If you have not done so already, I would like to encourage you to consider nominating a colleague for one of our 2013 Craigdarroch Research Awards…it makes a great holiday present! This will be our 10th anniversary and planning is underway to make this year’s awards ceremony the best ever. Under the able management of our very capable Awards Facilitator, Brad Buie, the Craigdarroch nomination process has continued to produce an outstanding cadre of nominees, but we are always looking for ways to make the job of choosing the recipients all that more difficult for the adjudication committee. This year’s selection committee is comprised of Dr. Howard Brunt (Chair), Dr. Maria Tippett, Dr. Nancy Sherwood, Dr. John McLaren and Ms. Sandra Richardson. We are looking forward to the work ahead.

Speaking of work ahead, we are well into the process of amalgamating and expanding all of our research partnership services into a single unit within the Office of Research Services (ORS), UVic Research Partnerships (UVic RP). With the significant growth in partner-based funding programs from the Tri-Councils (and others), and opportunities for partnerships with university researchers and other academic institutions, government, the private sector, NGOs, etc., UVic RP will serve as a one-stop shop to help partnerships succeed. ORS has seen a steady increase in often complex partnership agreements, which bring together interested parties from multiple sectors to work on challenging programs of research. As of April 2013, UVic RP will be providing services previously offered by UVic Industry Partnerships, ORS, and the Office of Community-Based Research (OCBR). We have been particularly challenged to meet the need for timely contract services in our present system, so we are making the necessary reallocation of resources to improve things as part of this reorganization.

And speaking of improving things, over the next year and a half the Office of the VP Research and ORS will be conducting a review of what we do and how we do it.
The Centre on Aging (COAG) is proud to have received CIHR funding for a series of Café Scientifique salon-style discussion sessions. Cafés will take place every month from January to May 2013, with aging-related topics ranging from spirituality for the dying, lifestyle cross-training and driving safety for older adults. For more information, visit the COAG website.

-Leah Potter

Let’s Talk Science symposiums

Let’s Talk Science is a national, charitable, science outreach organization. At UVic, Let’s Talk Science Outreach hosts a series of events throughout the year engaging with K-12 students on a variety of subjects. In the Spring semester the events will include three symposia which will bring high school students to UVic for hands-on minds-on learning on specific topics. The first symposium is the Social Science Symposium on Feb. 21, on the theme of Ecological Restoration. This will be followed by the Biomedical Symposium on Mar. 7, with the theme of The Changing Brain. The third symposium, the Ocean Science Symposium with ONCCEE, occurs on April 26-27. The symposia are multi-disciplinary in nature and offer a great opportunity for academics and students to interact with youth participants. For more information and volunteer opportunities, please contact Heather.

-Tanveer Pratap
“Both/and” not “Either/or”: Valuing Multiple Modes of Inquiry

The University of Victoria (UVic) School of Nursing, along with its collaborative partner, the Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA), are pleased to present the research conference, “Both/and” not “Either/or”: Valuing multiple modes of inquiry. Save the date to join keynote speaker Dr. Margarete Sandelowski on Friday, May 10, 2013.

The conference theme is Moving beyond binaries and dualism (“either/or” logic) to embrace a spirit of inclusion (“both/and”). We invite students, alumni, faculty, staff and practice partners to explore how multiple modes of inquiry advance research for practice in nursing. Employed in many contexts from religion to rhetoric, the concept of “both/and” proposes that we encompass multiple ideas and viewpoints—even contradictory ones—at the same time.

Keynote speaker: Margarete Sandelowski, RN, PhD, FAAN is the Cary C. Boshamer Distinguished Professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Nursing in Chapel Hill, NC, USA. She has published widely in nursing and social science anthologies and journals in the areas of technology and gender, and of qualitative and mixed-methods research methodology. Most recently she completed as PI a NIH/NINR-funded study to develop techniques to synthesize qualitative and quantitative research findings.

For more information about the conference visit the School of Nursing website.

- Robbyn Lanning

CAHR’s Aboriginal Health Research speaker series continues in its 3rd Year

The purpose of this series is to offer a unique opportunity for students and community members to learn about the broad topic of Aboriginal health and to learn from experts working in this field in an intimate and informal environment. Web conferencing available for all presentations.

