

CONVOCATION 2016

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THE RING

SUMMER 2016

The University of Victoria's
community newspaper

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CONVOCATION 2016

Watch Convocation online

Spring Convocation ceremonies will be webcast live on June 9-13. If you're not able to attend in person, you can watch the ceremonies on your computer at uvic.ca/convocation. Video of each webcast will be available on this website for six weeks following Convocation. For event times and more information, visit uvic.ca/ceremonies.

UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

UVic second in Canada for scientific impact

"Big data" has shown that UVic is among the top Canadian universities for scientific impact in two of five broad fields: mathematics and computer science, and physical sciences and engineering. The Leiden rankings also reaffirm UVic's leadership as a global hub for research, with the highest proportion of internationally collaborative research in Canada. Full story: page 8

RESEARCH

Tackling the Zika virus

Two promising UVic projects to help prevent spread of the mosquito-borne Zika virus have been given a funding boost. Details at bit.ly/16-zika



MacGillivray. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

3,458

NUMBER OF
DEGREES,
DIPLOMAS AND
CERTIFICATES
CONFERRED**Hands-on research opportunities
pave a path to med school**

BY VIMALA JEEVANANDAM

It took some tussles with a few raccoons and a bald eagle for undergraduate Landon MacGillivray to realize that while he dearly loves animals, he wanted to work with more accommodating patients.

MacGillivray spent his childhood in Kamloops, playing hockey and discussing the finer points of science with his parents. Inspired by his experiences and conversations with his father, who works as a science teacher, MacGillivray started at UVic as an undergraduate biology student, with the idea of being a wildlife veterinarian.

MacGillivray also volunteered with the BC SPCA Wild Animal Rehabilitation Centre. "It was a great experience," says Landon. "But the thing with wild animals is they don't understand that you are trying to help them. Sometimes I wanted patients that just said thank you and didn't try to bite me."

Soon, MacGillivray will get that chance. This fall he will be heading to medical school at the University of British Columbia.

Inspired by organic chemistry, MacGillivray decided to switch his major in his second year. "Everything in chemistry

happens for a reason. It was exciting to see patterns happening at a molecular level," he explains. "You could take these patterns and create these interesting structures that have important applications in medicine and industry."

At the end of the class, MacGillivray asked his professor, Dr. Scott McIndoe, how he could get involved in research. Under McIndoe's supervision, he learned to use a mass spectrometer to examine palladium homocoupling reactions—a type of reaction with nearly endless pharmaceutical

SEE MacGILLIVRAY P. 6

**A digital field guide
for BC central coastal
species**

BY ANNE MacLAURIN

Take a virtual tour from seaweeds and sea stars to wolves and eagles, with a new digital field guide. The guide provides experts and amateurs with a tool to identify over 700 species in the Great Bear Rainforest to help deepen our appreciation of the biodiversity along BC's central coast.

The guide for phone, computer and tablet is a collaborative project developed by UVic community ecologist and conservation biologist Dr. Brian Starzomski, with UVic graduate student Chanda Brietzke

and UVic alumna Kelly Fretwell, as well as support from the Hakai Institute and involvement from its researchers.

"To me one of the great things about the app/website is that it covers a wide range of taxa—vascular and non-vascular plants, mammals, birds, seaweeds, fish, sea stars, crabs, etc.—so instead of carrying around multiple field guides all you need is your phone or tablet," says Fretwell.

The free app, Central Coast Biodiversity, has a current inventory of 210 plants, 80 birds, 120 seaweeds, 190 marine invertebrates and 20 mammals and reptiles. Most conventional field guides include nowhere near the variety or number of species.

"We've really tried to craft it so that

SEE FIELD GUIDE P.3



BC's rich coastal environment is home to hundreds of species that can be identified with the new field guide. PHOTO: AMY HARTZENBERG

ringers

Dr. Yang Shi has been named a Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)—the highest elected grade of the society's membership, awarded to members who have attained excellence in mechanical engineering and who have contributed actively to the progress of their profession and to society. ASME referred to Yang as "an internationally leading scholar in networked and distributed control systems, and cyber-physical systems." His research also contributes to practical applications including mobile robotics, quadrotors and energy systems. He was also recently inducted as the Fellow of Canadian Society for Mechanical Engineering in March 2016.

At their annual Spirit Awards on April 22, United Way Greater Victoria (UWGV) presented their most prestigious honour—the Chair's Award of Distinction—to **UVic President Jamie Cassels**, in recognition of his longstanding commitment to UWGV, both in his professional capacity at UVic and in his personal support over many years. UWGV noted that Cassels has been active in many professional and community organizations, including the UWGV. When interviewed about his and UVic's support of the United Way and its programs, Cassels noted the opportunities that a workplace campaign provides to amplify individual contributions. He also described his personal commitment to the UWGV and how its priorities of support to children and those living in poverty resonate strongly with him.

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UVIC

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CUVIC conference brings community and university together

BY KYLE PRICE

From April 27–29, UVic hosted CUVIC 2016, the second Community-University-Victoria conference. In response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's (TRC) Calls to Action, this year's conference theme was reconciliation, innovation and transformation through engagement. 220 delegates from as far away as Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan gathered to share the ways that community and university are responding to the Calls to Action.

Residential school survivors, as well as representatives from 18 First Nations, 12 post-secondary institutions, local governments and community organizations attended the conference. Four panel sessions were held on the topics of child welfare, health, justice, and language and culture. Delegates also gave 40 different presentations on community and university research projects and initiatives, including community collaborations on Penelakut Island, revitalizing Indigenous languages and Indigenous legal traditions among Secwépemc communities.

Delegate feedback on the confer-



Dr. Robina Thomas and Ruth Young welcome Elders and CUVIC delegates. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

ence was overwhelmingly positive—it was clear that the strength of the university's response to the TRC Calls to Action comes from its partnership with, and not separation from, the important work being done in community.

"Collaborating across distance, time and above all, worldview, is one of the great challenges facing academic and Indigenous communities as we engage in the work of reconciliation," according to Simon Owen, CUVIC presenter and Senior Researcher with UVic's Indigenous Law Research Unit (ILRU). "Presenting at CUVIC allowed ILRU and Shuswap Nation Tribal Council to share the worth and reward of this challenge in a supportive, enriching environment. Attending the conference has strengthened our commitment and capacity to do this work together."

Listening to community is also helping UVic discover new ways to strengthen support for Indigenous students, faculty and staff, and to learn from its relationships with Indigenous communities.

"When the TRC released its calls to action, UVic redoubled its focus to become a leader and partner in reconciliation," says Vice-President Academic and Provost Dr. Valerie Kuehne. "At CUVIC, we were impacted by the stories shared by residential school survivors and their families about the ongoing impact of colonialism on Indigenous communities, and were inspired by delegates who are working so hard to move in a good way towards reconciliation."

One of the ways that UVic is moving forward is through the development of its first Indigenous Plan, which is currently in the consulta-

tion phase. This plan is informed by the goals, aspirations and concerns of Indigenous students, faculty and community at large, and its content reflects the stories shared at CUVIC—stories that motivate UVic to redouble its efforts to create a community that includes Indigenous ways of being, learning and knowing. The plan aims to raise the entire UVic community's awareness about the history of abuse relating to Indigenous peoples of Canada and the enduring negative impacts from colonialism. This is one step towards dismantling the systemic and cultural barriers that prevent meaningful change.

A summary of the conference as well as a photo gallery and some delegate presentations will soon be available at uvic.ca/cuvic2016. The next CUVIC conference will take place in 2018.

New deans and AVP academic planning

New terms for deans begin in July

Dr. Nancy Wright has been appointed as Associate Vice-President Academic Planning for a five year term beginning July 1, 2016, following the unanimous recommendation by the search committee and confirmation in a faculty ratification vote. Wright holds a BA and MA from York University, and MPhil and PhD from Yale University. As an interdisciplinary scholar of literature, law and history, she has more than 25 years teaching, research and administrative experience in Canada, Australia and the US, and was also the recipient of a research fellowship at the Centre for Studies in Religion and Society at UVic. In academic leadership, she held the positions of Head of School, Deputy Dean and Acting Dean at the University of Western Sydney, and Executive Dean of Arts at

the University of Queensland, before moving back to Canada to take up a position as Dean of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Windsor.

The university community extends its thanks to Dr. Katy Mateer for her many contributions and service to UVic in the role of Associate Vice-President Academic Planning over the past 10 years.

Dr. Chris Goto-Jones begins a five-year term as Dean of the Faculty of Humanities on July 1, 2016, having been confirmed in a faculty ratification vote. Goto-Jones has a distinguished record of achievement as a researcher, teacher and administrator, and is a highly respected scholar with an extensive publishing record regarding questions of philosophy in a global

context. Specifically, he is interested in modern Japan and East Asia, with a particular focus on issues in the history of political and ethical thought. Goto-Jones has taught and lectured in leading centres around the world. Since 2009 he has held the Chair in Comparative Philosophy and Political Thought at Leiden University; he was also the founding Dean of Leiden University College, the Hague from 2009–2013. Prior to these appointments he was Chair Professor of Modern Japan Studies at Leiden University in 2006. Dr. Cedric Littlewood remains Acting Dean of Humanities until June 30, 2016.

