge of the cluster core, leaving only gas and dark matter at the centre. That’s never been seen before and it’s really hard to explain.”

There are three main components to galaxy clusters: individual galaxies; hot gas in between the galaxies; and dark matter—a mysterious substance that can’t be seen but which we know exists because of its gravitational effects on visible objects, such as galax-

SEE COSMIC TRAIN WRECK P.10



DIANA NETHERCOTT

(L–R) UVic astronomers Andisheh Mahdavi, Henk Hoekstra and Arif Babul with a photograph of the “Cosmic Train Wreck”

UVic leads way with switch to 100-per-cent recycled paper

UVic marked International Campus Sustainability Day October 24 by announcing it will switch all bond paper supplies to 100-per-cent post-consumer waste content beginning January 1, 2008. In making the switch from 30-per-cent post-consumer waste content, UVic becomes the first BC university to make the commitment to using 100-per-cent recycled paper stock. "We're very excited to be able to introduce this change as part of our sustainability initiatives on campus," says UVic Sustainability Coordinator Sarah Webb. "Using 100-per-cent recycled paper means we will be helping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while also enhancing our ethical purchasing practices." With the improved quality of recycled paper stocks and more efficient equipment, the switch is not expected to result in increased costs. International Campus Sustainability Day, hosted by the Society of College and University Planners, celebrates sustainable achievements in higher education at North American colleges and universities. For more information about sustainability initiatives at UVic, visit the website at www.uvic.ca/sustainability.

Globe gives UVic high marks

UVic received an A- in the 2007 *Globe and Mail* University Report Card on students' overall satisfaction with their university experience. UVic sent the *Globe and Mail* survey out to all its registered students, ensuring that the university's ratings were based on the opinions of its whole student body, not just those who registered with the Studentawards.com database, as was the case in previous years. UVic's campus environment and atmosphere received top marks as did its computing equipment, online resources, the library and faculty members' knowledge of subject matter. UVic's tolerance for diverse opinions and ideas also received an A-. The report was released last month and is available at www.theglobeandmail.com/education.

Food for Fines to help feed the hungry

For those known to return library books late, you're in luck. This year UVic Libraries is once again running Food for Fines and it's a great way to clear your library debt while helping to support those in need. From Nov. 19-30, library users will have \$2 waived from their library fines for each non-perishable food item donated, up to a maximum of \$20. Donations can be made to the curriculum lab in the MacLaurin Building, the main loan desk, and the music school's audio and media services. Those without fines are also welcome to make food and cash donations. Food for Fines will distribute donations to the Mustard Seed Food Bank and the UVSS Food Bank. For more information, contact Shailoo Bedi, McPherson Library, at 721-8226 or shailoo@uvic.ca.

Meet me next year at the BiblioCafé

It's official. The name for the new library café which is due to open early in the new year is BiblioCafé. The cafe-naming contest attracted 784 entries and 2,000 creative names. The winner, Student Recruitment Officer Karen Waugh, received a \$50 Food Services card in October.

New lecture series—for your own good

Bolster your commitment to health and fitness by attending a new lecture series aimed at staff, faculty and students provided by the School of Exercise Science, Physical and Health Education. Presenters from the school will present a series of free lunch-hour lectures covering a variety of health-related topics. On Nov. 20 Lara Lauzon presents "Just for the 'wellth' of it!" in McKinnon 155. Then Lynne Wolski rounds out the year with "Nutrition: Plan-it Organic" on Dec. 11 in the Strong Building, room 118. All presentations begin at 12:10 p.m. and end at 12:45 p.m. Upcoming lectures in the new year include fitness planning and life-long strength training. UVic community members wishing to learn more about the research going on at the school are welcome to attend its new research lecture series. On Nov. 9 Joan Wharf Higgins discusses the choices, chances and circumstances related to healthy living, and on Dec. 7 Ryan Rhodes analyzes why good intentions for a healthy lifestyle only work for some people. All presentations are in McKinnon 150 from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. and will resume in the new year. Further details at www.educ.uvic.ca/phed/.

United Way fun

The campus United Way campaign wraps up at the end of November, with this month's events including the Libraries Book Sale, Nov. 6 and 7, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the SUB Upper Lounge, organized every year by the McPherson library staff (most items are only one toonie apiece); the Hearts and Hands Craft Fair, Nov. 20, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in University Centre lobby, organized by Sheila Adams (medieval studies), Lynn McCaughey (career services) and Helen Rezanowich (women's studies); and the Dr. Zonk Show, Nov. 22 in the Engineering/Computer Science Building Room 123 at 5:30 p.m. (Dr. Reg Mitchell, UVic chemistry professor, surprises kids and adults alike with explosions and all manner of amazing things for his annual "magic" chemistry show). Details at <http://unitedway.uvic.ca/>.

Calling all community heroes

Leadership Victoria is once again gearing up to pay tribute to some of the city's most outstanding and inspiring leaders. On Jan. 23, the fourth annual Victoria's Leadership Awards event will take place, but nominations are only being accepted until Nov. 30, so submit your nominations as soon as possible. Presentations will be divided into four categories (the University of Victoria Community Leadership Awards, the Rotary Community Leadership Awards, the Leadership Victoria Lifetime Achievement Award and the Vancity Youth Award). Read more at <http://communications.uvic.ca/releases/release.php?display=release&id=859> or visit <http://www.leadershipvictoria.ca/vaward.htm> for a nomination package.



L-R: Drs. Marjorie Mitchell and Lisa Mitchell with Soma Morse

Filipino children express their struggles through art

By Suzanne Smith

For the past several years Drs. Lisa Mitchell and Marjorie Mitchell (anthropology) have been conducting research on the perspectives of children living in a fishing community located on and alongside a waste dump in the central Philippines. These children live in a distressed and dangerous environment without adequate housing, nutrition or safe areas for play.

The UVic researchers are interested in learning what the children feel are risks to their health and safety. Since the children were shy initially about being interviewed, the two anthropologists started out by asking them to express their experiences through self-portraits and body maps.

"Most researchers who study children's health and safety issues don't ask the children what they think, but instead they interview doctors, nurses, police or teachers," says Marjorie Mitchell.

"Children are sometimes regarded as incomplete adults, but we believe that they are active members of society who produce valuable cultural knowledge and have the right to be involved in decisions that affect their lives," explains Lisa Mitchell. "We're interested to learn what happens when you start by asking what the

children are thinking."

For her master's research, anthropology graduate student Soma Morse worked with a group of these children to design and create an exhibit of drawings, photographs and narratives that depict their neighbourhood.

In addition to drawing self-portraits, the children worked collaboratively to come up with the themes for the exhibit which included community, the sea, house- and sea-related livelihoods, surroundings (the local physical environment) and recreation.

"It's clear from the exhibit that the children know about the problems in their community; however they still see this place as their home. They also have some very practical solutions to the problems in their neighbourhood," says Morse.

Two of the exhibit participants, Prency Pimentel and Renalie Batucan—both 12 years old—had this to say about their community: "Still, there is a lot of *basura* (garbage). Some people separate their garbage, some don't. People should not be dumping garbage at the sea. They are not being taught and so don't know. We could teach these people if they would listen. Let them understand not to throw garbage. There should be a big can to collect the garbage and a dump truck for pick up."

Another participant, 15-year-old Edmund Escala, described his surroundings in the following way: "Trees give us shade from the sun—here there are few trees and lots of houses—it would be good to plant more trees."

"Through this experience the children not only expressed their concerns about health and safety, they also learned some valuable lessons about how to work together towards a common goal. As they grow up and take on adult responsibilities maybe they will apply these lessons to their daily lives in ways that help their communities," says Lisa Mitchell.

The children's exhibit entitled *Amon Purok* (our neighbourhood) was displayed at the Negros Provincial Museum in Bacolod City, Philippines. At the request of the children, *Amon Purok* was also displayed at UVic's Wilfred Johns Gallery from October 1-26. A visitors' book, containing comments from Canadian viewers, will be given to the children when Lisa Mitchell returns to their community next year.

The UVic researchers hope the exhibit in the Philippines and in Canada raises awareness—not just of the struggles these children face, but also of the contributions they can make to improve the conditions that affect their lives.

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UVic research still best in the West

The University of Victoria continues to lead all other comprehensive universities in Western Canada in terms of research effort, according to the 2007 ranking of the country's top research universities by Research Infosource.

In the annual ranking, among comprehensive universities, UVic placed third behind Ontario universities Guelph and Waterloo. Comprehensive is defined as universities with a wide range of undergraduate and graduate programs.

The University of Toronto topped the medical/doctoral category, while the Royal Military College, also in Ontario, led the undergraduate category.

On the blended list of Canada's Top 50 Research Universities for 2007, UVic placed 17th, showing a sponsored research income total of just over \$100 million for the 2006 fiscal year. This represents a 40.2-per-cent increase over 2005—the highest growth rate among the top 25 universities.

This is the first year that UVic has been in the so-called "\$100 Million Club."

"This achievement reflects the

breadth and talent of UVic researchers and the relevance of the work they are doing to advance knowledge and address societal needs," says Dr. Howard Brunt, UVic's vice-president research. "This benefits everyone, including our students who are being taught by some of the best researchers in the country."

Regionally, in fiscal 2006, BC's four universities took in a total of \$606.9 million in sponsored research income, an increase of 21.7 per cent over 2005. Research income declined in the other three western provinces.

