MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT RESEARCH

A Strategic Research Plan for UVic

The University of Victoria (UVic) is nationally and internationally renowned for its broad and deep research strengths, the caliber of our faculty, staff and students, and the social impact of our work. The many benchmarks, rankings, testimonies and our continued success in attracting external research funding, attest to our research excellence.

Research is always at the forefront of new knowledge production and the generation of new ways of doing things. Researchers anticipate, and thrive on, this novelty and change. At the same time, however, the context in which we do research is ever-changing. Internal to the university, new organizational dynamics have arisen as UVic has become one of the top research intensive universities in Canada. External to the university, the public discourse about the value of higher education and universities’ social role continues, at precisely the same time that funders of research heighten expectations for productivity and partnerships.

A Strategic Research Plan for UVic is being developed by the Office of the Vice-President Research, the intent of which is to assess our research excellence and capacity for technological and social innovation, and harness our capacities and competencies to meet the challenges of the changing contexts of research. Envisioned is a flexible and adaptive plan, one that will enable UVic to achieve three main objectives. First, we need to carefully assess the internal and external contexts of research, including research support services, and develop strategies to better support researchers across campus. Second, we need to benchmark UVic research

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/1ICBnpI
and our research strategy against comparator universities around the world to assess where we stand in the landscape of internationally competitive research. Third, UVic needs clear strategies for making investments and deploying infrastructure to pursue research opportunities, especially those that are consistent with the evolution of our strategies for the Canada Foundation for Innovation and Canada Research Chairs program.

My office is responsible for the development of UVic’s Strategic Research Plan, and has initiated a year-long process to accomplish this task. In addition to the desk-based research we are undertaking, we will also receive the wisdom and advice of our Advisory Committee and from stakeholders in UVic research through the many engagement meetings we have planned over the coming months.

New web pages dedicated to the Strategic Research Plan provide more information about the process, the objectives, the Advisory Committee, and ways to get involved in the engagement process. Please visit our website.

—David Castle, Vice-President Research

Upcoming events

Optimizing aging & health: Methods and applications

Centre on Aging Colloquium Series | Spring 2015 Medical Sciences Building, Lecture Hall (Room 160) - Tuesdays, 10:30AM-12:00PM PST

The Centre on Aging colloquium series, Optimizing Aging & Health: Methods and Applications, highlights both substantive and methodological innovations and applications in aging and health research. This spring, our colloquium series will feature presentations related to four research themes including Technology and Aging, Methodology: Transitions and Trajectories, Patient-Reported Outcomes in Support of Patient Engagement in Research (PROSPER) and Biomarkers of Aging and Health: Current Directions and Priorities for Longitudinal Studies.

This free series is open to everyone; however registration is required through www.conferences.uvic.ca. The sessions are held on the UVic campus with live webcast and archived recordings available for download. Information about past seminar topics and presenter information and related resources are available on the COAG website.

*Hosted by the Centre on Aging in partnership with the Department of Psychology, Education and Training Unit of Population Data BC, Island Health Research and Capacity Building Program, and the Integrative Analysis of Longitudinal Studies of Aging and Dementia research network (IALSA-D; NIH P01AG043362)

—Leah Potter
Asia Desk Forum | April 15–18, 2015 – Fairmont Empress

Organized by the Centre for Asia Pacific Initiatives and the Faculty of Law, in April 2015 join leading lawyers, academics and policy-makers for an in-depth look at recent legal developments in Asia and their relevance to the Americas. The inaugural Asia Desk Forum includes the Asian Law Academy consisting of a series of accredited workshops on Japanese corporate law, foreign investment law in the ASEAN, cross-cultural issues in legal practice and international arbitration in Asia. The Asia Desk Forum provides a unique opportunity for lawyers and students with an Asian dimension to their practice to extend and deepen their knowledge of cutting-edge legal issues with those who know Asia best.

Visit the Asia Desk Forum website for more information and to register.

—Sarah Close Humayun

PCP Seminar Series | Biomedical research that will blow your mind

The Centre for Biomedical Research recently started a new research communication series conducted by (and for) our research trainees. The new “Pizza, Coffee, and Presentations” series (PCP) is aimed at post-docs, graduate and undergraduate students interested or working in biomedical research labs.