Dr. Susan Lewis has received a positive ratification from faculty and begins a five-year term as Dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts on July 1, 2016. Lewis currently serves as Acting Dean of the faculty, was a Director of the School of Music and the School's Acting Director in 2010 and 2012. She joined the School as an Assistant Professor in 2001.

Acting Dean of Science Dr. Kathryn Gillis also completes her term on June 30, 2016, and Dr. Rob Lipson returns from his administrative leave

to resume his position as Dean of the Faculty on July 1, 2016.

Dr. Oliver Schmidtke has been appointed Acting Associate VP Research for a one-year term commencing on July 1, 2016. VP Research Dr. David Castle notes, "He is uniquely qualified for the role of acting AVPR due to his leadership of the Centre for Global Studies, international focus, and record of excellence in international research." In light of the new Strategic Research Plan (SRP) and refreshed international plan, the position description for the AVPR Research has been significantly revised to relate it more closely to the priorities in the SRP, particularly international research partnerships. Revisions to the position description and Schmidtke's appointment will enhance the OVPR's ability to implement the SRP and refreshed international plan, and allow sufficient time for a new and thorough search process to fill the AVPR position. Dr. Martin Bunton has kindly agreed to act as the Director of the Centre for Global Studies for the one-year term.

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DAVE LYNN

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Coast Capital Savings supports expansion of entrepreneurship centre

Do you have a brilliant idea that you want to see succeed in the wider community?

Entrepreneurs at UVic will get valuable assistance to develop promising ideas through a relaunch of the Innovation Centre for Entrepreneurs (ICE) supported by \$450,000 from Coast Capital Savings Credit Union.

The renamed Coast Capital Savings Innovation Centre (CCSIC) will expand its current offerings and offer new opportunities including providing seed money for new ventures and prototype development, an entrepreneurship scholarship and a co-op term for students so they can work on their own ideas.

"Our mission is the creation and dissemination of knowledge through research, education and knowledge mobilization. Creating an environment that supports innovation and entrepreneurship is an important part of that," said UVic president Jamie Cassels, who along with Don Coulter, president and CEO of Coast Capital Savings, announced the community funding agreement May 10.

Cassels noted that since its inception, UVic has helped with the creation of over 60 companies, has received almost 900 invention disclosures and filed more than 400 national and international patents.

"With Coast Capital's support and partnership we will be able to create more opportunities, enhance the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship on Vancouver Island and the province, and extend and amplify our positive social and economic impact."

More than 250 people attended the announcement that was preceded by a 'fireside' chat with entrepreneur Stuart Bowness, founder of MediaCore, and Rasool Rayani, entrepreneur and investor. Mia Maki, assistant teaching professor in the Peter B. Gustavson School of Business, moderated the session.

Coulter said Coast Capital Savings was excited to expand its relationship with UVic and to help young people follow their business dreams to success.

"Coast Capital Savings' partnership with UVic recognizes that young entrepreneurs are not only at the front edge of innovation, but their business success will ultimately result in job creation, economic growth and more financial well-being for all of us." The funding comes through Coast Capital Savings' Youth Get It community investment program that encourages entrepreneurial leadership and fosters financial well-being.

The financial commitment over the next three years will enable the centre to:

- provide seed and prototype funding
- create entrepreneurship scholarships to attract prospective entrepreneurs to the Gustavson School of Business
- support additional business plan competitions, which helps entrepreneurs develop their ideas with guidance from mentors who are business leaders within the community
- create invaluable experiential learning opportunities through entrepreneurship co-op terms for



Coulter, left, and Cassels

students as they work on their ideas and to provide support to social ventures that could not otherwise fund co-op positions.

Initiated in 2012 by the Gustavson School of Business, ICE expanded the following year across all disciplines to deepen its support of new ideas and strategies to deal with society's complex challenges. The centre provides tools, expertise and space on campus to help entrepreneurs develop their ideas and includes advisers and mentors from outside the university who provide innovators valuable input and connections.

Since its start, ICE has helped launch more than nine companies, brought 21 clients to the "incubation-stage" and met with more than 750 students, staff, faculty and recent alumni such as Lindsay Goulet.

Goulet knew she had a good idea with her fitness business that gives

parents the opportunity to work out alongside their baby, toddler or child. The problem was she didn't know how to transform her busy small operation into a larger, community-based fitness movement.

Being accepted as a client at ICE helped make her dream come true. "Working with ICE was pivotal," said Goulet. "When I came to them, I didn't know where to start."

Through several meetings that required Goulet to thoroughly consider all aspects of her business and by connecting her with a mentor well suited to her goals, ICE helped launch the aspiring entrepreneur. Since 2014, Hot Mama Health and Fitness has grown to 18 franchise locations in Canada with more locations pending.

Under the new funding agreement, the centre will be able to provide additional attention and resources to develop ideas in their early stages.

ringers

The Planning Institute of British Columbia (PIBC) announced its 2016 awards for excellence in planning at its annual conference on May 12, and recognized UVic for the planning process undertaken in 2015 leading to an update and approval of the new Campus Plan in January last year. UVic's **Campus Planning and Sustainability Office**, along with consultants DIALOG and Hapa Collaborative, shared the Silver award in the category of Excellence in Policy Planning (City & Urban Areas). James Moore, chair of the awards Committee explained, "UVic's Master Plan provided a leading example of using an exceptional public engagement program to inform the planning process. The judges felt that the project upheld the high standard of planning practice taking place on university campuses throughout BC." More about the awards at pibc.bc.ca, and the Campus Plan process at uvic.ca/campusplanning.

Dr. Bernie Pauly, Associate Professor and Associate Director of Research and Scholarship with UVic's School of Nursing, was awarded the 2016 BC Community Achievement Award. Pauly, who was named in April as Island Health's Research Scholar in Residence, is also a scientist with the Centre for Addictions Research of BC, a member of the Renewal of Public Health Services Research Team and priority lead for the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness.

On June 23, the Institute of Public Administration Canada, Victoria and Vancouver regional chapter, will celebrate the career achievements of **Dr. Evert Lindquist**, UVic professor of Public Administration and previous public administration school director. Lindquist will be honoured as recipient of the 2016 Lieutenant Governor Silver Medal for Excellence in Public Administration, marking his many contributions and dedication to public service. The event will be held at Government House and hosted by the Honourable Judith Guichon, Lieutenant Governor of BC. For details or tickets, email ipac@ipac-victoria.ca or call 250-387-6189.

Sexualized violence policy in development

UVic has begun work on a new policy to prevent and respond to sexualized violence in its commitment to provide students, faculty and staff with a safe and respectful place to learn, work and live.

Developing a new policy will strengthen UVic's current approach through a review of the university's current policies and programs, widespread consultation and consideration of promising practices and policies at other institutions.

"Sexualized violence is a significant issue both on our campus and in the wider community and we have an important role to play as leaders, educators, students and community partners in addressing the issue," said President Jamie Cassels, who initiated the review.

"UVic is committed to the principles of equal rights and dignity of all persons. I want to make it clear that sexualized violence is unacceptable. I am inviting broad engagement in the process to reaffirm the values we share as a community."

A working group with diverse members has begun to meet bi-weekly. Information and updates about the review, including meeting summaries, are available at uvic.ca/info/sexualizedviolencepolicy.

While UVic has policies, programs and resources that include education and prevention, support for those who experience sexualized violence and investigations of violations of university policies, it does not have a single encompassing policy focused on sexualized violence.

The review is being conducted under the lead of Valerie Kuehne, vice-president academic and provost.

"I appreciate the commitment of the working group members to help the university to develop the best policy possible," said Kuehne. "This is an important and complex issue."

The working group, headed by Dr. Annalee Lepp, chair of Gender Studies, includes students, people who have experienced sexualized violence, faculty and staff. Based on the consultations and research, the group will draft and recommend a campus-wide policy on sexualized violence for students, faculty and staff.

Consultations will continue through the Fall when an interim report will be issued. A draft policy is expected in early 2017 for another round of input. The recommendations will go to the president and then to the university's Board of Governors in Spring 2017.

UVic will continue to consider and implement ways it can enhance its work related to sexualized violence while a new policy is being developed including new bystander intervention training in the Fall.

Work on a policy review at UVic was already well underway when the BC government introduced new legislation on April 27 requiring post-secondary institutions to develop a policy on sexualized violence. The government will be providing guidelines and regulations that UVic will take into account as its policy is developed.

DIGITAL FIELD GUIDE CONTINUED FROM P.1

can be equally interesting and useful to a range of ages and backgrounds: kids, adults, students, researchers, eco-tourists, citizen scientists, and everyone in between," says Fretwell.

