



University
of Victoria

SPEED READING

ALUMNI WEEK

Chancellor Rogers and Stewart Butterfield chat

Chancellor Shelagh Rogers will be "In Conversation" with web industry leader Stewart Butterfield, BA '96, on Feb. 7 at 7 p.m. in the University Centre Farquhar Auditorium. Butterfield, described recently by *Wired* magazine as an "internet visionary," was a co-founder of Flickr, and is currently leading the start-up of Slack along with other core members of the Flickr team. The event will conclude the eighth annual Alumni Week celebration. The event is free, but registration is required. qr.net/uvictix

CELEBRATING STAFF

PDSA ceremony Feb. 25

President Jamie Cassels will host an employee reception to celebrate nominees and recipients of the 2015 President's Distinguished Service Awards on Wednesday, Feb. 25 at the University Club. Award presentations begin at 4:15 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. All faculty and staff are invited to attend the annual awards which celebrate the outstanding contributions of university employees to the betterment of the UVic and its community. To RSVP, please register online at qr.net/pdsa by Feb. 18.

RESEARCH SERVICES

ORS Survey closes Feb. 6

Are you a faculty member, staff member or graduate student who uses the services provided by UVic's Office of Research Services? If yes, help the office to assess these services and develop plans to enhance their support by taking their survey. Eligible respondents will be entered to win a \$100 UVic Bookstore gift card—but hurry, the survey closes Feb. 6! bit.ly/uvic-ors



WHAT'S NEXT FOR McKINNON?

P.5

THE RING

FEBRUARY 2015

The University of Victoria's
community newspaper

ring.uvic.ca



Nursing student Yana Vashuk. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

IN THE COMMUNITY

526,884

NUMBER OF
MEALS SERVED
BY THE OUR
PLACE SOCIETY
IN 2014

A curriculum of care at Our Place

Two UVic collaborations serving vulnerable populations provide learning opportunities for students

Many people across Greater Victoria volunteer to improve the lives of our community's most vulnerable people. UVic collaborations in nursing and business go a step further, shaping learning experiences in the spirit of service.

The longstanding Foot Hygiene Program delivered by fourth-year UVic nursing students at Our Place began by recognizing that the most vulnerable people often face

the greatest barriers to wellness. That's why the program is so valuable, explains Dr. Judy Burgess of the UVic Faculty of Human and Social Development. "Everyone benefits from this program and in many different ways."

The key to the curriculum? By offering foot hygiene services, students also learn about other health factors these clients face and offer advice and referrals.

Nursing student Yana Vashuk wanted to do her fourth-year practicum at Our Place because she felt it was meaningful and worthwhile. "Street people are prone to foot problems. They walk so much in search of food and shelter. In winter, their feet get wet and in summer their feet become dry and calloused." Twenty minutes

with the Foot Hygiene team puts a smile on their face and makes them feel better, says Yana, also noting improved skin quality in repeat clients.

Burgess began working with Rev. Allen Tysick in 2008, then executive director of Our Place and now founder of the Victoria Dandelion Society, to create this innovative training practicum. The Our Place Society serves Greater Victoria's most vulnerable including working poor, impoverished elderly, the mentally and physically challenged, those living with addictions, and the homeless.

Students are prepared to interact with their clients in a way that is non-threat-

SEE OUR PLACE P.4

FOXY peer leader thrilled by Arctic Inspiration Award

BY ANNE MacLAURIN

Makenzie Zouboules, third-year UVic honours political science and writing co-op student, is something of a celebrity in her hometown of Yellowknife, NWT. Last month, along with FOXY co-founders Candice Lys and Nancy MacNeill, Zouboules accepted a \$1-million Arctic Inspiration Prize for their work with northern youth. Originally part of Lys' PhD dissertation on public health promotion, FOXY (Fostering Open eXpression among Youth) is a participatory research project aimed at talking with young people about sexual health, sexuality and relationships across the three northern Canadian territories.

Zouboules was 17 years old when she became FOXY's first peer leader. "For me, FOXY has been like a lifeline that I somehow managed to catch in a whiteout. When I met FOXY co-founders Nancy and Candice in 2012, my relationship to others, my body, and myself was tenuous at best."

For Zouboules, being a peer leader meant she could have an impact on issues that affected her and other youth in her home community. The rate of sexually transmitted infections and pregnancy is among the highest across the Canadian North, especially in adolescent populations. As Zouboules explains, "There was a lack of education, there were resources but we lacked the skills to access those things."

Winning the Arctic Inspiration Prize was affirming on so many

levels for Zouboules, who is bursting with excitement as she describes the expansion of the program. "We will be offering FOXY workshops to more schools in the Northwest Territories, Yukon and Nunavut; a parallel sexual health education program for young men, to be delivered in schools around the territories; and a Peer Leadership Retreat program for young men from across the North."

Zouboules continues to be involved with FOXY as a research assistant, part of her co-op work term. "I'm looking forward to conducting 57 interviews with LGBTQ+ youth from Hay River and Yellowknife, NWT as part of a research partnership between FOXY and the University of Toronto."

Even though Zouboules at times misses her northern life, she says she's extremely happy at UVic. "I am a director at-large for the student society and am also involved with the political science course union. I love the community here on campus, and it has been one of the best decisions I ever made to come here."

Watch the awards ceremony online

The 2014 Arctic Inspiration Prize awards ceremony was hosted by Peter Mansbridge, and featured performances by award-winning northern artists Tanya Tagaq, Celina Kalluk, Sylvia Cloutier, Digawolf and David Serkoak. December's ceremony in Ottawa, held in conjunction with the international Arctic Change 2014 conference, also included former Nunavut Premier Eva Aariak and a statement by the former Governor General of Canada Michaëlle Jean, who

was a member of this year's award selection committee.

A 25-minute awards video—including the committee's decision to grant the entire million-dollar award to FOXY (rather than dividing it up among shortlisted programs), artist performances, and acceptance speeches—is online at the Arctic Inspiration Prize website. bit.ly/arctic-14



Zouboules. PHOTO: FRED CATTROLL/ARCTIC NET

ringers

Dr. Valerie King (computer science) has been named a 2014 ACM Fellow by the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) for her contributions to randomized algorithms, especially dynamic graph algorithms and fault tolerant distributed computing. Her work in randomized algorithms allows networked computers, working together to solve a problem, to recognize invading malware so that they can ignore the information sent by bad computers and continue to coordinate with the good ones. The association recognizes ACM members' creativity and commitment to the study of computer science.

UVic Chief Information Officer **Paul Stokes** has been appointed as the interim chair of the BCNET Board of Directors. BCNET is a not-for-profit, shared information technology services organization serving the needs of British Columbia's higher education and research institutions. Stokes will serve as chair until the September 2015 AGM of the organization. BCNET President and CEO Michael Hrybyk praises the decision, saying Stokes "will contribute significant expertise to our high-calibre board, focused on ensuring BCNET effectively delivers cost-effective, high-quality shared services for public, post secondary institutions in BC." Stokes also recently spoke to the *Huffington Post* about the core value of strong social relationships in technology organizations. HuffPo blog: qr.net/stokes

Excellence in co-operative education

BY VANESSA STOFER

Each year, we bestow three Co-op Student of the Year awards to recognize students' outstanding achievements in all aspects of performance, including academic achievement, workplace performance, and extracurricular, community and co-op involvement. One winning student is selected from each of our three major program areas.