We have held two PCP sessions to date and have had 50 attendees at each event. On a very exciting front, about half of those at the seminars are undergraduate students. Trainees have been from the full spectrum of biomedical research perspectives on campus, with home departments and graduate programs in chemistry, neuroscience, exercise science, physical & health education, psychology, biology, mechanical and biomedical engineering, and the division of medical sciences amongst others.

We look forward to seeing this fantastic start continue on for the PCP series. It has been a great forum that has engaged more trainees than our most hopeful predictions.

The PCP series is a clear value add for enhancing the biomedical research trainee environment and could stimulate UVic undergrads to become more engaged in research with an eye towards enrolling in our graduate programs.

Plus, all the cool kids are doing it.

—E. Paul Zehr

The new Institute for Studies and Innovation in Community University Engagement (ISICUE) has published its Annual Report and is available on the ISICUE website. Together with the First Peoples House and the Centre for Aboriginal Health Research, ISICUE welcomes the UVic and broader community to:

Working with Indigenous Communities | Workshop Series on Creating Healthy and Dignified Research Relationships

JANUARY | Friday, Jan. 23, 2015 (noon-2pm)
Engagement: Creating Protocols of Dignity, Ethics and Respect
The first session emphasizes how to approach and work with/in communities from an ethical, dignified and respectful framework.

FEBRUARY | Friday, Feb. 27, 2015 (noon-2pm)
Relationships: Understanding the Persistence of Colonialism
The second session emphasizes how to build relationships grounded in a decolonizing framework that situates the context of Canadian colonialism and its persistent impacts.

MARCH | Friday, March 27, 2015 (noon-2pm)
Partnerships: Cultivating Healthy and Sustainable Research Relationships
The third session emphasizes principles of reciprocity, respect for Indigenous knowledges, guiding principles and ethics from diverse perspectives.

Workshop Facilitators:
Charlotte Loppie | Associate Professor in the School of Public Health and Social Policy, Faculty of Human and Social Development and Director of the Centre for Aboriginal Health Research
Robina Thomas | Associate Professor of Social Work and UVIC Indigenous Faculty and Community Engagement lead
Leslie Brown | Director of ISICUE and Special Advisor to the Provost on Community University Engagement

Everyone is welcome but is limited and pre-registration required: email cue@uvic.ca.
For info call 250-472-4171. Light snacks and Refreshments Served (BYOLunch)

—Maeve Lydon
People and places

Heather Bliss and “language in the present”

Dr. Heather Bliss was selected as one of three finalists for this year’s SSHRC Talent Award, which recognizes outstanding achievement by a current SSHRC doctoral or postdoctoral fellowship holder. Dr. Bliss is a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Linguistics, where she investigates the grammar of Blackfoot, an endangered and understudied Algonquian language spoken in Southern Alberta. Dr. Bliss’ theoretical and descriptive research is concentrated on how grammatical particles in the Blackfoot language are used in complex words and sentences, and how they encode elements of the discourse context: interactions between speakers, as well as times and places of speaking. With a focus on documenting “language in the present,” Dr. Bliss is currently working with Blackfoot elders on a collection of personal narratives for a book, as well as on conversational gambits and useful phrases for a Blackfoot language app.

Dr. Bliss’ theoretical insights can inform our view of the boundaries of human language: the organization of Blackfoot is significantly different from that of English, for example, but both can be modelled using the same basic analytical tools. In collaborative work with colleagues from around the world, Dr. Bliss is tackling questions of cross-linguistic variation head-on, focusing on subtle differences between the grammars of Blackfoot and other Algonquian languages. She will be sharing some of her research methods and insights with UVic students next semester in a course she is teaching on topics in Algonquian linguistics, as well as at the 31st Northwest Linguistics Conference, hosted by the graduate students of the Department of Linguistics at UVic and featuring Dr. Bliss as a plenary speaker.

—Leslie Saxon

Welcoming Dr. Martin Bunton to CFGS

The Centre for Global Studies (CFGs) Director Dr. Schmidtke will be on study leave from Jan. 1, 2015 to June 30, 2015. While Dr. Schmidtke is away Dr. Martin Bunton will be the acting director at CFGS. We wish Dr. Schmidtke well during his much deserved time away and look forward to welcoming Dr. Bunton to CFGS.