Upcoming Presentations

CAHR Office 130C Saunders Annex:

- Jan. 16th - 11:30 am to 1:00 pm: Dr. Jessica Ball, Professor in the School of Child and Youth Care at the University of Victoria “Father Involvement and Wellness: First Nations and Métis Men’s Journeys”

- Feb. 27 – 11:30 am to 1:00 pm: Dr. Samaya Van Tyler, “Walking with Lions: HIV and Women Living in Kibera”

First Peoples House Mix n’ Mingle (Lunch):

- March 20 - 11:30 am to 2:00 pm: Dr. Malcolm King, Scientific Director, CIHR, Institute of Aboriginal Peoples Health “Intersectoral Partnerships for First Nations, Inuit and Métis Health Improvement Informed Through Research”

-The Masterminds lecture series

The Masterminds Lecture Series highlights the continuing contributions of the University of Victoria’s retirees to the University and to the community. With the generous support of the University of Victoria (UVic), the UVic Retirees Association and the Centre on Aging (COAG), a free lecture will be presented each Wednesday in April. Lectures start at 7:00 pm in Harry Hickman Building, Room 105. UVic Dates to save are April 10, 17, 24 and May 1, 2013. More information will be available on COAG’s website.

-Leah Potter
It was a case of legacy meeting legacy in 2012 when History in Art MFA candidate Dorothy Fraser completed her position with UVic’s Legacy Art Gallery, thanks to the Margaret Russell Graduate Internship in Curatorial Studies.

Initiated by William Langlois and Michael Melnyk—both long-term UVic supporters—and named for Melnyk’s mother, the Russell Internship was created to support and encourage the preservation of art by local artists for the future enjoyment of British Columbians.

Fraser, the inaugural recipient of the Russell Internship, spent a year working at the downtown gallery, doing a wide variety of research work including conservation, curating and film archiving. She was also the assistant to the curator of the exhibit *In Her Own Words: Emily Carr, Myfanwy Pavelic and Katharine Maltwood*.

“It was an amazing opportunity to work in a professional gallery and learn more about the behind-the-scenes curatorial efforts,” says Fraser. “I really appreciated the opportunity to learn from all the experts at the Legacy, and I’m excited about going forward in my field with this experience behind me.”

Fraser plans to pursue a History in Art PhD. “It’s really useful to have this position on my resume when I apply for my doctorate,” she says. “The experience counts for a lot.”

The 2013 Russell Internship is MFA candidate Lorena Calahorrano.
SSHRC funding supports continued excavations at ancient Eleon

In 2009 Dr. Brendan Burke, Greek and Roman Studies, and a team of students, worked in collaboration with the Greek Ministry of Culture to collect thousands of sherds from vineyards and olive groves in central Greece. This work mapped settlements and burials in the landscape. With funding from an Insight Grant from SSHRC, private donations, and other foundations, excavations continue at one of these sites, ancient Eleon.

Classical Greeks of the 5th c. BC believed their heroes lived in fortified citadels that were abandoned ruins by the time of the Parthenon. Archaeologists today date those structures to the Mycenaean age (1600-1150 BC). Excavated palaces contained columned halls, frescoed walls and administrative archives. Smaller settlements are sometimes mentioned as part of a kingdom’s territory, and ancient Eleon is one of these sites in a list from the major Mycenaean centre, Thebes.

At Eleon, the most impressive ancient monument dates to the 5th c. BC - a massive fortification wall of interlocking blocks, but the current excavation has uncovered a great deal more from the Mycenaean age which will inform our understanding of early Greece. For Canadian students and young professionals, this archaeological project provides very valuable field work experience.

A UVic Field School is offered for interested volunteers and students in June and July 2013. Contact bburke@uvic.ca.

-Brendan Burke
The nursing scholar

The nursing scholar is the University of Victoria School of Nursing research and writing blog for all those interested in nursing scholarship. We welcome nursing undergraduate and graduate students as well as post-doctoral students, alumni, staff and faculty to join us in discussions about writing and research in the diverse field of nursing.

Bloggers Robbyn Lanning (research) and Madeline Walker (writing) provide postings on alternate weeks to keep the blog material up to date and occasionally invite guest bloggers to contribute. Readers can drop in occasionally, respond to blog posts, or subscribe to the blog. We encourage lively discussion about various topics to do with writing, research and scholarship in nursing. Themes discussed on the nursing scholar include: knowledge mobilisation, free writing, social media and research, grants crafting, the marketization of higher education and more.

