The university’s strategic planning renewal process has provided a wonderful opportunity to take stock of progress made over the past five years, and to set new goals for the future. As in most areas covered in UVic’s plan, our research-related accomplishments have been remarkable and there is no doubt that we have much to be proud of. Regardless of how one defines the concept of excellence, all indicators point to the conclusion that the breadth and depth of our research excellence has inexorably increased year by year; the challenge will be to maintain that remarkable trajectory. While still undergoing final review and tweaking, the research section of the renewed university strategic plan has identified three draft objectives:

- To nurture our culture of excellence in research, scholarship, and creative endeavours, enhancing UVic’s local, national, and international impact and reputation as a leading, innovative, research-intensive university.

- To promote greater alignment of our research, educational, and support programs so that we can optimize the benefits derived from our investments in people, systems, infrastructure and programs across the university.

- To enhance the societal benefit derived through mobilization of research knowledge and creative endeavours from across the academy.

Each of these laudable objectives has a range of activities that will help us toward achieving them over the next five years.

Along a parallel track, early in the new year we will be launching a review and renewal of our Strategic Research Plan (SRP), which was first developed to inform our Canada Research Chair and Canada Foundation for Innovation decisions. I had the pleasure of helping to guide the development of the initial SRP almost a decade ago, and I am looking forward to its renewal. In fact, we have made minor modifications to the SRP on an annual basis and it has proven to be both a flexible and robust document. Part of the SRP development process will be to take a critical look at the high level themes we are currently using to describe our areas of collective research strength. These themes have proven extremely helpful as our researchers compete for funding in national and international competitions for large-scale research programs and platforms. While we want to assist every faculty member to individually succeed in her or his research, we also recognize that there are identifiable clusters of institutional research excellence that can only be fostered through collaboration and coalescence of effort. As pleased as I am with
Dr. Alexandre Brolo  
**Craigdarroch Silver Medal for Excellence in Research** -  

Dr. Reuven Gordon  
**Craigdarroch Award for Excellence in Artistic Expression** -  

Professor Lorna Crozier  
**Craigdarroch Award for Excellence in Communicating Research** -  

Dr. Eric Sager  
**Craigdarroch Award for Excellence in Innovation and Entrepreneurship** -  

Dr. Caren Helbing  
**Craigdarroch Award for Societal Contribution** -  

Dr. Eric Roth  

The University of Victoria joins with Craigdarroch Research Award Recipients in gratefully acknowledging the support of our research funders and partners, including government agencies, non-governmental organizations, corporations, community groups and individuals. Without their support, the high quality of research at UVic, represented by the recipients of these awards, would not be possible.

For further information, visit our website [http://www.uvic.ca/research/](http://www.uvic.ca/research/)

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Initiative for a Palliative Approach – Evidence & Leadership (iPANEL)
Three quarters of British Columbians who die every year do so without accessing adequate pain management, psychosocial support and advance care planning associated with palliative care. iPANEL’s research — for nurses by nurses — contributes to understanding how the nursing profession can help more people in BC benefit from palliative philosophies and services. With nurses offering a palliative approach in settings like residential care facilities, general hospital wards and at home, more patients and families can be better supported through the many transitions in the latter part of their lives.

iPANEL is co-led by University of Victoria School of Nursing/Centre on Aging Associate Professor Dr. Kelli Stajduhar and Fraser Health Authority Director of End-of-Life Care Carolyn Tayler. A truly provincial initiative this research team is comprised of 15 additional team members from a number of Health Authorities and Universities throughout British Columbia, including UVic School of Nursing Faculty Drs. Gweneth Doane, Betty Davies, and Anne Bruce. iPANEL was awarded the 4-year Michael Smith BCNRI Investigative Team Award of $800,000. This passionate research team aims to create new knowledge by answering the question, “How and in which context can a palliative approach better meet the needs of people (and their families) with life-limiting chronic conditions and guide the development of innovations in health care delivery systems to better support the nursing practice and the health system in British Columbia?”

