The recent federal and provincial budgets are a study in contrast with respect to support for UVic’s research mission. As has been the case over the past few years, the federal government has continued to enhance investments for the academic research sector in ways that align with the government’s policy objectives. The most interesting announcement was the creation of the Canada First Research Excellence Fund (CFREF) with $1.5B in funding over the next decade. While there are few details to report at this time, we do know that the program will be ramped up over time with $50M in 2015-16, growing by $50M in each the next two fiscal years, and then reaching steady state in 2018-19 at $200M. Similar to the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) program, the CFREF (worst acronym of 2014 award nominee!) is intended to help make Canadian researchers competitive on the global stage. Rumours abound about how the program will operate, but it seems clear that, despite the fact the program was hatched by the U-15 universities, all universities will be eligible to participate. Given UVic’s extraordinary success with CFI, I have little doubt that the CFREF will increase the support available to our researchers.

Despite cuts to many other sectors, the federal government has also increased funding for the three granting councils, with $15M added to both the Canadian Institutes for Health Research and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council and $7M to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. The very good news is that these increases are, unlike in the past few years, not targeted to specific priorities. This said, all three councils have recently, or are currently, undergoing significant changes and the new funding will no doubt be used to move those new agendas forward. An additional $9M was provided to the Federal Indirect Costs program, which will at least keep up with inflation (though does not help fill the gap between the ~23% in what is provided and the estimated 40% of actual indirect costs supported from
academic operating budgets). There were also new funds for MITACS ($9M) to increase support for post-doctoral industrial fellowships, which aligns with the federal government’s R&D and innovation agendas. Finally, one of UVic’s most successful collaborative ventures, TRIUMF, received a surprising and very welcome commitment of $222M in operating funds. So all in all, the federal budget was good news.

Perhaps not surprisingly, the province’s general economic concerns meant that little was forthcoming in the provincial budget for enhanced support of the academic research community. We are still awaiting information about how the next round of CFI applications will be supported by the province’s BC’s Knowledge Development Fund; indications are that support will continue albeit with stronger ties to provincial priorities (TBD). Unlike Ontario, Alberta and Quebec, BC has historically made only limited investments in ongoing research support (e.g. Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research). Over the years BC Ministries have provided significant one-time funds to support many research initiatives at UVic however, given the current economic climate in BC, we are not expecting any significant funding this year.

In summary, while budget news could have been better for our research mission, the additional federal support has to be seen as a significant win for the academic sector; the relative silence at the provincial level was not unexpected.

—Howard Brunt, Vice-President Research

**Upcoming events**

**CSRS Public Lecture Series - The Literary Response to the Conservative Christian Resurgence in America**

Thursday, April 3 - David Strong Building, Room C122 at 4:30 pm.

Presenter: Christopher Douglas, Associate Professor, Department of English, UVic

In this presentation Christopher Douglas considers the ways religiously-themed literature, written over the past 40 years during the rise of the Religious Right, has responded to religious change in the United States. Frequently insightful and often critical, a wide range of novelists directed their literary attention to this social and political transformation, including Cormac McCarthy, Thomas Pynchon, Marilynne Robinson, Philip Roth, Barbara Kingsolver, Carl Sagan and Dan Brown.

Christopher Douglas is an Associate Professor of English at the University of Victoria. He teaches contemporary American fiction, and his current research project is titled *If God Meant to Interfere: American Fiction during the Conservative Christian Resurgence.*

—CSRS Team

**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, the UVic Retirees Association and the Centre on Aging, a free lecture will be presented on Wednesday evenings in April, April 9th to 30th. Speakers this year are Dr. Fong Woon, Dr. Pauline van den Driessche, Dr. Andrew Rippin and Dr. Martin Collis. Lectures start at 7:00 pm in Harry Hickman Building, Room 105.