-Robbyn Lanning

Technology Evaluation in the Elderly Network

Congratulations to Kelli Stajduhar and her colleagues across Canada who have been funded $24 million to examine how to best improve care for seriously ill older adults. Technology Evaluation in the Elderly Network supports multi-disciplinary research related to health care technology and tools for the seriously ill older adults and their families. The Network is a member of the federal Networks of Centres of Excellence (NCEs), Canada’s flagship science and technology program featuring collaborations between researchers, industry and other organizations to produce programs and products that further Canada’s economic strength and social wellbeing.

The Network’s mission is to improve the care of seriously ill, older adults and their families through the development, rigorous evaluation, and ethical implementation of health care technologies including drugs, devices, knowledge products, improvement strategies and tools. Through this are ultimately better outcomes for patients and their families, health care professionals and the health care system as a whole. Dr. Stajduhar is leading research on end of life care within the Network.

-Kelli Stajduhar

Computer Science faculty and grad student win best paper at SODA 13

Bruce M. Kapron, Valerie King and master’s student Ben Mountjoy’s paper on Dynamic Graph Connectivity in Polylogarithmic Worst Case Time won the Best Paper Award at SODA 13. This is the ACM-SIAM Symposium on Discrete Algorithms and the leading international conference on algorithms.

There is a large network of nodes and links between some pairs of nodes. There are a sequence of updates where links being added or removed in the network, interspersed with queries of the form: Is there a path from node A to node B? This paper gives the first method which can process each update and each query in a time which is polylogarithmic in the size of the graph, improving upon a previously known bound (from 1983) of square root of the size of the graph.

-Heather Croft
Multilingual bibliography on the voyages of Zheng He

Nearly nine decades before Columbus’s first trans-Atlantic voyage in 1492, Zheng He (郑和/ Cheng Ho, 1371-1433) took command of Ming China’s imperial fleet and conducted seven major epic voyages across Southeast Asia and the Indian Ocean between 1405 and 1433.

Since 1905, scholars have uncovered varied historical evidence, such as stone inscriptions about Zheng He’s voyages, the shipyard relic of the Ming period, travel notes left by Zheng He’s fellow navigators, legends, literature, sailing charts, and maps. But scholars around the world still cannot agree on a series of issues, such as the locations Zheng He’s fleet actually reached in the seven voyages; how large his treasure ships were; what were the purposes of his voyages; and why these voyages were ended abruptly?

As a sub-project of the SSHRC funded MCRI project, Dr. Zhongping Chen, Dr. Gregory Blue, the Asian Studies Librarian Ying Liu, the Cataloguing Librarian Sam Aquila and library staff assistant Min He are compiling a multilingual bibliography of previous studies on Zheng He’s voyages and China’s relations with the Indian Ocean world before the European appearance in the area. The bibliography aggregates information found in books, articles, maps and other various publications on Zheng He’s voyages in English, Chinese, Japanese, Malay, German, French, Dutch, Portuguese, Spanish, and Russian. English translation for the titles of Chinese and Japanese sources and rich annotations are provided to make the book an important research tool. The bibliography is expected to be published in early 2014. The success of the project is the result of teamwork, and the generous support it has received from the McPherson Library and the Office of the Vice-President Research.

- Susan Henderson

Moving at the speed of data

An international team of high-energy physicists, including the University of Victoria (UVic), set a new record for moving data with a transfer rate of 339 gigabits per second (Gbps), the equivalent to moving 1 million full-length movies per day.

The group at UVic under the leadership of Randall Sobie (UVic Institute of Particle Physics Research Scientist), together with CANARIE, BCNET and their international partners at Caltech and Michigan, demonstrated their achievement at the SuperComputing 2012 (SC12) conference, Nov. 12-16, 2012 in Salt Lake City. The transfer rate from UVic to Salt Lake City peaked at 187 Gbps.

The recent discovery at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) in Geneva of a new particle that may be the Higgs boson was made possible by a global network of facilities that transferred more than 100 petabytes of data in the past year alone. Armed with new technologies and methods, the team hopes to reach 1 terabit-per-second in 2013.

-Randall Sobie
From Stream to Steam

British Columbia’s water and water-derived energy resources are vital assets that show signs of being under increased stress across the province—the result of mounting pressures such as population growth, climate change and water-intensive industrial activities. Released Nov. 15, a new report from UVic’s POLIS Project on Ecological Governance and the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA) lays the foundation for studying the challenges B.C. is facing regarding the management of its interconnected water and energy resources.