We're pleased to announce that our 2014 Co-op Students of the Year are:

Gaëlle Madevon (commerce)

Co-op Student of the Year — Peter B. Gustavson School of Business Co-op

Recognized for her high academic achievement and excellent work term performance, Gaëlle Madevon approaches both her university and work life with resourcefulness and creativity. She spent her first co-op term as a research assistant with UVic's Department of Psychology and her second with GlobalFest in marketing and communications. For her final co-op term, Madevon acted as a corporate communications specialist for Ledcor Industries Inc., where she worked on communications and marketing projects, oversaw logistics for several major media events, and implemented successful social media strategies to increase online engagement.

Silvia Penkova (mechanical engineering)

Co-op Student of the Year — Engineering, Computer Science and Mathematics/Statistics Co-op

Driven by a passion for continuous learning in her academic and personal endeavours, Silvia Penkova is known for her relentless work ethic and positive attitude. As a former Sea Cadet fascinated by ocean exploration, Penkova spent her first three work terms refitting submarines for the Royal Canadian Navy at Babcock Canada Inc. Her interest in the environment and green technology then led her to pursue a work term in the Industrial Engineering branch of the Department of National Defence. There, she worked on a wastewater treatment plant that allowed process water to be cleaned and returned to city sewage, resulting in less waste. Silvia is interested in materials engineering and is currently working on a research project categorizing the optical properties of cadmium-zinc-telluride semiconductors.

Tesi Carmona Wagner (biology)

Co-op Student of the Year — Optional and Professional Co-op Programs (all other programs)

Tesi Carmona Wagner has always been interested in animal behavior and wellbeing. For her first three work terms, she ventured abroad, completing two co-op terms in Mexico researching birds in captivity and in the field, and one in Germany where she studied urban and rural blackbirds. Although she'd been primarily keen on the study of birds, Tesi rounded out her experience with a final eight-month placement as a research and animal care assistant in UVic's Neuroscience Lab under Dr. Leigh Ann Swayne, where she managed and studied mouse colonies. Wagner's natural



Penkova. PHOTO: BETH DOMAN



Wagner



Madevon

curiosity and enthusiasm for science and research has made her a standout employee in Swayne's lab, where she is still working. She has also undertaken many extracurricular activities related to her degree—she volunteered with the Wild Animal Rehabilitation Centre and Parks Canada and currently helps out at Rocky Point Bird Observatory.

Wagner hopes to continue in academia and pursue her Master's and eventually a PhD.

Co-op Students of the Year are nominated by their employers and supervisors.

We're on Twitter!

follow us @uvicring

Save the date: May 14 & 15, 2015 Cadboro Commons

Making a difference.

Connect U, a professional development conference for UVic staff.
Free and open to all UVic employees.

For more information, visit uvic.ca/connectu
Registration to open April 1, 2015 (no fooling!)
Register early to beat the rush

#connectu UVicConnectU

Navigating a challenging issue

A lively exchange of knowledge and opinions about climate change, divestment and society was held at a recent forum co-sponsored by UVic and the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions.

Addressing global warming is a challenge for individuals, families, corporations, governments and entire countries. PICS director and forum moderator Tom Pedersen said in his opening remarks.

"We've all got a stake one way or another in fossil fuels. Our food, our clothing, our plastics, our gadgets, our heat and light, our transportation—all command a piece of the fossil fuel jigsaw puzzle. There is no 'us' versus 'them' but there is a big challenge."

The Jan. 26 forum was initiated in response to the UVic Board of Governors' request for a community discussion and dialogue among stakeholders.

Panellists spoke from viewpoints of sustainable investments, the energy sector perspective, divestment and the broader social view.

They included Malcolm Boothroyd (Divest UVic), Steve Douglas (Suncor Energy), Stephen Hume (*Vancouver Sun*), Cary Krosinsky (Carbon Tracker Initiative) and Crystal Lameman (Beaver Lake Cree Nation, Treaty No. 6).

Respondents Dr. Jessica Dempsey (UVic School of Environmental Studies) and Judy Cotte (RBC Global Asset Management) queried the speakers about their opinions. Questions to the panellists were also fielded from the audience.

Nearly 450 people watched the discussion in person or via webcast. The audience nearly filled Flury Hall in the Bob Wright Building, including students, faculty, senior UVic administrators, other university staff and members of the Board of Governors and University of Victoria Foundation.

Video of "A Dialogue: Climate Change, Divestment and Society" can be viewed at uvic.ca/climateforum.

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721-2441

Bob Reimer

Handling old manuscripts

The 28th annual Medieval Workshop, "Burnt at the Stake," on Jan. 31 (presented by Continuing Studies and the Medieval Studies program) and a sequel event on Feb. 6 and 7, "Witches of the West," explore lessons still relevant today about the uncanny connections between witch hunts, mass persecution, modern moral panics, and the flames of medieval and early modern pyres that devoured bodies and books but not the legacy of ideas and dreams.

In a fitting coda, Dr. Jamie Kemp (Art History and Visual Studies) explains in a recent interview why books that escaped being burnt need not be handled with white gloves: <http://ring.uvic.ca/news/handling-old-manuscripts-hands-proposition>. Photo by Aurora Allen (taken in Kemp's class, of a 15th Century Book of Hours).



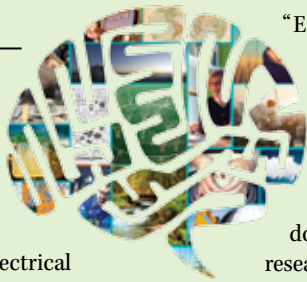
Fourth annual IdeaFest a week of discovery and exchange

BY BRAD BUIE

When does a disease turn into an epidemic? How do scientific and Indigenous knowledge intersect? What is your ideal electrical grid? (*Hint: marbles can show you.*) How can we live well and age well? And why the backlash against diversity in video games?

With these questions and dozens more, UVic faculty and students are once again preparing to share their ideas at UVic's fourth annual IdeaFest. Running March 2-7, IdeaFest has grown into a hugely anticipated celebration, attracting thousands to campus.

More than 50 events, free and open to the public, day and evening, offer a view into the university's research environments and creative activities. Venues include First Peoples House, forests, libraries, labs and both on-campus galleries and the off-campus, downtown Legacy Art Gallery.



"Engagement with the community is paramount," says Vice-President Research David Castle. "IdeaFest offers a tremendous opportunity for researchers, scholars and artists to communicate their discoveries and innovations to the university community and wider public. They're eager for the two-way interaction—discussion, questions and rigorous debate are what make IdeaFest a true celebration of ideas."

"I think festival goers will find these events have in common UVic's values and vision in terms of sustainability, social justice, inclusion and ultimately the betterment of society," Castle adds. "I encourage everyone to go to the website and check out the full roster of events."

The full program of more than 50 events is available for easy online browsing on any device at uvic.ca/ideafest.

UVic's first Honorary Resident Wikipedian

BY TARA SHARPE

In January, Dr. Christian Vandendorpe became UVic's first Honorary Resident Wikipedian. The widely respected author of *From Papyrus to Hypertext*, Vandendorpe believes scholars and instructors have an ethical imperative to participate in Wikipedia and ensure the information presented is as accurate and comprehensive as possible.

Last month, Vandendorpe told CBC Radio that "professors have a responsibility toward the public good." Vandendorpe also gave the keynote address for a Wikipedia edit-a-thon hosted by UVic Libraries and the Electronic Textual Cultures Lab (ETCL) last month, and was the keynote speaker at another UVic digital humanities initiative, Implementing New Knowledge Environments (INKE).

"Creating and sharing knowl-

edge is something in which we're all invested, and from which we all benefit immeasurably," says UVic English professor Dr. Ray Siemens. "The INKE project is founded on this principle, and Christian's presence as Honorary Resident Wikipedian gives action to it—building bridges between knowledge communities on campus and between campus knowledge communities and the constituencies they serve."