Please reserve your seat by calling 250-721-6369 or emailing senage@uvic.ca. More information about the lectures and topics is available on the Centre on Aging’s website: [www.coag.uvic.ca/events.htm](http://www.coag.uvic.ca/events.htm)

—Leah Potter
Community university partnerships in research, learning and knowledge mobilization are a growing trend in countries around the world as nations and regions seek solutions to inter-related social, economic and environmental issues and challenges to their sustainability. Universities have increasingly been focused on curriculum, programs, research and knowledge mobilization that can be applied to communities and civil society who are working to manage and create change. Numerous new national and global organizations have been established (many offering global conferences and symposiums) as both academics and community constituents’ work to co-create knowledge, mobilize it to inform practice and policy and enhance the social, economic and environmental conditions of people, communities, nations and the world.

The University of Victoria has been a leader in community university engagement since 2007 and has become a major catalyst for community-university engaged research and practice, locally, nationally and globally. We are now pleased to present CUVIC 2014 which has been created to move beyond showcasing community university engagement … to strengthening its capacity to impact societal well-being. The conference offers three exciting days of keynote presentations, workshops, teaching circles, poster sessions, field trips, networking receptions and a gala evening celebration.

CUVIC will be launched the evening of Tuesday, May 20th with a keynote presentation by globally-recognized humanitarian Stephen Lewis. This community celebration (open and free to the public) will also include displays, musical interludes and an opportunity to network with peers and associates. Over the course of the next two days, the conference will feature keynote presentations by former provincial court judge and BC’s 28th lieutenant-governor Steven Point and renowned ethno botanist and engaged scholar Dr. Nancy Turner.

With more than 100 abstracts and submissions CUVIC will be rich with exciting and thought provoking workshops and presentations on a diverse range of topics that showcase and celebrate how universities and communities continue to contribute to the public good and leverage the knowledge and resource capacity of universities to address community needs. CUVIC 2014 will reflect on these efforts and enable community-university innovation and action within the institutional, Indigenous, national and global context.

The conference will be of interest to faculty, students, community (business, Indigenous nations and organizations, non-government organizations, community groups, funders and governments), higher education administrators, researchers, scholars, national and global community-university and community-based research networks.

There are several ways to get involved: attend, exhibit, or volunteer. To register and for more information please visit www.uvic.ca/cuvic2014. Early bird registration closes April 30th.

—Suzanne Dane

CUVIC Keynote Speaker - Stephen Lewis, Humanitarian
CSRS Public Lecture Series - How do we Experience Religious Diversity?

Thursday, April 10 - Legacy Gallery, 630 Yates St. at 7:30 pm.

Presenter: Valérie Amiraux. Department of Sociology, University of Montreal

In North America and in Europe, the question of which religious symbols are tolerated, regulated or forbidden in public spaces provokes debate. In this talk Valérie Amiraux will discuss the legal, administrative, aesthetic and emotional dimensions of the debate about the visual presence of religions in public urban contexts. Amiraux will examine the question “Can we be fair to religious diversity in our cities?” through the moral and ethical lens of “spatial justice”.

Valérie Amiraux is a full professor in the department of Sociology at the Université de Montréal and holds the Canada Research Chair in Religious Pluralism. She has held positions at the Centre Marc Bloch (Berlin), the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies (Florence, Italy) and at CNRS-CURAPP (Université Jules Verne Picardie). Her current research focuses on the legal regulation of conflicts caused by religious pluralism as well as ethnographic explorations of the relationship between pluralism and radicalization within urban contexts.

This lecture is part of The John Albert Hall Lecture Series and features expert perspectives on the changing role of religion in contemporary society. This lecture is also part of The City Talks Lecture Series (Co-sponsored by UVic’s Committee for Urban Studies).

—CSRS Team

CSRS Summer Lecture Series

The Centre for Studies in Religion and Society (CSRS) offers a Summer Lectures Series, June and July. This series features presentations by various faculty and visiting research fellows at the Centre for Studies in Religion and Society. The lectures are free and open to all members of the public and university community. Please see our website http://csrs.uvic.ca/events/lectures/special_lectures.php as information is forthcoming.