The data to determine Canada's Top 50 Research Universities 2007 and Research Universities of the Year 2007 drew on Statistics Canada and the Research Infosource Canadian university R&D database.

The rankings are based on sponsored research income and research output indicators such as number of publications per full-time faculty member.

Research Infosource Inc, a division of The Impact Group, produces specialized reports from its extensive database. To view the entire rankings and analysis visit www.researchinfosource.com.



Architectural illustration of the Support Services Building (view from Ring Road). Sustainability features will include a stormwater management system incorporating landscaped retention ponds near the building entrance.

Capital construction program on track

It was an unusually "constructive" summer on campus this year. Underground heating, water, gas, electrical, sewer and treated waste water services for new campus buildings were installed during July and August. Despite a challenging construction market, all projects were completed on time and on budget.

"We would like to thank the campus community for their patience," says Eugene Heeger, director of capital projects. "We planned ahead to ensure we brought in services for all new buildings, including First Peoples House, at the same time, with the aim of reducing inconvenience to the campus community in the future."

Four new buildings are currently under construction. The new facilities will help to meet the infrastructure requirements of growing student enrolment, while providing much-needed research, learning and office space.

The newest building to move from design to construction (in August 2007) was the Support Services Building (SSB), located outside Ring Road between Centennial Stadium and the Continuing Studies Building. The new facility will house the executive team as well as other administrative functions such as accounting, research services, pension and payroll. In addition to providing

growth for these areas, this move will open up space in the campus core for academic units and student support services. The project will be registered with the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating Standards program.

The Enterprise Data Centre (EDC), a new campus computing facility that was originally earmarked for a location adjacent to the SSB, will now be built near the Technology Enterprise Facility off McKenzie Avenue. The decision to separate the two projects (because of vastly different infrastructure requirements) will help to preserve more open space near the SSB. The revised schematic design of the EDC is scheduled to be presented to the facilities development sustainability subcommittee before the end of the year. The target completion date is October 2008.

The Mearns Centre for Learning will transform the existing McPherson Library into a state-of-the-art educational facility that integrates the library's extensive music, audio and video collections and technology services. The recently named BiblioCafé will be located on the main floor. Target occupancy date is January 2008.

An implementation committee for the First Peoples House has been

meeting since August to discuss refinements to the original building design developed by architect Alfred Waugh. The First Peoples House will create a welcoming and supportive space on campus for Indigenous students and the broader community. The \$7-million project is expected to break ground in April 2008, on a site between the Clearihue and Cornett buildings. It will be registered with the LEED Green Building Rating Standards program, with an estimated completion date of June 2009.

The Science Building will accommodate the School of Earth & Ocean Sciences (SEOS), the Department of Chemistry, the Canadian Centre for Climate Modelling & Analysis (CCCma), plus lecture theatres, labs and offices. Target occupancy date is September 2008.

The Social Sciences and Mathematics Building will house the departments of geography, environmental studies, political science and mathematics, as well as the Water & Climate Impacts Research Centre (W-CIRC) and a variety of classrooms and offices. The project will be registered with the LEED Green Building Rating Standards program, with a target occupancy date of March 2008.

For more information and current construction updates, visit the web site at www.uvic.ca/construction/.

In memoriam

Dr. Frank Cassidy passed away on September 30 in Victoria. He was associate professor in the School of Public Administration, founding director of the Administration of Aboriginal Governments Program and author of several books and articles on Aboriginal self-government, treaties and Aboriginal law. Frank developed a passion for Aboriginal self-government, which animated his teaching, research and advising to First Nations and government. His books include *Indian Government: Its Meaning and Practice* (co-authored with Robert Bish) and *After Native Claims* (co-authored with Norman Dale), as well as *Aboriginal Title in British Columbia and Aboriginal Self-Determination*. Frank was a deeply committed teacher who brought his research and advising experience into the courses he taught. Frank served as a senior research associate for the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, with responsibility for the commission's research on Aboriginal governments and international Indigenous governance issues. He was the advisor for Aboriginal policy to the Privy Council of the Province of British Columbia and the Auditor General of Canada. He was a long-time advisor to the Wet'suwet'en Hereditary Chiefs and served as senior advisor to the Vice-Chief for British Columbia of the Assembly of First Nations. Frank held master's and doctoral degrees in political theory and public administration from Stanford University. He also was a research associate for the Institute for Research on Public Policy and a visiting fellow to the Australian National University.

Contributed by Dr. Evert Lindquist, Director of the School of Public Administration

Professor Terry Morley of the Department of Political Science died on October 10 after a brief illness. A sometime columnist for both the *Victoria Times-Colonist* and the *Vancouver Sun*, he was eulogized in both newspapers as well as in the BC legislature (by his former student, the Hon. George Abbott). He was widely recognized as one of the leading authorities on BC politics. In recent years, he had run his own political consulting business, and he had a long history as an advisor and political organizer associated with both the NDP and the Canadian Labour Congress. As a professor at UVic between 1974 and 2004, he influenced generations of students of Canadian politics. His scholarly works, such as *Secular Socialists* and *The Reins of Power*, were definitive in his field, but those who knew him will remember him most for his vitality and engagement with the world. He will be sorely missed by family, friends and colleagues. Donations in his memory may be made to Partners in the Horn of Africa, a secular Canadian charity that works effectively with partners in rural Ethiopia.

Contributed by Dr. Warren Magnusson, Department of Political Science

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Wind in the Willows paving way for Deaf and Hard-of-hearing community

By Adrienne Holierhoek

With gorgeous, storybook illustration sets by faculty member Mary Kerr, the Phoenix Theatre's production of Kenneth Grahame's classic tale *Wind in the Willows* will be a particularly visual affair. But for some audience members, the performance on Tuesday Nov. 13 will be especially so.

On this night, the dialogue of your favourite English riverside characters—Mole, Ratty, Toad and Badger—will also be made visual and accessible to a whole new audience through sign language interpretation.

The idea was initiated in 2006 by Kristi Falconer, the interpreter coordinator at the UVic Resource Centre for Students with a Disability, who saw the opportunity for the Phoenix to provide access to live theatre for the Deaf and Hard-of-hearing community on campus and in the region.

Sandra Guerreiro, audience services manager at the Phoenix, was interested in reaching out to a group that usually doesn't have the opportunity to access live theatre here in Victoria.

"We've been offering infrared listening devices for several years, but this seemed like an innovative idea to bring our theatre experience to a unique audience. It is representative of the university's vision on accommodation, diversity and accessibility," says Guerreiro. "We're grateful to the Equity and Human Rights Office for funding to make this program possible."

Now that the performance is almost here, Falconer is excited to



Kristi Falconer, from the UVic Resource Centre for Students with a Disability, on the colourful storybook set of the Phoenix Theatre's upcoming production of *Wind in the Willows*. The Nov. 13 performance will include special sign language interpretation for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

see her idea coming to fruition. She's arranged for Nigel Howard, a Deaf interpreter who has 14 years' experience on the international scene, to interpret *Wind in the Willows* into American Sign Language.

"Live theatre is something that Deaf individuals living in larger cities across Canada have regular opportunities to enjoy, but rarely have the chance to attend here in Victoria," says Falconer.

"I'm thrilled that the Phoenix Theatre is paving the way and breaking down this barrier. Having someone like Nigel interpreting this performance will add such a rich visual dimension to an already colourful play. I can't wait to see it."

And the witty words he will be interpreting are those of acclaimed

British playwright and author Alan Bennett, who was commissioned to adapt *Wind in the Willows* for stage by the National Theatre in London. The play follows the adventures and antics of four friends in the English countryside. With over 30 different scenes and as many characters, this fast-paced script will keep the interpreter busy.

The Phoenix Theatre's production of *Wind in the Willows* runs Nov. 8–24. It is directed by Brian Richmond, chair of the theatre department, with production design by Mary Kerr and features an all-student cast.

Tickets for the Nov. 13 performance with sign language interpretation can be made in person or by phone at 721-8000 when the box office opens on Nov. 1.

UVic receives high-level delegations from Europe, China

On October 1, His Excellency Dorian Prince, head of the European delegation to Canada, visited the university. UVic is the site for North America's only Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence (JMCE), a credit to the high quality of European studies activities at UVic. The Jean Monnet Programme of the European Commission supports teaching and research in the field of European integration studies, the analysis of the origins and evolution of the European Communities and the European Union in all its aspects.

While here, Prince met with UVic Jean Monnet chairholders Amy Verdun (director of the JMCE) and Oliver Schmidtke

(director of the European Studies Program) as well as staff of the Canadian Centre for Climate Modelling and Analysis (housed at UVic) and the NEPTUNE and VENUS projects managed by Ocean Networks Canada.

On October 15, UVic hosted 22 vice-presidents from universities in the People's Republic of China, many from highly-ranked universities in Beijing, Shanghai and other major cities. They were visiting to explore trends in modern Canadian universities and engaged in discussions with senior university officials including President David Turpin and Vice-President External Relations

Valerie Kuehne. The visit was timely as UVic moves to strengthen its links with China based on a recent agreement with the China Scholarship Council that allows for doctoral-level Chinese students to attend UVic on a scholarship (see *The Ring*, June 2007). UVic is currently identifying suitable Chinese partner universities that will support these young Chinese academic leaders in their scholarship applications. A delegation of senior UVic administrators will visit China in December 2007 to meet with potential partner universities.

Both visits were hosted by the Office of International Affairs.