*From Stream to Steam: Emerging Challenges for BC’s Interlinked Water and Energy Resources*, written by Ben Parfitt, Jesse Baltutis, and Oliver M. Brandes, examines the importance of policy coherence and improved governance around the management of these resources. It highlights over 20 case studies where the interplay between water and energy is becoming most apparent across the province.

This is the first report published as part of POLIS’ joint research initiative with the CCPA. The partnership focuses on emerging challenges and opportunities for the water-energy nexus within the British Columbian context. Additional reports will be released in 2013, focusing on water-use data and governance reform.

Download a PDF copy of the report.

-Laura Brandes

Hiring for a research position in your department or lab?

Consider posting at Go Research to help with your search for that certain someone—it’s a new online platform (founded by SFU student Japreet Lehal) that connects seasoned researchers looking to hire with emerging academics across the world for free (and in 60 languages). Research position vacancies can include anything from lab assistants, post-doctoral fellowships and internships to volunteer positions and graduate students vacancies.

-Melanie Tromp Hoover
Short film highlights the importance of seeing small at UVic

Small has been really big at UVic ever since the Scanning Transmission Electron Holography Microscope (STEHM)—the most advanced microscope in the world—began its installation in the basement of the Bob Wright Centre in May 2012. But small has been huge for Dr. Rodney Herring, associate professor in mechanical engineering, since he began his career as a research facilitator with the Canada Space Agency years ago.

And it’s Herring’s lifelong passion for helping people do their research, advancing science and developing new technology that captured the imagination of two BC filmmakers who turned his story so far—and its culmination in the 10-years-in-the-making STEHM microscope—into Pico Meter, a three-minute documentary shot this past August to compete in Vimeo’s Focus Forward International Film Festival.

“We’d thought about doing a documentary for a while but hadn’t found the right subject yet,” says Erik Zaremba, who worked with Vidyn Media partner Neal Melançon to put the short together. “Rodney told me about the STEHM after a game of squash one day and, after thinking about how this microscope story might work as a film for a while, this competition came along.”

According to Zaremba, each film in the contest is meant to highlight world-changing ideas that have either impacted the course of human development or that have potential to profoundly affect how humans live in the future.

“It just seemed like the right place to tell Rodney’s story.” And Pico Meter made it all the way to the semifinals in November.

Under less than perfect conditions, the STEHM has been able to tie the world record for seeing small at 49 picometers (that’s 0.000000000049 meters)—an animated view of the subatomic world at a scale and resolution that will no doubt revolutionize what scientists can see of their field. In the brief three minutes that Zaremba and Melançon were given, Pico Meter explains the microscope’s capacity and shares two of the dozens of examples of how UVic’s STEHM will shift the potential for research on a world scale.

“So many researchers have such interesting ideas and stories to share but no medium to highlight if for people—I think film can do that; and this is the perfect story to show the creative ways that research can happen,” says Zaremba.


-Melanie Tromp Hoover
Prof. Erin McGuire wins Public Anthropology’s Eleanor Roosevelt Global Citizenship Award

Prof. Erin McGuire in the Anthropology Department has won Public Anthropology’s Eleanor Roosevelt Global Citizenship Award. The award is named to honour the 20th century’s “First Lady of the World,” and it recognizes Dr. McGuire’s exceptionally effective participation in Public Anthropology’s Community Action Online Project as well her wider activities in the public sphere. Only a select few, less than 1% of the faculty teaching introductory anthropology courses across North America, receive this award.

Prof. McGuire is to be commended for how she takes classroom knowledge and applies it to real world challenges, thereby encouraging students to be responsible global citizens. In actively addressing important ethical concerns within anthropology, Prof. McGuire is providing students with the thinking and writing skills needed for active citizenship.

“I am a bit of an idealist when it comes to teaching; I work from the assumption that all my students want to learn about their world,” says McGuire. “I try to make my courses both engaging and relevant, especially as I recognise that few of the Anth 100 students will go on in Anthropology. Thank you very much to Prof. Rob Borofsky and the Centre for a Public Anthropology for this recognition.”

- Anne MacLaurin

CIHR Betty Havens Prize for Knowledge Translation in Aging

In Vancouver on October 20, 2012, the Honourable Alice Wong, Minister of State (Seniors), presented Dr. Neena Chappell with the Betty Havens Prize for Knowledge Translation in Aging. This CIHR (Canadian Institute of Health Research) award recognizes outstanding achievements and excellence in the creation, exchange and application of knowledge in aging; it provides $50,000 in financial support to further support these knowledge translation activities.