—CSRS Team
UVic Undergraduate Students Present CLSA Research at IdeaFest

Three undergraduate nursing students presented posters about the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA) at the Jamie Cassels Undergraduate Research Poster Session held on March 5th during the University of Victoria’s IdeaFest 2014. Sarah Gibson and Johanna Berryman presented a poster on the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging and how secondary data analysis informs nursing knowledge. Another poster by Marilise Engeland examined how the CLSA compares with other large Canadian studies. The students worked with CLSA staff during the Fall term to learn about data collection at the Gorge Road Hospital.

“On behalf of the CLSA I would like to take this opportunity to thank the students for their contributions to data collection and for supporting our research” said Lindsay Richier, project coordinator for the study. “Our CLSA staff graciously provided our nursing students with time, training and research experience. The students have learned firsthand about the significant contributions to understanding healthy aging that will be possible as a result of this major study” said Debra Sheets, site co-principal investigator and associate professor at the University of Victoria. “A special thank you our DCS staff for their hard work and commitment to the CLSA study and sharing their knowledge with our nursing students” said Lynne Young, site co-principal investigator and professor at the University of Victoria.

—Debra Sheets, Ph.D., MSN, School of Nursing
ECD African Scholars and Institutions Initiative

For approximately 20 years the School of Child and Youth Care’s Early Childhood Development Virtual University (ECDVU, www.ecdvu.org) and its predecessor activities, have played a key role in promoting African capacity to build strong early childhood education, care and development (ECD) foundations. That work has focused largely on supporting country-identified professionals occupying lead positions in government, NGOs and educational institutions to become ever more effective and knowledgeable leaders for ECD development in their countries and across Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA).

Africa is at a critical point where post-secondary institutions must be supported to assume greater ECD leadership responsibilities – both for education and training, as well as for advancing African-led research. Africa is severely disadvantaged in knowledge production and dissemination. Research funding is virtually non-existent as are outlets for dissemination.

The African Scholars and Institutions initiative (AS&I) grows out of many inter-related activities, all connected by a commitment to promote expertise that supports children’s well-being. It is of concern that while Africa has almost 20% of the world’s child population, African scholarly leadership accounts for a very small amount of all published international literature on children, their care, and their development.

In 2013 Dr. Alan Pence (ECDVU’s Founder) and colleagues from the US, Cameroon and Zambia, with funding from the Open Society Initiative of Southern Africa (OSISA), held two key workshops – the first of which was in Johannesburg, RSA. The participating 23 scholars from 18 African countries were mandated with advancing Sub-Saharan Africa’s educational and scholarly capacities by seeking answers to questions and issues that are grounded in African contexts and which can make substantial contributions not only to African development but also to an enhanced global knowledge base in ECD/CD.

The second workshop, held in Lusaka, Zambia, was designed to build on a critical piece in support of African-led research—building skills to develop a fundable, multi-country research proposal. Participants from 7 of the countries represented at the Johannesburg workshop attended but also met in advance with local collaborators to discuss key topics regarding the research: specific search objectives; preferred research methods; accessible research sites; local funding possibilities; and existing connections with local, regional or international funding agencies.

The participants reviewed the common ground of their countries’ achievements and concerns. The next step was to identify what research is still required in order to address those concerns. The participants determined that the best use of time and resources would be to create a joint proposal that would include flexible adaptability to the unique needs of each country, with an overarching focus on child-rearing practices and parental beliefs among varied demographic groups and types of families. While the proposal will be constructed for a multi-country research project, it could be adapted for an individual region or country. Funds to continue the proposal development process are currently being sought.

For more information about AS&I go to: http://bit.ly/13Z2mR3

—Alan Pence, Professor, School of Child and Youth Care
IdeaFest 2014: Celebrating UVic Research

IdeaFest 2014, the University of Victoria’s third festival of research, scholarly and creative activity, was a success by all accounts, shining a spotlight on diverse ideas, creativity and passion for knowledge from across the university and attracting over 4,000 participants from our on-campus and off campus communities.