Vandendorpe is an expert on the historical role of encyclopedias and on Wikipedia in the context of peer-reviewed scholarship versus open access, and will work with UVic researchers and students on Wikipedia pages within his areas of expertise, with a focus on social knowledge creation, the history of knowledge, the history and future of the book, electronic publishing and open access. Full Ring article: bit.ly/uvic-wiki

Residence renewal plan proposed

Residences Services is proposing a 10-year plan to address significant needed improvements to the university's aging student residences and a shortage of campus housing.

Among the needed work are new roofs, mechanical systems, and the removal and replacement of water-damaged building exteriors. An increase in residence fees, which are currently up to 30 per cent less than comparable Canadian universities, is proposed to pay for the maintenance projects as well as construction of a new residence in the coming years.

Universities must fund the construction, repair and operation of residences on a cost-recovery basis because residences are an ancillary service not funded by the BC government.

"We know that affordability is a critical issue for students," says Ddirector of Residence Services Kathryn McLeod. "In developing the renewal plan, we carefully considered the costs for students while also looking at how we can get this work done and deal with the demand for safe, affordable campus housing."

In addition to the existing student financial support available through scholarships, bursaries and work-study positions, a new bursary program is being developed by Residence Services for eligible students.

Fees for residences have risen by three per cent annually for several years to cover increased costs due to inflation. A proposal will go to the Board of Governors later this spring for incremental increases over 10 years.

The proposed increases are 13 per cent for 2015/16 or the equivalent of \$68 a month for a single room and \$52 a month for a double room. Increases in the subsequent years are six per cent for 2016/17 and six per cent in 2017/18 and four per cent in each of the next six years. These increases would be on the accommodation portion of housing fees, not the meal plans.

UVic's average residence rates are anticipated to remain lower than other comparable institutions throughout the 10 years.

Despite annual spending of \$1 million to \$2 million annually on upkeep, a recent, comprehensive facilities review found that a more extensive maintenance program is needed due to the age of many of the residence buildings.

Some maintenance on buildings has been deferred to the point where delays will increase costs and resulting safety issues may result in



South Tower Residence. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

loss of affordable housing units. The estimated cost of renewal work is currently valued at \$81 million.

The new fee structure would also support construction of new campus accommodation, a priority identified in the university's 2012 Strategic Plan.

First-year students coming to UVic directly out of high school are guaranteed a place in residence, which means there are few spaces available for upper-level students (only 100 to 150 spaces in 2014/15). The current number of beds in single student housing is 2,291 while the number of applications for 2014/15 was 5,000.

around the ring

Three new policies to know—and one requesting your feedback

There are three new UVic policies you should know about. The first is all about confidential files: new information security classification procedures have been finalized that describe what makes a record public, internal, confidential or highly confidential—and how they should be managed. PDF of the policy: qr.net/Q2nv.

The second is about filming on campus and who to contact for support before filming. As UVic periodically permits the use of its facilities for productions which do not interfere with university activities or the learning environment for students, the Farquhar Auditorium has been appointed the Film Liaison Office for UVic. This does not enable or constrain any other filming on university property that may be part of a course, program or activity of a university unit, but please consider contacting the auditorium about those projects as well. Full info: qr.net/uvicfilms.

UVic is also updating its motor vehicle policy. Among other changes, the revised policy includes preferred status for the purchase of hybrid and electric vehicles wherever feasible. Please direct any questions or comments to policy@uvic.ca with the subject line "Motor Vehicle Policy" by Feb. 13.

Send a singing Valentine

Show your heart is filled with song this Valentine's Day by sending your significant other a singing Valentine! There's no better way to impress your lover than with a romantic barbershop medley sung by UVic School of Music students in the Vocal Jazz Ensemble. They'll also deliver a handcrafted card along with the song, anytime between 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 14—anywhere in Victoria! It's only \$30 and all proceeds help support the Vocal Jazz Ensemble. Book at uvicheartsong@gmail.com or text 587-284-2259.

Navigate the ever-changing market

A longtime resident and UVic grad, Dave is helping local residents and new-comers to navigate their way through the real estate market. Whether buying or selling, he will assure smooth sailing. Just ask his many clients at UVic.

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Student life, one blog post at a time



New site collects the online lives and reflections of 18 UVic students

BY LINDSAY GAGEL

Life for a university student isn't just essays, exams and ramen noodles—although those *are* a big part of it. There are also yoga raves, nights of uninterrupted Netflix marathons, awkward icebreakers and friendships that will last a lifetime.

Whether you're a high school student wondering what it's like to be an undergraduate student at UVic or a current student looking to share in your classmates' experiences, you'll find something new in a blogging project that spotlights student life at UVic.

My UVic Life follows the experiences of 18 UVic students through weekly blog posts. The students share photos, videos and narratives, and visitors to the site are encouraged to ask questions or post comments. It's a blog for students, by students.

The website captures the diversity of the student population, featuring undergraduates from various programs covering seven faculties—and one student who's still deciding her major.

Rachel is a Vikes track star who shows readers what it's like to be a student athlete. Andrea moved to

Victoria from Mexico City, a city with nearly nine million inhabitants, to attend UVic. Malcolm is a co-op student who spent a work term studying a parasitoid wasp. Lindsay just returned from China, where she visited as part of an "International Work Study in China" course offered through the Gustavson School of Business. And Ricky is an Indigenous student who recently moved off-campus and into a house shared by seven other people—quite a bit different than residence life!

So what do these students hope to accomplish with their stories?

"I want to share with you the raw, uninterrupted university student life, in all its messed up beautiful imperfection," says Talen, a student blogger who assures people that although his name sounds like a bird's foot, he's far more interested in marine biology than ornithology.

"I will be posting every week about the nonsensical, the awkward and the straight up abnormal," Talen explains. "I'm talking about the random outbursts of spontaneous creativity. About the late-night jam sessions on a beachside piano. About the struggles and successes that make our university unique. That is what I am

here to share."

The project is co-produced by the Department of Student Recruitment and Global Engagement and University Communications + Marketing.

It's hosted on UVic's Online Academic Community (OAC), a university-wide WordPress platform that launched last year and allows students, faculty and staff to create their own blogs

and websites.

Visit uvic.ca/myuVIClife for more information about the project, to meet the students and to engage in *My UVic Life*.



Business students take top prize at Davos

MBA students claim top prize at Corporate Knights' "Business for a Better World" case study competition

BY KRISTA BOEHNERT

It's a proposition few MBA students would pass up: an opportunity to compete on the world stage—at the World Economic Forum no less—in a case competition that focuses on business sustainability practices. The best part? The Corporate Knights' "Business for a Better World" case study competition allowed contestants to present business solutions to pharmaceutical heavy-hitter Novartis. Teams focused on environmental recommendations, as well as social and governance initiatives that, when implemented, would help improve Novartis's standing on the Corporate Knights Global 100 ranking.

UVic's MBA team, comprised of Gill Graduate School students Jesal Shah, Andrew Spence, Susan Laidlaw and Karin Feldkamp, have dedicated the last three months of their lives to preparing for their winning moment at the prestigious competition held in Davos, Switzerland. Advancing from three intensive rounds of competition—which slowly whittled down 25 teams from universities around the world to just three finalists—the quartet

competed for a \$6,000 top prize.

In the lead-up to their final presentations in Davos, the group underwent rigorous training, including a mock presentation and a Q&A session with local pharmaceutical veterans Noel Hall, co-founder and president, Aspreva Pharmaceuticals; and Martin Thornton, director and head of human resources (North America), Vifor Pharma, both of whom were in the audience to provide counsel and advice for the students. The practice session with Hall and Thornton was the perfect send-off for the team, helping them refine their presentation for the Davos audience, which included Eric Cornut, the chief of ethics and compliance and policy officer for Novartis.