The idea for the app came from the ongoing field course that Starzomski teaches at the Hakai Institute on Calvert Island. The course requires students to identify and describe 50 species. After teaching the course for five years, Starzomski realized he was getting a huge list of species with photos and descriptions. After writing a proposal, Starzomski received funding from the Hakai Institute and several other agencies to develop the app—making it possible to hire former ES student Kelly Fretwell to work on the website.


"We created this website to showcase the incredible biodiversity BC's

Central Coast has to offer in an easy to access format that gives photos and interesting information about the species," says Starzomski.

"BC has the most species of any province in Canada, and coastal BC in particular is amazing; we all know about the wolves and whales but really there are so many other beautiful and under-appreciated creatures out there," continues Starzomski.

Even though the app is focused on the Central Coast, the ranges of a lot of these species extend along the entire BC coast and in many cases stretch further north to Alaska and south to California.


Download the app at centralcoastbiodiversity.org



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Minimum Payout *	\$238	\$278	\$333	\$440	\$485	\$568
Total Payout to Age 100	\$160,561	\$149,762	\$139,903	\$129,229	\$122,513	\$113,571
Accelerated Payout:	Income over 5 years \$1,773		Total 5 year payout \$106,381			
	Income over 10 years \$941		Total 10 year payout \$112,938			
	Income over 15 years \$665		Total 15 year payout \$119,749			

* Based on best current GIC of 2.50%. Returns will vary depending on investment vehicle. Monthly income based on \$100,000

LIFE ANNUITIES (PER CANNEK BASED ON INITIAL INVESTMENT OF \$100,000)

AGE	55	60	65	71	75	80
Male						
...payments cease at death	\$435	\$481	\$554	\$684	\$788	\$986
...10 years guaranteed	\$435	\$470	\$536	\$638	\$697	\$809
Female						
...payments cease at death	\$404	\$440	\$496	\$605	\$695	\$861
...10 years guaranteed	\$416	\$444	\$485	\$579	\$642	\$751
Joint Life: 10 yrs guaranteed	\$383	\$403	\$443	\$523	\$579	\$686

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Research, experiential learning and graduate categories added to teaching awards

Dynamic teaching is a cornerstone of our extraordinary academic environment at UVic. Recognizing that the translation of knowledge has transformed the role of teaching in an ever-shifting, multimedia world, the university has redoubled its commitment to honour outstanding teachers with a trio of new awards for 2016.

The Award for Excellence in Graduate Student Supervision and Mentorship, Award for Excellence in Research-Inspired Teaching and the Award for Excellence in Teaching for Experiential Learning are the new awards presented for teaching distinction.

The new awards complement the longstanding Harry Hickman Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching and Educational Leadership, the Gilian Sherwin Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching and the Andy Farquharson Awards for Excellence in Graduate Student Teaching.

“Our students benefit from the dynamic and diverse mentorship of their teachers and we are proud to celebrate those achievements through these awards. Our honourees are exemplary models of excellent and inspired teaching at UVic; each of them engages and empowers students to rise above expectations and become tomorrow’s leaders,” says Vice-President Academic and Provost Valerie Kuehne.

The honourees for this year’s teaching awards were presented at a ceremony on May 24.

Harry Hickman Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching and Educational Leadership

DR. BRENT MAINPRIZE (BUSINESS)

Entrepreneurial expert Mainprize strives to help his students feel the transformational power of education instead of simply gaining knowledge. Over almost 20 years of teaching at UVic, he has continually improved his curriculum, challenging students to be better entrepreneurs through innovative exercises like the venture challenge—start with \$5 and build a business in a month—and creating and pitching business plans. He is the founder and program director of Northwest Aboriginal Canadian Entrepreneurs, a program that takes business education to Aboriginal communities. His passion for entrepreneurial education reaches even farther with the Venture Intelligence Quotient, a software-based venture development tool used around the world that helps students determine the possibilities and potential weaknesses of start-up propositions.

Gilian Sherwin Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching

MARK BRIDGE (BUSINESS)

“I think he should coach other profs on how to teach, because he’s got it down!” says one student of professor Bridge’s business law class at the Peter B. Gustavson School of Business. A graduate of UVic’s Faculty of Law, Bridge uses an engaging classroom style and focuses on helping students apply law to business situations they might expect to meet in life. As a first-time instructor at UVic in 1993, his course was such a success that students sent an unsolicited letter to the Dean of Law recommending he stay on so that future students could benefit

from his teaching. He has also been a major contributor to programs like the North West Aboriginal Canadian Entrepreneurs program, UVic’s Business Law Clinic and a number of other scholarship and training initiatives.

Excellence in Teaching for Experiential Learning

DR. ERIN MCGUIRE (ANTHROPOLOGY)

“I have come to understand that being a good teacher is rarely an accident, but rather a product of reflection and continuous learning,” says McGuire, who actively engages in learning as much as she does in teaching. Her teaching philosophy encourages students to take risks in their learning and to embrace failure as a possible and valuable step in the learning process. Even in large survey classes McGuire incorporates hands-on learning, discussion and collaboration in students’ experiences. “It is essential,” she emphasizes, “to begin experiential learning in the first year.” In courses such as Viking Archaeology and the Archaeology of Death, students take part in experiential workshops and gain fieldwork experience.

Excellence in Research-Inspired Teaching

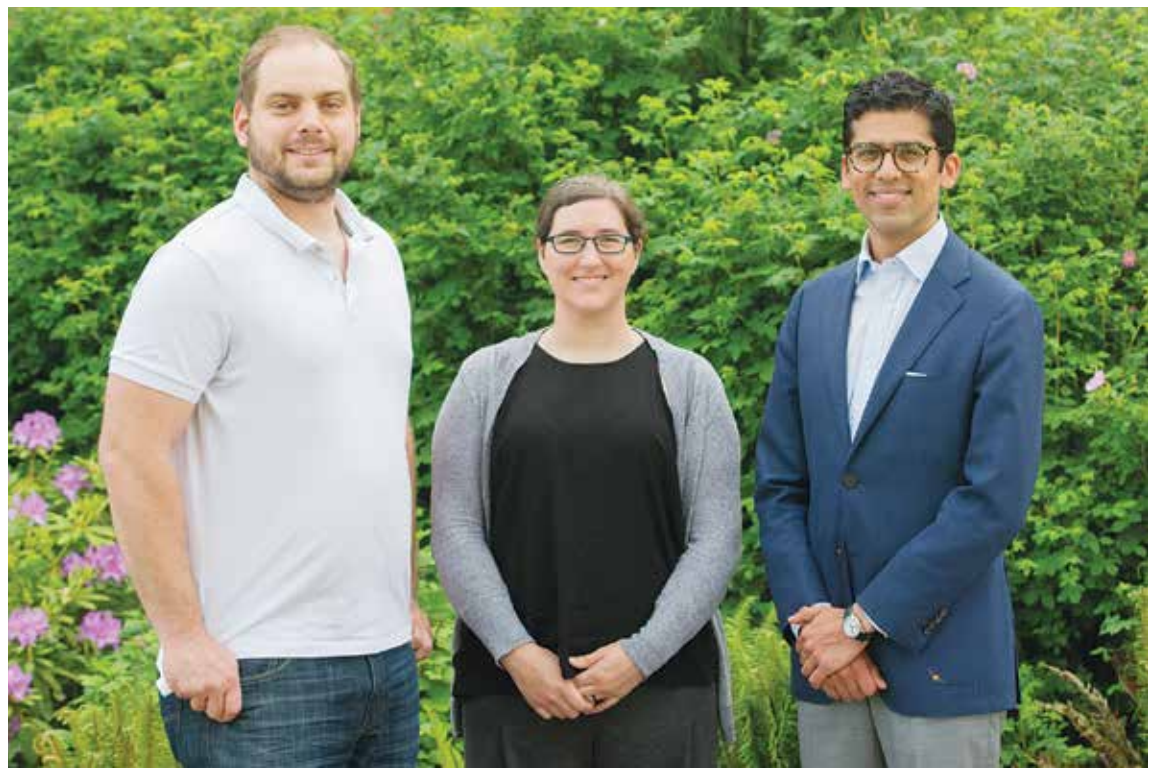
DR. JIM TANAKA (PSYCHOLOGY)

“I aspire to bring excitement, passion and challenges of scientific research to the classroom,” says Tanaka. As a world-class psychological scientist in visual perception, Tanaka provides his students a rare and high-impact invitation to the world of research. Undergraduate students become an integral part of the lab environment, actively participating in lab meetings, sharing ideas and research questions, planning studies, interpreting results and solving research-related problems. As one student says, “Tanaka gives students the opportunity to become involved in cutting-edge research projects, and in doing so, he both creates and leads a culture of mentorship among research assistants, honour students and graduate students.”

Excellence in Graduate Supervision and Mentorship

DR. CATHERINE COSTIGAN (PSYCHOLOGY)

“I was fortunate to be shaped by several influential mentors during my own training, and I have a great deal of respect for the importance of the mentorship relationship,” says Costigan. Her role as graduate supervisor encompasses a broad range of activities including research supervision, clinical supervision, well-being and mentorship for all of the graduate students who begin the seven-year-long program. Providing advice on work-life balance and support through life’s challenges is also part of Costigan’s supervisory role. As one student says, “Dr. Costigan has a collegial style of supervision that helps put her students at ease.” Another attests, “She gently shapes and guides her mentees, rather than directs their development.” Costigan has provided direct clinical supervision to 24 students and supervised 40 theses and dissertations since 1998.