Running from March 3-9, this year’s festival showcased over 50 exceptional events, with topics ranging from renewable energy technology and global peace making to innovations in music composition and human health. IdeaFest’s comprehensive offering proved once again to be a unique opportunity to celebrate and explore the excellence and breadth of research at UVic—and most importantly—to make this research accessible and open to a broad audience.

The accessibility of this year’s festival hinged on both the relevance of the ideas being shared, and on the forms in which organizers used to convey their work. Students and faculty communicated new and emergent research in ways that transcended traditional methods of dissemination by presenting their work in a wide range of panels, workshops, exhibits, lectures, performances, screenings and tours. Often, the most effective events were those that, regardless of form, brought ideas to life through the power of storytelling. Scholars that wove their research journey into a compelling story grabbed the attention of their audience, incited intrigue and engaged participants’ in the exploration of new ideas and perspectives.

Over 300 faculty, students and staff, from over 50 of UVic’s faculties, departments, schools, centres and labs, took up the challenge of communicating their research and creative projects at IdeaFest. The achievements of this year’s festival really lie with each of them for giving so generously of their time and imagining the dozens of new events that made IdeaFest 2014 a genuine success.

—Tara Todesco, Knowledge Mobilization Coordinator, Research Partnerships and Knowledge Mobilization Unit

The Saint John’s Bible Heritage Edition Donation to the CSRS

The Saint John’s Bible Heritage Edition is being donated to the Centre for Studies in Religion and Society (CSRS) by the friends of Bishop De Roo. The Saint John’s Bible is the first handwritten illuminated Bible to be commissioned since the advent of the printing press. Commissioned in 1998 by the Benedictine monks of Saint John’s Abbey in Minnesota, the bible took fifteen years to complete and involved a team of scribes, artists and craftspeople in a scriptorium in Wales. The Heritage Edition is a full-size fine art edition of this modern masterpiece and provides an opportunity to investigate the ways communities build bridges between ancient texts and contemporary societies. This generous gift will inaugurate the Found in Translation collection of modern renderings of sacred texts from around the world.

—CSRS Team
Research highlights cont.

New exhibit offers the “most potent work” of Sandra Meigs’ career

For those uncertain how research factors into creative activity in the Faculty of Fine Arts, consider the work of long-time Visual Arts professor, Sandra Meigs.

Her latest collection of large-scale works, The Basement Panoramas, ran for six weeks at downtown’s Open Space gallery at the end of 2013 before transferring to a pair of Toronto galleries, where the Toronto Star described the exhibit as “perhaps the most potent work of Meigs’ career.”

High praise indeed for a career that’s been marked by praise, but it was likely both the scale and the intimacy of the paintings that struck such a chord with viewers. “The work relates to my grieving after my husband succumbed to cancer in 2010,” she says. “It took me a year to get back to work . . . but then I decided to share these four major stages in my process, from when I could do nothing till I came out of it feeling transformed.”

The result is the vividly coloured paintings that make up The Basement Panoramas. Based on her studies of the invisible foundations of buildings, Meigs found these overlooked spaces to be surprisingly intimate. “Basement spaces often hold that which we do not want to let go of, and are also the foundation of the house, analogous to the psyche,” she explains.

Her research began, naturally enough, with her own basement: a crawl space with a giant rock in it upon which her house was built in 1922. From there, she took panoramic photos of other people’s basements, which then became the drawings she transformed into her emotionally vast canvases. From grieving to healing through research, the resulting art works were nothing less than staggering.

“The Basement Panoramas continues Meigs’ preoccupation with architectural space, though this installation operates quite differently,” writes Open Space executive director Helen Marzolf in the exhibit catalogue. “In it, she reinvents how drawing and colour articulate space . . . . In a career marked by a playful perversity, Meigs’ revelatory sequence of paintings functions a lot like infrared light, letting us see what is normally invisible.”