"The presentation itself went by in a flash," Jesal Shah said in a blog post about his experience. "It was exciting to present our recommendations to someone from Novartis and to hear his feedback on our proposal. The Q&A session was nerve-racking but it was clear that our practice paid off. Thanks to all our instructors, colleagues, friends and spouses who peppered us with challenging questions during our lead-up to Davos."



L-R: Spence, Shaw and Laidlaw, with Feldkamp telepresent on laptop. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

OUR PLACE CONTINUED FROM P.1

ening and supportive. In fact, this community placement program was designed exclusively for people from the street who comprise our region's more than 1,200-person homeless population.

"This program informs our students about their nursing practice and provides a high-level service for those who need it most," explains Tracy Shenton, sessional instructor and program supervisor. Shenton points out that while Our Place provides space as well as socks, gloves, towels, and cleaning supplies, UVic's School of Nursing funds all other costs.

"This includes high-quality tools and equipment, disinfectants, soaps, moisturizers and socks," Shenton explained. "We're looking at about \$600 per year, not including the cost for socks." And then there's the honorarium of \$150 which goes to the certified foot care nurse who supervises the students' preparation for placement. Students themselves hold fundraising events to help cover expenses, so designated donations are always welcome.

Putting service first: the business case

While nursing students were thinking feet-first about the health needs of Our Place clients, students from the Gustavson School of Business made a business case to improve one of the society's most recognized and widely used services: meal service.

The scale of the problem is large, and unfortunately it's getting larger. Our Place provides between 1,200 and 1,500 meals a day, and over the past year, they've increased services to the community by more than 30 per cent, resulting in challenges around space, staffing, volunteers and integration of services.

This past fall, Gill Graduate School MBA students collaborated with the community organization to help them meet that growing demand.

"The students found that working with Our Place was both challenging and rewarding, resulting in recommendations that they feel confident will help streamline operations, reduce overhead, and allow the society to further extend their reach," says Heather Ranson, a professor in the service management specialty in the Peter B.



L-R: MBA students Care Nelson, Lucy Deng and Gizem Aksay made hands-on experience as Our Place food-service volunteers a part of their case study research. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

Gustavson School of Business.

"The MBA program is built around immersive experiences like 'live case' projects, helping to create long-lasting relationships between our students and groups within the community."

The students' service-oriented business study provided several recommendations including:

- extending meal service to 90 minutes from the current 60 minutes
- using software to track volunteer hours and reward volunteers individually
- developing a tracking system for food donation,
- providing conflict management training for all kitchen volunteers,
- inviting volunteers, when there are sufficient in number, to sit, have a conversation and eat with guests, and
- using music and lighting to make the facility more welcoming at meal time.

"Not only was this an opportunity for the students to engage first hand with the most vulnerable citizens of Victoria, it was a unique experience for everyone at Our Place Society," says Le-Ann Dolan, director of operations at Our Place. "It was wonderful to engage with the university and the rewards were more than we were expecting."

What's next for McKinnon?

BY SUZANNE AHEARNE

In the next few months, the Vikes will slam-dunk for the last time in McKinnon gym, Thunder will wave a fuzzy goodbye to its once-sky-blue walls, gymnasts and martial artists will take in the last of the distinctive 1975 scent of the apparatus gym and most other athletics and recreation activities will relocate to their new digs in CARSA—the Centre for Athletics, Recreation and Special Abilities.

When they do, the 40-year-old McKinnon building will be getting a new lease on life.

Building renovations and physical laboratories are on their way

By the end of September 2016, McKinnon will become a more modern place for research and teaching for the School of Exercise Science, Physical and Health Education (EPHE), formerly known as the School of Physical Education. Once CARSA is open and the renovations in McKinnon are completed, all the school's teaching and research will be under one roof.

EPHE has three undergrad programs: kinesiology; recreation and health education; and physical education teacher education.

Moving athletics and recreation to CARSA and the renovations to the McKinnon building will mean more space for the school, new spaces for existing research labs (two of which are currently located in another building on campus), and more modern and spacious labs that will accommodate better teaching and learning. The gym, small weight room and pool will continue to be used for sports and recreation by students, faculty and staff when CARSA opens.

The renovations to McKinnon will take place over the next two summers with completion anticipated for the start of the fall term, 2016.

There are three main parts to the renovations: major construction will transform the apparatus gym into a two-story space housing three research labs and one teaching lab and the last two squash courts will be converted into a new teaching lab space on the top floor and a grad student work space on the lower level (some EPHE grad students now work from E-Hut); earthquake-proofing of all renovated spaces; and renovations to the existing teaching labs and some offices in McKinnon.

The first and second parts—the major construction and earthquake-proofing—are scheduled to be completed this summer. The remaining renovations will be done in the summer of 2016.

Closer ties between Vikes and EPHE

"The whole idea of building a new athletics and recreation facility was the dream of Clint Hamilton, Vikes athletics and recreation Director," says Rick Bell, director of EPHE. "From the very beginning the school's needs and the needs of athletics and recreation were developed in conjunction with each other."

The link between the two units is their focus on physical activity and healthy living. Front of mind for Bell and Hamilton is their shared interest in making the most of CARSA to



Bell. PHOTO: SUZANNE AHEARNE

nurture the relationship between the school and Vikes athletics and recreation.

Part of the vision has always been to involve more of the school's faculty in conducting research that supports the performance and development of Vikes athletes. "That's already occurring, but there are opportunities to expand the amount and type of research that can be conducted," says Bell. Some of the Vikes coaches teach courses for the school, part of the close relationship between the school and Vikes athletics. Doug Tate, head coach of the men's rugby team, teaches courses in the Master of Education in Coaching Studies graduate program and the undergrad physical education program; Craig Beaucamp, head coach of the men's basketball team, teaches a skill performance and analysis course in basketball, one of more than 22 skill performance and analysis courses in EPHE.

The 16-metre Peninsula Co-op Climbing Wall in CARSA—the tallest at a BC university—will reward nimble students, staff and community members with a glassed-in view of the campus and the horizon beyond. "The wall is a wonderful example of how this new space might provide new opportunities for learning. The school could now develop a course in climbing that our students could take for credit toward their degrees," says Bell.

Updated labs to rise in McKinnon

The McKinnon renovations are long overdue and will provide modern spaces for the research and teaching that occurs in the labs. One of the labs that's moving into a brand new space is the Motion and Mobility Lab (MML), currently in cramped, temporary quarters in McKinnon. Once the high-ceiling apparatus gym becomes a two-storied space, the lab, led by Dr. Sandra Hundza and Dr. Marc Klimstra, will occupy half the space on the lower level.

This new space will allow for full utilization of research equipment including neurophysiological equipment that stimulates human muscles and records the reactions, a built-in treadmill and force-plates, pressure-sensing walkway, and 3-D motion capture systems. "This space will allow us to measure and better understand how the nervous system controls movement such as walking patterns and balance in people with a history of falls, particularly in older

persons," says Hundza. The new space will also make way for the analysis of movement in sport. For example, a huge door will extend the space out into the main gym, allowing analysis of movements in sports that require longer approaches such as in some track and field events.

The back wall will be opened up to allow natural light and for a street-level door permitting easy access to the lab for those with limited mobility.

Beside the MML will be a new technology-equipped pedagogy lab for PE students. There will also be a glassed-in observation walkway overlooking the main gymnasium so students can observe and record the teaching and learning activities in the gym with elementary, middle and secondary school students as well as varsity athletes.

