The next federal budget and research funding: Great Expectations?

With the next federal budget on the horizon in a time of national and global fiscal restraint, one cannot help but wonder what it will mean for research funding and support over the coming years. There are indications that the answer will be something like: “not as bad it could be, but perhaps not as good as you’d like”. All things considered, having to moderate our expectations is far better than what academic researchers in many other jurisdictions are facing. With federal departments facing budgets reductions of 5-10% causing general anxiety, indications are that the emerging research and innovation priorities of the Harper government may help ameliorate the impact on university research. My best guess is that the Tri-Council budgets will either be flat or see a small reduction for their core programs, but that special targeted research funding programs may make up the difference.

The current government has demonstrated keen interest in the results of recent research and innovation priority setting initiatives by the Science and Technology Innovation Council (STIC), the National Research Council (NRC) and, most recently, the Jenkins Report. Comments made by the Prime Minister and key ministers (e.g. Industry Canada) all suggest that the federal government remains committed to supporting both basic and applied research. It is also clear that they believe in the value of focusing any new research funding into targeted areas with the potential for either driving economic growth or reducing costs. In summary, given the potential hits most government funding programs will take from this budget, my prediction is that academic researchers should fare relatively well. Based on our track record, I am betting on UVic’s researchers doing better than most.

Dr. J. Howard Brunt
Vice-President Research
Upcoming events

Aboriginal Health Student Research Café

Come and join us at the CAHR office once a month for a unique opportunity to meet new people studying in the field of Aboriginal health research. Learn from our team about all the valuable resources and tools that are available.

The Aboriginal Health Student Research Café is a student-lead initiative that seeks to provide peer to peer support, mentorship and information sharing through regular meeting and networking sessions: “cafés.” The space and support provided by the centre will allow students to come together on a monthly basis. Topics and discussions will be participant driven.

Coffee and tea will be served.

For more info please go to CAHR’s Student Mentorship website.

- Robynne Edgar

Let’s do lunch.

Join us for our monthly lunch series to learn more about the knowledge mobilization (KM) activities happening on campus and in the community.

- Learn what KM means to your colleagues
- Learn what strategies they’re using, what impact they’re making and why they think this work is important
- Get advice on incorporating KM into your own research interests

All sessions run from 12:00—1:00 p.m. in MacLaurin D101. Drop in with your lunch; coffee will be provided. Contact Dale Anderson at kmcoord@uvic.ca for details or to speak at a future event.

Thursday, February 23, 2012
“KM as service to the community”

Dr. Bev Smith, Associate Director, Centre for Early Childhood Research and Policy [formerly REACH] and Dr. Nigel Livingston, Director, CanAssist.

Thursday, March 22, 2012
“KM in the classroom”

Dr. Rosaline Canessa, Department of Geography and Dr. Joaquin Trapero, Manager, Institutional Programs and Knowledge Mobilization.
More upcoming events

IdeaFest 2012

The University of Victoria community is invited to spend a week this spring exploring the breadth and depth of UVic’s research and creative activities at the first ever IdeaFest, running from March 5-10, 2012 in every corner of campus.

Led by the Office of the Vice-President Research with participation and support from nearly 30 faculties, departments, schools and centres, this week-long festival is a chance for faculty, staff and students to take a deeper look at the fascinating and world-changing ideas being produced at UVic.

“This festival shines a spotlight on the voices, values and experiences that shape our unique identity and community,” explains Howard Brunt, Vice-President Research.

“Student and faculty researchers and artists have been translating their passion, intellectual energy and expertise into discoveries that are improving and enriching people’s lives, a fact that deserves to be celebrated and explored across our entire community.”

Intended as a pilot year for an even bigger festival during the 50th anniversary period in March 2013, IdeaFest 2012 will feature many of UVic’s most pioneering ideas presented using a healthy mix of mediums, including interactive lectures, interdisciplinary hot topic debates, performances and exhibits, panel discussions, tours and web-based storytelling.