—Jennifer Swift
Dr. Brent Mainprize and the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business Research Advisory Committee

Dr. Brent Mainprize, Faculty Champion (Business) for UVic’s National Consortium of Indigenous Economic Development (NCIED), is the academic member of the newly created research advisory committee under the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business (CCAB). This committee is undertaking research to learn more about the Aboriginal economy nationally. The committee is headed by former Prime Minister, Paul Martin, and includes other high-profile Canadians from across the country. The aim of the research is to inform industry partners, develop policy, and provide academic insight to support Aboriginal business development and Aboriginal communities.

The research will include:
• A two year National Aboriginal Private Economy research study
• Undertaking initial research, in the first year of the project, to identify Aboriginal businesses across Canada
• Following up with longitudinal research in the second year, refining our findings to meet the evolving needs and strengths of Aboriginal business
• Creation of panels and working groups to bring together relevant stakeholders across the private and public sectors, academia, and the Aboriginal business community
• Gauging the scope of Aboriginal businesses, as well as their capacity for growth
• Understanding in which sectors Aboriginal businesses are active
• Understanding how Aboriginal businesses are performing nationally, including profitability, growth, and perception of success
• Understanding the challenges facing Aboriginal business in various stages of growth and development
• Learning about perspectives on existing government supports at all levels, and how to improve this support
• Learning about perspectives on how industry and the broader business community can engage with Aboriginal businesses at all stages of development

Data would also be gathered with respect to the key sectors where Aboriginal owned businesses are active. Qualitative and quantitative data would also be gathered with respect to partnerships these businesses have formed with other Aboriginal businesses and non-Aboriginal businesses to learn more about what challenges and success factors exist to forming partnerships, as well as what role government can play to facilitate these partnerships.

Visit the NCIED and CCAB websites for more information.

—Wendy Mah
Coming soon| Review of the Office of Research Services

With the significant growth in research volume and success at UVic over the past 15 years, and the strategic research planning process that is underway, it is an appropriate time to initiate a review of the services provided by the Office of Research Services. The purpose of the review is to gather information on, and assess the quality and effectiveness of, structures and processes related to the Office of Research Services at UVic. The information collected and recommendations resulting from the review will inform the strategic research planning process as a key component of the environmental scan. The review process will include:

**January-February 2015** | an internal survey of our research services user community including UVic faculty, graduate students, post-doctoral fellows and staff

**January-April 2015** | a self-study process and report prepared by ORS

**May 2015** | an external review visit in May 2015 followed by a report from the external review panel.

For more details about the review please visit the Strategic Research Plan website. We look forward to your participation and feedback!

—Rachael Searth, Associate Vice-President Research Operations

Let’s talk research!

Okay, so a research paper you’ve authored or co-authored is about to be published and you want the wider community to know what you’ve found out and its potential impact on people’s lives, public policy and/or the world around us. Or perhaps there’s an issue in the news that’s right up your research alley and you may have something valuable to contribute to the public conversation?

Communicating your research to the public is an important part of the knowledge creation process. News stories and commentary about your research demonstrate the vital impact of your work, help attract other researchers and top students to UVic, and show that tax dollars are being well spent.

Stories in the news media also tell elected representatives, granting agencies, and current and potential partners and funders what you’ve done with research funding so far and what you could accomplish with more.

In any scenario where you have research you’d like to communicate to a broader, non-academic audience, University Communications and Marketing (UC+M) can offer you advice and support on how to get the information to the right audience (see contact information below).

In addition, you can find some useful tips and resources on the Research Communications page on the Research website.

Included there is a link to a brand new video produced by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) and Informed Opinions that gives great tips for describing what you know in ways that lay audiences can appreciate. It’s the first in an AUCC series on how to communicate your research to a wide audience. We’ll post the rest as soon as they’re available.

For more information, contact Valerie Shore, senior research communications officer in UC+M, at 250-721-7641 or vshore@uvic.ca, or 250-721-7636 or uvicnews@uvic.ca.
Research central to WWI diary history mystery

When Dr. Marcus Milwright of the Department of Art History & Visual Studies began planning his current exhibit *The Arts of World War I*, he knew there was one item in the McPherson Library’s Special Collections he just had to use: a leather diary set featuring illustrations of life during wartime. The only problem? He had no idea to whom it actually belonged.

