Greetings from the Dean’s office

In the Faculty of Human and Social Development we value our association with our alumni. You provide us with vitality and relevance in today’s changing world and assist us in our connections with community. I am pleased to touch base with you and provide you with this update on current activities within your Faculty. Please take note of the upcoming events within your school or program.

We invite you to stay connected to your Faculty and welcome your feedback and questions anytime at hsdinfo@uvic.ca.

Our Faculty is a vibrant place to learn and prepare to contribute to the health of society. We bring learning to life!

Mary Ellen Purkis RN, PhD
Dean, Faculty of Human and Social Development

Distinguished Alumni

In February 2010 we celebrated with the UVic community and honoured our distinguished alumni. Here in HSD we recognized Catherine Claiter (BSc ’00) from the School of Health Information Science. Currently she is the Chief Information Officer at the Vancouver Island Health Authority and is responsible for the development of all electronic health care systems and emerging health information technology within the hospital setting.

Catherine Claiter, 2010 HSD Distinguished Alumni recipient.

November 2010
Upcoming alumni events
You are invited

**School of Child and Youth Care Alumni Reception**
4:00 – 6:30 PM | Monday February 7, 2011
University Club, UVic

**School of Health Information Science**
Information Technology and Communications in Health (ITCH 2011)
February 24 – 27, 2011
Laurel Point Inn, Victoria, BC

**School of Nursing Alumni Reception and Award of Excellence**
During National Nursing Week | May 6 – 12
Watch for details soon

**School of Public Aministration**
Community Celebration
5:30 – 8:00 PM | Wednesday November 9, 2010
University Club, UVic

**School of Social Work Alumni lunch**
12:00 – 2:00 PM | Tuesday February 8, 2011
University Club, UVic

**Social Work Week Community/Practice Recognition Awards**
5:00 – 8:00 PM | Monday March 7, 2011
Fireplace Lounge, University Club, UVic

**UVic Distinguished Alumni celebration**
Wednesday February 9, 2011
Watch for details soon

**Child and Youth Care in Action Conference**
Leading Conversations in Research, Practice and Policy
April 28 – 30, 2011

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**SCHOOL OF CHILD AND YOUTH CARE**

I was born in Rwanda, and at the age of seven I experienced the Rwandan genocide of 1994. Without the care and guidance of an adult, I escaped death by walking day and night with my two younger brothers. For over half of my life I lived in a refugee camp in Uganda characterized by food shortages, lack of drinking water and violence. I was unable to envision a future where these basic needs were not the central focus of my life.

*Read more*

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**INDIGENOUS GOVERNANCE**

A day in the life of Mick Scow — administrative assistant with Indigenous Governance — isn’t greatly different from his days as a master’s student in the same program just a few short months ago.

*Read more*

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**SCHOOL OF HEALTH INFORMATION SCIENCE**

Health Information Science grad student Tyrone Austen (centre) and Roger Groussaud (left) from the Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness and Bernie Pauy (right) from the School of Nursing following the presentation of Tyrone’s thesis — a program evaluation of the coalition’s work on eradicating homelessness.

*Read more*

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**SCHOOL OF NURSING**

Starting on a new campus, meeting new people, navigating the demands of a new program all pose some level of anxiety for new students. The nurse mentorship project, initiated by nursing students, has helped relieve some of the stress and made the transition easier.

*Read more*

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**News and developments**

We have some exciting news! We have just launched our new School of Public Health and Social Policy and will welcome students into our undergraduate and graduate programs in September 2011.

For anyone who has a chance to read the news on a regular basis, the need for individuals who can assess, plan and intervene in public health matters is evident — whether it be planning to receive a boatload of immigrants fleeing from inhospitable situations in their own countries, immunizing to prevent outbreaks of flu in our schools and communities, or addressing the needs of millions of displaced people in flood-affected zones in Pakistan or Indonesia — we need professionals equipped with the knowledge and skills to understand the social and personal impacts of such events.