Keeping campus roadways safe

On Friday Oct. 12, a UVic student was struck by a vehicle while crossing Ring Road near the Human and Social Development Building. She was seriously injured and remains in hospital.

UVic has reached out to the student's family and is offering support wherever possible. In addition, the university is calling for caution from everyone using the roads on campus. All pedestrians, cyclists and drivers are asked to use extra caution and check both lanes when proceeding through traffic.

The university is currently undertaking a traffic and parking manage-

ment study that will be completed in the Spring of 2008. It will examine vehicle, cyclist and pedestrian circulation patterns and long-term strategies for addressing parking and transportation needs on campus.

"This study will help us better understand and plan for the movement of cars, buses, bicycles, pedestrians and all other traffic," says Neil Connelly, director of campus planning and sustainability, "especially with so many of us moving daily through campus."

Safety tips are available on the UVic Campus Security Services website at <http://web.uvic.ca/security/>.

Go for the (Blue and) Gold!

Applications are now being accepted from UVic students for the 2008 Blue and Gold Awards. This program recognizes students who demonstrate leadership in voluntary involvement with community groups, varsity and athletic teams and/or fine arts groups or organizations.

There are two levels of Blue and Gold awards—three awards worth \$2,500 each and five awards worth \$1,000 each. The University of Victoria Blue and Gold awards are sponsored by CIBC.

Undergraduate and graduate students who wish to apply for an award can do so online at registrar.uvic.ca/safa/BlueGoldAward.html.

registrar.uvic.ca/safa/BlueGoldAward.html.

Undergraduate applicants must carry a minimum of nine units with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 5.0. Graduate students must be enrolled full time in graduate studies with a cumulative GPA of 5.0. Applicants must also submit at least two (but no more than four) reference letters from individuals or organizations attesting to the students' contributions to the community.

Award recipients will be recognized at a reception where they will receive their award and a certificate. The deadline for applications is January 31, 2008.

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part of the Fort Nelson First Nations' Chalo School Grade 12 curriculum. Chalo School was where Kerissa first began her education as a child, and the school itself is named in honour of her grandfather, former Chief Harry—whose nickname as a young boy was "Tsalo," or "Beaver Fat" because of his chubby cheeks.

The contest, which is organized by the Dominion Institute, invites young Aboriginal Canadians to submit creative short stories that explore a moment in Aboriginal history. This could be an event of personal, regional or national significance. Submissions are judged by a group of esteemed Aboriginal authors and leaders including Tantoo Cardinal, Tomson Highway and Chief Patrick Brazeau.

As the winner for her age category, Dickie will receive a cash prize and a trip to Ottawa to meet with a group of Aboriginal leaders who will celebrate her achievement. In addition, her story will be published in *The Beaver: Canada's History Magazine* and in an anthology celebrating emerging native writers published by Theytus Books.

Visit www.our-story.ca to access

the 2006 and 2007 winning stories and information about the authors.

Excerpt from *Wild Flowers*

Settled into a hard cot that night, Rose listened to other girls chatter in the darkness. Some spoke Cree, but most spoke Slavey, and she listened to them make jokes about the nuns in their stuffy dresses. Rose listened to the wind wrestle with the large windows at the end of the room. She tried to stay as still as she could, and squeezed her thighs together. They had been ordered to urinate before bed, but the stalls and crowd of strangers in the bathroom had made her bladder lock up tight in self-consciousness. Now it was ready to burst and she was using all of her energy to will it away.

From "Wild Flowers" by UVic writing student Kerissa Dickie



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Aboriginal sport a personal and scholarly passion for O'Bonsawin

By Patty Piitts

Christine O'Bonsawin is already realizing the benefits of her recent move to the West Coast from eastern Canada. For the first time, with winter approaching, the life-long soccer player and new director of UVic's Indigenous Studies Minor Program is not heading indoors to play her sport.

"I couldn't believe it when I was told that you can play outside all year," says a happy O'Bonsawin, whose interest in both her Aboriginal heritage and athletics has defined her academic career.

Although most of her extended family lives in northern Ontario, and their Abenaki relationship is with the Odanak reserve in Quebec, O'Bonsawin was raised in Toronto. Her father moved south as a young man to improve his employment opportunities after the sudden loss of his sight.

"He was the only member of his family to leave the community," says O'Bonsawin, who earned an undergraduate degree in sport management from Brock University. "I wanted to learn more about my Indigenous background."

Her two interests merged during her master's and PhD studies at the University of Western Ontario, home to the International Centre for Olympic Studies, where O'Bonsawin studied how Aboriginal representation in sport is used for nation-building purposes.

"I wanted to understand how Canada used images of Indian-ness to represent nationhood. Sometimes Indigenous people were sent as delegates to the Games; at other times non-Aboriginal groups appeared dressed up as Indians.

Aboriginal athletes are great role models, but when an athlete succeeds, they also become vulnerable to the way they are portrayed in the media."

O'Bonsawin gained extensive behind-the-scenes experience in the power of sports media when she completed work terms with CBC Sports during several Olympics. "During the Sydney Games I went to work at 3 a.m. in Toronto when the crew in Australia was just going off shift." O'Bonsawin tracked the feeds from the Olympic cities and monitored video used by affiliate and non-affiliate stations.

While she's seen the positive impact that Aboriginal Olympic athletes such as cross-country skiers Sharon and Shirley Firth and water polo player Waneek Horn-Miller can have in their communities, O'Bonsawin also supports increased interest by Aboriginal people to preserve traditional sports that have less of an emphasis on competition than mainstream sports.

O'Bonsawin is looking forward to being in close proximity to next year's North American Indigenous Games scheduled for the Cowichan Valley—another perk of West Coast life. She's also looking forward to expanding the Indigenous studies program.

"At the moment we only have two courses in the program, the others approved by the program as having an Indigenous focus are from various departments including history, anthropology, women's studies and sociology," says O'Bonsawin. "Eventually, I'd like to see more courses offered directly through the IS program."

In the meantime, she's adjusting to seasonal differences of West Coast living. "I'm really enjoying it here."



David Boyd with (L-R) nephew Seamus, daughter Meredith and niece Sonje

Canada's deadly environment

Contrary to Canada's reputation as a relatively clean and pristine land, environmental hazards can be found almost everywhere—in the air we breathe, the water we drink, the food we eat and the products we buy. That's according to David Boyd, a research associate with UVic's POLIS Project on Ecological Governance.

Boyd's recent study—the first of its kind on environmental disease in Canada—indicates that all Canadians are exposed to harmful chemicals. Pollution is killing up to 25,000 Canadians each year and costing the nation's health care system up to \$9.1 billion and 1.5 billion hospital days annually. The study also estimates that environmental pollutants in Canada cause as many as 24,000 new cases of cancer and 2,500 low birth-weight babies every year.

"If politicians took the time to understand both the magnitude of adverse health effects caused by environmental hazards and the overall costs to Canadian society, they would have no choice but to act," says Boyd, an environmental lawyer who worked with the David Suzuki Foundation this fall to call for a national environmental health strategy. (See sidebar.)

Boyd co-authored the paper, "The Environmental Burden of Disease in Canada: Respiratory Disease, Cardiovascular Disease, Cancer and Congenital Affliction," with Dr. Stephen Genus from the University of Alberta. Their research is the first to measure the magnitude of adverse health effects caused by Canadians' exposure to environmental hazards such as air pollution (outdoor and indoor), pesticides, dioxins, heavy metals, flame retardants and other persistent organic pollutants.

"There are 30 countries in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development," says

Boyd, "and our environmental record ranks 28th. When faced with a choice between protecting the environment or polluting industries, we continue to protect industries."

Because there is strong evidence linking certain diseases to environmental contaminants, Boyd and Genus estimated Canada's environmental burden of disease (EBD)—the morbidity and mortality caused by exposure to environmental hazards—by addressing four categories: respiratory disease, cardiovascular disease, cancer and congenital afflictions.

"Most chronic diseases are multifactorial resulting from lifestyle, socioeconomic, environmental, cultural and genetic determinants interacting over the course of a person's lifetime," Boyd explains. "So it's a challenge to accurately determine how much disease is attributable to adverse environmental exposures. Still, quantifying the EBD is an important endeavour because it highlights the magnitude of environmental harm and may identify specific risk factors that affect public health."

This information can be used to direct research, inform public education efforts, assist physicians in providing advice to patients, guide health and environmental policy-making and evaluate the effectiveness of policies, programs, and other interventions.

The authors used the environmentally attributable fractions (EAFs) developed by the World Health Organization, EAFs developed by other researchers, and data from Canadian public health institutions to provide an initial estimate of the environmental burden of disease in Canada for four major categories of disease.

The study is available online at <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.envres.2007.08.009>.

National environmental health strategy

Canada needs a cohesive environmental strategy that includes more monitoring of people's exposures to environmental contaminants, a strengthening of environmental laws, and increased awareness about these issues, says a new report by David R. Boyd, a research associate with UVic's POLIS Project on Ecological Governance.

In September, the David Suzuki Foundation released Boyd's 152-page report, "Prescription for a Healthy Canada." Boyd prepared the report based on a review of more than 100 recent scientific studies. It says Canada lacks a national system to track diseases and deaths from environmental causes. The report identifies five areas that it considers failings on the part of the federal government:

- A lack of legally binding national standards for air quality and drinking water quality
- The continued use of pesticides that have been banned in other countries
- The allowance of higher limits of pesticide residues on foods compared to other countries
- A lack of regulation of toxins such as polybrominated diphenyl ethers, phthalates and polycyclic hydrocarbons
- Weak regulations for toxic substances such as radon, lead, mercury, arsenic and asbestos.