Submitted by: A.Bitschy

What Does Progress Mean for our Society and our Communities?
Human rights activist, lecturer and author Dr. Marilyn Waring visited campus at the invitation of UVic’s Centre for Co-operative and Community-Based Economy (CCCBE). On April 14, Waring presented “What Does Progress Mean for our Society and our Communities?” to a capacity audience. Waring, currently a professor of public policy at the Auckland University of Technology in New Zealand, was elected at age 23 to the New Zealand Parliament. She served as a politician for nine years (1975–84) before moving into academia. The 1988 publication of her book If Women Counted marked Waring as a leading international voice for a feminist perspective of economics. In her UVic lecture, she looked back on her environmental campaigns with a critical eye. Waring admitted to having second thoughts about some of the arguments she advocated as a young politician and activist.

“When I was desperate to save something, whether a river, an ecosystem, a forest,” she related, “the way in which I could empower [it] was to give it a monetary value, to quantify it, to make it a commodity.”

These days, Waring approaches these economic models with skepticism. Using solely economic terms to measure environmental factors, Waring warned, often misrepresents the reality of the situation and fails to take into account the declining health and quality of life of communities, individuals and the environment.

“Well-being is not an economic term,” Waring stresses.

The podcast is available at:

Submitted by: Lisa Pasolli, CCCBE Graduate Student Fellow

Condensed Matter Physicist and Astrophysicist join forces to study Brain Physics
This is part of a bigger effort involving neuroscientists at UBC, engineering scientists at UVic and SFU and mathematicians/statisticians (Farouk Nathoo and Rod Edwards) at UVic to explore whether resilience of the networks in the brain to noise is compromised in diseases such as Alzheimer’s.


Abstract:
Interest in understanding the interplay between noise and the response of a non-linear device cuts across disciplinary boundaries. It is as relevant for unmasking the dynamics of neurons in noisy environments as it is for designing reliable nanoscale logic circuit elements and sensors. We use analytical theory and numerical simulations to study the impact of the more ubiquitous “natural” noise with a 1/f frequency spectrum. The impact of noise is considered on two quantities of interest to neuron function: The spike count Fano factor and the speed of neuron response to a small step-like stimulus. We compare our results to experimental data of single neurons in vivo, and show how the 1/f noise model provides much better agreement than the usual approximations based on Lorentzian noise. The low frequency noise, however, complicates the case for information coding scheme based on interspike intervals by introducing variability in the neuron response time. On a positive note, the neuron response time to a step stimulus is, remarkably, nearly optimal in the presence of 1/f noise. An explanation of this effect elucidates how the brain can take advantage of noise to prime a subset of the neurons to respond almost instantly to sudden stimuli. The full text of the paper can be downloaded from:
http://arxiv.org/abs/1009.0878
Submitted by: Arif Babul
**AWARDS & GRANTS**

**CIHR New Investigator Award**
Dr. Craig Brown, Assistant Professor, Division of Medical Sciences is a recent recipient of the Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) New Investigator Award. This award is given to highly-rated applicants from across Canada who are conducting health research. Dr. Brown has been awarded the maximum amount ($300,000 for 5 years) for his project "Imaging the impact of diabetes on brain function and recovery from stroke".

Submitted by: Christine Wood

**CCCBE Fellowship Offerings**
The Centre for Co-operative and Community-Based Economy (CCCBE) is pleased to announce our 2012/2013 fellowship offerings. We are inviting applications from interested UVic faculty members, scholars from Canada or abroad, graduate students, members of the non-academic community, or scholars with no formal university affiliation, to take part as fellows in the stimulating life of inquiry at our Centre.

The CCCBE offers:
- Graduate Student Fellowships
- Faculty Research Fellowships
- Visiting Research Fellowships
- Community Fellowships
- Sabbatical Fellowships

Please find detailed information about each of these fellowships at [http://www.bcics.org/content/fellowships](http://www.bcics.org/content/fellowships).

Application Deadline - October 31, 2011

Submitted by: Sandy Polomark

**ACM Student Research Competition - Julius Davis**
Julius Davis, an undergraduate who was supported by the Undergraduate Research Awards in 2009, has won the ACM Student Research Competition in the Undergraduate Category, in the Software Engineering field (ICSE). He will now compete for the ACM Grand Finals. The Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) is the most prestigious association in Computer Science. He also won (at the same event) a Mining Software Repositories Challenge Award. Julius was very prolific as an undergraduate. He was the lead author of one conference paper (International Working Conference in Mining Software Repositories, with acceptance rate of 32%). His paper was selected as one of the best and invited as a journal paper for a Special Issue of the Conference (Journal of Empirical Software Engineering). He was also first author in another short paper, and contributed heavily to the data analysis of another conference paper. He had 4 publications by the time he was finishing his undergraduate. Julius and his MSc supervisor, Daniel German, are very grateful to the support of the UVIC/LTC Undergraduate Research Awards.