L–R: Bergen, Hagestedt and Khan. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES



McGuire. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES



Mainprize. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES



Costigan. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES



Tanaka. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

Andy Farquharson Awards for Excellence in Graduate Student Teaching

ANDREAS BERGEN (COMPUTER SCIENCE)

Bergen is well-known in his department for both enthusiasm and patience in his teaching, which he supports with strong communication and collaboration skills. He was also instrumental in helping initiate, design and implement the Computer Science Assistance Centre, which supports undergraduate students in first and second year computer science courses—and co-led the centre for its first offering.

ELIZABETH HAGESTEDT (ANTHROPOLOGY)

Hagestedt has served as the department’s Head TA for the department’s largest course for the past three semesters, and this year also took on the role of Teaching Assistant Coordinator for the department. Her innovative teaching materials, and her use of current issues to illustrate anthropological concepts, has helped inspire new undergraduate students to major in anthropology.

USMAN KHAN (MECHANICAL ENGINEERING)

In Khan’s teaching, his excellent grasp of technical content joins with his enthusiasm for problem solving—motivating his engineering students to do their best work. Khan has shown great skill and creativity in designing exercises and assignments that teach a wide range of knowledge and skill sets in formats that are engaging and accessible for students.

CONVOCATION 2016



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- Facebook: University of Victoria
- Twitter: @uvicceremonies, @uvic_alumni, @uvic_sa
- Snapchat: UVic.Snaps



Grads. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

Spring 2016 Honorary Degree Recipients

One of Canada's most successful Olympic athletes and four Indigenous leaders will receive honorary degrees from UVic during spring convocation ceremonies.



CLARA HUGHES, HONORARY DOCTOR OF LAWS

June 14 | 10 a.m.

Clara Hughes is one of Canada's most decorated Olympic athletes whose diverse athletic achievements are matched by her community service efforts.

Hughes excelled in cycling and speed skating. She won a pair of bronze medals for Canada at the 1996 Olympics and brought home four medals (gold, silver, two bronze) over the span of three winter Olympics. She is tied with Cindy Klassen as the Canadian with the most (six) Olympic medals.

While she has enjoyed almost unprecedented success in competing for her country on the Olympic stage, her ultimate goal has always been to motivate young people and inspire others through her actions.

Hughes is the national spokesperson for "Let's Talk," Bell Canada's mental health awareness initiative. She has spoken of her own struggles with depression in order to help break down the stigma associated with mental illness.

Additionally, Hughes made significant personal contributions to the Right to Play programs for international humanitarian aid and she was Canada's flag bearer at the opening of the 2010 Vancouver Olympics.



MARY SIMON, HONORARY DOCTOR OF LAWS

June 15 | 10 a.m.

Mary Simon has devoted her life to achieving social justice for the Inuit and advocating for her peoples' participation in the environmental, economic and political decision-making processes that affect their lives.

Her work, at the national and international level, has included her role as a senior Inuit negotiator during talks leading to the recognition of Aboriginal rights in the Constitution Act of 1982. She later served as policy co-director for the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples.

As ambassador to Denmark and ambassador of circumpolar affairs, she was instrumental in forming the eight-nation Arctic Council, including permanent Indigenous participation in the council's diplomatic and policy solutions to issues facing the North.

During her term as president of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (the national body representing Inuit in Canada) she developed and led the national Inuit Education Strategy. She is also the former chair of the National Committee on Inuit Education.



DR. RICHARD ATLEO, HONORARY DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

June 15 | 2:30 p.m.

Dr. Richard Atleo is a hereditary chief of the Ahousaht First Nation (also known by his Nuu-cha-nulth name Umeek) and an academic leader who has widely shared his wisdom and perspective on issues relating to the environment, education and Indigenous Peoples.

Atleo trained as an elementary school teacher and has been a champion of education, especially for Indigenous peoples and regarding Indigenous communities. He helped to create the successful First Nations Studies Department at Vancouver Island University, where his son Shawn Atleo served as chancellor.

As co-chair (1993-95) of the BC government's Scientific Panel for Sustainable Forest Practices in Clayoquot Sound, he contributed to five major reports that have served as models for bringing together science and traditional knowledge.

More recently, Atleo has held the positions of research liaison at the University of Manitoba, associate adjunct professor at the University of Victoria, board member of the Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources in Winnipeg, and senior advisor to Ecotrust Canada.



WILLIAM J. (BILL) MUSSELL, HONORARY DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

June 17 | 10 a.m.

One of Canada's leading promoters of the health and wellness of Indigenous children, youth, families and communities, Bill Mussell is a member of the Skwah First Nation (Sto:lo) who has dedicated his life to addressing the impacts of colonization—especially the effects of residential schools—on the lives of Indigenous peoples.

Mussell coined and promoted the concept of "warrior-caregiver" as a way to revitalize traditional roles of First Nations men so that positive contributions to family and community life are honoured and respected.

At the University of Victoria, Mussell has made substantial contributions to the Master of Education program in Indigenous Communities Counselling Psychology, part of his impact on the field of Indigenous mental health. Unique in Canada, the program reflects Mussell's proven record of transformative educational leadership, which can be traced back to his input into the seminal 1972 paper "Indian Control of Indian Education."

A scholar and a leader in consultation and policy development, Mussell's multi-level contributions over the past 40 years have influenced generations of Indigenous and non-Indigenous leaders, policy-makers, educators and human service practitioners.



FRANK PARNELL, HONORARY DOCTOR OF LAWS

June 17 | 2:30 p.m.

Frank Parnell is an outstanding advocate for economic self-reliance in B.C.'s north coast region, especially among Indigenous peoples.

Parnell is a member of the Haida Nation and brings more than 35 years of executive management and economic development expertise to his position as President and CEO of the Tribal Resources Investment Corporation (TRICORP), a financial services company.

Parnell has led TRICORP since its inception in 1989, managing the entire corporate entity and determining its identity, systems, internal structure and operations. In that time, the Prince Rupert-based commercial lender has provided more than \$28 million in financing to Indigenous entrepreneurs.

TRICORP also operates a skills training service that provides an integrated approach to Indigenous labour market programming focused on high-demand jobs. TRICORP and UVic's Peter B. Gustavson School of Business have forged a strong bond and two programs have resulted from their collaboration: Northwest Aboriginal Canadian Entrepreneurs (NW-ACE) and Northwest Certificate in Aboriginal Management (NW-CAMP).

Parnell has also had a longstanding community leadership role (since 1980) in the All Native Basketball Tournament.

major medal winners

GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S GOLD MEDAL

Michelle Parker—
PhD, Biochemistry

Saurabh Chitnis—*PhD, Chemistry*

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SILVER MEDAL

Kelsey Wheatley—*BMUS, Music*

LIEUTENANT'S GOVERNOR'S SILVER MEDAL

Marianne Huijsmans—*MA, Linguistics (thesis)*

Regan Shrumm—*MA, Art History and Visual Studies (other than thesis)*

JUBILEE MEDAL FOR HUMANITIES

Laura Davis—*BA, Linguistics*

JUBILEE MEDAL FOR SCIENCE

Karlee Bamford—*BSc, Chemistry*

Erick Jantzen—*BSc, Biology*
Jubilee Medal for Social Sciences

Caroline Spaner—*BA, Psychology*

MAXWELL A. CAMERON MEMORIAL AWARD

Sarah Alpert—*BEd, Secondary Teacher Education*

Kyla McKenzie—*BEd, Elementary Teacher Education*

VICTORIA MEDAL IN FINE ARTS

Kelsey Wheatley—*BMUS, Music*

THE LAW SOCIETY GOLD MEDAL AND PRIZE

Wesley Hartman—*JD, Law*

CERTIFICATE OF OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC DISTINCTION IN HSD

Holli Norberg—*BSN, Nursing*

THE CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR MECHANICAL ENGINEERING MEDAL

Bradach Quait—*BENG, Mechanical Engineering*

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE GRADUATION MEDAL

Sean Debroni—*BSc, Computer Science*

IEEE VICTORIA SECTION GOLD MEDAL IN COMPUTER ENGINEERING

Daniel Apperloo—*BENG, Computer Engineering*

IEEE VICTORIA SECTION GOLD MEDAL IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

Peter Kremler—*BENG, Electrical Engineering*

IEEE VICTORIA SECTION GOLD MEDAL IN SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

Jeremy Kroeker—*BENG, Software Engineering*

CONVOCATION 2016



Congratulations grads!

Thousands of UVic students and their families and friends will gather on campus this month to celebrate the achievement of an academic milestone. During Spring Convocation from June 13–17, ceremonies will be held to confer 3,458 degrees, diplomas and certificates.



Laboucan.