The upper floor of the current apparatus gym will become the new home to Dr. Paul Zehr's Neural Rehabilitation Lab and Dr. Ryan Rhodes' Behavioural Medicine Lab, both currently housed in the basement of the MacLaurin building.

"The work we do in our lab with people who have had neurotraumatic injuries," says Zehr "will benefit from the new space. This is especially the case for our increasing numbers of intervention studies in community-based stroke participants. Also, having my trainees and I located more closely to other colleagues will be very welcome."

Rhodes is excited about what the new space will mean for his lab and their contingent of 15 to 20 students and staff. "The extra room for our fitness testing and training equipment as well as workspace will be wonderful," he says. "It's also great that my grad students will be able to work closely with the other exercise science graduate students when we are all under the same roof. The Faculty of Education has been a gracious host for my lab for 12 years, but it will be nice to return home. And our new lab is above ground so we are all excited to see natural sunlight."

The dividing wall between the last two squash courts in McKinnon (of the original six) will be removed and a floor constructed to create an upper and lower level. The Motor Learning and Biomechanics Teaching Lab will be located in the upper space and the EPHE graduate students will relocate from E Hut into the lower-level space.

Dr. Vivienne Temple's Motor Skills Laboratory in the Institute of Applied Physical Activity and Health Research



Klimstra and Hundza in the present Motion and Mobility Lab. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

(a lab that helps children with special needs develop their motor skills) will see her space doubled. "The increase in space will be marvelous," says Temple. "My lab has been bursting at the seams recently with projects, graduate and honours students. The expansion will provide much better work spaces for students and allow us to conduct more training and testing in the lab."

Three labs in McKinnon will in-

crease in size and/or be modernized. This includes: the Physiology Lab and Exercise Physiology Lab that are used for analyzing the effects of exercise on human tissues and fluids; and the Anatomy Lab where there is a shortage of teaching space and inadequate storage for the dozens of skeletal models which currently stand shoulder-to-shoulder beside shelves full of bones, skulls and plastinated organs.

CARSA memberships on sale March 2

CARSA opens in May to replace UVic's aging and heavily used recreational facilities, but students, faculty, staff and community members don't have to wait until then to purchase memberships to access the centre's state-of-the-art workout facilities and climbing wall.

Vikes FIT and All-In passes go on sale March 2. Brochures with information about the new fee structures and benefits are currently available in both the McKinnon and Ian Stewart Complexes and will be available by mid-month in the Bookstore, Student Union Building and the Welcome Centre. Information is also available online at uvic.ca/carsa.

Students whose mandatory student athletics and recreation fee is accessed through tuition, faculty and staff will have access to the mammoth CARSA fieldhouse for drop-in activities and intramural sports, use of multipurpose rooms and squash courts, as well as continued use of the recreation facilities in the McKinnon Complex, the ice rink at the Ian Stewart Complex (ISC) and free admission to Vikes games.

Similar to the current arrangements for ISC, people who want to use the fitness and weight facility at CARSA can opt to pay for an enhanced membership. Vikes FIT passes will provide access to the two-level CARSA fitness and weight training centre and will cost students \$100 per term. A Vikes All-in pass that includes unlimited access to the Peninsula Co-op Climbing Wall is \$175 per term.

Full-time faculty and staff will pay \$60 per term for a Vikes FIT pass and \$210 per term for a Vikes All-in pass. (Faculty and staff's access and costs for recreational facilities on campus are part of their employee compensation and benefits).

Current ISC facilities will remain in use until CARSA opens, and then the strength training facility, squash courts and dance studio will close. An assessment of ICS is underway about the complex's future uses. It's anticipated that following CARSA's opening, ISC will be transitioned into additional classroom and research space. More information including rates for community members are at uvic.ca/carsa/about/memberships.

UVic filmmaker brings trans issues to the Victoria Film Festival

BY JOHN THRELFALL

After 25 years of queer activism, writing professor and filmmaker Maureen Bradley is still changing the world—she's just having more fun doing it now, thanks to her debut feature film, *Two 4 One*. Billed as the first transgendered romantic comedy, *Two 4 One* offers a bittersweet look at a couple in an unimaginable predicament: after an ill-advised one-night stand, Miriam and Adam both wind up pregnant.

But while the set-up may seem farcical, writer-director Bradley has more than laughs in mind. "If my radical 25-year-old self saw this movie, I would definitely have thought I was selling out," she says, noting her first film debuted at the Montreal Gay & Lesbian Film Festival in 1991. "But it was a very different world then; a lot has changed in the past 25 years—queer films are seen at cineplexes now. I've learned that people are more receptive when they're laughing than when they're being yelled at. I've seen the subversive power of humour and, as a director, I've learned the importance of humour—I need to laugh more."

After enthusiastic screenings at four other Canadian film festivals (Calgary, Vancouver, Montreal and Whitehorse), *Two 4 One* will have its local debut at the Victoria Film Festival (VFF) on Feb. 14 and 15—a prospect Bradley finds especially sweet, considering the film was both locally produced and locally filmed.

"That was critically important," she explains. "When I moved here 10 years ago, we had a really strong documentary community but not much narrative. I wanted to build that here—I didn't want to just give in and shoot in Vancouver—and I wanted the creative community to know we could do that here too." Proving her commitment to community engagement, Bradley used as much local talent as possible during the filming of the \$150,000



Bradley. PHOTO: ARNOLD LIM

feature on her study leave last year, including producer Daniel Hogg—digital media technician for the Faculty of Fine Arts—as well as some of her own filmmaking students and alumni as crew.

"There are a lot of amazing filmmakers locally now, and many are coming out of the writing department," she says, noting the likes of alumni Connor Gaston, Stacey Ashworth, Amanda Verhagen, Jason Bourque and Scott Amos. "It's engaged learning at its finest; my students learn so much from being on set in my classes. Plus, they're good writers. The department creates great poets, great fiction writers, great creative nonfiction and now we're getting great screenwriters." (Indeed, recent MFA Connor Gaston just wrapped his own locally lensed debut feature, *The Devout*, and his short film *Godhead* will be seen at the VFF this year, as will the short *Gord's Brother*, created by writing alumni Jeremy Lutter, Ben Rollo and Daniel Hogg, and the feature documentary *Gone South: How Canada Invented Hollywood*, co-directed by theatre alumni and instructor Leslie D. Bland.)

Unbeknownst to her when she started working on the script two years ago, Bradley also now finds herself part of the current transgender zeitgeist—as evidenced by the

likes of Laverne Cox in *Orange is the New Black*, 2014 Eurovision contest winner Conchita Wurs, Chas Bono's appearance on *Dancing with the Stars*, the trans assassin TV series *Hit & Miss*, Jared Leto's Oscar win for his trans character in *The Dallas Buyer's Club* and UVic's own groundbreaking Transgender Archives. "I'm blown away at the speed with which the mainstream discussion of transgender is happening," she says. "Obama even said the word in his recent State of the Union address! There's a post-internet velocity that has led to widespread discussion of transgender issues that other civil rights movements in the west never had access to."

Noting that "it's pretty mainstream to be queer in the western world now," Bradley is pleased that audiences are so accepting of *Two 4 One*. "I thought the content might be too much for people, to really get the idea that a person who looks like a man could still have a uterus," she chuckles. "I was completely surprised by the fact that a lot of straight men are really liking it."