—John Threlfall, Faculty of Fine Arts

*Red. 3011 Jackson (Mortality)* by Sandra Meigs. Photo by Frances Sullivan (from The Basement Panoramas exhibit catalogue)
In January 2014, the POLIS Water Sustainability Project, part of UVic’s Centre for Global Studies, released the new research report A Blueprint for Watershed Governance in British Columbia. It focuses on current water governance issues in B.C. and offers a path forward for how the provincial government could transform its current approaches to decision-making to ensure a more sustainable and resilient future.

To date, the provincial government has led significant discussions about water management and policy reforms. This report takes these discussions a step further by addressing the complex details of who makes the decisions, and how decision-makers can be held to account for the benefit of B.C.’s fresh water. The report comes at a critical time as B.C. prepares to replace its outdated Water Act with new legislation. The new Water Sustainability Act was introduced on March 11th, 2014 and will be brought into effect in spring 2015, once supporting regulations are developed and finalized.

The Blueprint draws on leading examples of watershed governance from across Canada, and around the globe, and applies them to the B.C. context. Specifically, it sets out a strategic 10-year program and proposes nine winning conditions to ensure success.

Recently, the Blueprint informed dialogue at the very successful three-day forum Watersheds 2014: Towards Watershed Governance in British Columbia and Beyond, held on Cowichan Tribes territory in Duncan, British Columbia from January 27th to 29th. The event attracted nearly 200 delegates, plus an additional over 100 virtual participants via online satellite events across the country. Delegates came from a diversity of backgrounds—including watershed groups, researchers, professional resource managers, and decision-makers at all levels of government, including First Nations—and came together to re-envision the way we use, share, and respect our freshwater and watershed resources.

Recognizing the unique institutional, legal, cultural, and geographic challenges of B.C., the Blueprint provides a clear timeline for successfully moving towards watershed governance to improve ecological resilience across the province.

Download a copy at http://poliswaterproject.org/blueprint.

—Laura Brandes, POLIS Project

School of Nursing JBI Initiative

The UVic School of Nursing’s Joanna Briggs’s Institute (JBI) Initiative is pleased to announce that their first protocol “Effectiveness of physical activity interventions with healthy older women: a systematic review protocol of randomized controlled trials”, has been successfully registered with PROSPERO, the international prospective register of systematic reviews hosted by the Centre for Reviews and Dissemination. It has also been published in the JBI Database of Systematic Reviews and Implementation Reports, VOL 11, NO 11 (2013).

JBI is recognized as a global leader in evidence-based healthcare. JBI was established at the University of Adelaide, South Australia in 1996 as an international not-for-profit research organization. JBI collaborating centres around the world promote and support the synthesis, transfer and utilization of evidence through identifying feasible, appropriate, meaningful and effective healthcare practices to improve healthcare outcomes globally.

The UVic JBI initiative is led by Drs. Lynne Young and Karen MacKinnon. Since July 2012, six School of Nursing faculty members and one doctoral student have undertaken JBI Systematic Review Training. Three JBI teams are currently engaged in systematic reviews on a variety of topics. With the support of JBI at Queen’s University we are writing an application to became established as a JBI Affiliate Centre. More information on the UVic SON JBI initiative can be found at http://www.uvic.ca/hsd/nursing/research/research/jbi/index.php

—Emma Hannah
The Big Button Blanket Project, launched in fall 2013 by History in Art professor, Carolyn Butler Palmer, was a resounding success—however you choose to measure it.

“We are being a bit bold with that statement, because we haven't measured every button blanket in the world,” says Butler Palmer, the Williams Legacy Chair in Modern and Contemporary Arts of the Pacific Northwest. “But we’ve never seen anything of this scale exhibited before—button blankets are usually human-size. Plus, it’s such a tremendous undertaking, you’d have to be crazy to do this.”

Crazy or not, Butler Palmer worked together with Tahltan Nation artist and sessional instructor Peter Morin and their students, as well as local indigenous blanket makers, throughout the fall semester to prepare the blanket for its early 2014 debut. And at 4,000 buttons, 250 pounds and six metres-square, the blanket turned out to be even bigger than she imagined.