Power to the People

BY KATE HILDEBRANDT

How one UVic grad brought energy sovereignty to a remote Alberta town

Melina Laboucan, a 33-year-old member of the Lubicon Cree First Nation, came to UVic's Indigenous Governance (IGov) master's program in 2013 with a clear purpose: to develop a solar energy project plan that would tackle Indigenous and environmental issues in her hometown of Little Buffalo, Alberta.

"They hadn't seen my kind of project before," she says of her professors, Drs. Jeff Corntassel and Taiiaki Alfred. But they were open to her plan and highly supportive in helping her see it through.

"Melina's work embodies the leadership and governance practices that our program promotes," says Corntassel, IGov director. "As I see it, this is a grassroots project where Indigenous governance, sustainability and resurgence converge—and it's being done on the community's terms without government money."

Laboucan says of her IGov profs, "These are men who support modern-day change that embraces the very na-

ture of our Indigenous communities. The program was a great experience. Really exciting. And I am really pleased by how they enabled me."

She knew what she wanted to do, but admits she didn't know how. With access to the space and framework she needed to push her project forward, Laboucan created a plan to realize her vision for the solar project. "IGov asked me, 'What can we do? What can we bring?' All I could think about was that my people are in crisis—that was my impetus."

Having grown up in the shadow of one of the largest oil and gas extraction plants in the world—the Alberta tar sands—Laboucan has shared her eyewitness account of the impact the oil industry has had on her Indigenous community.

"Since 1978, over \$14 billion has been taken out of our traditional territory. Yet my family still goes without running water," Laboucan told the *Breaking Ground* delegation in 2012, a reporting arm of the Nobel Women's Initiative. "The more than 2,600 oil wells on Lubicon territory make it difficult to live a healthy, traditional and sustainable lifestyle."

After years of speaking out, Laboucan wanted to stop fighting and start

building something positive. She knew about the IGov program at UVic—a blended program of online learning and on-campus sessions that allowed her to work and stay connected to home and family—and chose it as her incubator. "I wanted to see what solutions actually looked like, to show others that making these changes are possible."

With her degree complete and her plan in place, Laboucan gained the support of her community to begin the Pitapan solar energy project in the summer of 2015. Their process included community consultation, fundraising, scouting out suitable locations, deciphering complex electrical configuration methods, safety planning, construction and dealing with a range of challenging issues that came up along the way.

Today, Little Buffalo is home to an inspiring 80-panel solar project that generates 20.8 kilowatts of energy. The project powers a health centre with excess flowing into the community's energy mix. "There are plans for an even larger project to generate more clean energy and revenue for the community," says Laboucan. "This is just the first phase."

Jane Fonda, 77, two-time Oscar-

winning film actor, TV star, former fitness guru and activist, helped sponsor Laboucan's project. They met last summer while taking part in a march for jobs, justice and the climate just prior to Toronto hosting the Climate Summit of the Americas.

"The climate change problem is the issue of our civilization," Fonda told the *Toronto Star*. "It will affect everything about our lives if we don't do something about it." Participants at the event included more than 100 organizations, from Greenpeace to Unifor, a union representing 40,000 oil and gas workers among its 300,000 members.

Meanwhile, the Pitapan solar project is generating more than power. "It's a beacon of hope and change," says Laboucan. "The transition to renewable energy frees communities from becoming sacrifice zones for our global addiction to oil. By installing solar panels in Little Buffalo, we have initiated our first steps towards energy sovereignty and have proved that it is possible to be powered by the sun."

To learn more about PITAPAN, visit lubiconsolar.ca.

MacGILLIVRAY CONTINUED FROM P.1

and industrial applications.

From there, MacGillivray was awarded a Jamie Cassels Undergraduate Research Award (JCURA), giving him the opportunity to study in McIndoe's lab and in Dr. Fraser Hof's, on a joint project to develop a 'smart' sensor that identifies lysines. Lysines are amino acids that are important for gene expression regulation. However, if they become modified through overmethylation, they are known to be involved in aggressive cancers. "My research used a fluorescent-tagged molecule to bind and disrupt modified

lysine's cellular activity," he says. The creation of 'smart' sensors will help provide researchers with a chemical understanding of life processes involved in human development and disease.

"Lab work confirmed how passionate I am about chemistry. I gained an awareness of the difference between interest and passion," says MacGillivray. "I don't mind staying extra hours in the lab. I want to solve the problems given to me, and when I have a breakthrough it's incredibly rewarding."

Even though MacGillivray won't be continuing his research after this summer, he's grateful for what he's taken from the experiences he received from hands-on involvement in primary research. "You gain a huge amount of problem-solving skills trying to figure out what is going on and how conditions need to change to get better results. My instructors had high expectations of me; they encouraged me to work hard. I'll carry that with me to med school."

MacGillivray won't be the first doctor in his family. He's following in

the footsteps of his sister. "She's super-human," he says. "She's ambitious and she's always looking to give back to the community."

MacGillivray also credits the example of his mother's kind-hearted spirit as his motivation to help others. As a member of the Wikwemikong First Nation in Ontario, MacGillivray has also been supported by his band throughout his education.

After completing his education, MacGillivray hopes to return home to Kamloops and give back there.

Witnessing, studying and practicing reciprocity

BY ANNE MACLAURIN

Growing up sailing the South Pacific with his family, Bradley Clements learned the importance of communication between visitors and locals. The elements of mutual respect between his family and island inhabitants—learning about local culture and customs in real-world settings—stayed with Clements as a lifelong lesson.

Predominately homeschooled by his parents during their years of world travelling, Clements eventually returned to the family's home-base in Victoria, attending Camosun and eventually UVic—graduating later this month with a bachelor's in anthropology.

Initially considering medieval studies or urban geography at UVic, Clements was drawn to Dr. Andrea Walsh's applied anthropology class where he first learned how anthropology could be useful in First Nations reconciliation and decolonization. As her research assistant, he worked with the Aller collection of residential school children's art, the Alberni Valley Museum, the Legacy Art Gallery, and met with residential school survivors. That work led Clements to travel to Ottawa during the Truth and Reconciliation Commission where he continued his work and met more survivors.

"It is an honour and privilege to work with others involved with this project, especially survivors," says Clements. "I think that museum work can and does play a key part in reconciliation," he continues, "when First Nations have ownership and power over their own art and materials."

What Clements loved most about his time at UVic was the community of students and his work with Walsh. "I've learned so much from my relationships with my classmates, friends and teachers at UVic," he explains. "Working with survivors, with artwork and with Andrea have been a huge inspiration."

"For my JCURA project I listened to the experiences of visitors and survivors when they visited the exhibit of residential school children's art at the Alberni Valley Museum," says Clements.

During his final year, Clements badly broke both wrists in a cycling accident. For some this would be a

major setback, but Clements overcame the challenges and continued to work and finish his projects.

"I'm grateful to my friends and the anthropology staff and faculty for their kindness and understanding," says Clements. "They were very supportive and helped me get through a difficult time."

Clements sees that support in a wider context of building and living good relationships—a mark of how he approached his time at UVic, and of the elements of campus community he most appreciates.

"I'm amazed by all the work that so many people are putting in to making UVic a safe, empowering community," says Clements. "I am thankful to all the advocacy groups, the Anti-Violence Project, the Men's Circle, Native Students Union, Pride, UNI 101 and all the professors and support staff."

Clements gained great experience (and financial support) working as an assistant curator for the Legacy Art Gallery and as a research assistant for the Residential and Indian Day School Art Research collective. He's also grateful for an entrance scholarship and a JCURA research award that helped facilitate his studies.

"Reciprocating to my community and learning from others in it has been really important to me, such as volunteering with the UNI 101 program and the Anti-Violence Project," says Clements. Since wrapping up his coursework, Clements has been travelling and visiting lots of museums, as well as working on the final edits of his first published paper, "The Power of Return: Repatriation and Self-Representation in the Aftermath of the Alberni Indian Residential School."

He was also offered SSHRC funding for graduate research at four universities—and chose to continue at UVic. "I want to honour the work I began with the residential school survivors and Dr. Walsh," he explains.

To watch a video of Bradley Clements and Dr. Andrea Walsh's work with the Port Alberni residential school children's art project, visit bit.ly/alberni-art.



Clements. PHOTO: BETH DOMAN



Powar. PHOTO: LUKAS ENGELHARDT

Stepping into the intercultural spotlight

BY JOHN THRELFALL

Most students wait until after graduation to start making their mark on the world, but Jasleen Powar already has something to sing about. Soon to graduate with a BFA in theatre, the 24-year-old Powar has been making waves as Vancouver rapper Horsepowar, thanks to a trio of independent album releases, gigs at high-profile music festivals, and the kind of media attention most emerging artists only dream about.

But it's her unflinching rhymes and powerhouse Sikh-Canadian "Desi girl" persona (that is, girls born outside of South Asia but still upholding traditional values) that have earned the attention of the likes of CBC, *Nylon*, *Vice*, *Rolling Stone India* and *The Georgia Straight*. As *GQ India* recently wrote, "Powar is what you get when you allow an opinionated slam poet with a (dare we say, unhealthy) obsession with '90s Bollywood to take the microphone."