Two 4 One screens Feb. 14 & 15 at the Victoria Film Festival, where Maureen Bradley & Daniel Hogg will hold a post-show Q&A. It will also play at Cinecenta on March 25 & 26, with Bradley & Hogg present. victoriafilmfestival.com

A STUDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Grappling with baggage and privilege at the Diversity Research Forum

BY JILL DICKAU

This was the first year I've participated in the Provost's Diversity Research Forum. The theme this year, "Privilege & Prejudice: Assumptions in Learning" meant little to me before attending this event. I'm privileged in my life. I can attend class without fear of judgement based on my skin colour or sexuality. I attended the event in the hope of writing something meaningful about the discussion but thinking little about my experience with privilege and prejudice. I left the forum with a new attitude towards assumptions and prejudice in the classroom.

The opening reception on Jan. 29 began with a prayer from members of UVic's Elders' Voices in First Peoples House. The room echoed with the sound of the prayer, which lulled the crowd into a warm sense of welcoming.

Right afterwards, performers from the Faculty of Fine Arts acted out an emotional piece called "Baggage Claim," with each of the performers describing their personal motivation behind the piece after the presentation. One student explained, "judgement is baggage, you have to accept your baggage, you don't choose what you get."

Topics for discussion the following day included "Hot Buttons in the Classroom: Limits, Learning and Living Together" and "What Should be Shared and How? Ownership, Authority and Authorship in Collaborative Research."

I decided on "Navigating Gender and Sexual Diversity in the Learning Environment." What I experienced was a moving and personal presentation by a group of distinguished members of

the UVic community.

The panel discussed their experiences with prejudice, in the role of a teacher as well as student. Panellist Kimi Dominic, a PhD candidate in Interdisciplinary Studies, discussed collaboration in the classroom, stating, "Students and staff should be continually invested in an open dialogue, not just on the first day of class."

Writing professor and filmmaker Maureen Bradley discussed power relationships between queer professors and students. An audience member asked the panellists about teachers revealing gender identity to their students. Bradley replied, "gender identity is always there, your work relationship and creative relationship are intertwined. When students are writing, they're creating identities. I always ask my students, 'Who is in your movie? Who isn't there?'"

Another discussion, "No More Stolen Indigenous Sisters: A Renewal of Hope" explored diversity beyond the classroom. "It is still not safe to be an indigenous woman," asserted Robina Thomas, of the School of Social Work. "The past, present and future are connected to everything we do."

The forum ended late Friday afternoon. Every event I attended was moving and personal, and each panellist was brave in his or her goal to remove prejudice and privilege, not just from the classroom but also from our community and beyond.

I no longer believe privilege and prejudice don't matter because I think I'm "privileged." We all suffer judgment because of our gender, race and sexuality. We don't get to pick our baggage. Learning can only occur if we all leave our baggage and judgement at the door.

Saying "I do" to a PhD in marriage proposals

BY ANNE MACLAURIN

Ahead of Valentine's Day, many couples are busy buying the right gift and booking reservations for romantic dinners. And PhD student Lisa Hoplock is delving into the psychology behind successful and failed marriage proposals.

"It's a very good idea, particularly for people with lower self-esteem, to have a serious conversation or two about the possibility of getting married, timelines and expectations before proposing. Doing so puts both people on the same page and reduces the ambiguity of what the proposee's response will be," says Hoplock.

Hoplock will be analyzing the content of close to 300 YouTube videos and 400 written descriptions of marriage proposals within mixed-sex couples. Her SSHRC-funded research

will compare successful and unsuccessful proposals, and then develop and test a theory experimentally. She will also conduct experiments based on content analysis and is hoping to expand her focus to same-sex couples in future research.

People propose in all sorts of different ways, explains Hoplock. "A common non-verbal response for both proposals where the person says yes and proposals where the person says no is for the proposee to bring their hands to their face or chest."

"One way these proposals differ, is that the person who says yes will often then hug and kiss the proposer, whereas the person who says no will often then walk or run away from the proposer as quickly as possible."

Hoplock hopes to have her data collection and research completed in about a year.

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calendar highlights

Events free unless otherwise indicated. For a complete list of events, visit the online calendar at events.uvic.ca

at the galleries

uvac.uvic.ca
250-721-6562



■ **Exhibit.** *In Session—One.* Through March 28. *The first of an ongoing series of exhibitions featuring the artists who work as sessional instructors in the UVic Visual Arts department.* In Session—One celebrates the significance and power of photo-based art in an age where social media and advertising threaten to inundate and numb us with visual overload. Legacy Art Gallery Downtown, 630 Yates St. 250-721-6562

■ **Exhibit.** *The Arts of World War I.* Until March 2. This exhibition marks the centenary of the start of the "Great War" with a cross-cultural focus on the visual and material culture of World War I. Legacy Maltwood Gallery (Mearns Centre/McPherson Library lower level).

at the theatre

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250-721-6562



■ **Theatre.** *Lion in the Streets.* Feb. 12–21. Isobel, a nine-year-old Portuguese girl, is lost, frightened and desperate to find her way home. She finds herself on the dark side of human experience, witnessing the troubled lives of the people in her community. Somewhere between reality and dreams, memories and fantasies, Isobel encounters people who are trapped, threatened and like herself, fighting for their own survival. *Lion in the Streets* explores the redemptive power of forgiveness, presenting a vision of grace that is earned in human, rather than divine, terms. **WARNING:** Mature subject matter. Phoenix Theatre. Tickets: \$14–24. 250-721-8000

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

■ **Studies in Religion & Society Lecture.** 4:30 p.m. *Like Nailing Jell-O to a Wall? Understanding Spiritual but not Religious Care in Nursing and Chaplaincy.* Dr. Siobhan Chandler. Turpin A104. 250-721-6325

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 2:45 p.m. *Live Music, Intercity Competition, and Branding.* Eliot Tretter (U-Calgary). Turpin B215. 250-721-7327

■ **Conference.** 3 p.m. *Witches of the West (Witch Hunts in Our Modernity).* And Feb. 7. A two-day symposium co-organized by the Program of Medieval Studies, UVic Libraries and the Centre for Studies in Religion and Society. Mearns Centre/McPherson Library A003. 250-721-6271

■ **Music.** 8 p.m. *UVic Wind Symphony: One Ring to Rule Them All!* Dr. Gerald King, Conductor. UVic Centre Farquhar Auditorium. Tickets \$10–15. 250-721-8480

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

■ **Music.** 8 p.m. *Faculty Concert Series: Lafayette String Quartet.* MacLaurin B125. Tickets: \$25. 250-721-8634

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

■ **Café Scientifique Lecture.** 6:30 p.m. *How Brains Work.* Dr. Kerry Delaney. Reservations at bit.ly/15-brains. Hermann's Jazz Club, 753 View St.

■ **VNHS Lecture.** 7:30 p.m. *Wetland Restoration Northwest Wildlife Preservation Society.* Carlo Acuña. Fraser Bldg. 159. 250-479-6622

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16

■ **Orion Lecture.** 4 p.m. *How We Got Here: Some Notes on Six Decades of Sound Art Exploration.* David Behrman, Composer, New York. MacLaurin A169. 250-721-8634

■ **Other.** 6:30 p.m. *Sacred Ecology.* Join us for an introduction to the practices of sacred ecology. United Chaplain Henri Lock. Chapel. 250-721-8338

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

■ **Other.** 11 a.m. *Wisdom Way of Knowing Learning Circle.* Tuesdays. Multifaith Services Centre. Henri Lock (United Chaplain). Campus Services Bldg. 143. 250-721-8338

■ **Music.** 12:30 p.m. *TuesdayMusic.* Take an afternoon break to enjoy a concert of varied repertoire and instruments featuring School of Music students. MacLaurin B125. Admission by donation. 250-721-8634

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

■ **Visiting Artist Lecture.** 8 p.m. *Jessica Eaton is a visual artist currently based in Montreal, Québec.* Working with large format cameras, her photographic practice experiments with blending and splitting light using lenses and geometric forms, creating photographs whose subject is light itself. Visual Arts A162. 250-721-8011.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19