Submitted by: Heather Croft

**Teaching Award in Medical Sciences**
Dr. Stan Bardal, Division of Medical Sciences, is 2011 recipient of the Teaching Award in Medical Sciences. The purpose of the award is to recognize and reward excellence in teaching and education in the Division of Medical Sciences at UVic. Nominees are full-time faculty who have completed at least three consecutive years of teaching duties at the Island Medical Program or the Division. Dr. Bardal will be recognized for this award, along with other award recipients from faculties across UVic, at the UVic Learning and Teaching Centre's annual recognition event in February 2012.

Submitted by: Christine Wood

**Merck Graduate Fellowship in Aboriginal Health**
The Centre for Aboriginal Health Research is happy to announce the Merck Graduate Fellowship in Aboriginal Health. Two Fellowships in the amount of $17,500.00 will be awarded to an outstanding Aboriginal Masters or Doctoral student at the University of Victoria doing research in conjunction with the Centre for Aboriginal health Research or secondly to Post Doctoral Fellows wanting to engage in research with the Centre for Aboriginal Health Research. For more information please contact Robynne Edgar at redgar@uvic.ca.

Submitted by: Robynne Edgar

**2011 Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation Scholarship**
UVic Law PhD candidate, Johnny Mack, is one of the 2011 Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation scholarship recipients receiving a total of $180,000 over three years. Mack’s research investigated how the traditional socio-political and legal framework of the Nuu-chah-nulth people, living on the west coast of Vancouver Island, can be reformed to better suit today’s realities.

Submitted by: Maggie McCartie

**Convocation Highlights**
David Cecchetto, INTD: English/Visual Arts with a Concentration in Cultural, Social, and Political Thought candidate, received both the Governor General’s Gold Medal as well as the 2011 CAGS/UMI Distinguished Dissertation Award at this year’s spring convocation ceremonies.

Candidate, Genevieve von Petzinger, is the only Canadian on the distinguished list of 20 new international fellows at the TEDGlobal Conference 2011 next month in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Submitted by: Maggie McCartie
**Division of Medical Sciences Welcomes Three New Faculty Members**

The Division of Medical Sciences (DMSC) welcomes three new women faculty members: Michele Martin, Leigh Anne Swayne, and Stephanie Willerth. Drs. Swayne and Willerth both work on stem cells: Dr. Swayne’s research aims to stimulate endogenous neural stem cells to promote brain repair, while Dr. Willerth’s goal is to create and optimize methods to repair and regenerate spinal cord tissue with induced pluripotent stem cells.

Dr. Swayne came to UVic following internationally (Marie Curie) and provincially funded post doctoral fellowships in cellular and molecular neurobiology in France and Ottawa. Dr. Willerth, a biomechanical engineer, joined the Department of Mechanical Engineering (and was cross-appointed to the DMSC) following an NIH-funded postdoctoral fellowship at the University of California (Berkeley). Dr. Michele Martin, the UVic Veterinary Director, completed her PhD with Dr. Brad Nelson at the BC Cancer Agency’s Deley Research Centre and has begun setting up her lab in the Division with the aim of harnessing immune cells to fight breast cancer.

Each from slightly different research backgrounds, the three new scientists have begun to find common ground, and excited to build their programs, the three new faculty members:

- Michele Martin, the Proliferation and Differentiation Research Group
- Leigh Anne Swayne, the UVic Veterinary Director, completed her PhD with Dr. Brad Nelson at the BC Cancer Agency’s Deley Research Centre and has begun setting up her lab in the Division with the aim of harnessing immune cells to fight breast cancer.
- Stephanie Willerth, a biomechanical engineer, joined the Department of Mechanical Engineering (and was cross-appointed to the DMSC) following an NIH-funded postdoctoral fellowship at the University of California (Berkeley).

**Professor Lorna Crozier Awarded the Order of Canada**

Lorna Crozier, the acclaimed professor of poetry with the University of Victoria’s Department of Writing, has been named an Officer of the Order of Canada by Governor General David Johnston. With 15 books of poetry behind her and a number of awards—including the Governor General’s Literary Award—as well as a pair of honorary doctorates for her contributions to Canadian literature and her designation as a Distinguished Professor at UVic, Crozier is in the enviable position of being highly regarded by her peers and universally loved by the students and writers she has mentored over her 20 years at UVic. She will be honoured at a special celebration at Rideau Hall in Ottawa this fall, alongside a select list of other notable Canadians, including the celebrated likes of novelist Nino Ricci, comedian Eugene Levy, science broadcaster Bob McDonald and musician Valdy. The Officer of the Order of Canada recognizes a lifetime of achievement and merit of a high degree, especially in service to Canada or to humanity at large. For more information visit www.lornacrozier.ca and http://www.gg.ca/document.aspx?id=72

**FUTURE EVENTS**

**Exploring Regional Climate Services: Meeting Stakeholder Needs for Practical Climate Information**

The Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium (PCIC) is teaming up with the Institute for Coastal Research, Helmholtz Zentrum Geesthacht (Germany) to offer the workshop “Exploring Regional Climate Services: Meeting Stakeholder Needs for Practical Climate Information” at the University of Victoria November 21-23, 2011.

The three-day workshop will consider the ways in which climate information is communicated to stakeholders, how regional culture influences the flow of information, and the role that regional climate services play in mediating the flow of information. Workshop co-sponsors include the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions, the University of Victoria, and the KlimaCampus Hamburg in Germany.

For more information on the sessions being offered and how to register, please visit the PCIC website at http://pacificclimate.org/

Submitted by: Greg Maruszeczka

**RESEARCH COMMUNICATIONS**

The Research bulletin board is a place where you, as a researcher, can post quick notes to the research community at UVic. For example, you can use the bulletin board if:

- you would like to publicize the publication of some of your work.
- you would like to announce an award.
- you are taking on graduate students or post-docs for a project.
- you need or can share a piece of equipment.
- you want to publicize a lecture or event relevant to researchers.

Please try to keep your post to a maximum of 100 words and be sure to include any important dates and contact information and web links. Post your own message to the bulletin board at https://www.uvic.ca/research/conduct/news/bulletinboard/index.php. Posts are moderated and published by the Office of the Vice-President Research.

**Share your research results with Research Ahead!**

Are you a UVic researcher who is about to publish in a peer-reviewed journal? Does the research have significant public interest or public policy potential? A new UVic website provides you with a quick and easy route to alert both the vice-president research and UVic Communications that a research paper you’ve authored is about to be published in a major academic journal. Working with you, UVic Communications may use this information to generate media interest in your work. Access the Research Ahead! website at www.uvic.ca/research.

For more information on the above-mentioned initiatives—and especially to propose new story ideas—contact Valerie Shore, Research Communications Officer in UVic Communications at local 7641 or vshore@uvic.ca.

**Research Publications**

See the latest editions of The Ring, Fastlane and KnowlEDGE for more news about exciting research at UVic.

**New Internal Research Newsletter**

Thank you for your submissions and continued interest in UVic research news. Please go to our new web page http://www.uvic.ca/research/conduct/news/newsletter/feedbackform.php if you would like to contribute a story to the newsletter.
**RESEARCH CENTRES**

**Helping Each Other To Do Good**

Nuk’u’naw’l’ ku ama means “helping each other to do good” in Lil’wat, the language of the First Nations people of Mount Currie in British Columbia — this phrase describes the intent of our Partnership project. Stronger together—Helping each other to strengthen and sustain Indigenous youth identity and cultural knowledge is a partnership that connects cross-sector and multidisciplinary academics and community organizations who have histories of exceptional work with Indigenous youth. Building on the expertise of the Centre for Youth and Society UVic (CFYS) in campus-community partnership building, and relations of trust with specific Indigenous communities (many of whom contributed to and/or participate in the innovative UVic Aboriginal Communities Graduate Counseling Program) the Partnership will investigate cultural identity awareness and development for Indigenous youth, utilizing traditional knowledge processes and methodologies.

CFYS is partnering with the following Indigenous organizations with youth and family serving programs: First Peoples Language Program (many of whom contributed to and/or participate in the Indigenous knowledge processes and methodologies.)

The Partnership will investigate cultural identity awareness and development for Indigenous youth, utilizing traditional knowledge processes and methodologies. The Partnership will investigate cultural identity awareness and development for Indigenous youth, utilizing traditional knowledge processes and methodologies.

For more information please contact the Centre for Youth & Society at cys@uvic.ca or 250-472-5414.

Submitted by: Holly Tuokko

**Possible Selves Mapping Process**

Centre for Youth & Society Director Anne Marshall and Student Affiliate Francis Guenette have just published a manual and DVD of the Possible Selves Mapping Process (PSMP).

The mapping process is a culturally sensitive tool for career and life exploration and decision-making. Everyone thinks about their goals and hopes, even their fears, for their present and future lives - for example, what subjects they might like to study, what kind of work they would like to do, where and how would they want to live, and also what things they don’t want to have happen to them.

The PSMP is a particular way of exploring and understanding people’s goals, hopes, fears, and expectations right now and in the future. For more information please contact the Centre for Youth & Society at cys@uvic.ca or 250-472-5414.

Submitted by: Stephanie Poje

**New Centre for Aboriginal Health Research Publication**

The new CAHR publication on Global Indigenous Health: Global Indigenous Health: An Opportunity for Canadian Leadership is now available.

http://cahr.uvic.ca/

Submitted by: R. Edgar

**Statistical Methods in Aging, Analytical Research Training (SMAART)**

The Centre on Aging and the Institute on Aging (IA) of the CIHR hosted the Statistical Methods in Aging, Analytical Research Training (SMAART) program May 16-20, 2011. Thirty-six graduate students, 7 faculty members and 4 researchers from across Canada attended. An overview of longitudinal design and analysis was provided, with emphasis on current statistical approaches for the analysis of longitudinal data. Speakers included: Sean Clouston, Philippe Rast and Annie Robitaille (Postdoctoral Fellows, Centre on Aging); members from the Department of Psychology, Scott M. Hofer, (Professor, Harald Mohr, MD and Wilhelma Mohr, MD Research Chair in Adult Development and Aging, Centre on Aging), Andrea M. Piccinin (Associate Professor), and Catharine Sparks (Graduate Student); Michael Kobor (Professor, University of British Columbia), and Graciela Muniz (Research Scientist, MRC Biostatistics Unit, University of Cambridge, UK). A PhD Candidate-participant noted: “This training has enabled me to write much more powerful grants … [and has] given me the language I need to communicate with experts who can help me answer more of my questions … and clearly, has a high impact on creating ‘highly qualified personnel’ in Canada.”

The Centre on Aging plans to offer similar training events at regular intervals.

Submitted by: Holly Tuokko

**Social Entrepreneurship Research Forum - Australia**

Dr. Ana Maria Peredo, Director for the Centre for Co-operative and Community-Based Economy was well represented at the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences in Fredericton, NB (May 28 – June 4, 2011). Graduate student fellows Lisa Pascoli, Ben Geselbracht, Nick Montgomery and CCCBE Director Ana Maria Peredo presented a panel titled: ‘Innovative Interdisciplinary: Education, Diversity.’


These presentations spanned various aspects of cooperatives and collective enterprises and created interest while raising vibrant discussion. The panel demonstrated the diversity and flexibility of cooperatives to various disciplines and research topics, including: feminism, childcare, citizenship, counseling, activism, poverty, social work, politics, globalization, gardening, land use, and law.

Submitted by: Nick Montgomery

**Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences - Fredericton**

This year the Centre for Co-operative and Community-Based Economy was well represented at the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences in Fredericton, NB (May 28 – June 4, 2011). Graduate student fellows Lisa Pascoli, Ben Geselbracht, Nick Montgomery and CCCBE Director Ana Maria Peredo presented a panel titled: ‘Innovative Interdisciplinary: Education, Diversity.’