The full report is online at www.davidsuzuki.org/Publications/Prescription_For_A_Healthy_Canada.asp.



Storm timber for new bridge

Recycling wood from blown-down trees has long been a practice of UVic facilities management, and one example is the Bowker Creek bridge which re-opened in mid-September. Storm timber was used in the decking for the bridge which spans a section of the chip trail between the Fraser Building and Finnerty Gardens. L-R (UVic grounds staff Ryan Wheatley and Mike Eggiman, who did post construction and rock work on either side of the bridge, stand beside capital projects officer Terry Moen and grounds manager Bentley Sly.)



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CONGRATULATIONS FALL GRADS

The University of Victoria will award 1,277 degrees, diplomas and certificates during Fall Convocation Nov. 13 and 14. In addition, three outstanding citizens will receive honorary degrees (see story this page).

On Tuesday, Nov. 13 at 10 a.m. credentials will be awarded to students in the Faculty of Education, the Faculty of Fine Arts, the Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

On Tuesday, Nov. 13 at 2:30 p.m. credentials will be awarded to students in the Faculty of

Engineering, the Faculty of Law, the Faculty of Social Sciences and the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

On Wednesday, Nov. 14 at 10 a.m. credentials will be awarded to students in the Faculty of Business, the Faculty of Humanities and the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

On Wednesday, Nov. 14 at 2:30 p.m. credentials will be awarded to students in the Faculty of Human and Social Development, the Division of Continuing Studies and the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

Global MBA grad engages both mind and heart



Vincent at National Sun Yat-sen University in Taiwan

By Dianne George

Traveling by bus is good for many reasons—reducing greenhouse gas emissions, reducing the expense of travel, and making life decisions. Or so says Nigel Vincent who turned his bus ride into a decision to pursue an MBA.

“I was visiting family in the US on a holiday from my hometown of Mumbai, where I had lived all my life,” says Vincent. “I had been working for 10 years in one of the largest event management agencies in the country and was looking for a career change.”

Vincent had been involved in multiple activities in his home country of India. In addition to his day job, he volunteered with street youth, wrote his own music, played R&B in a local band and trained and conducted his own choir. “These are the things that gave expression to my soul,” says Vincent. “So I was thinking about a career in an environment where I could provide business leadership, but also engage my mind and my heart.”

Since he already had an undergraduate degree in accounting and audit and he felt he had skills to offer in that area, Vincent began a search for an MBA program. At the time, the only thing he knew about Canada was that the East was often snowbound. As his sister lived in Vancouver, he felt it made sense to search universities in BC, eventually choosing UVic. “Time was short and I was already late in the application process, so the helpfulness of the staff, plus the international, professional development and co-op elements of the program really made the difference for me.”

In the final months of his studies, Vincent specialized in the global MBA. He spent eight weeks in Taiwan, eight weeks at UVic, and eight weeks in Austria as part of an international cohort, making connections and learning how business is done in each of the world’s key economic regions.

Vincent found the MBA program a beautiful synthesis of theory and practice and has made lifelong friendships with classmates, staff and faculty. He found the multi-tasking a new experience. Working with different groups while also working on concurrent projects really pushed his critical thinking and organizational skills. “I describe the program as a non-steroid performance enhancer,” Vincent says with a laugh.

Vincent’s co-op experience was developed through special funding provided by the David Ritchie Foundation. “Coming from a country where the price of the bus ride from Swartz Bay to UVic would feed a family for three or four days, I am eternally grateful for the financial support given to me by the university,” he says. Vincent did his co-op at Vancouver-based Covenant House, a non-profit agency that supports up to 1,400 youth living on the streets. It’s the kind of organization that appeals to Vincent’s heart and mind. “Working at Covenant House really opened my eyes to a different kind of poverty, a poverty of the spirit—the poverty of being unloved.”

It also confirmed Vincent’s decision to seek work in a field where he could apply his business skills, work with children and youth and empower them with the resources necessary to make life-altering choices towards sustainable living.

Honorary degrees at Fall Convocation

Conservationist and former federal cabinet minister David Anderson, renowned marine scientist Timothy Parsons and influential landscape design architect Don Vaughan will receive University of Victoria honorary degrees during Fall Convocation ceremonies, Nov. 13–14.

The UVic senate awards honorary degrees on the basis of exceptional distinction and achievement in scholarship, research, teaching, the creative arts, or public service.

Entering politics in 1968 as the Member of Parliament for Esquimalt-Saanich, **David Anderson** quickly became distinguished by his concerns for the environment—principles that would become the hallmark of his careers in federal and provincial politics and away from the political arena.

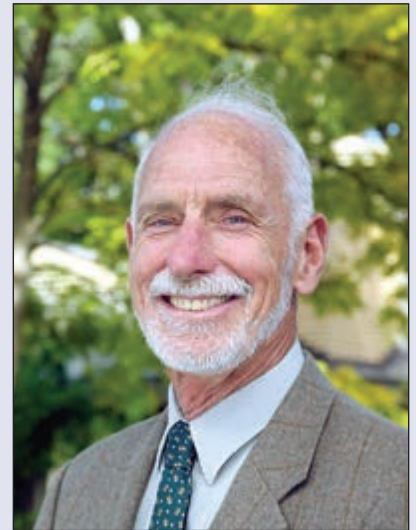
He was a driving force behind the creation of Pacific Rim National Park, founded and chaired the special committee on environmental pollution and fought for the protection of coastal marine life from oil transportation and exploration. In the latter stages of his political career he held high-profile federal cabinet posts, where he led efforts to conserve Pacific salmon and helped to establish the first marine protected areas. He also served as the first Canadian to be elected president of the governing council of the United Nations’ environmental program.

Anderson was born in Victoria, earned a law degree from UBC, and won silver medals in rowing at the Rome Olympics and Chicago Pan-Am Games. In February of 2007 he was appointed the founding director of the Guelph Institute for the Environment. He will receive an honorary doctor of laws at 2:30 p.m., Nov. 13.

One of Canada’s leading marine scientists, known internationally for his work in biological oceanography, **Timothy Parsons** contributions to the field are numerous and varied.

His research career began in 1958 at the Fisheries Research Board of Canada in Nanaimo (forerunner to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans) before he joined the faculty of UBC’s department of oceanography in 1971, remaining with the school until retirement in 1991.

Along the way, Parsons’ work was set apart by his conviction that oceanography should be conducted at the ecosystem level. Such approaches to fisheries management have become standard practice in Canada and around the world. He is a fellow of the Royal Society, officer of the Order of Canada, and holder of the Japan



Anderson

Prize for original and outstanding achievements in science.

He is an honorary research scientist emeritus at DFO’s Institute of Ocean Sciences, in Sidney. He will receive an honorary doctor of science at 10 a.m., Nov. 13.

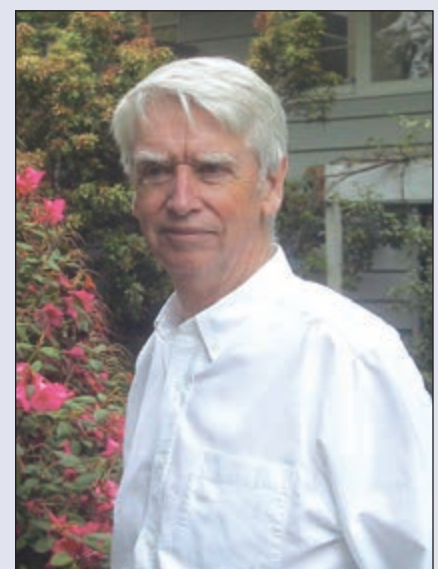
Don Vaughan is a nationally respected landscape architect. The beauty of the University of Victoria campus, which opened in 1963, and its transformation from a former army camp and farm land to a rich and diverse 160-hectare setting, is in large part due to Vaughan’s vision and expertise. He worked on the initial landscape plan for the campus and served as its landscape consultant for more than 40 years.

As the campus grew, Vaughan encouraged the development of ecological restoration areas, experiential learning opportunities and outdoor gathering places. The campus’ main quadrangle, the fountain at the McPherson Library, Finnerty Gardens, the pond surrounding the University Club, and the courtyard of the Clearihue Building are examples of his concept of a learning environment that is distinguished by its natural surroundings.

Elsewhere Vaughan led site development for Expo ’86, Whistler Village and Granville Island. He operates a landscape planning and design company in West Vancouver. He will receive an honorary doctor of laws at 2:30 p.m. on Nov. 14.



Parsons



Vaughan



A gift for communicating

UVIC PHOTO SERVICES



Correia in the Humanities Computing and Media Centre

By Patty Pitts

Anne Correia never made it to the first day of classes at UVic for her master's English program. Instead, she sat outside on the campus lawn and cried. Newly single after a marriage break-up and back on the Island after living several years in a tiny hamlet in northwest BC, "I was starting over. I thought I was supposed to be married and having kids, not facing classes again."

Correia did make it back to the classroom to complete her degree, earning respect and praise from her instructors and discovering a talent for editing in the process.

"Her skills are unique," says English professor and Canada Research Chair in Humanities Computing Ray Siemens of Correia. "She has a real gift for translating between specific academic, theoretical and technical discourse and discourse that appeals to a larger group. Anne especially builds bridges between high theory and what we can do with a computer."