In the nine months since it was released, her 2015 track "Queen" has earned nearly 65,000 YouTube views—not too bad for a suburban Richmond girl who, like many daughters of immigrant parents, looked to university as an acceptable way to move out before marriage.

"I wanted my independence, and

UVic was far enough from the Lower Mainland but close enough for my parents' comfort," Powar explains about why she came here to study theatre. "It's the same duality I write about in my music: being a Desi girl and having a lot of respect for my parents' upbringing, but finding their views so backward from how I feel as a Canadian girl in 2016."

Indeed, UVic's acclaimed theatre program turned out to be an ideal fit for Powar, who left high school with both a theatre scholarship and a burgeoning reputation as a slam poet. It was here on campus someone first suggested throwing beats under her poetry, and where she did her first live rap performance (at Felicity's), but UVic is also where she realized the true value of studying theatre.

"Everything you learn in theatre is so useful for whatever direction in life you choose to go," she says. "It teaches you how to take a leadership role and manage a large group of people, how to work cooperatively and how to have the confidence to just get up there and do what you feel."

Powar singles out her time working with applied theatre professor Kirsten Sadeghi-Yekta as a highlight—specifically the outreach program at the downtown Salvation Army. "I did a couple months at their rehab centre

doing weekly writing workshops with men who had been released from prison," she recalls. "It was a really interesting experience for me as a young woman of colour to be working with all men—and all white men—trying to teach them something about writing. But part of applied theatre is learning to think on your feet; by contrast, I'm about to teach two spoken-word workshops at a Langley middle school, and I learned all that in theatre."

Recently back from a trip to India that saw her performing in Delhi and shooting a new music video (that had *Nylon* magazine noting, "Horsepowar's 'Hi Everybody' got right what Coldplay's 'Hymn for the Weekend' got wrong"), Powar is confident that everything is going according to plan. Her March appearance at South by Southwest music fest saw her performing not only solo but also as part of both the Canadian and South Asian hip-hop showcases. "It reassured me that there's a niche and a demographic that have never felt represented in rap before. Sure, we have [Hindu rapper] M.I.A., but that's just one person and one story—I can tell a whole other story, and people feel a connection with me."



Co-op spins student into published author

BY KALEIGH WOOLFORD

Graduate and published author are two things Elizabeth Bassett can add to her résumé after completing her Master of Arts this spring. As an English student focusing on Victorian Literature, Elizabeth found the perfect way to blend her studies with hands-on learning during her time at UVic.

"I've loved reading and studying literature since before I started university," says Bassett. After completing an undergraduate degree at Vancouver Island University, she wasn't ready to leave her love of literature behind. She chose UVic for the reputation of the Victorianists in the English department. She defended her essay in April, focusing on the narrative structure of Anne Brontë's novel *Agnes Grey*.

As if working on a thesis wasn't enough, Bassett spent the last semester of her degree working a co-op work term as an archival assistant for the South Vancouver Island Dance Archives (SVIDA). While working for SVIDA, a collection of dance-related holdings housed in the studios of Dance Victoria, she spent her time researching and cataloguing the archive's holdings, interviewing retired dancers and dance teachers, and writing about Victoria's rich dance



Bassett.

history. She also helped organize a photo exhibition that was featured at the Royal Theatre.

But perhaps Bassett's most notable achievement from her co-op work term is the way in which her research is being celebrated. Six of the biographical pieces that she wrote about early dance teachers from Victoria are being published in a book called *Dancing on the Island: Six Women Who Shaped Dance on South Vancouver Island, Canada*. "The women included in the book have led such

inspiring lives and have experienced such important careers," she says. "I'm glad I had the chance to help document their achievements for future dancers, researchers and archivists."

Her work will make the information in the archives more available to the community, and she feels honoured to have worked on the project. The book is being self-published by Dance Victoria, and Bassett continues to work with her co-op employer on the final edits. "I think it's so important to keep challenging yourself to learn new things," she says, reflecting on her work term. "Co-op provided me with a rewarding experience that gave me the opportunity to learn so much."

When thinking about her future, Bassett is excited by the possibilities. "I am interested in pursuing archival studies, or a job that requires researching and writing," she says. She also has a love for teaching, another avenue she's considering. For the moment, her experience at Dance Victoria has this new grad wanting to keep her options open. With a degree, a book and invaluable work experience under her belt, there's no doubt that there will be plenty of opportunities on the horizon. But for right now? "I'm still processing the exciting fact that I'm going to have a little book with my name on it."

Leiden rankings show global impact of UVic research

A new international set of university rankings show that UVic research is having a global impact in the sciences, arts and humanities.

For the fifth consecutive year, the rankings produced by the Centre for Science and Technology Studies at Leiden University highlight UVic's role as a hub for international research, with UVic researchers publishing a higher proportion of scholarly work based on international collaboration than any other Canadian university.

The ranking places UVic second among Canadian schools for scientific impact in two broad fields—mathematics and computer science, and physical sciences and engineering. UVic was fourth in the country, and 148 globally, for scientific impact.

The value of "big data"

The Leiden rankings use data-driven analysis of scientific publications—

multi-year Web of Science publication and citation data in the sciences, social sciences, arts and humanities—to measure the performance of 842 leading universities, or approximately four per cent of the top research institutions worldwide.

Leiden's metrics are unusual among university rankings because they rely solely on citation impact, and do not include the results of subjective survey responses by industry professionals and academics. That approach, applied to the immense numbers of citations in peer-reviewed journals, indicates the value of the work within the scholarly community rather than a school's general reputation.

Of the world-leading universities that Leiden ranks, UVic is 58th in math and computer science, and 67th in physical sciences and engineering.

Additionally, UVic was the top Canadian university without a medi-

cal school in four of the ranking's five categories—including biomedical and health sciences.

With a global rank of 235 for health research, UVic's proportionate impact in this broad field trails only seven of Canada's largest medical/doctoral universities—but positions it ahead of eight others.

The university's outsized performance in health is no surprise to UVic Vice-President Research David Castle. "UVic is recognized around the world for its leadership in oceans and climate research, and for playing key roles in some of the largest-scale international research projects in physics and astronomy, but the statistically driven Leiden rankings show that our faculty and grad students are consistently reshaping the edge of knowledge across many disciplines—health research is no exception."



Alraygi

An international quest to study and spread inclusion

BY SUZANNE AHEARNE

In the basement of the library, in a quiet area behind compact shelving, there's a spot where students meet to secretly eat and talk. When Maram Alraygi discovered it, it became her favourite place to pray, providing a little spiritual break, she says, in the midst of a full day of studying. And she liked sharing the hidden space with others. "I experienced the most blessed time there," says the Master of Education grad.

Alraygi came to UVic (by way of Ottawa) from Jeddah to study special education, after completing an undergrad degree in early childhood studies at King Abdulaziz University in Saudi Arabia, where she was first introduced to the philosophies of inclusive education.

She researched the theory and practice of special education both in Canada and in Saudi Arabia, with a desire to return to Jeddah with a greater awareness of inclusive practices.

While studying, Alraygi was able to visit local elementary schools to observe how special education is practiced in Canada. She also volunteered at the Centre for Outreach Education—a multidisciplinary centre at UVic dedicated to enhancing the education of children and youth in the community with a range of needs. She also worked one-on-one with a child with learning disabilities to improve his reading and, using iPads and various apps, helped him with his phonological awareness.

"As educators," she says, "in order to engage this new generation, we need to change the teaching methods that were used when we were students. We need to use different methods than the ones we experienced, especially by using technology," she says.

"I want to make a positive change in the special education movement," she says. "The free services for children with special needs in inclusive classrooms aren't always sufficient for some with specific needs and some parents may need to pay to help their children."

"I have a dream," says Alraygi, who spoke via Skype from her home in Jeddah. "I'm looking for a job teaching in a classroom and I want to create a non-profit to provide additional supports for children with special needs whose families are not able to pay."

"The government of Saudi Arabia has sent a huge number of students not just to Canada and the US but all over the world to bring different knowledge and experience to improve education and other fields in our country," she says. "I want to give back to my country as they sent me to study abroad."

Alraygi always felt welcome and respected in Canada. "Sometimes we need to make some subtle changes in our lifestyle when moving to and living in a different culture in order to fit into the new culture without conflicting our personal values and beliefs."

In 2014-15, during her first year at UVic, she was general secretary in the Muslim Students' Association. She helped organize Ramadan dinners, lectures and Islamic Awareness week, an event designed for non-Muslims to ask questions and to promote understanding and tolerance toward Islam.

"One of the reasons I wanted to be involved was to provide spiritual and social service to my fellow Muslims, and to serve them on campus," she says. "And, I wanted to educate my non-Muslim peers that women are involved and active in the Muslim community."