■ **Studies in Religion & Society Lecture.** 4:30 p.m. *Mother Poland in a Straightjacket: The Intersection of Gender, Psychiatry, Religion, and Law.* Agnieszka Doll (UVic). Turpin A104. 250-721-6325

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 7 p.m. Distinguished Professors Lecture. *Marijuana Grow-ops: The Construction of a Social Problem.* Dr. Susan Boyd. Turpin Bldg. A102. 250-721-7626

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 7 p.m. *Hooked on Speed: How Addiction to Change is Duping Corporations and Eroding Sustainability.* Dr. Pratima Bansal. Wright B150. 250-721-6060.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20

■ **Lansdowne Lecture.** 12:30 p.m. *Media Archaeology from the Margins: Race, Gender and Indigenous labor.* Dr. Lisa Nakamura (U-Michigan). Strong Bldg. C116. 250-721-7230

■ **Music.** 12:30 p.m. *FridayMusic.* Featuring School of Music piano students. MacLaurin B125. Admission by donation. 250-721-8634

■ **Visiting Artist Lecture.** 3 p.m. *Post-war Polish Poetry, or To Write a Poem After the End of the World.* Tomasz Rózycki (Poland). Fine Arts 103.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 9 a.m. *Workshop: 19th Century Women Composers of Song.* A Workshop in Celebration of the 200th Birthday of Josephine Lang (1815–1880) MacLaurin B037. 250-721-8634

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23

■ **CAPI Lecture.** 7 p.m. *Mapping from the Water: The Chinese Enlargement of the World in the 17th Century.* Dr. Tim Brook (UBC). Hickman 105. 250-721-7020

■ **VNHS Lecture.** 7:30 p.m. *Squishy and Fishy: Marine Biodiversity in BC.* Melissa Frey and Gavin Hanke (Royal BC Museum). Fraser 159. 250-479-6622

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

■ **Music.** 12:30 p.m. *TuesdayMusic.* Varied repertoire and instruments featuring School of Music students. MacLaurin B125. Admission by donation. 250-721-8634

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

■ **VNHS Lecture.** 7:30 p.m. *Parasites: More than Meets the Eye.* Elsie Hampshire (VIU). Fraser 159. 250-479-6622

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26

■ **Studies in Religion & Society Lecture.** 4:30 p.m. *(Un)Forgiven: The Confluence of Religious and Civic Virtue in and through Reparations Politics: Sam Grey.* Turpin A104. 250-721-6325

■ **CAVI Lecture.** 7:30 p.m. *Beautiful Evil: Pandora and the Problem of Female Beauty.* Ruby Blondell (U-Washington). Univ. Centre A180. 250-721-8514

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27

■ **Music.** 12:30 p.m. *FridayMusic.* Featuring School of Music voice students. MacLaurin B125. Admission by donation. 250-721-8634

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 2:45 p.m. *Characterizing Cloud and Precipitation Features in the Eastern Canadian Arctic.* Shannon Fargey. Turpin B215. 250-721-7327

MONDAY, MARCH 2

■ **Other.** 4:30 p.m. *Prayer in the Style of Taizé.* United Chaplain Henri Lock. Chapel. 250-721-8338

■ **Music.** 6 p.m. *Panel Discussion: Testing 1, 2, 3: New Approaches to Music Courses in the 21st Century.* Dr. Melissa Avdeeff, Dr. Patrick Boyle, and Colleen Eccleston. MacLaurin B037. 250-721-8634

TUESDAY, MARCH 3

■ **Music.** 12:30 p.m. *TuesdayMusic.* Varied repertoire and instruments featuring School of Music students. MacLaurin B125. Admission by donation. 250-721-8634

featured event



■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 2:45 p.m. *Cities and Politics in the 21st Century.* Victoria Mayor Lisa Helps will highlight the productive tensions between city governments and the public in the 21st century. The emergence of a 'sharing' or 'collaborative' economy is providing new opportunities for individuals to be seen as economic producers instead of principally as economic consumers. At the same time, a diversity of members of the public, from small business owners to people experiencing homelessness, have a desire for more meaningful participation in local government decision-making. Helps will explore these issues through a local lens. Turpin Bldg. A104. 250-721-7327

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

■ **Lansdowne Lecture.** 9 a.m. *El desdén, con el desdén, de Agustín Moreto, o cómo convertir un texto clásico en musical [in Spanish].* Francisco García Vicente. UVic Centre A180. 250-721-7413

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 8 p.m. *Visiting Artist Lectures present: Nigel Prince.* Nigel Prince is the executive director of Vancouver's Contemporary Art Gallery. Visual Arts A162. 250-721-8011

THURSDAY, MARCH 5

■ **Lansdowne Lecture.** 2:30 p.m. *La dama duende, de Calderón de la Barca, y la represión de la mujer en el siglo XVII. [in Spanish]* Francisco García Vicente. Clearihue C111. 250-721-7413

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day in the life

BY JOHN THRELFALL

If proof of a rich life is the cultural treasures by which you surround yourself, then Iona Hubner is wealthy beyond measure. As the Visual Resources Curator for the recently renamed Department of Art History and Visual Studies, Hubner has been immersed in the vast and bountiful cultural riches of the entire world for the past 19 years. Her daily task? Assisting faculty with the visual resources essential to their research and teaching.

On this particular day, Hubner's desk is cluttered with art books encompassing 15th century Burgundy, the camera lucida, Renaissance tapestries, world architecture and British artist David Hockney. One of her computer screens is always open to the DIDO digital image database she manages for fine arts, and the numerous cabinets in her visual resource collection hold over 150,000 photographic slides—outdated technology, perhaps, but many of which still offer unparalleled images ranging from neolithic cave art to rare Qur'an pages that cannot be found online.

"I sincerely love what I do," Hubner croons. "It's always changing, and I love the history in the art. That's what our department gives people: that extra added visual literacy of looking at the world and seeing it in different ways."

Changing with the times

That ability to see the world differently is what drew the Victoria born-and-raised Hubner away from an intended classics degree and into art history after taking a single undergrad elective back in 1990. "One