Examples of some of the ideas up for discussion during the festival include Islamic finance, ecological governance, health literacy, creativity, socially-responsible business, water issues, the Occupy Movement, aging, digital humanities, the Arab Spring and whether or not the book—in its print form—is in fact on death’s door.

The full program of IdeaFest activities—including updates and additional events as they are scheduled over the month of February—is available for browsing at www.uvic.ca/ideafest. With over 30 events in the schedule, the hardest part will be figuring out which idea to start your personal journey of discovery with.

-Melanie Tromp Hoover
In August, Dr Jutta Gutberlet, associate professor in geography, was in São Paulo, Brazil, continuing her participatory research with informal recyclers or “catadores” in that region. Jutta expanded her efforts this year by examining occupational health issues in the recycling co-operatives. She discovered serious occupational risks related to chemical hazards, e.g. from handling cement bags and containers with toxic products; biological hazards, e.g. from packaging contaminated by bacteria or fungus. The detailed key findings and solutions were first distributed during the International Seminar on Inclusive Waste Management, in Santo André between December 14 and 15, 2011, organized by Dr. Gutberlet and her colleagues in Brazil.

Jutta says, “Many changes are needed to increase work place safety and buy-in from municipal and regional governments. First of all the government should recognize and address the particularly vulnerable working conditions of recyclers, not through prohibition but by improving the recycling operations and reducing the risks in the cooperatives.”

Since 2000, Jutta has worked with recyclers in Brazil to develop cooperatives. The cooperative movement has proven to be an effective anti-poverty strategy, by creating work and income and by promoting human development. The project is a six-year venture funded by the Canadian International Development Agency, through the Association of University and Colleges Collaboration as a Tier 2 project under the University Partnership Collaboration and Development program of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC).

The Centre on Aging congratulates Dr. Scott Hofer (COAG, PSYC) on being elected President of the Society of Multivariate Experimental Psychology (SMEP). The SMEP was established in 1964 to promote the development of psychological theory and empirical findings through the use of multivariate models and measurement.

Professor Hofer is highly respected for his contributions to the understanding of cognitive and social functioning over the life course, with special emphasis on creative approaches to the design and analysis of longitudinal data that are informative about stability and change in later life.

Being elected President of this 50-year old society is one of the highest honours that one can receive in quantitative psychology.

- Leah Potter

-Anne MacLaurin
Ian Wrohan’s university experience strayed from the classroom environment and extended to the northern extremes of the Canadian Arctic. For two two-month periods during the summers of 2007 and 2008, Wrohan, Dr. Diana Varela and a team of scientists ventured into the three oceans of Canada: the Pacific, the Atlantic and the Arctic.

During his first summer, he took an icebreaker from Dartmouth, NS, up to the mid-point on the Arctic Coast and into the Canada Basin above Alaska. Then in 2008, he departed from Victoria doing the same trip from the West Coast.

“The idea was to produce a snapshot of Canada’s ocean conditions during those summers. It’s so hard to get up there that there isn’t a lot of data. It was an excellent opportunity to provide an oceanographic baseline of that data,” he explains.

His and Varela’s focus was on phytoplankton in those waters. They used the data to publish multiple papers and collaborate with other groups.

-Maggie McCartie

Katleen ‘Kat’ Robert has made history by becoming the first graduate student anywhere in the world to have completed a degree using the UVic’s Ocean Networks Canada (ONC) Observatory as a primary research tool. Her deep-sea dive occurred when she joined a US-led expedition that used the submersible Alvin to install a time-lapse camera on the seafloor at one of the NEPTUNE observatory sites. She studied the ecological processes occurring in deep-sea habitats and the locomotory and burrowing behaviour of bottom-feeding organisms in response to daily, tidal and seasonal cycles.

To capture these processes and behaviours, Robert pioneered the use of remote-controlled video cameras from NEPTUNE and VENUS by developing new image acquisition and analysis protocols to match the rhythms.