“The dedication on the first page says, ‘To my daughter, Adèle’ and it’s signed simply J.M.,” says Milwright. “Other than that, there is only the emblem of the Royal Regiment of Artillery, with whom I assume he served. We do know that J.M. survived the war, as there’s a painting dated 1920, and we know he saw active service in the areas of Ypres and Menin, as many of the paintings are dated and named. But that’s about it.”

The library has no record of where the diaries came from, and Milwright has attempted to track J.M. down through brigade records. Curating the exhibit—which also features books, prints and trench art from Europe and the Middle East drawn from the Legacy Art Galleries, the McPherson Library’s Special Collections & Archives and private local collections—has allowed Milwright to focus on the approximately 130 illustrations in the diaries. “It might be possible to say more about exactly who he was and what he was doing [in the war] from that material,” he explains.

He also received a number of tips following extensive national and international media coverage of the diary mystery. “There have been some interesting leads that might help identify J.M. and Adèle —nothing definite yet, but it does look promising. For example, members of the public have tracked down in census records four Adèles of the right age who had a father with the initials J. M. I have also received valuable information regarding the probable rank of J. M. and about his career prior to 1917.”

Clearly, WWI is still very much part of public perception and memory, and the resulting tips offer a concrete example of the dynamic public engagement art historical research can have. As part of IdeaFest in March, Dr. Milwright will be discussing how a careful study of the images and their context offered possible paths to the identity of J.M. and will share some of the clues he received from the general public.

*The Arts of World War I* continues to March 2, 2015 at the Legacy Maltwood Gallery in the Mearns Centre McPherson Library.

—John Threlfall
We are more selfish than we think...

Ownership is a powerful construct. Indeed, in a series of recent studies, perceived ownership has been shown to increase attentional capacity, facilitate a memorial advantage and elicit positive attitudes. Dr. Olav Krigolson, School of Exercise Science, Physical & Health Education, and colleagues recently published a paper entitled ‘Perceived Ownership Biases Reward Processing’ in the *Journal of Cognitive, Affective, and Behavioral Neuroscience* where they sought to determine whether self-relevance would bias reward evaluation systems within the brain. To accomplish this, they had participants complete a simple gambling task during which participants could “win” or “lose” prizes for themselves or for someone else while brain wave data was recorded. Their experimental results indicated that the amplitude of the reward positivity, a component of the event-related brain potential sensitive to reward evaluation, was diminished when participants were gambling for another. Furthermore, their data revealed that cues indicating whether the participant was gambling for themselves or another were processed as a potential for an increase in utility (i.e., gain: self-gambles) or were processed as a decrease in utility (i.e., loss: other-gambles). Importantly, their results suggest that the reward evaluation system within medial-frontal cortex is sensitive to perceived ownership, to the extent that it may not process wins and losses when they are not directly relevant to oneself.

— Olav Krigolson

The neural activity when gambling for oneself (A) – note the difference between the win and loss EEG waveforms relative to when one if gambling for another (B). In (C) we see where this neural activity comes from - a region called the anterior cingulate cortex - a region that plays a key role in decision-making and reward processing.

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**Compute Canada/WestGrid at UVic**

UVic is an essential partner of Compute Canada/WestGrid and hosts two main WestGrid clusters, Hermes and Nestor, and a WestGrid collaboration and visualization infrastructure in ECS 468. Moreover, Compute Canada has on-site research and high performance computing staff to help UVic researchers easily access and efficiently use these resources. Compute Canada/WestGrid also hosts many events here at UVic, including seminars, workshops, tutorials, etc. These events will be published on our website (in addition to the WestGrid website). To avoid spamming the UVic community with our emails, we created a mailing list to keep our researchers/users informed. We therefore urge our researchers to subscribe to our mailing list rc-wg by sending an email with “subscribe” into its subject to rc-wg-request@lists.uvic.ca. You can also send an email to bmoa@uvic.ca asking for a subscription. In addition, we also have a community site for our researchers to ask questions, share information and stay informed.