Siemens taught Correia, a graduate of Nanaimo District Secondary School, when he was a faculty member at Malaspina University-College and she was a part-time undergraduate student in directed studies. He encouraged her to pursue post-graduate work. Correia followed Siemens to UVic, staying two nights a week in town while maintaining a residence in Chemainus. She worked in the Electronic Textual

Cultures Lab and her tasks included editing books that assist researchers to harness computing technology to enhance their work.

For Correia, the ability to bridge the technical and academic worlds came naturally. "I'm surrounded by people who didn't go to university, and it's important to be able to talk to the people I love about what I'm doing. A lack of vocabulary and a lack of education doesn't mean a lack of intelligence. It's important to be able to communicate without resorting to academic or technical jargon."

Correia says she's most proud of being able to "take faculty beyond email" and overcome their fear of technology while completing her master's thesis on Patricia Williams, a woman who broke barriers as a Black female lawyer. Correia's undergraduate work focused on Renaissance women who wrote at a time when women were not considered capable of such skills.

Correia sees a link between these women and how she once regarded herself. "I was not expected to excel," says the newly minted graduate whose ex-husband once told her she lacked ambition. Now in a new relationship with an old friend, Correia continues to work part time decorating for weddings and other special events, a life-long interest. "I'm hoping to continue to edit, which I really like. I feel as if a whole new world is opening up for me."

Co-op changed biochem grad's path

By Jessica Gillies

A bachelor of science with honours and co-op in biochemistry wasn't Simran Bhatia's original goal.

When she arrived at UVic, her plans for a chemistry degree changed.

"I really liked biology as well, so I felt biochemistry was the best medium for me. I knew that I wanted to stay in science, and biochemistry is one of the most novel sciences. A lot of upcoming biochemistry research is related to health research, so bringing chemistry and biology together takes on a new perspective in science," she says.

Deciding to enter the co-op program in biochemistry and microbiology changed Bhatia's path again, she says.

"I think my experience would have been really different if I hadn't done co-op. It helped shape not only what I want to do in the future, but also how I decided to do my honours—everything kind of fell into place after I did co-op. If I hadn't done it, I would have ended up with either a completely different degree or not nearly as great an experience."

Bhatia credits biochemistry professor Paul Romaniuk with supporting her and encouraging her to do the honours program. After her first

co-op work term at the University of Alberta, where she worked at the National High Field Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Centre, she spent three work terms studying zinc finger proteins with Romaniuk at UVic.

"As you can tell from the name, they're kind of shaped like fingers, so they're good for grabbing and holding different mechanisms in the cell. They're really important for signaling, and in the future, if we know more about them, it's possible they could be used for drug therapy. Dr. Romaniuk wants to know how they work, how they bind and how they interact with different things in the cell, so he basically gave me a protein and told me to alter parts of it and see what happened," she says.

"When I first started my degree, I had no intention of doing my honours, so it was kind of funny how it worked out that he asked me to stay and continue working on the same project, and now he's going to publish this work that I did in the honours program and co-op. His asking me to stay and convincing me that I could continue what I was doing and do it well was a huge factor in my success."

After taking this semester off, Bhatia will head to the University of Ottawa Heart Institute in January to begin her master's degree.



Bhatia

UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

Graduate finds solid ground in child and youth care

UVIC PHOTO SERVICES



Rosso

By Christine McLaren

From the streets of Vancouver to the University of Victoria, School of Child and Youth Care graduate Randi Rosso transformed her life. The road to a healthy lifestyle has not been easy. Barely graduating from high school without much encouragement or celebration has compelled Rosso to seek ways to support youth education. "My high school experience might have been more successful with the support of a mentor to encourage me," she says.

Floundering for years in a dead-end job and suffering from drug and alcohol addiction caused Rosso to lose confidence and close the door to further education. The door opened when her financial aid worker suggested that she think about getting an education and exploring avenues for financial support. "I had no computer skills, huge fear around large educational institutions, and concern about my mental health, but once I decided it was what I wanted to do, people helped me on my path. I am grateful for the support I have received," says Rosso. She received sponsorship from Lake Babine Nation in Burns Lake and numerous scholarship and bursary opportunities came her way as a result of her hard work.

Knowing that working with youth was her

calling, she began her search for schools in earnest. She entered the child and youth care First Nations diploma program at Malaspina University-College's Cowichan campus in Duncan. This choice enabled her to start at a small institution and transfer to UVic for her third and fourth year. "The child and youth care program challenged me to dig deep in order to be effective with youth. Faculty, staff and classmates in the program have been an inspiration for me," says Rosso. She values the Indigenous supports at the university. Through the LE, NONET Project, she joined the Indigenous studies group. "It was a great way to meet other Indigenous students from diverse backgrounds sharing different passions and strengths," says Rosso.

Family support is important to Rosso. Several cousins are also attending post-secondary programs and there is a healthy competition between them as they jockey for the best marks and future prospects. As a single parent with an eight-year-old daughter, she is well aware of the sacrifices that her daughter made to help her achieve this goal. "She helped me rehearse for my projects and even came to the class to observe when I presented. She has been my biggest fan, and now she is so glad we are done. Convocation will be a great celebration for both of us."

Launching pad for successful careers

Career Services helps students prepare for life after convocation

By Tara Sharpe

With the pomp of convocation ceremonies this month, November signals the triumphant closure to years of study for the Fall 2007 graduating class. To help students take the next step and launch successful careers, UVic hosts a number of career fairs and forums around campus.

Every year, UVic's Career Services organizes career forums within a few weeks of the start of September classes. This year was the seventh year in a row, with forums on Oct. 16, 17 and 18 representing nine faculty areas and various schools. The forums are tailored to suit both the early and late stages of a student's academic tenure with topics like "What can I do with a degree in...?" and "How can I make my degree work for me?"

"Our team is busy throughout the year working with students around career development concerns," says Jennifer Margison, manager of Career Services, "We know many students experience 'career confusion' or are unsure of their options."

Other career events on campus also help to guide students en

route to their chosen careers. In September and October, the Career Services team welcomed prospective employers ranging from Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) and the RCMP, to IBM, Microsoft and the Bank of Canada, to speak to students. On Nov. 1, local company AbeBooks invited students to the company's Victoria site to explore what it means to work for an internationally successful online book-selling company. That same day, representatives from the Ministry of Transportation were available on campus to answer student questions about careers in the provincial ministry.

In late January 2008, Career Services will hold its annual Career Fair, offering connections to employers for summer, co-op and career opportunities; to graduate, technical and specialized programs at UVic and other post-secondary institutions; and to career paths and volunteer opportunities with local non-profit organizations.

The team at Career Services offers many other services to help students and new grads with career planning and work search. Visit the website at <http://careerservices.uvic.ca/>.



Student recovering from post-traumatic stress disorder comes out on top

By Suzanne Smith

Karin (Renee) O'Leary, a 54-year-old third-generation Californian from San Francisco, has overcome many obstacles during her lifetime, most recently securing top marks as an honours undergraduate while at the same time undergoing intensive therapy for post-traumatic stress disorder.

"After experiencing several traumas while serving in the US Army during the late 1970s, I was finally diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder in 2002 after a routine unemployment screening. A few months after starting treatment I moved to Canada because, as a long-time activist, I found that the changes in the US post-9/11 were simply too overwhelming," explains O'Leary.

O'Leary was first drawn to UVic because of the Humanities Diploma Program which she found was a perfect fit. "It was a great way for someone like myself to get back into school as a mature student," says O'Leary. "I didn't expect anything academically from myself at first, but after I received As in my first two classes the fever hit and I started trying for As."

After receiving her diploma in humanities, O'Leary transferred into the sociology honours undergraduate program. A self-professed "keener," O'Leary recommends that students keep their education broad. Her



O'Leary

course selection, which included everything from French to writing to theatre, spanned four faculties and 12 departments.

O'Leary credits several UVic faculty members for inspiring and supporting her through her academic journey, including sociology professor Peyman Vahabzadeh, philosophy professor Jan Zwicky and English professor Monika Smith.

"Peyman Vahabzadeh encouraged me to be true to my own scholarship by doing extra readings and really engaging with the material," explains O'Leary. "Thanks to UVic's work study program, I got the opportunity to work as Dr. Vahabzadeh's research assistant for two years and learned a lot."

When asked how she feels about her upcoming graduation ceremony, O'Leary says, "when I walk across that floor all anyone else will see is someone who is changing careers and they won't know that I'm putting myself together for the first time."

O'Leary wrote her honours paper on the stigmatization of Canadian cigarette smokers and is currently a non-degree graduate student in UVic's Cultural, Social and Political Thought Program. When she secures funding she will enrol as a degree student and after obtaining a graduate degree she plans to work in tobacco control research, most likely for the government. She also plans to become a Canadian citizen, "just as fast as I can."

Writing Centre opens doors and minds

The newly expanded UVic Writing Centre has opened its doors to students at all levels of writing proficiency.

The centre, recently moved to the Learning and Teaching Centre in the Hickman Building, now offers students access to tutors from a wide range of disciplines, along with workshops on grammar, essay writing and other topics. It also provides increased support specifically for graduate students and students whose first language is not English. This expanded mandate is preparing the Writing Centre for its role as part of the Mearns Centre for Learning when it opens in spring 2008.

Students can go online and book one-on-one 25-minute appointments at the Writing Centre with one of a dozen tutors from the faculties of education, fine arts, humanities, science and social sciences. Tutors are trained to take a developmental approach to student learning, helping them make clear academic arguments by, for example, identifying patterns of errors and clarifying the organization of their writing.