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Easter. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

Bridging differences to succeed in business

BY SASHA MILAM

"I've always been fascinated by how people work across differences," says Sarah Easter, the Sardul S. Gill Graduate School's first PhD alumna. Her recently defended dissertation stands as testament to this passion: her work explores (among other things) which traits allow individuals to successfully collaborate, despite culturally based differences. The Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness—comprised of over 40 organizations and associations from different sectors—provided the perfect case study for her to research these individuals in action.

Easter's curiosity in this ability to bridge culturally-based differences—dubbed boundary spanning in academic literature—sprouted when she first saw it in action as a young member of a faith-based community in Pennsylvania. "Growing up in churches, where people are brought together because they have a common faith, but come from all different backgrounds, showed me the challenges and potential of people uniting around a common factor despite being very diverse in other ways."

Her curiosity about how this principle applied in an organizational context emerged gradually. Easter earned a BA in business from Abilene Christian University and continued on to Rollins College to graduate with an MBA. She thought this would eventually lead to taking a position as a marketing executive in the consumer packaged goods industry. While taking an international marketing course at Rollins, however, she found herself drawn to the idea of social entrepreneurship.

"The thought of using business skillsets to address how organizations could pursue social goals really aligned with my personal values," Easter recalls. She became interested in organizations that had more of an intentional social focus, and how they could balance the multiple, and sometimes competing, social and financial influences they faced. This new angle led to a stint in Vietnam working with local craftspeople with disabilities to help market their products abroad. Easter's experience working with these artisans cemented her passion for social enterprise and further piqued her curiosity about how organizations navigated across dif-

ferences in cultural values, and she started looking at PhD programs. Serendipity led her to a conference in New York City where UVic business professor Dr. Ana Maria Peredo was a keynote speaker. Peredo's keynote address sounded like an invitation to Easter. She visited the UVic campus and found the culture at the business school to be a great fit: the faculty specialized in sustainability, social responsibility in business and cross-cultural management. Here she connected with her dissertation supervisor, Dr. Mary Yoko Brannen, and began to articulate her specific interest in boundary spanning.

Four years later, she is crossing the stage into UVic history as the business school's first PhD graduate. Two of those years were spent doing qualitative research with the Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness, examining how a partnership comprised of private, public and non-profit participants worked together to address the complex social issue of homelessness.

"I was really interested in these diverse organizations that are coming together to work on a complex social challenge," Easter says. "[The participants] are still maintaining their own organizations, their own goals, their own values, yet they're coming together to work on this issue."

Her study has relevance beyond multi-stakeholder partnerships, however; there are also implications for more traditionally-structured businesses. "The research is saying more and more that in order to address complex societal issues, we need partnerships involving players from a variety of different sectors that have different skillsets," she explains.

Easter will doubtless find applications for her findings in her next endeavour. This fall, she will be returning to Abilene Christian University, her first alma mater, as an assistant professor at their business school. She's excited to be going back, in part because she sees several clear ways she can add value. "I think they're really wanting to focus on explicitly incorporating sustainability into their curriculum." With her interdisciplinary mindset and passion for social responsibility in business, Easter is perfectly teed up to spark an answering interest in the next generation of business leaders.

Engineering grad tests her design chops at San Francisco start-up

BY SUZANNE AHEARNE

From her office at a five-person San Francisco startup, Kailey Allan is designing sleek kettles, coffee pour-over systems and other home brewing equipment for the boiling-hot kitchen accessory market.

Working as product design engineer at the edge of Silicon Valley, she's a long way from the project that landed the mechanical engineering grad a JCURA for her research into the effects of weathering of the rammed earth walls at UVic's First Peoples House.

But for the 24-year-old Victoria native, it's not such a leap. It's feeding her desire to stretch herself creatively and, through her co-op placements, to experience as many of the kinds of industries as she can.

Allan chose the rammed earth research for her fourth-year self-guided engineering design course, wanting more experience in civil engineering and architecture—her end goal. She'd loved the beauty and aesthetics of the modern rammed earth building at the Nk'Mip Desert Cultural Centre in Osoyoos and was interested in the technique from a sustainability angle. The seven-year-old rammed earth walls at the First Peoples House provided a perfect opportunity for hands-on research.

The ancient building technique

used in structures such as the Great Wall of China uses compacted local earth mixed with stone and gravel. Today's rammed earth construction—undergoing a building revival since the 1990s—is reinforced with steel and strengthened with concrete, making it a competitive building material in today's market.

The modern technique is praised as a green construction method because of its insulating properties, reduced use of concrete. Because the earth is usually taken right from the building excavation site, it eliminates further carbon emissions in transportation.

But, despite its popularity in various geographical and climactic zones, there's very little literature available about it.

"The longevity of ancient rammed earth is substantial," Allan says, "but no one knows how long modern rammed earth will last because it's so new."

"The amazing thing about engineering is that it's so diverse. And a Canadian engineering degree is very well respected," she said. With that knowledge and a final co-op term to complete, she went to San Francisco in January to try her hand at something entirely different.

But this time, she looked for an opportunity that would provide her with a tangible creative outlet and one where she could try out her design en-



Allan

gineering chops in an industry where you can go from sketchpad to product in six months. Allan was hired at the end of her co-op term in April. When four of her projects hit the market by the end of summer, she'll be there to reap the personal rewards.



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University of Victoria

Emergency Planning

In case you missed it: other news from around the Ring



Brainwaves at base camp

The Tibetan Buddhist monks at Tengboche and Namche monasteries in Nepal get a lot of visitors—from trekkers to the spiritually curious. This May, neuroscientist Olav Krigolson and kinesiology undergrad Brianna “Breezy” Beaudry made the trek, traveling to the remote Himalayan monasteries with portable electroencephalography (EEG) devices to measure the brainwaves of meditating monks. Brianna blog link: ow.ly/gep0300Z71K



National Geographic Emerging Explorer

Questions about the geometric symbols on cave walls launched the research career of Genevieve von Petzinger, UVic PhD candidate in anthropology. She's among 13 individuals from around the globe whose unconventional thinking and innovations are changing the world for the better, National Geographic has announced. bit.ly/explore-16



Formula for success

UVic's Formula Hybrid team has come home with the top prize in an international competition of 35 student-run university teams. One member of the team reports on the trackside excitement and the creative spirit that energizes the team. bit.ly/uvic-formula



Walrus Talk

Kelli Stajduhar (nursing) and Neena Chappell (sociology) shared the stage for the Walrus Talks Quality of Life with rocker and author Bif Naked, broadcaster and poet Bill Richardson, medical educator Alexander Henri-Bhargava, First Nations Health Authority chief medical officer Evan Adams, entrepreneur Wilson Parasiuk and SUCCESS CEO Queenie Choo. The sold-out event in Vancouver was co-hosted by UVic as part of the national speaker series produced by the publishers of *The Walrus* magazine.



Coral grief

“It was a horror show,” says marine biologist Julia Baum of the devastation she saw at the coral reefs of Kiritimati (Christmas) Island in the mid-Pacific this spring. Eighty per cent of the reefs were killed by this winter's powerful, climate change-fuelled El Niño. According to Baum, it's the largest coral mass mortality event ever recorded at a single location. bit.ly/coralgrief



WE Day

In April, President Jamie Cassels connected with over 15,000 Washington State grade school students at a Seattle WE Day event. WE Day events happen across the US and Canada, celebrating youth for making a difference in their communities. Cassels explained how UVic can empower students to make a change in the world. He also announced a new \$5,000 scholarship specifically for applicants from Washington.



WITS

The UVic-led WITS victimization prevention program for children received top marks earlier this month from Dalhousie researchers, when compared to six other international bullying prevention programs. Of the seven programs, only WITS is recommended based on its effectiveness. bit.ly/WITS-win



Wiring the abyss

UVic's Ocean Networks Canada has embarked on a two-month, three-ship expedition that has significantly expanded the footprint and research capacity of ONC's world-leading seafloor observatories to study climate change, earthquakes and tsunamis, and extreme environments. bit.ly/wired-abyss

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in memoriam



Tomniuk

Dallas Tomniuk, a valued staff member in the University Centre Farquhar Auditorium, passed away May 22 following a motorcycle accident in Tofino. He was a gentle, kind, good-humoured and giving member of the UVic team, and will be greatly missed by all who knew and worked with him.

Tomniuk held the position of assistant technical director at the auditorium, where he had been employed since 2003. Through nearly 13 years with the auditorium, Tomniuk was the audio engineer for more than 120 events every year. A talented sound technician with a far-reaching reputation, Dallas mixed audio for world-renowned artists including B.B. King, Raffi, John Cleese, David Foster, Nelly Furtado, Wynton Marsalis, Nana Mouskouri, The Kingston Trio, Martin Short, Randy Bachman, and many others.

Dallas was a veteran supporter of UVic ceremonies and events, taking care of the audio requirements for 133 UVic Convocation ceremonies. He also mixed audio for Victoria's Ska Festival for several years, helping countless internationally renowned musicians bring joy to their audiences.