Dr. Chappell has a 30-plus year record of bringing her research to policy-makers to improve the health of Canadians. Especially in the field of social gerontology, she has been an innovator of community-based research. Dr. Chappell even collaborated with Betty Havens, the prize’s namesake, to reveal that long-term home care costs less than nursing home care when controlling for level of need. Her current research into the effects of Alzheimer Drug Therapy will be used to advise BC PharmaCare.

- Brad Buie
Award and grant-winners continued

Bring research excellence into focus

Call for nominations for the 10th annual Craigdarroch Research Awards

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the University of Victoria’s Craigdarroch Research Awards. Since 2003, over fifty researchers and artists have been honoured for their excellence in the creation of productive, beneficial, entrepreneurial and ground-breaking knowledge at the University of Victoria. This spring we offer a retrospective on those past achievements, as well as celebrate our newest award recipients.

Nominations for 2013 are invited from across the campus (deadline January 28, 2013) in the following five categories: career achievement, research excellence, knowledge mobilization, artistic expression, and innovation and entrepreneurship. Please review the updated 2013 Terms of Reference on the Research webpage to determine eligibility and requirements.

For further information, contact Brad Buie, Awards Facilitator.

-Brad Buie

COACH Award for Leadership in the Field of Health Informatics

Dr. Andre Kushniruk received the 2012 COACH Award for Leadership in the Field of Health Informatics. COACH (Canada’s Health Informatics Association) presents this award in recognition of "an individual’s outstanding contributions as a thought leader, both nationally and internationally, to advance Canadian health informatics (HI) or Canadian telehealth.”

Dr. Kushniruk has been called the “premier go-to expert” on health informatics usability in Canada. More specifically, his work has focused on how different clinicians (experts and novices) interact with information technology to ensure that the care they provide is accurate, timely and, most importantly, safe for patients receiving health services. His leadership and innovative approaches to, health information system evaluation has changed the landscape of the field: researchers have now moved from quantitative to qualitative studies, with drastic savings in resources. In addition, he has also conducted research on electronic health records, educational delivery tools and simulation studies. His health informatics solutions have been put into practice, to various degrees, locally on Vancouver Island, as well as nationally and internationally.

-Brad Buie
Award and grant-winners continued

Paper by Nick Montgomery, Dr. Ana Maria Peredo and Eleanor Carlson awarded Carolyn Dexter Award

Nick Montgomery, PhD student in Political Science, and Dr. Ana Maria Peredo, Director, Centre of Co-operative & Community-Based Economy), presented their paper co-authored with Eleanor Carlson, Anthropology and former CCCBE graduate student fellow, “The BOP Discourse as Capitalist Hegemony” at the Annual Meeting of the Academy of Management in Boston, August 2012. The paper was chosen as the Best Paper on International Business and was nominated for the Carolyn Dexter Award.

This paper draws on theories from postcolonialism, feminism and post-structuralism, the paper argues that the increasingly popular “Bottom of the Pyramid” paradigm obscures non-capitalist alternatives and resistance to capitalism. Sincere thanks to Emmalee Brunt for excellent work on the preliminary literature review for this paper.

Congratulations on this award! -Sandy Polomark

Social Economy, Community Resilience and the Transition to Sustainability

Social economy practitioners, researchers and organizations have responded to local and global challenges such as poverty, inequality, economic crisis and climate change. In order to take the next step in social economy research, a group of researchers including Ana Maria Peredo, Gustavson School of Business and Director of CCCBE, UVic; Mike Lewis, Canadian Centre for Community Renewal (Port Alberni, BC); Michael Gismondi, Athabasca University and Noel Keough, Faculty of Environmental Design, University of Calgary are working with the BC Alberta Social Economy Network (BALTA) on the project “Social Economy, Community Resilience and the Transition to Sustainability.” The project has been awarded a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Partnership Development Grant worth $200,000 over the next two years.

The overall goal of this Partnership Development Grant is to develop a new community-university research partnership and program. This partnership builds upon the existing research network by engaging significant new partners and participants that will focus expertise on developing a theoretical and methodological framework for studying the scaling up and scaling out of innovations that relocalize the economy and strengthen the resilience and sustainability of communities and regions.