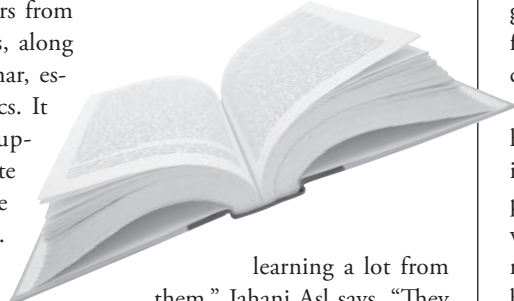
Dan Harvey, a graduate student in the Cultural, Social and Political Thought Program, is excited to be working as a writing tutor. "Being a tutor and helping people with their writing is very satisfying," says Harvey, who plans to pursue a PhD and teach at the university level. "I've been pleasantly surprised at the variety of students coming in; instead of just seeing first- and second-year undergraduates and international students, we've had a number of

upper-level undergraduates and graduate students from a mixture of disciplines."

One of the students who have visited the new Writing Centre is Mohammad Nasser Jahani Asl, a PhD student in sociology. "I'm learning a lot from them," Jahani Asl says. "They are very respectful people, very patient and friendly. They encourage you." Jahani Asl was born in Iranian Kurdistan and Kurdish is his first language. In school he had to study in Persian and Arabic, and he has also learned Turkish and English. "I still haven't mastered English at the level I wish, but I am always working to improve it," he says.

Laurie Wayne, Writing Centre coordinator, has long been interested in language learning and writing development. "My experience teaching first-year composition and working with students for whom English is an additional language provides me with the pedagogic tools useful in creating a supportive and educational environment for both students and the tutors themselves," Wayne says. She is currently researching academic writing development for international graduate students who have English as a second language.

For more information about the Writing Centre, visit their website at <http://lrc.uvic.ca/servicesprograms/twc.php>.



Dream job finds engineering grad

By Maria Lironi

UVic computer engineering grad Stephen Hitchner has a sweet gig.

This month the 27-year-old Victorian starts his full-time job as a software development engineer at Amazon.com in Seattle. But he didn't get the job by posting a resume or filling in a job application—Amazon came to him.

"The way I got the job was purely haphazard," recalls Hitchner. "I was in an online computer science forum posting questions, and I began a conversation with one guy for a couple of months. Then he asked me if I would be interested in an internship at Amazon.com. I didn't believe him at first, but three phone screenings later I was given a job at Amazon.com."

The fact that Hitchner was snatched up by Amazon doesn't surprise his

former computer science/engineering professor George Tzanetakis: "I had the pleasure of having Stephen as a student in two courses as well as a directed study. One of the best things about Stephen is that he is one of these very rare students who actually read and are curious about material that is not going to be in the exam. His enthusiasm, hard work and motivation resulted in a refereed conference publication where he was, and deserved to be, the first author—a rare achievement for an undergraduate."

In July 2005, Hitchner started his career as a software development engineer on the product matching team. "Let's say there are different merchants selling the same product on Amazon's website," Hitchner explains. "My job was to develop algorithms that are used to automatically determine which products are the same, so that

customers can compare prices on a single page. It is a hard problem to solve because everyone describes a product differently."

The original system that Hitchner wrote during his internship has been picked up as a vice-president-mandated project with six engineers working on it—a fact that Hitchner says makes him proud.

In October 2006, Amazon offered Hitchner a full-time position, which he is stepping into this month. His job will be to manage the back-end of Amazon's website. "Basically if we go down, then the whole website goes down," he says.

"What really attracted me to Amazon was that they encourage ingenuity and going above and beyond your duties. It's very much about getting things done. Online you either have to grow or die."



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	AGE 55	60	65	69	75	80
Minimum Payout *	\$238	\$278	\$333	\$397	\$654	\$729
Total Payout to Age 100	\$281,492	\$240,705	\$206,947	\$184,191	\$161,289	\$145,135
Accelerated Payout:						
Income over 5 years	\$1,886					\$113,109
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Ringers

Dr. Chris Barnes, project director of NEPTUNE Canada and Professor Emeritus in the School of Earth and Ocean Sciences, was awarded an honorary doctor of science degree by the University of Waterloo last month. Barnes, who chaired Waterloo's Department of Earth Sciences in the 1970s, was cited for his "distinguished career and effective and tireless advocacy for science and the earth sciences."

Dr. Benedikt Fischer, the director of the Illicit Drug Policy and Public Health Unit at UVic's Centre for Addictions Research of BC, has been named to the federal government's recently created Mental Health Commission's Science Advisory Committee. The creation of a mental health commission was a key recommendation of a 2006 report of the Standing Senate Committee. The report, entitled, "Out of the Shadows at Last: Transforming Mental Health, Mental Illness and Addiction Services in Canada," outlined the need for a mental health commission in Canada to provide an ongoing national focus on mental health issues. The goal of the Mental Health Commission of Canada is to help bring into being an integrated mental health system that places people living with mental illness at its centre. For more information visit <http://www.mentalhealthcommission.ca/>.

Bill Gaston (writing) is the winner of the \$5,000 City of Victoria Butler Book Prize for *Gargoyles*, a collection of short stories. Founded in 2004, the Butler Book Prize is awarded each year to what's deemed by a panel of three to be the best book by a Greater Victoria author published the year before. *Gargoyles* has already won a ReLit Award and been shortlisted for the Governor General's Award and the Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize. Gaston is also the author of five novels, five collections of short fiction including *Mount Appetite* (nominated for the 2002 Giller Prize), a collection of poetry and a play. His work has been translated into several languages and his short fiction won a Canadian Literary Award for Fiction in 1999. In 2003 Gaston was awarded the inaugural Timothy Findley Award, for a Canadian male writer in mid-career.

Dr. Hubert King (mechanical engineering) is being honoured with a Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIM) silver medal issued by CIM's Metallurgical Society, given to people who have built, sustained and developed CIM. A past director of the society, King has made significant research contributions on the effect of crystal structure and microstructure on the properties of a wide range of materials, published more than 100 papers in refereed scientific and engineering journals and made numerous contributions to conference proceedings. CIM has over 12,000 members and is the leading technical society of professionals in the Canadian minerals, metals, materials and energy industries.

Max Murray, a second-year music student, is taking his studies to Venice this month by attending a highly regarded interpretation course on the works of Italian composer Luigi Nono (1924-90). Although Nono's music is arguably among the finest of the late 20th century, it is only now becoming more known in North America. Murray is the youngest participant selected to attend the workshop and one of very few from North America. He will be working with faculty who have played and recorded music under Nono's direction. Last year Murray performed Post-prae-ludium per Donau per Tuba (In FA) e live electronics by Nono in a special concert at the School of Music. This was only the second time that this major work had been performed in Canada. For further details visit the Fondazione Archivio Luigi Nono website: <http://www.luiginono.it/en/home>.

Dr. Irving Rootman (human and social development) has been awarded fellowship in the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences, which recognizes the full breadth of academic health science ranging from fundamental science to social science and population health. Fellows elected to the academy are well-recognized by their peers for their contributions to the promotion of health science. Rootman came to UVic in 2002 and collaborated with the Centre for Community Health Promotion Research on campus. He has published widely in leading journals in the health promotion and drug abuse fields and has co-authored several books on health promotion. His main research interest is literacy and health. Rootman has been a pioneer in Canada and internationally in health promotion research and an architect of federal health policy aimed at promoting the health of all Canadians. He was the founding director for the first university-based centre for health promotion at the University of Toronto and holds a distinguished scholar award from the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research.

Three UVic grad students have been awarded \$20,000-a-year Pacific Leaders Graduate Fellowships from the provincial government to spend up to two years researching key issues affecting BC, after which they will join the BC public service. Geography master's student **Laura Joan Feyrer**, currently manager of UVic's whale research lab field station in Ahousat, is gathering data on habitat use by grey whales in order to develop a habitat model to predict grey whale habitat use and help policy-makers understand factors contributing to coastal health and marine biodiversity. Habitat models based on her work will be used to identify sites for marine protected areas and assess the effects of future coastal development on other marine species. Biology master's student **Leon Gaber** is investigating the use of insect nymphs and other freshwater invertebrates in the Salmon River watershed to measure the effects of agricultural pollution. He is also gauging the effectiveness of buffer zones between farms and streams and the potential for using stable isotopes to pinpoint the sources of water pollution. Geography PhD student **Mark Seemann** is conducting emergency management research focusing on community resilience to damaging earthquakes. An internationally certified emergency manager who has worked as an analyst for the BC Provincial Emergency Program, Seemann was involved in responding to the World Trade Centre disaster in 2001, the 2003 firestorm in central BC, and the 2004 avian flu outbreak in Abbotsford.

Sports Hall of Fame adds three alumni

A Vikes rugby MVP, a runner who became synonymous with the spirit of the Victoria Commonwealth Games, and an Olympic field hockey goalie will be inducted into the UVic Sports Hall of Fame when the University of Victoria presents the annual Legacy Awards dinner on Nov. 20 at the Victoria Conference Centre.

Gary Dukelow, MPA '93, was a two-time Vikes rugby MVP (in 1978 and '80), joining the team on tours of Europe and New Zealand that introduced him to the sport's international fraternity. A member of the Canadian team that earned a quarter-final berth in the 1991 World Cup (Canada's best finish at the tournament), "Duke" earned 14 international caps and later served as general manager of the national team. He teaches economics and coaches Grade 8 rugby at Shawnigan Lake School, where he also coordi-

nates the school's external relations program.