-Maggie McCartie
Community research matters at HSD

Over the last few months the Faculty of Human and Social Development has been busy gathering research stories from faculty and student researchers who are actively engaged in partnerships focused on making a positive difference in our local, national and international communities.

Our research helps inform all our educational and professional programs in the Faculty where students benefit from opportunities to contribute to the health of society. Please feel free to read our latest publication.

-Christine McLaren

PhD Candidate’s international placement

Lorraine Courneyea, PhD physics candidate, just completed the kind of program that every particle-physicist-in-the-making dreams of in Geneva, Switzerland, working on the Large Hadron Collider (LHC).

This international placement—part of the package for PhD students working with UVic’s ATLAS (particle detector experiment) group—shifted slightly in scope from analysis to a lengthy prep session for Courneyea when the LHC was halted due to a serious electrical fault that caused a rupture in the equipment, setting the collection of data on these energies back by months.

But it was this extra year of groundwork that made Courneyea an expert and eventual team leader in her contribution to the ATLAS.

-Maggie McCartie

Lorraine Courneyea
Peeling Back the Pavement with POLIS

The POLIS Project on Ecological Governance, in partnership with the University of Victoria’s Environmental Law Centre, recently released the latest installment in its water sustainability handbook series for decision makers, policy analysts, community leaders and water managers. *Peeling Back the Pavement: A Blueprint for Reinventing Rainwater Management in Canada’s Communities*, by Susanne Porter-Bopp, Oliver M. Brandes, and Calvin Sandborn, outlines the problems with conventional stormwater management and examines solutions for moving toward sustainability.

Rethinking the way we deal with rain and snowmelt in our cities means replacing conventional pipe-and-convey systems with an approach that recognizes rainwater as a valuable resource while at the same time reducing runoff volume and improving runoff quality.

*Peeling Back the Pavement* provides a comprehensive action plan for changing the way communities govern stormwater. It describes measures that local and senior governments can take to move from the current system of stormwater management to one based in rainwater management.

A main focus of the handbook is the fragmented responsibility for fresh water across and within jurisdictions—one of the greatest challenges to reinventing rainwater management in Canada.

Electronic copies of *Peeling Back the Pavement* are available for download from the POLIS Water Sustainability Project.

-Laura Brandes

Compute Canada assistance at UVic

The number of Compute Canada members at UVic has almost reached 190. This implies that our researchers are moving to large-scale problems requiring intensive computations, large amount of memory and/or large storage space.

*Compute Canada* is a national collaboration of the seven regional high performance computing (HPC) consortia (ACEnet, CLUMEQ, RQCHP, HPCVL, SciNet, SHARCNET, WestGrid) and aims at coordinating and promoting the establishment of a national HPC infrastructure and research facilities in Canada. Compute Canada and its consortia provide the computational facilities (e.g. parallel clusters, serial clusters, shared memory systems, GPU clusters, Visualization and Collaboration rooms) and expert services, including research computing and HPC personnel, necessary to advance research and innovation.

UVic is a partner institution of *WestGrid*, a regional consortium that spans four provinces (BC, AB, SK, MB). UVic hosts two main clusters: a parallel cluster (Nestor) and a serial cluster (Hermes) as well as 1.2 petabytes of storage (the serial cluster and storage are more than doubling in size over the next few months). UVic is also creating two rooms for Visualization and Collaboration.

We have a dedicated HPC specialist (Belaid Moa) hired to assist our researchers in using Compute Canada and WestGrid facilities: everything from gaining access, to adapting and optimizing your software to efficiently run on the clusters. Please contact Belaid if you have any questions.