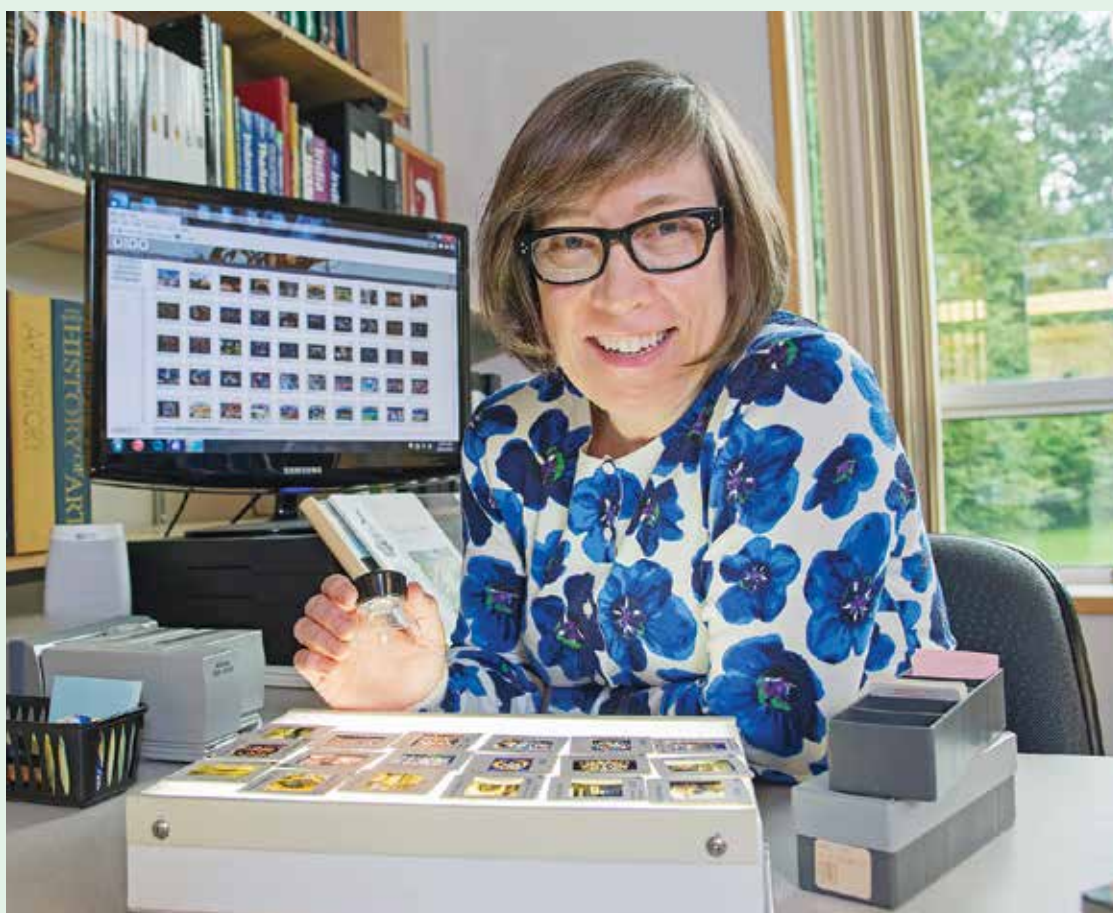
thing I liked—and still like—about our department is the cultural diversity," she says. "It's not just the European canon: we're one of the only places in Canada that specializes in Islamic art, for example. That's important for visual literacy, because we're not always referencing European traditions."

An initial student workstudy position led to being hired after graduation as the assistant curator of the slide library in 1996—a title that changed to Visual Resources with the transition to digital in 2004. But with over three millennia of global art, architecture and material culture at her fingertips, much of Hubner's time this past decade has been spent converting some 64,000 of those slides to digital images.

Indeed, the former Department of History in Art's 2014 name change to Art History and Visual Studies reflects the changes in both society and pedagogy. "It's essential for people to increase their visual literacy," Hubner insists. "We need to understand the meaning behind an image—why it was chosen, what it means, what it represents—as well as the past cultures it references."

From video games and album covers to costumes, fabrics, stamps, coins, ceramics, architecture, films—the list is seemingly endless—she reminds us of the importance of an artist's choices. "If you just see an image as a pretty picture or an interesting design, you're missing so much. Looking at contemporary artists like Ai Weiwei and being able to reference back to the Renaissance or Russian Constructivism enriches everything."

Not surprisingly, if you bump into



Hubner. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

Hubner off campus, she's likely to be doing the same thing she does at work: looking at art. Haunting galleries and museums is still a passion, even after 20 years of art management. But rather than be stymied by the changes and challenges of digitalization ("Talk about lost art forms—I know how to mount a slide behind glass," she quips), the eminently good-natured Hubner sees shifting technology as a means of making resources more accessible. "Because art history is based so much on the visual, and visual literacy so important, it's essential to have a functional visual database. It's what our faculty use in their teaching all the time."

Digital scholarship

Shifting digital frontiers in both society and academia is what the Art History and Visual Studies de-

partment's annual Fine Arts Faculty Research Symposium will be focusing on come Feb. 27. "Digital Scholarship: New Vistas" offers a look at how scholarship is being challenged, transformed and expanded. Featuring a keynote by the University of Exeter's Dr. Fabrizio Nevola, all are welcome to hear a range of speakers and guests exploring these questions and more in the Haro Room of Cadboro Commons.

For Hubner, digitalization is primarily about future preservation. "Technology always changes," she says. "In the past 10 years, we've gone from slides to digital; I can't even imagine what we'll be using in 10 more. But for people studying at UVic, how else would you be able to see these particular images and sites? You can't just pop to the museum in Dijon on the weekend—but you can look at their images in DIDO."

Art History's Visual Resource Collection remains unique on campus for both its size and scope. "Some of our slides are so valuable they can actually be thought of as primary resources," she explains. "One of our professors, Dr. Marcus Milwright, does a lot of research in Syria and he has images in our collection of things that no longer exist, due to the conflict."

Ironically, for someone who spends her days digitalizing images for online use, Hubner's final thought is particularly poignant. "A local collection is an essential academic tool—much like a solid campus library—as it specifically reflects the faculty's research and teaching here," she says with a sly chuckle. "And, despite what people think, not everything is available on Google."

BikeMaps.org spins success across the globe

BY ANNE MacLAURIN

Victoria is a cycling city with more people taking to the bike paths each day—good news for the environment and for *BikeMaps.org*, a project lead by UVic geography professor Dr. Trisalyn Nelson and a team of researchers in UVic geography.

"My initial idea was to build a website where cyclists could humorously vent about bad interactions with vehicles, other bikes, pedestrians and, yes, urban deer," says Nelson. "I started planning the project and I quickly realized it wasn't funny. The available data on cycling safety is abysmal."

"With only 30 to 40 per cent of cycling crash data captured by traditional data sources, *BikeMaps.org* represents an important effort to fill data and information gaps," says Nelson.

Nelson and the geography Spatial Pattern and Analysis Research (SPAR) Lab officially launched the web-map last October to find hot spots of safe and risky cycling in the Capital Regional District. Cyclists can record bike crashes, near misses, hazards and thefts in the region. According to Nelson, the data citizens provide to *BikeMaps.org* will enable researchers and planners to better determine where and when safety is a problem and to monitor changes in safety



over time.

Since its launch, *BikeMaps.org* has attracted over 16,000 website visitors and 670 submissions, with 45 per cent of mapping coming from the CRD. This is a huge success, says Nelson. "Citizens have already used *BikeMaps.org* to double the amount of annual data available for safe cycling planning and research."

The one surprise has been the global uptake of *BikeMaps.org* with 14 countries now engaged with mapping bike incidents—which has resulted in a number of connections being made, specifically in Brisbane, Australia.

"We are putting efforts into outreach in Vancouver and we are starting to see uptake of citizens there," says Nelson. "And a number of connections have also been made internationally. A sustainability transportation group from Brisbane reached out almost immediately after we launched the site. A group from the Netherlands has recently expressed interest."

Future plans for *BikeMaps.org* include new and existing support from partners such as NSERC (Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council), CAA (Canadian Automobile Association) and the CRD, as well as Mitacs. Nelson says they will be launching a mobile app due to a partnership with Mitacs and CAA. And it appears that governments are starting to ask how to access the data, which means better cycling planning and paths for the city. Nelson points out that the City of Victoria and CRD are both very receptive to the *BikeMaps.org* initiative.

In an opinion piece for the *Saanich News* Nelson wrote, "the CRD has developed a Pedestrian and Cycling Master Plan with goals of increasing cycling to 15 per cent of trips regionally and 25 per cent in urban areas by 2038. The CRD's plan requires dramatic action to increase ridership from a long-term trend near three per cent."

And new tools like *BikeMaps.org* can help make that larger social change a bit safer.

Stats since *BikeMaps.org* launch include 670 submissions including 152 collisions, 254 near-misses, 192 hazards and 72 thefts.

Add your experience on *BikeMaps.org*, or watch for new results from analysis on twitter @BikeMapsTeam.

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