Cross country and track star **Robyn Meagher, MEd '06**, earned a silver medal at the 1994 Victoria Commonwealth Games in the 3,000 metres. The photo of her joyous one-two finish with teammate Angela Chalmers became an enduring image of the Victoria Games. Meagher competed in the Barcelona and Atlanta Olympics and earned two Canadian university championships during her Vikes career (1985-90). Meagher lives in Victoria and works as a counsellor.

Deb Whitten, MEd '02, played goal for the Vikes women's field hockey squad from 1985-91 and was part of two national (CIAU) championships and four Canada West conference gold medals during her varsity career. In international competition, she was captain of the national team from 1993-95,

helped Canada win a silver medal at the 1991 Pan American Games, and was a member of the 1992 Canadian Olympic team. She is a vice-principal at Claremont Secondary School, where she also coaches girls' field hockey.

The Department of Athletics and Recreation established the UVic Sports Hall of Fame in 2002. Including this year's inductees, 26 former athletes, teams, coaches and builders have been named to the hall for their career accomplishments and the way they exemplify the spirit and ideals of sport.

The Nov. 20 Legacy Awards dinner and awards presentations will also see the UVic Alumni Association present the 2007 Distinguished Alumni Awards and the Alumni Awards for Excellence in Teaching.

Ticket information is online at alumni.uvic.ca/legacyawards.



Whitten



Dukelow



Meagher

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Cosmic train wreck continued from p.1

ies, stars, gas and planets.

Only a very small percentage of mass in the universe can be explained by visible matter. In fact, it's believed that the universe contains six times more dark matter than visible matter.

Current theory predicts that dark matter and galaxies should stay together even during violent collisions. But Abell 520 is defying that theory, says Mahdavi.

"These two huge clusters of galaxies are passing through each other, and you'd expect to end up with two clumps of galaxies and dark matter with some gas in the middle."

Instead, there is a core of dark matter and hot intergalactic gas, but no bright galaxies. And to add to the puzzle, there's a nearby "light region"—a galaxy cluster with little or no dark matter.

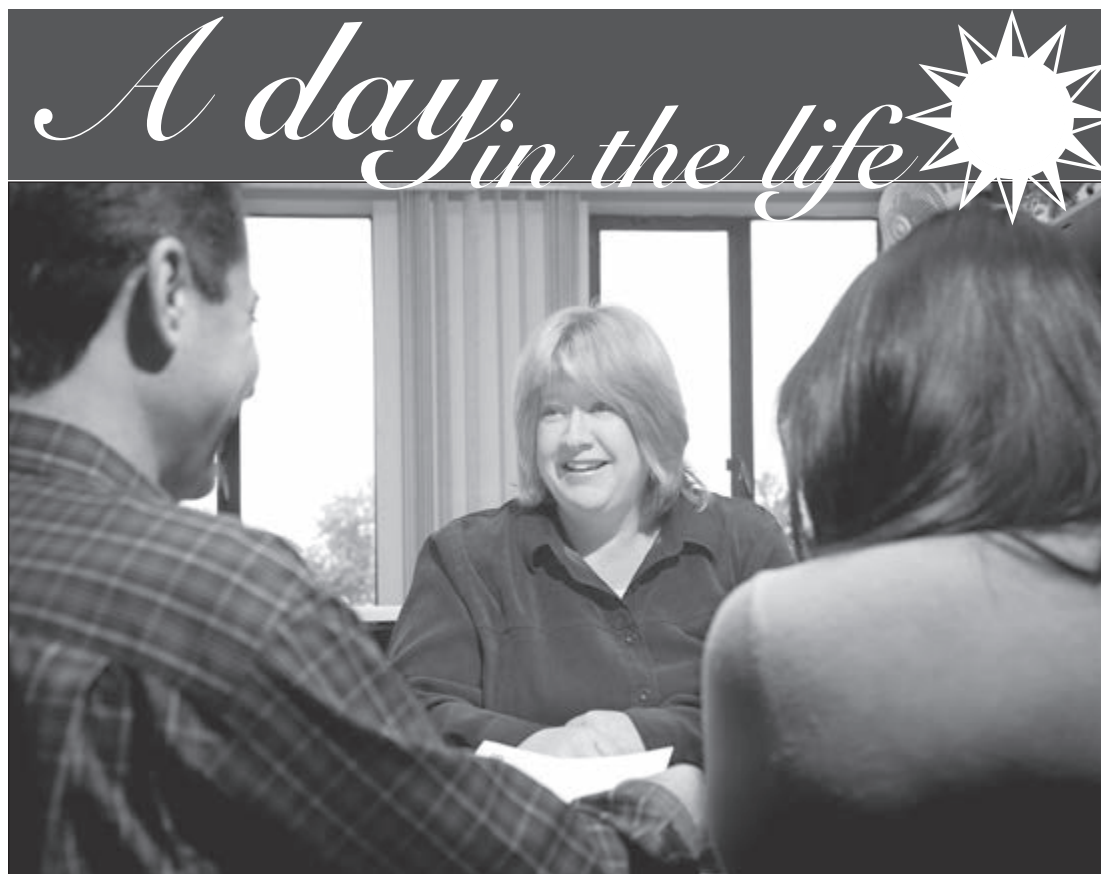
The study was published in the

Astrophysical Journal. In addition to Mahdavi, the study team included Drs. Hendrik Hoekstra and David Balam (both from UVic) and Dr. Peter Capak (California Institute of Technology).

"It blew us away that it looks like the galaxies are removed from the densest core of dark matter," says Hoekstra. "This would be the first time we've seen such a thing and could be a huge test of our knowledge of how dark matter behaves."

"These kinds of studies offer the best hope of understanding the elusive nature of dark matter," says Babul. "If our results hold up to more detailed scrutiny, they'll have a profound impact on our understanding of matter itself."

In the coming months, the team will be using data from the Hubble Space Telescope and the Chandra X-ray Observatory to confirm their findings.



Te Kampe

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF CONNIE TE KAMPE means helping graduate students and prospective grad students. That includes answering any questions they may have about the application process and academic programs, reviewing program requirements and otherwise helping in whatever way she can. As a graduate secretary in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, te Kampe works with students from the time of their initial application through to completion of their MEd, MA or PhD program.

"My job is anything student related," she notes. Most students are working teachers, often with families, who don't have much time,

nor are they on campus all the time. "They are so overloaded with writing and research, it's hard for them to remember everything. I'm sending out emails or phoning with deadlines all the time."

She works with students who are in the on-campus programs, while her colleague Michele Armstrong assists students in the community-based programs. Their grad program has approximately 230 students. "We have great teamwork and communication with Graduate Records, especially Sherry Graver, who keeps us informed as to which students are missing documents or may not be registered."

The most satisfying part of the job is seeing a student complete. "It is nice

to see them, as tired and haggard as they are, come in and say goodbye. They're done and it is cool when I can call some of them 'doctor.'"

Born in Edmonton, te Kampe worked at the University of Calgary and was a semi-professional musician/clinician before coming to UVic nine years ago. Having started her acting career with the St. Luke's Players, she volunteers in theatre groups and sits on the board of Four Seasons Children's Musical Theatre. She's been everything from props manager to director, chorus actor to lead, doing up to three shows each season. "I can sing, dance, and be a goof for the kids in the audience," she laughs. "I can't imagine not doing it."

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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

The Hold of Our Hands: Art from the Robin and Sylvia Skelton Collection. To Nov. 15. Maltwood Art Museum & Gallery. University Centre.

A Book Arts Mosaic and Millennium in a Box. Until January 20. Book art installation by the Canadian Bookbinders and Book Artists Guild. McPherson Library Gallery.

At the theatres

www.phoenixtheatres.ca
721-8000

Wind in the Willows. Nov. 8-24. By Alan Bennett. Join Toad, Mole, Rat and Badger in this whimsical classic children's tale.

Thursday, November 1

Health Services Lecture 6:30 p.m. *Spread the Knowledge, Not the Disease. HPV: Separating Fact from Fiction.* Dr. Harold G. Hunt. MacLaurin A144. 721-8492

Friday, November 2

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

Monday, November 5

Jean Monnet Chair Lecture 4:30 p.m. *Defence Policy and European Identity.* Prof. Frédéric Merand, Univ. de Montréal. Cornett A129. 721-6490

Tuesday, November 6

Libraries' United Way Book Sale 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. SUB 110. 721-8211

Career Services Lecture 4:30 p.m. *Take ACTION - Build Your Career With the Applied Career Transitions Program.* Strong C126. 721-8992

Wednesday, November 7

Studies in Religion & Society Lecture 4:30 p.m. *They Work for God: Islam and Globalization in Contemporary Indonesia.* Daromir Rudnyckij, UVic. Strong C118. 721-6695

Thursday, November 8

Community-based Research Lecture 12 p.m. *Caneuel "Working Together" Aboriginal Research Luncheon Series: Language and Culture.* Commons Block Arbutus/Queenswood Rm. RSVP to ocbr@uvic.ca or 472-4171

Career Services Lecture 4:30 p.m. *Realize Your Entrepreneurial Dreams.* MacLaurin D288. 721-8992

Friday, November 9

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

Friday, November 16

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

Saturday, November 17

Music 8 p.m. *UVic Jazz Ensembles.* Anita Bonkowski, director, with Roy Styffe. University Centre Farquhar Auditorium. \$15/\$11. 721-7904