We will offer a Master of Public Health, a Graduate Diploma in Public Health, a Bachelor in Health and Community Services and an Aboriginal Health Leadership Diploma. Our new programs are consistent with our Faculty’s values and goals — they are community-based, strengths-based with an interdisciplinary focus and will be delivered online. They build on areas of expertise already well developed within our Faculty.

Our public health program will offer advanced study for nurses who already work in the field of public health, and will increase needed capacity in the specialties of public health informatics and Indigenous peoples health and will draw on our collective strengths in the field of social policy.

The undergraduate and graduate programs will welcome students from diverse academic backgrounds and over the coming year we will be engaged in extensive curriculum development ahead of admitting our first group of students. We hope you will join us for the celebration.

Visit the new website www.uvic.ca/publichealth or contact phsp@uvic.ca

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**Laurene Shields, Associate Dean Academic in front of the Human and Social Development building announcing the new School of Public Health and Social policy — photo by Debra Brash, Times Colonist.**

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**Haille, fourth year Child and Youth Care student with Dr. Sibylle Artz.**

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**Nursing students Chris Bigelow (left), fourth year, Nicole Fisk, second year from Camosun College and Hubert Haire, fourth year, meet on campus to discuss the many successes of the nursing mentorship program.**

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**John Nsabima, 4th year Child and Youth Care student with Dr. Sibylle Artz.**

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**Visit the new website HSD ALUMNI CONNECTIONS www.uvic.ca/alumni or contact hsdalumni@uvic.ca**
Instructor Sabine Lehr (left) and students Carolyn Fast and Stacy Chappel from the School of Public Administration share conversation and breakfast at the Master of Arts in Community Development welcome.

Heidi Pelman, social work student and Larry Stevens from REES/Cool Aid outreach worker, inside the School of Social Work's Downtown Learning Centre, 707 Johnson Street.

Master’s graduate in Studies in Policy and Practice and current Victoria councilor, Philippe Lucas outside Victoria City Hall.

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
The challenges ahead for communities, indeed for human society and the planet, requires leveraging the best of what citizens and community leaders bring to the table. This is what UVic’s new Master of Arts in Community Development (MACD) program is intended to do, not just within British Columbia, but around the world. The program, offered by the School of Public Administration, has just welcomed its first cohort of students, eager to develop their careers and contribute more effectively to the social economy and civil society.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
The School of Social Work obtained a one-year sub-lease of classroom/meeting space in the York Hotel through the Victoria Cool Aid Society. The lease and establishment of the School of Social Work’s Downtown Learning Centre allows the school to have a presence in the downtown community through practicum experience, research projects, community outreach, delivery of credit and non-credit educational programs, and offering available meeting space for professional organizations, not-for-profit agencies, and community members.

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL POLICY
For the first time in 20 years UVic is launching a new school. Starting in September 2011, the School of Public Health and Social Policy in the Faculty of Human and Social Development will offer a Master of Public Health, a Graduate Diploma in Public Health and a Bachelor of Arts in Health and Community Services through online distance delivery.

STUDIES IN POLICY AND PRACTICE
Graduating with a Master of Arts in Studies in Policy and Practice—an interdisciplinary graduate program in the Faculty of Human and Social Development aimed at those involved in social activism, human services and community work—has provided an opportunity to “deepen the theoretical underpinnings that form the base of progressive reform efforts, particularly in the area of drug policy,” says Lucas.

New programs

School of Nursing
MN MSc in Health Informatics (September 2010) — double degree program in Nursing and Health Informatics
Nursing Education MN (September 2009)

School of Public Administration
MA in Community Development — (May 2010)
Graduate Certificate and Diploma in Evaluation (scheduled launch January 2011)
MA in Community Development-International (scheduled to launch in June 2011)

School of Social Work
Indigenous MSW program (September 2009)
Non-BSW MSW (September 2010)
Supporting our Students

We have many new scholarships and bursaries as a result of our successful fundraising efforts. I want to express our sincere thanks to our many donors on behalf of our students who value the generous contributions towards their educational pursuits. Please contact our Development Officer, Lynne Milnes at 250-472-5031 or lmlines@uvic.ca to discuss ways that you can assist our students and help them realize their dreams.