These presentations spanned various aspects of cooperatives and collective enterprises and created interest while raising vibrant discussion. The panel demonstrated the diversity and flexibility of cooperatives to various disciplines and research topics, including: feminism, childcare, citizenship, counseling, activism, poverty, social work, politics, globalization, gardening, land use, and law.

Submitted by: Ana Maria Peredo

**While down under, Ana Maria will also be presenting a paper on “Community-Based Entrepreneurship Research: Some comments on Methodology” at the Samoa II Conference from July 4-8th.**

The “Tracing Footprints of Tomorrow: Past Lessons, Present Stories, Future Lives” is hosted by The University of Samoa in New Zealand.

Submitted by: Sandy Polomark
Revised NEARBC Aboriginal Health Resource

The Centre for Aboriginal Health Research in partnership with the National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health is pleased to announce the launch of the revised NEARBC Aboriginal Health Resource Site.

www.nearbc.ca  
Network Environments for Aboriginal Health Research (NEARBC) is an Aboriginal health research networking program and Aboriginal health resource site of the Centre for Aboriginal Health Research (CAHR) at the University of Victoria, British Columbia.

Widely recognized for its timely information on Aboriginal research issues, access to research databases, and regular e-news bulletins, the popularity and effectiveness of this site continues to grow! Thanks to the generous support of the National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health (NCCAH), at the University of Northern British Columbia, we have been able to maintain this valuable resource!

The site has been updated to reflect current information relating to Aboriginal Health in Canada and around the world. Please visit our new E-Library for up to date information and resources pertaining to Aboriginal Health such as:

- Aboriginal Health Abstracts;
- Ethics in Aboriginal Health Research;
- Health Research Databases;
- Links to Aboriginal Health related and Global Indigenous Websites; and
- University & College Aboriginal Student Services, and much more!

Submitted by: R. Edgar

Summer Institute in Aboriginal Health

During the week of June 6th, 2011, the Centre for Aboriginal Health Research (CAHR) hosted the first annual Summer Institute in Aboriginal Health (SI). This successful workshop brought together researchers, policy makers, community health workers, youth and Elders for a dynamic week of exploring Aboriginal health. With presentations from diverse experts in the field, a range of Aboriginal health issues were shared, including the social determinants of health, traditional medicines, cultural competency and health governance. The week also included group discussions and skill developing activities. Building from the learned material and participants’ experiences, working groups created logic models for program development and evaluation, and prepared mock funding proposals for peer and expert review. Many of the proposals developed by the groups, including women’s wellness, youth health and food security, are projects which participants plan to pursue.

The SI provided an opportunity for invaluable knowledge-to-action sessions, allowing participants to create a toolbox of skills, resources, and contacts. Having received positive and meaningful feedback that illustrates the demand for future workshops of this kind, the CAHR SI will become an annual event!

CAHR would like to acknowledge the support from FNHC, NCCAH, NAHO, and the UVic VP Academic and Prevost diversity committee. For more information, please see the CAHR website. http://www.cahr.uvic.ca

Submitted by: R. Edgar

Healthy Aging through Fall Prevention among Older Aboriginal People

May 2nd and 3rd, 2011, the Centre for Aboriginal Health Research and partners held the conference “Healthy Aging through Fall Prevention among Older Aboriginal People”. May 2nd was a public forum including presentations and an expert panel fielding questions from the audience. Presenters and panelists included representatives from the B.C. Ministry of Health, the B.C. Injury Research and Prevention Unit, the U.S. Centres for Disease Control, the U.S. Indian Health Service, and the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch, and the BC Seniors Healthy Living Secretariat. May 3rd brought together researchers, Aboriginal Elders, policy makers, community-based health care professionals, knowledge mobilization experts, community members, and health care professionals working across the province in fruitful action-oriented discussions outlining an Aboriginal fall prevention strategy. Emergent themes were: creation of fall prevention programs tailored to the needs and diverse cultures of Aboriginal peoples; enhancing access to training for health service providers based in First Nations communities; and, increasing cultural safety of health services through training of non-Aboriginal practitioners and increased presence of Aboriginal health service providers. These discussions and next steps will be published later this summer in a report available on the CAHR website – check back often!

http://www.cahr.uvic.ca

Submitted by: Robynne Edgar