-Belaid Moa
Researchers at UVic and Caltech have set a new world record for data transfer, helping to usher in the next generation of high-speed network technology. At the SuperComputing 2011 (SC11) conference in Seattle in November, the international team transferred data in opposite directions at a combined rate of 186 gigabits per second (Gbps) in a wide-area network circuit. Using a 100-Gbps circuit set up by Canada’s Advanced Research and Innovation Network (CANARIE) and BCNET, the team was able to reach transfer rates of 98 Gbps between the UVic Computing Centre located in Victoria, BC, and the Washington State Convention Centre in Seattle, WA. With a simultaneous data rate of 88 Gbps in the opposite direction, the team reached a sustained two-way data rate of 186 Gbps between two data centers, breaking the team’s previous peak-rate record of 119 Gbps set in 2009.

The fast transfer rate is also crucial for dealing with the tremendous amounts of data coming from the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN, the particle accelerator that physicists hope will help them discover new particles and better understand the nature of matter, and space and time, solving some of the biggest mysteries of the universe.

The UVic team is lead by Randall Sobie, an Institute of Particle Physics Research Scientist and Adjunct Professor at UVic. For more information see http://supercomputing.uvic.ca and http://heprc.phys.uvic.ca.

- Randall Sobie
First Images of Electron Beam Seen With UVic Diagnostic System

The construction of an electron accelerator, as part of the ARIEL project at the TRIUMF laboratory, is now underway. This is a major undertaking, led by UVic and funded through the Canada Foundation for Innovation and the Government of British Columbia, with the ultimate goal to expand Canada’s capabilities to produce isotopes for physics and medicine. A prototype system for the initial section of the accelerator, the electron gun, has been set up at TRIUMF. A beam imaging system designed and built by researchers at UVic captured the first pictures of the electron beam in mid-December. Additional sections for the accelerator “front-end” will be added in the coming months, including additional UVic imaging systems for beam diagnostics. Ground breaking for the accelerator tunnel took place in November 2011 and the accelerator is scheduled for completion by March 2014.

Detailed article found [here](#) and elsewhere on the TRIUMF [website](#).

-Dean Karlen

Internet Water Army and spotting paid posters

UVic Computer Science researchers Cheng Chen, Kui Wu and Venkatesh Srinivasan went undercover to distinguish legitimate online users from hidden paid posters known in China as the Internet Water Army because they ‘flood’ the internet for whoever is willing to pay.

The flood can consist of comments, gossip and information that can make a huge difference to a product’s sales or even drive a competitor out of the market. This tricks the consumer into making a purchase decision based on false information.

The research team built software that was remarkably accurate at spotting paid posters. Their findings could lead to better spam-detection software.

Click [here](#) to read more about the research and to download a PDF of the original research article.

-Heather Croft
Dr. Rudnyckyj co-winner of 2011 Sharon Stephens Prize

*Spiritual Economies: Islam, Globalization, and the Afterlife of Development* (Cornell University Press, 2010) by Dr. Daromir Rudnyckyj (Pacific and Asian studies), was named co-winner of the 2011 Sharon Stephens Prize awarded by the American Ethnological Society, North America’s oldest association of professional anthropologists. The Stephens Prize is awarded biannually to a “work that speaks to contemporary social issues with relevance beyond the discipline of anthropology and beyond the academy.”

*Spiritual Economies* deploys recent advances in ethnography to analyze moderate Islamic “spiritual reform” initiatives in Southeast Asia that reinterpret Islam to make it conducive to commercial success and business productivity. The prize committee wrote that *Spiritual Economies* “stood out for its commitment to excellence in ethnography, rich theory and compelling writing.”

Rudnyckyj, a specialist on development and religion in Southeast Asia, received the award at the meetings of the American Anthropological Association in Montreal on November 18, 2011.