New scholarships and bursaries

Child and Youth Care
- Paige Cameron Bursary
- Darlene Scott Memorial Scholarship

Health Information Science
- Steve Huising Entrance Scholarship
- Dr. Mowadah Househ Entrance Scholarship
- Denis and Pat Prout Bursary

Nursing
- Zillah Wood Graduate Scholarship
- Karen McFadzean Bursary
- Eva Parlee Scholarship
- Melodie Elliott-Clark Scholarship
- Edna Hibbert Bursary

Public Administration
- Jack Ebbels Memorial Scholarship
- Master of Arts in Community Development Scholarship
- Master in Dispute Resolution Scholarship

Public Health and Social Policy
- James and Philippa Kerr Graduate Scholarship

Social Work
- Workplace Family Wellness Scholarship
- Joyce and Bill Dunning Bursary

New initiatives | Celebrating achievements

The First Peoples House—a concept that had its origins in the School of Social Work and supported by HSD—opened its ‘Longhouse’ doors early this year. The House creates an academic and cultural centre for Indigenous students and a welcoming space on campus for the broader community. At present, I sit on the First Peoples House Advisory Council which is co-chaired by Robina Thomas, a professor in the School of Social Work. Trevor Good, a distance student in the School of Social Work is the Indigenous student support coordinator. We are pleased to be a part of the ongoing development and celebration of this significant achievement at UVic.

UVic has recently celebrated two significant achievements—ranked as one of Canada’s top research universities by Research Infosource, and placed in the top 200 of World Universities by the 2010 Times Higher Education Rankings.

Within our Faculty there are many new and innovative research grants and projects that demonstrate the importance of children, families and communities. Watch for our next research publication in the Fall 2011 outlining our emerging research strengths in Aboriginal health, public health, housing solutions and health care practice in addition to many new and existing research initiatives.

By the end of the year we will be launching our new website and we hope you will check back and provide us with your feedback.

In closing

UVic is a growing and dynamic place these days and we are contributing in a significant way to that growth. At present one in four of all grad students at UVic come from over 15 different graduate programs offered within our Faculty with over half of all our students accessing our programs through online distance delivery.

We have accomplished a great deal and I want to thank you for your continued support of our Faculty and your contributions to the success of our students. I am honoured to be leading such an innovative and inclusive Faculty at this time and I look forward to welcoming you back on campus or meeting you at one of our many upcoming alumni events. We are interested in maintaining our connections with you so, please drop us a note and tell us where you are in the world and what you are doing!

Mary Ellen Purkis RN, PhD
Dean, Faculty of Human and Social Development

For my practicum I was able to work at the Easter Seals’ Camp Shawnigan for children with disabilities. The learning was incredible but most of all the children and youth at the camp were inspiring. Thank you for being a blessing to me this year. I hope that you will experience the unexpected joy of having a stranger help you reach your dreams.

It’s an honour to receive this scholarship. It’s also a gift that I really needed, after using student loans for so many years. When I am finished, I wish to continue working in the area of my thesis topic, which is relationship to place and identity. Thank you for supporting me in this work!

Rebecca Taylor is the recipient of the Workplace Family Wellness Scholarship in Social Work and is a Master’s Student in Social Work, Indigenous Specialization. On her mother’s side she is Inupiaq from Alaska and on her father’s side she is English. She was raised on Wet’suwet’en territories in Smithers, BC.

Hakima O’Brien is the recipient of the Purves Sisters Memorial Scholarship and is in her last year in the School of Nursing.