"Dallas worked hard to ensure that audiences and artists had the very best experience," says

Ian Case, the Farquhar's Director. "It didn't matter to Dallas if he was mixing audio for B.B. King, UVic Convocation, a high school rock band, or an elementary school ukulele festival—everyone got the same attention and professionalism. He wanted everything to be the best it could be and to make sure that everyone he worked with had fun while doing it."

Outside work, Tomniuk was an avid motorcyclist, participating in many annual events—often outshining professional riders. He loved camping, boating, sitting around the campfire telling stories and jokes and spending time with family and friends.

Tomniuk leaves behind his loving wife Lindsey, two sons Ryder (5yrs) and Theo (16 mos), his sister Dionne and brother Nick. He is survived by his mother Patricia and stepfather Lloyd.

Tomniuk's mother wrote a poem about Dallas a few years ago, and had it published in a collection of works. A couplet from that poem is posted inside the Farquhar production offices, perfectly capturing Dallas: "Loving, kind, fun, and daring. / Never sassy, always caring."

Donations are being accepted to the Tomniuk Family Support Fund to provide for his young family: gofundme.com/265ekecc

in memoriam



L-R: Drs. Tsurumi, Constance Rooke and Jennie Waelti-Walters in 1979.

Dr. E. Patricia ("Paddy") Tsurumi, historian and UVic professor emerita, died last month in her home on Hornby Island. Known for her thoroughly researched scholarship grounded in a strong sense of social justice, Tsurumi contributed to the history of women, education, colonialism and labour.

Tsurumi, who joined UVic in 1972, helped launch the university's first women's studies course in 1979 and co-founded the Department of Women's Studies (now Gender Studies). Her on- and off-campus advocacy and activism were recognized through community awards and for their powerful effect on campus. "She was a community-engaged scholar before we invented the term," recalls John Lutz, chair of history.

As a scholar, Tsurumi is best known for her groundbreaking 1990 study of labourers, *Factory Girls: Women in the Thread Mills of Meiji Japan*, which was awarded the Canada-Japan Book Prize from the Canada Council. Sally Hastings, of Purdue University, notes how this work established the field for further studies on Meiji women: "Tsurumi showed in no uncertain terms that in the Meiji period, the women who earned the foreign exchange that built industrial Japan by and

large acted out of self-interest rather than blind patriotism and resisted their employers to the extent possible."

Tsurumi practiced her scholarship with an infectious zeal and exuberance as she addressed gaps in Japan's pre-war, wartime, and post-war history; documented forgotten writers and scholars; and brought women's contributions to light.

She was a champion of women scholars and those who did not follow the traditional trajectory for academic advancement.

After retiring from UVic, Tsurumi moved to Hornby Island, where she continued to conduct research on early Japanese feminists Yamakawa Kikue and Takamura Itsue, and taught courses for residents.

Through her scholarship, Tsurumi encouraged us to seek out evidence of lived experiences and to go beyond simple narratives of victimhood and agency. She wrote of Meiji factory women: "If we really want to unravel their history we shall have to keep listening for their voices."

—Submitted by Christina Laffin, UBC

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day in the life

Longstanding convocation volunteer honoured to carry the mace

BY JOANNE MCGACHIE

Stella Chan is relieved to know that UVic's ceremonial mace isn't quite as heavy as it looks. The petite retiree's eyes sparkle as she considers the task ahead of her—serving as mace-bearer at convocation on the morning of June 14.

"It looks like a great, awkward thing, doesn't it?" she says. "I was worried it would be hard to carry properly. But it's actually quite light and easy to handle, so I think I can manage!"

Chan is no stranger to the pomp and ceremony of convocation. She's volunteered at the event every year since the early 1990s—beginning as a robing assistant and moving on to marshalling. For the last several years, she's done both jobs during Spring and Fall ceremonies.

After almost 32 years working at UVic, Chan officially retired on May 1 and, in recognition of her many years volunteering at Convocation, the team at Ceremonies and Events asked her if she would carry the mace.

"We've been very lucky to have such a dedicated and constant volunteer at convocation for so many years," says Jeanie Gunn, manager of convocation and events. "Stella is so calm and steadfast, she puts the students at ease and helps them enjoy their special day. So it was just a natural fit to ask her to carry the mace for one of the ceremonies."

Chan was honoured by the request—and surprised. "I don't have a university degree, so I didn't think I was eligible for this," she says. "I've helped robe and marshal thousands of students, but I never thought I'd be



Chan. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

wearing the robes and mortarboard myself. It's thrilling!"

Chan was born in China and grew up in Hong Kong where, as a young woman, her fluency in English, Cantonese and Mandarin helped her land a job with the government. But knowing that Hong Kong would be reverting to Chinese rule, Chan, her mother and sister decided their future might be more promising elsewhere. With relatives all over the world, including BC, the trio headed to Vancouver, and shortly afterwards made the hop over to Victoria where, in 1984, Chan landed her first job at UVic—as a part-time secretary with the biology department's Strickland project. After a year and a half, she

moved to the geography department, spending the next two years as the full-time secretary for the co-op and graduate program.

In 1988, Chan moved to the Centre for Asia Pacific Initiatives (CAPI) where she became a much-loved fixture for the next 20 years. As the sole admin person in the office, Chan did it all—event and conference planning, budgeting, travel arrangements, translations, helping with visas, and everything in between. And for the thousands of students, staff, chairs and visiting researchers who passed through the centre, Chan was the helping hand, the cheerful advisor and the reassuring, friendly face.

In 2009, Chan moved to psychol-

ogy, where she spent her remaining UVic career helping undergrads with registration and course selections. No matter what her job, she always made time for volunteering at campus events such as Experience UVic, student orientations, Connect U and, especially, every convocation. She has many fond memories of the excited students and the proud parents.

"We're organizing hundreds of students at every ceremony, but I'm always aware that, for each of them and their family, this is a very special day," she says. "It's a memory they will have their whole lives, and I want to help make it a happy one."

"Stella has been remarkable in her willingness to take on multiple

roles at each Convocation, and help us with anything we needed," says Morgan Slavkin, events officer with Ceremonies and Events. "She's an absolute joy to work with, and we hope she'll continue to volunteer with us, even as she moves into the next chapter of her life."

As for that next chapter, Chan has already been on a trip to Italy to visit relatives, and says she is looking forward to a lot more travelling. But she also hopes to keep busy with part-time work at UVic, while pursuing her passion for helping others through the Oak Bay Volunteer Services Society. It seems she has no plans to slow down and take life easy—at least not anytime soon.

WHY WE NEED THE OCEAN

UVic research probes the critical link between the ocean and climate change

BY VALERIE SHORE

The ocean means many things to many people. We eat from it. We work and play on and in it. We breathe much of our oxygen from it. And we get our weather from it, no matter where we live.

And there's another essential but lesser-known role that the ocean plays in our lives—it acts as a natural storage bin for carbon dioxide, the

notorious greenhouse gas that we've been belching into the atmosphere since the dawn of the Industrial Age.

"Few people realize that the ocean controls the level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, and that it currently absorbs just over one-third of the excess carbon dioxide we produce," says Roberta Hamme, a chemical oceanographer at the University of Victoria.

She should know. As the Canada Research Chair in Ocean Carbon

Dynamics, Hamme is shedding new light on how carbon moves through the ocean and how we can use this knowledge to predict the progression of global climate change.

Carbon is a chemical element vital to all living things and circulates around the planet in what's called the carbon cycle. Where air and ocean meet there's a constant interchange of gases, including carbon dioxide. While most of it remains a dissolved gas and

is left to the whims of ocean mixing, some of the carbon gets turned into organic matter and eventually sinks into the deep ocean, stored away from the atmosphere for hundreds of years.

"Almost 90 per cent of carbon in the ocean/atmosphere/terrestrial system is in the ocean in one form or another," says Hamme. "That makes the ocean the big carbon player in the room."

The problem now is that the ocean can't keep up with us, says Hamme.

"We're burning fossil fuels and putting carbon dioxide into the atmosphere at a faster rate than the ocean can take it up. It's out of equilibrium."

To learn more about where carbon goes in the ocean and how, Hamme is probing the ocean carbon cycle from various angles—biological productivity, the nitrogen cycle, and gases carried by deep-ocean currents.

The ocean carbon cycle is very slow, Hamme explains. It takes about 1,000 years for ocean water to "turn over" and see the surface again. This happens at only two spots in the world—the North Atlantic and the southern ocean near Antarctica.

In one project, Hamme studies the influence of physical factors such as wind, water temperature and bubbles on gas transport. To do this, she and her graduate students collect water samples from places such as the Labrador Sea and make ultra-precise measurements of proxy gases such as argon that are not biologically active.

"What I get is a fingerprint of the processes that are happening when deep water forms. Then I can take that information and apply it to gases such as carbon dioxide or oxygen that are biologically active."

Hamme posts her data online for other researchers and is working with scientists who are developing climate models for predicting future climate change. "The idea is to improve the accuracy of these models," she says.

"The ocean carbon cycle is complex, but we're beginning to understand it," says Hamme. "The new techniques we're developing, and the new places and ways we're observing the ocean mean that we're making progress on getting answers to our questions."

Hamme. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES