THIS YEAR the University of Victoria is celebrating the 100th anniversary of the founding of our predecessor, Victoria College, and the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the University. Such milestones provide vantage points from which we may gain perspective. In 2003, we look back and honour our century-long tradition of excellence and community service. At the same time, we look ahead to a very exciting and promising future as the University continues to grow and benefit the citizens of British Columbia, Canada and the world.

UVic is a young university, but what we have accomplished over the past four decades is truly extraordinary. Beginning in 1963 with 2,085 students, UVic has grown in both capacity and reputation, providing high quality postsecondary education to 18,036 students, including 2,305 graduate students, in 2002/03.

People across Canada and around the world recognize UVic for excellence in teaching, research and scholarship. We are a leader in experiential and international learning. And our beautiful campus is renowned as a centre for outstanding social, cultural, artistic, athletic and recreational opportunities for students and community members.

But we’re not content to rest on our laurels. UVic has re-dedicated itself to future achievement as mandated in our Strategic Plan, A Vision for the Future. We’re now building that future. This year, we have made substantial progress towards realizing our goals in each of our four priority areas: people, quality, community and resources.

This Annual Review highlights just a few of the many exciting developments at UVic this year. We have had remarkable success in attracting gifted faculty members, including 10 new Canada Research Chairs, and our growing reputation has been reflected in a record number of student applications. We’ve completed a new Campus Plan to help us accommodate growth while protecting the natural and human qualities of our campus. We’ve broken ground on the new Continuing Studies and Medical Sciences buildings which will help us better serve the needs of our community, and we are opening 123 new student housing units, with more student residences currently under construction.

UVic is poised for an exciting future. Our energy and spirit as a young, dynamic university give us extraordinary potential for growth and discovery. If this year is any indicator, UVic can look forward to a future filled with stimulating challenges and outstanding achievements.

David H. Turpin, PhD, FRSC
President and Vice-Chancellor
UVIC HAS DEEP ROOTS in our local community and has touched the lives of generations of Canadians. The University owes its existence and sustained vitality to the support of the community it serves, and is giving back in significant ways. UVic attracts many highly talented people to Vancouver Island and provides local residents with outstanding learning, cultural and recreational opportunities. A respected member of the larger community of scholarship and research, the University is contributing to social, economic and scientific development at the national and international levels.

The shared interests that make UVic an integral part of the Southern Vancouver Island community are broad and deep. The University has granted degrees to more than 66,000 people since 1963, helping create a highly educated citizenry. The campus is a rich educational and cultural resource, attracting nearly 600,000 visitors each year to a wide variety of public events. And the University contributes significantly to the economic health of the region and the province. This year UVic appointed a new Vice-President External Relations, Faye Wightman, who brings a wealth of experience to furthering the close relationships between the University and its community.

Island Medical Program: Toward better health care
UVic’s Medical Sciences Building is under construction, funded by the provincial government. It is part of a collaboration with the University of British Columbia, the University of Northern British Columbia and the Province of B.C. to double the number of medical student spaces by 2010. The program will build on UVic’s existing strengths in such areas as aging, biomedical and health research, assistive technologies, nursing and health information science. The first 24 medical students will arrive at UVic in January 2005 and will complete their clinical training in Vancouver Island Health Authority facilities and other health settings. At full capacity, the program will accommodate 96 medical students, contributing vital capacity to B.C.’s health system.

Technology Enterprise Facility: Linking UVic research and business
In June 2003, Discovery Parks opened a state-of-the-art building on campus to help accommodate B.C.’s growing biotechnology and high-technology research sectors. Developed under the auspices of the Discovery Foundation, the Technology Enterprise Facility will help UVic researchers and spin-off companies translate the results of their research into practical applications, providing economic and social benefits to the community and research and employment opportunities to students.

More students in high-tech fields
UVic is helping to meet the demand for high-tech graduates and supporting the provincial initiative to double the number of graduates in computer science and electrical and computer engineering by 2005. The University admitted an additional 141 full-time equivalent students in these fields in 2002/03 and is proceeding with construction of a $22-million Engineering/Computer Science Building, which is being funded by the Government of B.C. and will be ready for occupancy in 2005.

These two potential future scientists are among the 150 Grade 4-12 participants in the 2003 Vancouver Island Science Fair on campus. UVic has hosted the annual community event for the past 26 years.

2003 class president Kris O’Cheek and classmate Ann Rose Kerkorius discuss the new Lekwungen house post with its carver, Butch Dick. The post was a gift of the Class of 2003.
WHAT MAKES A GREAT UNIVERSITY? There are many answers: excellence in teaching, world-class research, the accomplishments of students, faculty and alumni. What lies behind all these achievements is people. UVic is attracting the best faculty and students by providing a supportive and stimulating environment where excellence can flourish. Never has the competition for recruiting gifted teachers and researchers been greater. But this year, UVic succeeded in hiring 65 outstanding new faculty members, strengthening programs across a wide range of disciplines. The University also significantly increased support for students, including financial aid and other student services.

Ten new Canada Research Chairs call UVic home
Among the most highly sought awards for Canadian universities, Canada Research Chairs help attract and retain some of the most accomplished researchers in the world. The 10 new Chairs awarded to UVic in 2002/03 will add to the University's research strengths and the opportunities we provide our students in key disciplines.

The diverse areas of study supported by the new Chairs include: community ecology, investigating how biodiversity is maintained in ecological communities; philosophy, exploring the influence of the Aristotelian tradition; genomics and molecular biology, investigating how living things change over time; technology, culture and theory, exploring the creative possibilities and challenges of major technological change; and observational cosmology, studying the evolution of galaxies. UVic has now appointed a total of 18 Canada Research Chairs, and is expected to receive 16 more.

Student financial assistance plan aims high
Our 2002 Strategic Plan set a bold objective: to place UVic in the top 20 per cent of Canadian universities in terms of student financial assistance. In 2002/03, that goal was exceeded through a $2.5-million increase in student aid investment, and UVic has designated another $1.9 million for student financial assistance in 2003/04. This year undergraduate tuition rose 30 percent and graduate tuition 15 per cent. By increasing student aid, UVic is working to ensure that there are no financial hurdles to admission for students at the graduate and undergraduate level who have the academic and creative potential to succeed.

Many UVic faculty and students were recognized this year with prestigious awards and honours. They included molecular biologist Dr. Caren Helbing, who received a $100,000 U.S. award to further her cancer-related research on thyroid hormones. The inaugural Timothy Findley Award from the Writer’s Trust of Canada went to Prof. Bill Gaston, while astronomer Dr. Julio Navarro won a coveted Guggenheim Fellowship. Law faculty member Dr. John Borrows was a National Aboriginal Achievement Awards recipient, and engineer Dr. Wolfgang Hoefer was elected UVic’s 38th fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. This year also saw Vikes rower Emily Poupart named UVic’s third Rhodes scholar in as many years.

Students congregate on the balcony of one of UVic’s new residences. Construction is on target to provide 600 new student residence spaces by September 2004.

Newly recruited Canada Research Chair in Observational Cosmology Dr. Sara Ellison and history-in-art doctoral student Hussein Keshani, who received two prestigious postdoctoral fellowships to study Islamic architecture at Harvard and MIT.
THE HIGH QUALITY of UVic’s academic and research programs provides students and faculty members with a rich array of opportunities, fostering achievement in scholarship and research, and involvement in the important issues and challenges of our time. The University prides itself in supporting diverse programs of research and teaching at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Our students benefit from a number of research centres and academic programs with an interdisciplinary focus, a wide range of international learning opportunities, and a broad selection of programs integrating practical work experience with academic studies.

Work-integrated learning enriches the educational experience
With the third-largest university co-operative education program in Canada, UVic provided students with 2,665 work-term placements related to their studies, in Canada and 40 other countries, over the past year. UVic’s Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives launched its International Internship Program in 2003, placing students with human rights organizations in Asia. And a new Service-Learning Internship Project helped students gain valuable experience on projects including interpretive exhibit design, sustainable transportation and ecosystem preservation. Also this year, seven UVic law students served UN internships with the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, sorting through evidence, observing court proceedings and supporting the prosecution team.

Great Unsolved Mysteries in Canadian History goes online
In an intriguing adventure in the study of history, students, faculty and staff at UVic, Université de Sherbrooke, and the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education are creating a suite of 13 interactive Web sites, each an archive of primary historical documents about a different unsolved mystery. Funded by Canadian Heritage, and building on the experience of Dr. John Lutz (History), the sites will challenge high school and university students and life-long learners to solve the mysteries while introducing them to the regions, ethnic groups and major themes in Canadian history [www.canadianmysteries.ca].

Vikes continue their winning ways
It was another banner year for UVic’s athletic teams. The women’s field hockey team won their tenth national championship in 2002, while the women’s rowing team chalked up their sixth consecutive Canadian University Championship. UVic rowers also shone at the Head of the Charles Regatta in Boston, including a first and a second place by the women’s fours. The women’s basketball team won their ninth national title in 2003, while the men’s golf team captured the inaugural Canadian university golf championship.

Michael Smith Foundation invests in path-breaking research on aging
UVic’s internationally recognized Centre on Aging received a major grant of $687,500 from the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research in 2003 for research-related infrastructure. This funding will support research on the vulnerability of seniors, factors in promoting health and preventing illness, and the relationship between cognitive functioning and everyday competence in later life.
THE UNIVERSITY is not an isolated academic institution. UVic plays an active part in the life of the community, exemplified by a number of recent initiatives that are benefiting people in Greater Victoria and beyond. UVic programs and initiatives are helping people preserve their arts and heritage, overcome disabilities through technology, pursue life-long learning, and develop co-operative organizations to meet their economic and social needs. Current initiatives carry on the important tradition of community service that has been a hallmark of the University for four decades.

Community research collaborative preserves cultural heritage
Important art and cultural properties that might otherwise be lost or forgotten are being documented, preserved and brought to the public eye by the Cultural Property Community Research Collaborative, a partnership of UVic and four B.C. cultural institutions funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. UVic students and faculty are contributing research and administrative assistance to support 17 community-based projects. One example involves a rare group of drawings by young aboriginal students at the Inkameep Day School in the South Okanagan during the 1930s and 1940s. Recently rediscovered, they reflect the students’ strong sense of First Nations identity. Exhibited this year at the Vancouver Art Gallery, this stunning collection can soon be viewed as a Web-based exhibit developed by Dr. Andrea Walsh (Anthropology) as part of the Virtual Museum of Canada.

UVic ingenuity creates a unique tricycle for sight-impaired children
For many blind children, being able to ride a bike has been an impossible dream. Not any longer. A prototype tricycle developed in 2002 by the UVic Assistive Technology Team (UVATT) is enabling sight-impaired children to ride freely. It’s the latest example of innovations created by UVATT, a group of 40 faculty, student and staff volunteers co-ordinated by Dr. Nigel Livingston (Biology), which benefits children with disabilities while providing learning and service opportunities for students.

A new $8.5-million, self-financed facility to house UVic’s Division of Continuing Studies will be ready for students by January 2004. The three-storey building will help UVic better serve the approximately 15,000 people who participate in continuing studies programs every year.

Building co-ops empowers people and communities
The UVic-based B.C. Institute for Co-operative Studies, directed by internationally recognized co-op expert Dr. Ian MacPherson, is conducting joint research with 12 new co-ops throughout B.C. This research will expand upon the manuals, case studies and on-line courses BCICS has already developed to assist new co-op development. The Institute will also soon publish a book analysing the state of B.C.’s co-op movement, including numerous case studies that explore a movement using its $32 billion in assets to serve over 2,000,000 members in the province.

B.C. Institute for Co-operative Studies director Dr. Ian MacPherson chats with Victoria Car Share Co-op chair Erik Kaye (seated). The Institute works with the B.C. co-op sector on joint research projects.

Dr. Nigel Livingston, co-ordinator of the UVic Assistive Technology Team, pushes a youngster riding a specially equipped tricycle the volunteer group developed for sight-impaired children.
WE RELY on support from many sources to fund our quest for excellence. The University gives a high priority to our relationships with these contributors, who include governments at all levels, as well as organizations and individuals. These valued partners have been generous to the University in the past year, recognizing the importance and benefits of UVic’s mission to deliver the best in education, research and community service, and we are deeply grateful for their support.

Research support increases
The success of UVic researchers this year in attracting funding is a clear indicator of UVic’s growth as a centre for excellence in research. During 2002/03, the University was awarded $46.8 million in outside research grant and contract funding. One third of these funds came in the form of highly competitive research grants from the major federal agencies: the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, and the Canadian Institutes for Health Research. UVic scientists and engineers ranked fourth among Canadian universities in size and number of medical and sciences grants per faculty member, and UVic was third among comprehensive universities in social science and humanities grants.

This year UVic also saw a fourfold increase in funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation and the B.C. Knowledge Development Fund, providing equipment and other research infrastructure. The University also benefited from federal funding to support the indirect costs of research.

Generations of students to benefit from generous bequest
Botanist Dr. Lorene Louise Kennedy was one of the first women of her generation to go to graduate school. Following a distinguished career as an educator, Dr. Kennedy gave to the cause of education in another way. Through a bequest in 2002, she provided UVic with more than $2.5 million. Her gift will fund bursaries for students pursuing environmental studies. In memory of Dr. Kennedy, a new native plant study garden was formally dedicated in her name in May 2003.

New Campus Plan will help guide growth
In 2003, the University’s Board of Governors approved a new Campus Plan that will guide the physical development of the campus to accommodate growth in enrolment and teaching and research programs. The first major revision to the Campus Plan since the original 1961 plan, it was developed over a period of five years with extensive public consultation. The new Campus Plan not only identifies building sites and development areas, but also designates environmentally significant natural areas for protection and restoration and reaffirms our commitment to incorporate sustainable practices into the planning, construction and operation of buildings and facilities.

Dr. Terry Prowse, Director of the Water and Climate Impacts Research Centre, which recently moved into new quarters at the newly opened Technology Enterprise Facility.

Generations of Environmental Studies students, like these studying in a natural area of campus, will benefit from bursaries created with a large bequest from Dr. Lorene Louise Kennedy.
The University of Victoria has made significant progress over the past year in implementing our strategic vision, and we take great pride in the accomplishments of our students, faculty and staff. UVic is the grateful recipient of public financial support, and we hold ourselves to the highest standards of stewardship of these resources. This report is only one of many ways in which the University provides a public accounting of our activities. Further elements of our accountability framework can be found by visiting the University’s home page (www.uvic.ca) and our accountability overview page (web.uvic.ca/president/accountability.htm).