Monday, November 19

Jean Monnet Chair lecture 4:30 p.m. *Putin's Russia—a foe, a friend or a partner?* Prof. Piotr Dutkiewicz, Carleton Univ. Cornett A129. 721-6490

Information Session 4:30 p.m. *IESS Exchange Program Information Session.* Engineering/Computer Science 125. 721-6361

Tuesday, November 20

Music 12:30 p.m. *Tuesdaymusic.* Tuba and euphonium students from the class of Eugene Dowling. MacLaurin B125. 721-7904

Hearts and Hands Craft Fair 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. University Centre foyer. 721-7378

Wednesday, November 21

Visual Arts Lecture 8 p.m. Candice Hopkins: Artist/Curator. *Director/Curator Exhibitions at the Western Front in Vancouver.* Human & Social Development A240. 721-8643

Thursday, November 22

Medical Lecture Series *Let's Talk*

Science—Diabetes. 12 p.m. Students discuss the increasing incidence of diabetes and preventative measures. Medical Sciences 160. 472-5543

Human Rights Workshop 1 p.m. *Creating Spaces Workshop.* Cadboro Commons Haro Rm. RSVP to eqsec@uvic.ca 721-8488

Friday, November 23

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

Wednesday, November 28

Community-based Research Office 12 p.m. *Caneuel "Working Together" Aboriginal Research Luncheon Series: Healthy People and Communities.* Commons Block Campus View Rm. RSVP to ocbr@uvic.ca or 472-4171

Thursday, November 29

Poinsettia Annual UVic Child Care Fundraiser 9:30 a.m. University Centre Lobby. \$12. Preorder 480-4967

Friday, November 30

Music 12:30 p.m. *Fridaymusic.* University of Victoria Chamber Singers. MacLaurin B125. 721-7904

Monday, December 3

Music 10:30 a.m. *African Percussion Concert.* The 30-member percussion ensemble from MUS 208 African Hand Drumming perform a repertoire of rhythms on djembe, balafon and dundun. MacLaurin B125 721-7904

International and Exchange Services Workshop 2 p.m. *Returning Home and Reverse Culture Shock.* Strong C126. Registration required. 721-6361

When is the next Ring?

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 information call 721-7636.

Publication Date

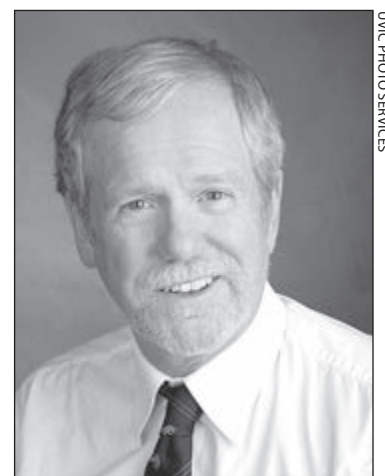
Copy Deadline

Thursday, December 6 Wednesday, November 28
Thursday, January 10 Wednesday, December 19

Gage appointed to Board of Governors

Anthony R. Gage has been appointed to the University of Victoria Board of Governors by the provincial government. Gage holds a bachelor of arts in economics from the University of Victoria and a master of business administration (finance) from the University of British Columbia. A Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA), Gage is a director of PSP Investments and Sky Investment Counsel and head of the management committee of JEA Pension System Solutions. He is a past chair of the board of Phillips, Hager and North Investment Management. His career at Phillips, Hager and North spanned more than 20 years, including five years as president and chief executive officer. He is a member of the Association of Investment

Management and Research (AIMR) and an accredited Chartered Director (McMaster University). Gage's term began October 18, 2007.



Gage

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UVic United Way campaign moves fast to help others

by Tara Sharpe

The UVic 2007 United Way campaign is moving fast through the last few weeks of fundraising, and donations continue to boost the temperature in community “thermometer” boards across the city. Here on campus, the momentum is driven by the generosity of donors and by the passion and involvement of numerous volunteers.

Over the years, UVic volunteers have contributed through a wide range of activities, staging events, organizing raffles, acquiring prizes, gathering pledges and sitting on the campaign steering committee, as well as participating in United Way of Greater Victoria community initiatives.

Dr. Dale Olesky (computer science) became involved last year when past UVic campaign chair Dr. Penelope Codding asked him to help solicit support as an advocate in his department. “I feel very fortunate to have had a great job at UVic for many years,” says Olesky, “and I believe I need to do my small part in supporting the many good causes of the United Way.”

In the community, Dr. Gina Harrison (educational psychology and leadership studies) has been involved with the Victoria Epilepsy and Parkinson’s Centre alongside undergraduate education student Maura Indge and alumnae Melanie Braendel and Aimee Burns. Tools for Success is a program funded in part by the United Way of Greater Victoria and developed by the centre in consultation with Harrison. Indge, Braendel and Burns provide weekly group tutoring sessions to children with epilepsy.

Dr. Mary Ellen Purkis, dean of the Faculty of Human and Social

Development, has been a long-time supporter of the United Way. “Making a donation to the United Way means that effective programs can be delivered—programs that address the central issues that people face in this community, such as programs that collaborate to provide safe and appropriate housing for people, that support people to learn and be excellent parents to their children, that ensure elders can be connected to people and services that help them remain independent in their homes,” says Purkis.

The collective effort of everyone involved at UVic will go a long way to assist the one in three Victorians who receive support through the United Way: \$120 will buy 75 meals at a community meal program; \$240 will ensure that a child with learning disabilities can attend eight sessions of intensive educational support; and \$500 will cover 3 months’ of recreation expenses for a group of younger adults with mental handicaps and mental illness.

The UVic 2007 United Way campaign has already collected more than 440 donations and over \$165,000. The “Post-Secondary Challenge” is still on, issued by Royal Roads University to UVic and Camosun College to see which institution can achieve the greatest increase in participation and donations.

There’s still time for UVic faculty and staff to get in paper pledge forms. In addition, donations from students and employees can be submitted online through the UVic United Way website (<http://united-way.uvic.ca/>). The campaign draws to a close at the end of November, so keep watching the site for details about additional events and end-of-campaign prizes.



United Way



Siemens

Reading the future

Thanks to the digital age, book-reading is about to take on a whole new dimension

by Jennifer Cador

Ever sat in front of your computer and read an entire book? Probably not, but chances are you will in the future. In fact, UVic English professor Dr. Ray Siemens predicts that within one generation, we’ll be doing most of our reading online, books included.

Siemens heads up a multidisciplinary group of researchers whose goal is to develop a new way of reading—the book of the future—in electronic form. It’s an extension of an existing trend, Siemens says, because plenty of online reading is already taking place.

“The kids about to enter adulthood do most of their reading online,” says Siemens. “They’re watching television less and going online for their news and entertainment.”

But so far, online reading hasn’t extended to book-reading for most people. Reading at the computer feels harder on the eyes than reading the printed page, and the computer’s lack of portability is another factor. While laptops can be taken many places, their structure doesn’t make reading on the bus or at the beach convenient.

Then there’s the whole issue of tactile experience. Many people like the feel of books, and enjoy everything from turning the pages to the smell of the ink.

These are all valid observations that Siemens and his researchers are taking into consideration in developing new online reading models. Upgraded technology, such as gentler monitors and the invention of “e-book readers” will likely address some

of the practical complaints, while our own expectations about the reading experience will gradually change with technological advancement.

The diversity of expertise on the research team is unique. It includes historians, language specialists and social scientists, as well as computer experts. The idea is to examine all facets of the reading experience. This is an important point because in the past, the focus has been simply to get the information on the Internet. Little consideration was given to the other factors that people value when they read.

“What we’re doing right now is looking back at 2,000 years worth of book culture and noting what has persevered over time,” Siemens says. “Preliminary results are really interesting. For example, things like the standard book index structure have been around since the 14th century, largely unchanged.”

Other book features that have stood the test of time include standardized spelling, punctuation, paragraphing, and the basic page layout. Siemens points out that to be successful, those things that have lasted throughout the centuries should be incorporated into the electronic reading experience.

Siemens visualizes the future of reading as an active endeavour.

“Let’s say you’re reading *Pride and Prejudice*. Imagine a world where you have links to movie versions integrated into the text, so you could click and see a director’s vision of a scene. Or if you wanted to know more about Victorian culture or language, or more about Austen, the information is only a click away.”

Siemens sees immense possibility in the books of tomorrow.

“What the future looks like is not a single book in isolation, but a book integrated with everything else on the Internet. The key is figuring out how to present it in a form we’re all comfortable with.”

- Siemens’ project is called the HCI-Book (Human Computer Interface and Interaction of the Electronic Book) and includes approximately 35 researchers and 20 research partner organizations from Canada, the US, and Britain.
- Siemens is Professor and Canada Research Chair in Humanities Computing, studying the role that computers can play in the humanities. He has published extensively on the intersection of literature and digital technology, with more than 100 papers and presentations to his credit.
- Siemens’ group also offers the annual Digital Humanities Summer Institute at UVic, attracting participants from around the globe. During the week-long institute, more than 100 faculty, staff and graduate student theorists, experimentalists, technologists and administrators from the arts, humanities, library and archives communities share ideas and methods, and develop expertise in applying advanced technologies to activities that impact teaching, research, dissemination and preservation.



L-R: Donna Mollin and Jaqui Thompson (libraries), coordinators of the library’s annual United Way book sale, examine the first delivery of used books, records and videos.



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