— Belaid Moa
Active season for the School of Music

It was another active season for School of Music faculty. Highlights include performances by all faculty-conducted student ensembles, including the first ever joint concert featuring all UVic choral groups in community venues at St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church, Oak Bay and Christ Church Cathedral. New faculty member Dr. Adam Con made his debut as conductor of the UVic Chorus. UVic Wind Symphony, under the direction of Dr. Gerald King, joined forces with the Naden Band, led by Lieutenant (Navy) Matthew Clark, in a concert that highlights the strong ties between the School and its community partners. Students in the Vocal Jazz Ensemble entertained audiences with arrangements by the group’s conductor, Wendell Clanton, at the “Shades of Blue” concert. Conductor Michael Keddy led the Don Wright Symphonic Winds in a dazzling concert titled Colours! UVic Concerto Concert winners Ella Hopwood (cello) and Elizabeth Clarke (piano) performed with the UVic Orchestra, under the direction of Ajtony Csaba. Patrick Boyle and the Jazz Ensemble performed in spaces ranging from McKinnon Gym (where they cheered on the Vikes) to Hermann’s Jazz Club, to the recital hall, with repertory reflecting the diversity of venues and audiences. Faculty members showcased music from jazz, to Klezmer, to Bach and Liszt, with chamber music and concerts featuring

Patrick Boyle (trumpet and guitar), Suzanne Snizek (flute), Patricia Kostek (celebrating 25 years at UVic, clarinet), Arthur Rowe (piano), Alexandra Pohran Dawkins (oboe), and the Lafayette String Quartet, with Ann Elliott-Goldschmid (violin), Pamela Highbaugh Aloni (cello), Joanna Hood (viola) and Sharon Stanis (violin).

—Susan Lewis

Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA)

The Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA) is a large, national, long-term study. As of October 2014, more than 43,000 participants have been recruited and completed baseline interviews. Recruitment of all 50,000 CLSA participants is anticipated to be completed by summer 2015. At the UVic Data Collection site, more than 2400 comprehensive assessments have been completed. This achievement would not have been possible without the outstanding CLSA staff, including Lindsay Richier, project coordinator, who have worked long hours to ensure the study runs smoothly and who are the face of the CLSA to the study participants.

Accessing data from the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA) was the theme of a workshop on Oct. 31, 2014 at the Centre on Aging (COAG) at UVic. CLSA Co-Site Leads, Debra Sheets and Lynne Young gave presentations on the availability of the baseline data from the telephone interviews, as well as led a discussion on developing a collaborative UVic program of research using the CLSA data. The workshop was well-attended and the importance of engaging the community was identified as a priority. The CLSA will be featured at an IdeaFest event to inform the development of themed areas for analyzing the CLSA data.

—Debra Sheets
Sociology class uses crowdsourcing to help in a missing person’s case

Thousands of people go missing every year in Canada – where do they go? And, how do we find them? At the request of CBC's the fifth estate, Dr. Garry Gray’s criminology class (SOCL 306) re-traced the possible steps of Emma Fillipoff, who has been missing since Nov. 28 2012. She was last seen standing barefoot in front of the Empress Hotel. All of her possessions were found in her car, abandoned just a few blocks from the Empress, and Emma’s pre-paid credit card was found 10 Km away at the Juan de Fuca Recreational Centre on the West Shore. The case has gone cold, so the Fifth Estate planned a documentary that could stir up attention among broader audiences in case someone, anyone, knows anything.

By combining insights from ethnography and criminology (such as routine activities theory), Dr. Gray and his class charted out possible pathways that Emma might have taken and opportunities that might have been presented had a motivated offender crossed paths with Emma in her vulnerable state. After examining the case in the SOCI 306 class, nine students, a CBC cameraman and Dr. Gray, ventured out to follow three possible routes leading from the Empress to the recreation centre: some travelled on foot, some by bus, and others by car (bearing in mind that she may have hitch-hiked). Each group made detailed observations and notes that would not have been possible without in-the-field observation. In the end, the students were bubbling with new ideas and insights on all the possibilities tied to Emma’s disappearance and how social media crowdsourcing methods might unearth new clues.

When the Fifth Estate documentary aired, it was clear that the producers made a journalistic choice to emphasize one possible outcome, namely that Emma chose to run away, rather than deal with the messiness of the reality that so many possibilities exist. Dr. Gray and his SOCI 306 class are currently in the process of creating a video to be placed on the fifth estate social media website, and a paper detailing the experience and the promising insights that can be stimulated through crowdsourcing campaigns and missing person cases.

—Garry Gray
Gaming the classroom

Can the tools and techniques of interactive media motivate the “gamer generation” to study as intensely as they play Grand Theft Auto or Candy Crush Saga? That’s a question David Leach, Chair of Department of Writing and Director of the Technology & Society program, explored in two UVic classroom projects.