After receiving its inaugural dance and celebration at the opening of UVic’s Diversity Research Forum on January 29, the big button blanket was also the focus of a special February 22 performance by Morin and Governor General’s Award-winning artist Rebecca Belmore, a former Audain Professor for the Department of Visual Arts. It is also the centerpiece of the exhibit Adaslā: The Movement of Hands, running at Legacy Gallery Downtown until April 12.

Butler Palmer stresses the importance of the project extends well beyond the blanket’s size. “It’s a textile art form and that’s often associated with women, and textile arts have been suppressed in their recognition in art history, as have indigenous art forms,” she explains. “Even if they are recognized, they’re often situated in this arbitrary, over-simplified art/craft binary, and configured as craft more than art. So we’re challenging both the absence and suppositions of button blankets as an art.”

The project received extensive media coverage in local newspapers, magazines, television and radio, all of which clearly pleased Butler Palmer. “It was really wonderful to have all these blanket-makers come into the classroom and engage with us,” she says. “It created the opportunity for them to renew and regenerate and disseminate their knowledge, as well as garner a greater understanding by a new generation of students, whether they’re indigenous or not. It was such a successful project on numerous levels and the blanket is absolutely stellar to look at.”

—John Threlfall, Faculty of Fine Arts
As part of IdeaFest 2014, the Centre for Biomedical Research hosted a “Pecha Kucha Biomedica & Poster Social” on Thursday, March 6th. We focused on graduate and undergraduate trainees in this event. Eight “Pecha Kucha” presentations (20 slides, 20 seconds each) were the focus for the first 90 minutes, followed by more than 40 poster presentations in the atrium of the Bob Wright Centre.

In the lead-up to Pecha Kucha Biomedica 2014 we had numerous information and practice sessions for trainees to get used to the style of the event. This included a lunch session during which we gave a summary of effective communication with the general public using the “hourglass” metaphor. Briefly, this means starting broadly and with the most general and accessible linkage points and then tapering to some more detailed discussions before flaring out to the other side of the hourglass to finish up with a common and general frame of reference at the end.

As for the event itself, we remain staggered by the uptake. In short this event was an amazing success and wildly exceeded any possible expectations we could have had. Almost 200 members of the general public and the UVic community attended. What those attendees saw and experienced was a true tour de force representing the exceptional talent and caliber not just of the biomedical research trainees and their work but also their communication abilities.

In the radio and print interviews given prior to the event, phrases like “buffet of biomedical research” and “smorgasbord of science” were used to tempt the general public to attend. From wandering in and amongst the attendees, it seemed that this event—and the other IdeaFest 2014 events they attended—clearly satisfied their hunger for scientific research!

—E. Paul Zehr and Marjorie Wilder
On March 11, 2011, a magnitude 9 earthquake shook northern Japan, unleashing a tsunami and resulting in a humanitarian and environmental crisis. The Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Plant suffered a level 7 meltdown after the tsunami. Three years later, local residents are still trying to recover from the disaster and questions remain about the implications of the meltdown all around the world.

On the third anniversary of the Fukushima Daiichi disaster, March 11, 2014, the Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives (CAPI) hosted a panel discussion, bringing together environmental scientists and social scientists, to look at the current situation in Japan and the implications of the disaster there and around the world.

Panelists included Dr. Sugenoya, Major of Matsumoto (via Skype interview); Scott Aalgaard, PhD Student at the Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, University of Chicago; Jay Cullen, Associate Professor at the School of Earth and Ocean Sciences, UVic; Chris Garrett, Professor Emeritus of Ocean Physics, UVic and Katsuhiko Endo, Assistant Professor, Pacific and Asian Studies, UVic. The panel was moderated by Cody Poulton of Pacific and Asian Studies.