-Daromir Rudnyckyj

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IBM Canada Centres for Advanced Studies (CAS) Research Technology Incubation Lab Project of the Year 2011

Professor Hausi Muller and his PhD student, Norha Villegas, won the IBM Canada Centres for Advanced Studies (CAS) Research Technology Incubation Lab Project of the Year 2011 as the CAS research team of faculty, student and IBM developer who best exemplify the mission statements of CAS:

1. Excel as a Canadian research center for the advancement of applied science in research areas strategic to IBM
2. Harvest and transfer results from advanced research to strategic products and initiatives
3. Build and foster relationships among researchers, funding agencies, IBM and customers
4. Expose IBM developers to current research directions, and identify new and emerging technology issues for academic research

Hausi and Norha’s project, *Managing Dynamic Context to Optimize Smart Interaction and Smart Services*, leverages customers’ shopping experiences and optimizes the value businesses generate for their customers. This project resulted in seven publications in top venues, a prototype implementation, an international workshop and several presentations and demonstrations to IBM Canada and the international research community.

-Heather Croft

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*Award and grant-winners*

Dr. Rudnyckyj receiving the Stephens Prize for *Spiritual Economies*. 
2011-12 Merck Graduate Fellowships in Aboriginal Health

The Centre for Aboriginal Health Research is happy to announce Karen Hall and Krystal Summers as the successful recipients of the 2011-12 Merck Graduate Fellowships in Aboriginal Health.

Karen is in her second year of her master’s in Studies in Policy and Practice in the Health and Social Services program. Her research will examine Traditional Healing and its role within the formal health care sector in the NT.

Krystal’s doctoral research will expand on her focus of Aboriginal peoples experiences of substance misuse by exploring healing and recovery from an Aboriginal perspective through the post-treatment stories of Aboriginal peoples who have attended culturally specific substance abuse treatment centers along their path to “wellness” from once-harmful substance use.

Karen and Krystal currently have offices housed at CAHR and are part of our Aboriginal Health Research Cafe. Please feel free to connect with them at anytime.

-Robyn Edgar
ORs welcomed Terri Myer as our new pre-award grants officer in August. The grants team, Terri, Dailene O’Neill, Marie Eardley and Rachel Marks worked with the faculty’s grant facilitators to support the faculties’ submissions to the TriCouncil competitions over the fall.

Number of applications submitted for the Fall Operating Tri-Council Competition by year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>% Change from 2010</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NSERC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discovery (includes Northern Supplement &amp; SAPPJ)</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>-8.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>RTI</td>
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<td>35</td>
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<td>-11.4%</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Standard/Insight*</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>-21.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>CIHR</td>
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<tr>
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<td>19</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>+50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>-11.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note:
Of note this year was the significant change in the structure of the SSHRC program architecture. Two new competitions were introduced:
1) Insight Development Program – Feb 2011 (13 applications submitted)
2) Insight Program – offered in Oct 2011 (46 applications submitted)
Researchers are only allowed to apply to one Program in the same fiscal year.

SSHRC 2011 change in program architecture:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>OLD Programs</th>
<th>NEW Programs</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program</td>
<td>Standard Research Grant</td>
<td>Insight Grant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Competition Date</td>
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<td>Award Duration</td>
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<td>3 – 5 years</td>
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<td>Award Maximum</td>
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<td>Max $500,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evaluation</td>
<td>Record of research achievement, Proposed program of research</td>
<td>Challenge, Feasibility, Capability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restrictions</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Cannot apply to both in same year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Research funding agreements:  
Contact: contract@uvic.ca

We were pleased to welcome Annari Faurie as the new Manager, Research Funding Agreements, in September. During the fall we have handled 69 new files as well as a number of re-opening files. Autumn is typically busy with US subawards and this year has been no exception.

Overall there are 10 per cent more new files in 2011 YTD compared to 2010 and we are anticipating a total of 300 new files by year-end.

Our Research Funding Assistant, Rachel Mark, left ORS to pursue further educational opportunities. Rachel compiled a “Contracts Manual” to describe the processes and procedures that will provide a valuable resource for training new staff.