-Sandy Polomark
A new and unique unit focusing on research partnerships is being created within the Office of Research Services (ORS). The goal of “UVic Research Partnerships” is to enhance the coordination of existing research partnership services offered by ORS, UVic Industry Partnerships (UVic IP) and the Office of Community-Based Research (OCBR). The creation of the new unit will add value to existing services for research partnerships of all types (industry, academia, community, and government) and avoid duplication through an integrated approach. By bringing these services together within the new unit, we will be building on the significant successes to date within UVic IP and OCBR.

Services provided by the new unit will include:
• Assisting potential partners to find each other (brokering)
• Preparing research funding agreements and proposals
• Creating formal partnership contracts and agreements
• Meeting regulatory requirements
• Maximizing the impact of research through knowledge mobilization

The creation of UVic Research Partnerships was informed by a number of special reports prepared over the past 18 months related to industry partnerships, community-engaged research, knowledge mobilization services and contracts. A wide range of stakeholders were also consulted in the planning for the new unit including community and industry partners, Deans and Associate Deans Research, Centre Directors, UVic executive and the Board of Governors.

A research partnerships advisory committee will be established with internal and external membership to advise the university on the specific services needed to support research partnerships and to help identify potential partners and funding opportunities for UVic projects.

UVic Research Partnerships is an innovative and unique approach to meeting our commitment to being one of Canada’s most civically-engaged universities—a place dedicated to helping improve society through our research, scholarships and creative activities. Whether the intent of a partnership is to stretch UVic’s interdisciplinary knowledge base, create research-informed public policies, improve public services, build more sustainable communities or create new products and businesses, UVic Research Partnerships will support these evolving relationships. The new unit will be established by April 2013.

Dr. Rachael Scarth
AVP Research Operations
Research operations continued

Grants

Contact: resprog3@uvic.ca

Update: Grants Fall 2012 Competition

The ORS grants team, Terri Myer, Dailene O’Neill, Marie Eardley and Laura Anderson worked with the faculty’s grant facilitators to support the faculties’ submissions to the TriCouncil competitions this fall. Please see the table for the summary of the 2012 submissions compared to 2011.

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New Tri-Agency agreement signed

The University has recently signed the new Tri-Agency (CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC) Agreement on the Administration of Agency Grants and Awards by Research Institutions. This new agreement is effective January 1, 2013 and replaces the Memorandum of Understanding on the Roles and Responsibilities in the Management of Federal Grants and Awards. Adherence to the new agreement is required for researchers at UVic to apply for and hold Tri-Agency funding.

The new agreement is available online.

This new agreement incorporates the new framework of rules and policies for the responsible conduct of research, including the requirement for researchers and applicants, as part of the regular grant application process, to consent to the public disclosure of personal information in the event of a serious breach of agency policy e.g. Deliberate misuse of research funds for personal benefit not related to research or scholarly misconduct. There is an explanation of the new agreement on the CIHR website.

In order to comply with the new agreement, the following University of Victoria policies have been updated:

Research Involving Humans - RH8105

Policy on Scholarly Integrity (Researchers not subject to the Framework Agreement) - AC1105 (a)

Policy on Scholarly Integrity (Pursuant to the Framework Agreement) - AC1105 (b)

Note that there are two scholarly integrity policies and procedures for administrative reasons with coverage of (a) researchers who are not subject to the provisions of the Framework Agreement and (b) researchers who are subject to the provisions of the Framework Agreement. The policies and procedures are equivalent in the two versions.

Any questions regarding the Tri-Agency Agreement or the updated policies should be addressed to Dr. Michael Miller, AVP Research, or Dr. Rachael Scarth, AVP Research Operations.
Research operations continued

Research funding agreements:
Contact: contract@uvic.ca

The contracts and other research funding agreements continue to reflect the high level of research activity at UVic. There have been 258 agreements to date in 2012, tracking close to the 2011 numbers. These have included international and multi-institutional agreements, as well as non-disclosure and material transfer agreements.

We have had several staffing changes, with Lisa Pender joining ORS while Eko Goldberg was on leave. Laurie Witwer is provided support to the contracts area as well as the grants area.

Institutional Programs
Contact: cfi@uvic.ca

This year, the Institutional Programs staff continued to provide strategic support to UVic for the development of major federal, provincial and regional research infrastructure awards. In 2012, 12 projects were approved, bringing to UVic more than $11.5 million for the development of leading edge facilities in the faculties of Science, Engineering, Social Sciences and Humanities. Another three proposals for a total of $550K are expected to be approved in early 2013.