Dr. Sugenoya gave an overview of the medical problems that appeared in the aftermath of the radiation leakage from the Fukushima Daiichi plant, particularly thyroid cancer in children. As well, Dr. Sugenoya offered an analysis as to how there has been limited reconstruction of the most affected communities. Scott Aalgaard provided background on the current situation for residents in Fukushima, which is still in the process of recovery. He discussed the difficulty, in particular, that farmers are facing, as many people in Japan still avoid buying produce, bankrupting farms in the area. Katsuhiko Endo talked about an interview he conducted with a worker in the Fukushima Daiichi plant. Jay Cullen talked about the science of how the radiation is spread across the ocean and what the levels mean in terms of residents of the West Coast, and Chris Garrett looked at countries in the world, their dependence on power and options of how that power could be generated in the future.

“We felt it was really important to have a discussion about the scientific facts around the Fukushima disaster, and also to include the voice of civil society and residents in the region,” says Helen Lansdowne, Associate Director at CAPI. “There is a lot of misinformation out there and we hoped this would give people a venue to be able to ask questions.”

—Catherine Dooner
UVic celebrates 1500th participant

In February, the University of Victoria (UVic) Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA) staff welcomed their 1500th participant to the data collection site at the Gorge Road Hospital. Over the next two years, the site will welcome 1,500 additional participants. CLSA participants take part in the study by completing at-home interviews before visiting the data collection site at the Gorge Road Hospital where they complete physical assessments as well provide information regarding their physical, emotional and social health functioning. This information will allow researchers to better understand the dynamic process of aging and the factors that shape healthy aging.

“I want to thank the CLSA participants who volunteer their time—they are helping to advance the science of aging in an unprecedented way” said Debra Sheets, site co-principal investigator and associate professor at University of Victoria. “Our dedicated and highly skilled time or in home interviewers and DCS staff are making this research possible” said Lynne Young, site co-principal investigator and professor at the University of Victoria. Both Drs. Sheets and Young said “A special thank you also to the staff at the Centre on Aging at the University of Victoria who provide so much support for the CLSA study.”

The national coordination of the CLSA project is headed by lead principal investigator, Dr. Parminder Raina (McMaster University); and co-principal investigators, Dr. Christina Wolfson (McGill University) and Dr. Susan Kirkland (Dalhousie University). The CLSA is supported by the Government of Canada through the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the Canada Foundation for Innovation.

For more information on the CLSA, visit http://www.clsa-elcv.ca

—Debra Sheets, Ph.D., MSN, School of Nursing

Grant Funding for End of Life Research

Dr. Kelli Stajduhar of the Centre on Aging and School of Nursing was awarded funding for two new research studies. The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) has awarded Dr. Stajduhar a three year operating grant ($357,609) for a project examining access to end of life care for structurally vulnerable and marginalized populations in Victoria, BC. In addition to two co-investigators from UVic (Dr. Bernie Pauly from the School of Nursing and the Centre for Addictions Research and Dr. Bruce Wallace from the Centre for Addictions Research), the research team includes co-investigators from the Victoria Cool Aid Society, AIDS Vancouver Island, Victoria Hospice, Trinity Western University, and Simon Fraser University.

The Canadian Cancer Society Research Institute and the Technology Evaluation in the Elderly Network will also award $833,674 over 3 years to Dr. Stajduhar and her team of researchers for the implementation and evaluation of a Carer Support Needs Assessment Tool (CSNAT) in the Island Health Authority. The caregiver tool was created in the UK by co-investigators on the grant and is designed to be used by home care nurses to improve support for caregiver who provide care for a dying family member at home.

—Faye Wolse
The tools professor Maureen Bradley uses with her students are different than those used in other areas of research on campus. But Bradley’s lights and cameras are very much the focus of the action when it comes to film production in the Department of Writing. “Research is the creation of new knowledge, and literature, art and film are all knowledge,” says Bradley. “Those images and stories explain to us who we are, and how we function as humans.”

Bradley has been teaching film-based courses at UVic since 2004, but her real success began with the creation of the Writing department’s CFI Hi-Def Story Incubator Laboratory in 2009. Thanks to nearly $350,000 in funding from the Canadian Foundation for Innovation, the BC Knowledge Development Fund and UVic’s Office of Research Services, the Story Lab continues to have great success with their experiential “class as crew” model. Their inaugural effort—Freshman’s Wharf, a light-hearted 10-episode web series looking at the first-year student experience—won a 2010 Leo Award, presented annually to the best in B.C.’s film and television industry.