In addition to the day-to-day file work, special projects completed in the fall include the creation of a Contracts SharePoint library for ORS, General Counsel and UVic Industry Partnerships sharing common templates and precedents for use in contract drafting.

Institutional Programs  
Contact: cfi@uvic.ca

The institutional programs staff continued to work with faculty to prepare their proposals to the CFI Leaders Opportunity Fund. Two proposals were submitted in October and one proposal was approved (Martin Boulanger). We anticipate five proposals will be submitted on the February 15th deadline.

In addition to the ongoing LOF program, CFI launched in fall a new major competition for Leading Edge and New Initiatives funds. UVic has an institutional funding request limit, based on TriCouncil funding, of $7.5M CFI (or $18M total). The UVic internal Advisory committee, with representation from the faculties, VPAC, VPFO and VPR, met in October to review 17 proposals with input from the Research Services Operations Advisory Group. Five proposals were selected to move to the Notice of Intent stage submissions on January 20. Deadline for full proposals is April 26.

UVic’s success in previous CFI competitions has resulted in significant activity in the planning and acquisition of research infrastructure such as the Research Vessel, the ARIEL project at TRIUMF and the STEHM advanced imaging facility. Jill Taylor joined the office in October in the position of Senior Project Officer to support the management of our major research infrastructure projects.

Human Research Ethics  
Contact: ethics@uvic.ca

There has been an increase in the number of human research ethics applications received in 2011 compared to 2010, with a significant number of above minimal applications requiring full board review.

We are pleased to report that there has also been a faster response time, through the joint efforts of our human research ethics board members, ethics chairs and staff. For example, the number of days between the receipt of the completed application in ORS to the response to applicant with the consolidated review comments in September 2011 was 9 days for expedited review and 19 days for board reviews, compared to 30 days and 37 days respectively in September 2010.

Other activities this fall include the recruitment of five new members (two faculty members, one community member and two graduate students). We also in the process of updating our Human Research Ethics forms and guidelines to be in compliance with the new TriCouncil Policy Statement on Ethical Conduct for Research involving Humans, working with the HRE Board.
Animal Care Services
Contact: acsc@uvic.ca

The major focus for the fall was the preparation for the monitoring visit from the Canada Council on Animal Care assessment panel. The visit took place on December 6 and 7, and involved the Animal Care Committee, animal users, animal care staff and the Office of Vice-President Research in a series of meetings and tours over the two days. The panel expressed their appreciation for the thorough preparation and conduct of the visit. They will provide their report and recommendations early this year.

Other activities this fall have included a major increase in users of the Outdoor Aquatic Unit, an increase in the technical services available to users, calibration and documentation of animal environmental conditions and implementation of an IT data collection system to support inventory, billing and reporting requirements.

Knowledge Mobilization
Contact: kmcoord@uvic.ca

This has been a busy fall for knowledge mobilization—activities including: meetings with community stakeholders to develop collaborations, education and training sessions designed to share KM expertise with the UVic community and participation on planning committees for 2012-13 KM-related events.

A workshop on Scientist Knowledge Translation Training will be held in April 12-13, 2012 at UVic, co-sponsored with Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research.

Please visit our website for additional information and watch for specific announcements closer to the dates.

Of particular significance for the UVic community engaged in knowledge mobilization is the new Craigdarroch Award for Excellence in KM.

Postdoctoral Fellows

Please see our website for new postings including Postdoc Frequently Asked Questions. We have also established a central registry of postdocs and a listserv for the distribution of information to the postdoc community.

The 2011 Banting Fellowships, Canada’s most prestigious national/international postdoctoral award, are underway and UVic supported eight applications; the results will be announced in Spring 2012.
Awards
Contact: awardfac@uvic.ca

This has been a busy fall for the awards portfolio, supporting the nominations of UVic faculty for honorary degrees, Trudeau Fellowship, Royal Society of Canada fellowship, Royal Society medals and awards, BC Community Achievement awards and Victoria Leadership UVic Leadership awards.

