2016 President’s Extraordinary Service Award: Connector
Mandy Crocker

As coordinator of the UVic Speakers Bureau for nearly 30 years, Mandy Crocker connects 450 to 475 volunteer speakers each year with more than 16,000 audience members.

“The work she does, so brilliantly,” says Lara Lauzon, a volunteer speaker and faculty member in UVic’s School of Exercise Science, Physical and Health Education, “can be described as a unique outreach program that helps people learn more about what we do and then opens the door for people who attend [the bureau] to feel welcome to explore our campus, connect with our programs and celebrate our ‘extraordinary’ environment.”

The Speakers Bureau service is a vital, living link between UVic and community, and thanks to Mandy’s keen sense of responsibility, efficiency and unflagging enthusiasm, it is a “runaway success” with record numbers of bookings. Countless schools, community organizations and seniors groups reach back to Mandy not merely to praise the program but to extend personal notes of gratitude.

Multiply that kind of connection—10,000 talks over three decades—and it’s obvious why Mandy’s commitment makes an impact well beyond our campus.