The Institutional Programs staff also provided project management support to the numerous major infrastructure projects funded in previous years. These include, among others, the development of the Scanning Transmission Electron Holography Microscope (STEHM), the highest-resolution microscope in the world, the building of the Advanced Rare Isotope Laboratory (ARIEL) at TRIUMF, and the opening of the new Centre for Aerospace Research.

In 2012, the Institutional Programs staff coordinated the Canada Foundation for Innovation’s major competition for Leading Edge and New Initiatives funds. Institutional Programs managed the submission of seven proposals with a total budget of $18 million. The results of this competition will be publicly announced in early 2013.

Animal Care Services
Contact: acsc@uvic.ca

The major focus this year has been the response to the Canadian Council on Animal Care assessment panel’s visit in December 2011. Recommendations included minor updates to policies and procedures, and many of these changes are already completed, or underway. We said farewell to Mr. Ralph Scheurle, who retired as Manager from Animal Care Services after an amazing 38 year career with our department.

Animal Care Services benefitted from major equipment funding through a Western Economic Diversification grant associated with the British Columbia Preclinical Research Consortium (BC PRC), to which the University of Victoria became a member in late 2011 (http://www.bcprc.ca). We are very proud to be a part of this novel and collaborative initiative. Other activities have included some major renovations and additions to equipment at the Outdoor Aquatics Unit, allowing us to continue to serve our research clients using the most updated resources.
Research operations continued

Human Research Ethics
Contact: ethics@uvic.ca

There has been an increase in the number of human research ethics applications, modification requests, and annual renewals received in 2012 compared to 2011. Over the summer 6 new board members were recruited (3 faculty, 2 graduate students, 1 community) as well as the new HREB Vice-Chair.

As a result of extensive consultations with the Human Research Ethics Board, Chairs, AVP Research Operations, Human Research Ethics staff, as well as the UVic community, we are pleased to report the adoption of the new Research Involving Humans Policy, and the Procedures for Conducting Human Research. Work is ongoing to update the research ethics forms and guidelines to be in compliance with the new policy and procedures as well as the TCPS 2 (TriCouncil Policy Statement on Ethical Conduct for Research involving Humans).

Since the spring, we have been involved in the BC Ethics Harmonization Initiative through membership on a provincial steering committee and working group with other institutions engaged in research involving human participants. The harmonization initiative aims to streamline the ethics review and approval of multi-site health research across health authorities and universities.

Knowledge Mobilization
Contact: kmunit@uvic.ca

This has been a busy year for knowledge mobilization- meetings with community stakeholders to develop collaborations; training sessions designed to share KM expertise with the UVic community; and participation on planning committees for 2012-13 KM-related events. There are many exciting changes coming up in 2013- see the report on the new Research Partnerships and Knowledge Mobilization unit.

A two days workshop on Scientist Knowledge Translation Training was held In April at UVic, co-sponsored with the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research. A lot of positive feedback was received from the 45 participants regarding the emphasis on concrete ways that knowledge mobilization could be applied, and the excellent resource manual that each participant left the workshop with.

Another 50 UVic researchers benefitted from a seminar, offered in September, on how to write a KM plan for grant applications.

Of particular significance for the UVic community engaged in knowledge mobilization is the Craigdarroch Award for Excellence in KM. Please contact our awards facilitator for additional information on the nomination process or see the website. Deadline for nominations is January 28, 2013.

The KM unit distributes a monthly newsletter highlighting knowledge mobilization tools and stories. Please email the KM Unit if you want to be included in the distribution list.
The Governance of Religious Diversity in China, India and Canada

The Centre for Studies in Religion and Society (CFGS) and Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives (CAPI) hosted UVic faculty and international colleagues at a three-day symposium Nov. 22-24, 2012 entitled The Governance of Religious Diversity in China, India and Canada. The visiting scholars, along with participants from local religious and community organizations, enjoyed two days of academic proceedings followed by a gala dinner at the Victoria Hindu Temple. Results from the proceedings will be edited for publication with an academic press in 2014. The symposium was supported with funding from the SSHRC Connections program, Centre for Global Studies, UVic Faculty of Law and the UVic offices of the Vice-President Research and Vice-President Academic and Provost.

- Leslie Kenny

UVic faculty and international colleagues at the symposium.

Research Centre updates

COAG research affiliates presented with Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal

In 2012, Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal was presented to honour significant contributions and achievements by Canadians as a celebration of Queen Elizabeth II’s Diamond Jubilee. During the year of celebrations, 60,000 Canadians were recognized.

On March 16, 2012, His Honour the Honourable Steven Point presented the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal to recipients of the Order of Canada who live on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. Dr. David Chuenyan Lai, Member of the Order of Canada, was one of the recipients at Government House. For their contributions in Gerontology, Centre on Aging (COAG) Research Affiliates Drs. Neena Chappell, Marcus Hollander and Margaret Penning were presented with the commemorative medal at the 2012 Annual Scientific and Educational Meeting of the Canadian Association of Gerontology, Oct. 18-20, 2012 in Vancouver, BC.

-Leah Potter
The Water-Energy Nexus: A Western Canadian Perspective

On Nov. 21, UVic’s POLIS Project on Ecological Governance, in partnership with the Centre for Global Studies (CFGS), hosted a half-day Roundtable on Water Issues event as part of POLIS’ ongoing discussion series on water issues. The event, “The Water-Energy Nexus: A Western Canadian Perspective”, brought together leading researchers from UVic and members of the wider community, creating a collaborative environment for knowledge sharing and partnership development.

In total, over 45 experts, researchers, and policy makers were in attendance—including UVic faculty, students, and researchers; representatives from First Nations, local, and provincial governments; NGOs; scientists; and policy and resource experts. Together, they engaged in thoughtful discussion about the changing hydrology of B.C.’s most important energy-generating river systems, as well as the impacts of increased natural gas development on water resources and First Nation communities.

Presentations and discussions revealed many of the significant environmental and social impacts resulting from an expanding, and heavily water-reliant, natural gas industry in the northeast of the province and also pointed to the fact that B.C. is currently at a crossroads, facing major energy development across large swaths of the province with increasing impacts to our natural environment.

Contact Jesse Baltutis for the event summary report.

-CFGS: looking at the changing role and nature of borders, boundaries and democracy

On Oct 25, 2012 the Centre for Global Studies (CFGS) hosted a workshop, reception and public presentation. The Workshop, “Governance and Democracy Across Borders” brought together UVic faculty, graduate students and community leaders. The aim of the conference was to address the rapidly changing role and nature of borders, boundaries and democracy in our world as they relate to technology, resource scarcity, political revolutions, migration and political ideologies. The final conference report from the event is available online.

The reception was a chance for members of the university community to meet Dr. Schmidtke, our new interim director, and to launch the new CFGS fellowship program for students, faculty and visiting researchers. Details of the fellowships (and a second call for fall arrival) are available on the CFGS website.

The evening public presentation featured Dr. Hamid Dabashi, Hagop Kevorkian professor of Iranian studies and comparative literature from Columbia University. Dr. Dabashi’s Keynote presentation was entitled “…and the Pursuit of Public Happiness: Thinking with Hannah Arendt on the Arab Revolutions.” Dr. Rita Tremblay moderated the respondent panel which included UVic student, Kaveh Bavand, recent UVic graduate Adrian Hartrick, and faculty panellists, Dr. Greg Blue and Dr. Andrew Wender.

-Jodie Walsh
CFGS congratulates graduate students on successful oral defences

Edson José, Department of Geography, headed home to Mozambique this December after successfully defending his Masters thesis “The Effects of Climate Change on Coastal Aquaculture in British Columbia. An Examination of Anticipated Impacts in the Strait of Georgia.” Congratulations to Edson and to CFGS Associate and Director of the Division of Technology and International Development, Jack Littlepage, for spreading the gift of education through the Southern Oceans Education and Development (SOED) program.

CFGS alumnus and visiting scholar Clint Abbott flew back to Waterloo Dec. 13 for his defense of his dissertation, “Networked governance and summit diplomacy: shaping the maternal, newborn and child heath agenda.” Clint presented his findings to colleagues at the CFGS prior to his defence. Congratulations are also extended to Gordon Smith, former CFGS director, who was Clint’s co-supervisor.

The third scholar, Justin Longo, School of Public Administration, has been housed at CFGS and supervised by CFGS Associate Rod Dobell as part of a Mitacs Research Cluster. Justin’s dissertation, “Towards Policy Analysis 2.0” was defended Dec. 18. Justin will complete his stay at CFGS at the end of the month. Congratulations Justin and Rod.

Links to the three dissertations are available on the CFGS website.

-Jodie Walsh
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.