Bradley and her Writing students have since gone on to create three other short films, the most recent of which—’Til Death—has so far won three awards at two separate film festivals since its debut in fall 2013. With students acting as crew, Bradley has created a hands-on course that teaches how film production really works. “It’s just such a fantastic experience,” she says. “They love being on set.”

She has spent the past four years building up the technical equipment and supporting talent needed to create professional-looking 10-minute short films. “Drama and film are really an applied form of learning,” Bradley explains. “A play and a screenplay are not final products; they’re always open to interpretation.”

With no other Vancouver Island college or university offering film production classes, Bradley feels UVic’s Writing department is uniquely situated to help fill a gap both locally and nationally. “I think we have the best student screenwriters in Canada here, and I have a lot of experience in the other centres,” she says. “This is a unique situation where the production comes through the writing first. I’ve seen beautiful films at student screenings across Canada, but the story is usually lacking—so it’s really exciting to see story and surface come together here. Why make a film if there’s no heart to it?”

—John Threlfall, Faculty of Fine Arts

This is a condensed version of a story published in UVic’s KnowLEDGE at http://communications.uvic.ca/edge/
Do you know an Office of Research Services staff member who has gone above and beyond? Have you received excellent service from an Research Services staff member? Would you like this person to be recognized for their achievements in support of research, service, and community?

The Office of Research Services is accepting nominations for the **Ralph Scheurle Staff Service Excellence Award**! Please take a look at the nomination package on the Awards website located here: [http://www.uvic.ca/research/conduct/home/awards/staffawards/index.php](http://www.uvic.ca/research/conduct/home/awards/staffawards/index.php)

**The deadline for nominations is May 15, 2014.** Please feel free to circulate this notice to the university community. Nominations may be initiated by staff, management or faculty. Self-nominations will be accepted.

**Older drivers to continue with Candrive**

Candrive, a Canadian research program aimed at improving the safety and quality-of-life of older drivers, has received additional funding ($1.9 million) from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research to extend the project for three years. This funding will allow additional longitudinal data collection from the multi-centre (including the University of Victoria) cohort of drivers aged 70 years and older (n=928) first recruited in 2008-09. Participants will continue to undergo comprehensive annual assessments consisting of a battery of simple office-based physical, cognitive and knowledge-based measures thought to be predictive of driving ability.

The primary goal of the project is the development and validation of an evidence-based clinical risk stratification tool to assist in the identification of drivers who may be at risk to themselves and others. Dr. Holly Tuokko (Director, Centre on Aging and Professor, Department of Psychology) is one of the principal applicants for this project.

—Holly Tuokko

**CRNBC Excellence in Nursing Research Award – 2014 Recipient**

Dr. Kelli Stajduhar, Associate Professor at the Centre on Aging/School of Nursing was recently awarded the College of Registered Nurses of BC (CRNBC) Excellence in Nursing Research Award. This award is presented to nurses in BC who demonstrate excellence in Nursing Research – specifically focusing on practical applied research with strong “real practice” ties. Dr. Stajduhar has recently received funding for 2 upcoming projects from CIHR, CSSRI, and TVN. These projects will focus on supporting Family Caregivers for palliative patients as well as improving care for vulnerable populations. She is currently working on publishing findings from her 4 year iPANEL initiative ([www.iPANEL.ca](http://www.iPANEL.ca)) – a Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research - BC Nursing Research Initiative (MSFHR - BCNRI) funded team project. iPANEL focused on improving care for persons with chronic life-limiting illnesses by introducing a palliative approach into our primary care settings here in BC.

—Ami Bitschy
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: vpresec@uvic.ca and ucommr@uvic.ca.

Contact for additional information:
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Email: vpresec@uvic.ca
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We would appreciate your feedback and suggestions on how to improve the research newsletter. Please take a few minutes to fill in the survey at http://bit.ly/1lCBnpI

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

Submissions