The 2011 Craigdarroch Gold medal winner Antoniou Andreas was honoured with a Legacy Award for Research at the Legacy ceremony on November 22. Dante Canil (SEOS) and Julio Navarro (Physics & Astronomy) was inducted into the Royal Society of Canada on November 26 in Ottawa and Andrew Weaver received the RSC’s 2012 Romanowski medal at the same event.

A Warm Welcome

The Offices of the Vice-President Research and Vice-President External welcome Mr. Brad Buie as the new Awards Facilitator. He is stepping over from the Faculty of Business into the big shoes left by Marilyn Florence and Nancy Pye and is looking forward to the challenges of this exciting role.
Centre for Global Studies hosted MENA Conference

The Centre for Global Studies hosted the *Networks, Social Media and Political Change in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA)* conference from November 29 to December 1, 2011 in Victoria, BC. A group of 27 academics, activists, government and private sector representatives, and social media experts gathered for three days to discuss this timely subject matter. One of the conference participants, Syrian national Mohammed Al Abdallah, gave a public lecture on his personal experiences of harassment and incarceration under the Bashar al-Assad regime.

The conference reviewed the role of social media in MENA since the start of the Arab Spring, canvassed the types of hardware and software that might be characterized as constituting “social media”, discussed the relationship between traditional (printed press, television networks) and new/social media in MENA over the last year, and examined the role of journalism in MENA.

The group was left with some unanswered questions, but new partnerships were built and the interest to pursue the topic in greater depth was strongly expressed. Building on this first meeting, CFGS Executive Director Gordon Smith is drafting a funding proposal to advance the debate and continue forward with this project focusing on social media and democracy promotion.

-Nicole Bates-Eamer

Centre for Global Studies Symposium, Global Interdependence and You, as part of the Office of International Affairs’ International Education Week.

Research Centre updates

Centre for Global Studies hosted MENA Conference

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-Nicole Bates-Eamer
CAHR Joint Report on Fall Prevention

The Centre for Aboriginal Health Research, in partnership with the BC Injury Research & Prevention Unit, Centre of Excellence on Mobility, Fall Prevention and Injury in Aging and the BC Ministry of Health, are pleased to launch the new report, *Healthy Aging through Fall Prevention among Older Aboriginal People: From Many Voices to a Shared Vision*.

This report was generated from a forum and dialogue between Canadian and American experts aimed at improving the health of older Aboriginal people through the reduction of risk for falls and related injuries. It was a great opportunity to raise awareness that falls are an important health issue for older Aboriginal people and the need for more fall prevention activities in Aboriginal communities.

It was the first event of its kind to bring together the knowledge and experience of diverse participants around fall prevention in Aboriginal communities which allowed us to identify common themes and strategies for increasing awareness and preventing falls through collaborative efforts.

We are encouraged by what we have learned and are looking forward to taking this program to the next level.

If you would like another copy of this report, please contact Robynne Edgar at reddgar@uvic.ca or (250) 472-5456.

-Robynne Edger
Tell us your story

Thank you for your submissions and continued interest in UVic research news.

Please consider contributing a story online for the next newsletter and be sure to keep up with the latest issues of The Ring and KnowlEDGE for the latest in research at UVic.

Your research bulletin board

This is a space where you can post quick notes to the research community at UVic. Use this page to announce an upcoming lecture or the publication of your work, tell us if you’ve won an award, share which graduate students and post-docs you’ve started working with—the possibilities are endless.

Posts should be submitted online and include approximately 100 words; please include dates, contact information and links where appropriate. All messages are moderated and published by the Office of the Vice-President Research.

Spread the news

Are you about to publish a paper? Does your research have a public hook? Could it influence public policy? Let both the OVPR and UVic Communications know about it using the Research Ahead! submission form.

Please contact Valerie Shore, Research Communications Officer in UVic Communications at 7641 or vshore@uvic.ca with your story and outreach ideas.