In the first, Leach conducted a control-variable experiment to test whether the controversial methods of “gamification” (achievement badges, points, leaderboards, quests) improved students’ online engagement and learning outcomes. In the second, he asked students to forego term papers and instead design smartphone-based “augmented reality games.”

The first project, with his TS 200 “Human Uses of Technology” class (funded by a UVic Systems grant), showed concrete evidence of increased engagement: 80% of students personalized their online avatars (vs. 0% in control) and average class visits to the course site—and time spent there—doubled; there was also a 1.3-day reduction to do blog assignments before deadline. An 82% post-survey response agreed that gamification was an effective motivation tool. Test scores and assignment grades, however, showed no evidence of improved learning. “We want to examine how the engagement motivated by gamification tools can be better linked to learning tasks that would ultimately reflect improved midterm and final assignment scores,” says Leach.

The second project—funded by the Office of the Vice President Academic as an “educational technology incubator”—focused on the TS400 “Technologies of the Future” seminar, where four groups created gaming narratives: a campus overrun with biologically engineered zombie bunnies, a university of high-tech higher education, and a campus technology transformed into a hub for healthy living and physical fitness. But the strongest narrative, says Leach, was one about a domed island campus where administrative surveillance and “productivity pills” promoted student success, but was slowly revealed to be a post-secondary Panopticon.

“Games are not just mindless entertainment,” says Leach. “They have become a form of creative expression, intellectual exploration and even crowd-sourced research.” But there are potential drawbacks. Leach advises against the “superficial use” of tools like points and badges purely as extrinsic motivators, what he calls “a digital carrot or stick that’s just a replacement or addition to the existing grading system.”

“Instructors need to understand at a deeper level how games and interactive media work to tap into students’ intrinsic desire to learn,” he says. “The best game-based learning uses quests and other forms of storytelling to encourage students to see their progress through a course—and even their entire education—as a journey with many stages to navigate and many potential colleagues and collaborators along the way.”

—John Threlfall
Royal Society of Canada AGM recognizes creative and scholarly accomplishments of UVic faculty

The Royal Society of Canada, Canada’s National Academy, recently held its Annual General Meeting in Québec City from November 20th to 23rd. The RSC AGM includes recognition of Royal Society medal winners, Fellows of the Royal Society, and members of the inaugural College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists. Faculty of the University of Victoria were honoured in all three categories.

Eric Sager, Professor of History, and Tim Lilburn, Professor of Writing, were both in attendance at the AGM and were inducted as Fellows of the Royal Society of Canada. Professor Lilburn describes the experience as humbling. “It was an extraordinary experience for me, sharing the stage and dinner table with people who were internationally known for their work on star formation and mathematical models for apparently random movement, as well as new research into WW I,” he says. “I was staggered by the range of research and its quality. The arts was well represented too with musical composers, performers and one other poet, Priscila Uppal from York.”

Professor Sager similarly expresses his enthusiasm: “Royal Society meetings were a fascinating window onto the state of the arts, humanities and sciences in Canada today. This month the RSC issued the report of its expert panel on libraries and archives, entitled The Future Now: Canada’s Libraries, Archives, and Public Memory. We hope that the report will get the recognition it deserves!”

In addition, Associate Professor of Psychology Stuart MacDonald and Professor of Computer Science Margaret-Anne Storey were inducted into the inaugural College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists. The Royal Society created the College as the first national system of multidisciplinary recognition for the emerging generation of Canadian intellectual leadership. Indeed, Dr. MacDonald is a leader in the field of cognitive neuroscience of aging, while Dr. Storey is a leader in information visualization and collaborative software engineering. Their videos are online on the UVic Royal Society YouTube page.

UVic faculty were also represented among the Royal Society medal winners. Professor Sara Ellison received the prestigious Rutherford Memorial Medal in Physics. Professor Ellison is a world expert in two fields of astrophysics – quasar absorption lines and galaxy mergers – with the goal of understanding galaxy evolution over cosmic time. She is currently leading international programs with the world’s largest ground and space-based telescopes. Emeritus Professor Jack Hodgins received the Lorne Pierce Medal for achievements in imaginative literature. Professor Hodgins’ fiction, for which he has received the Governor General’s Award and the Commonwealth Prize, explores the history, people and places of the coast of British Columbia.

In November 2015, the Royal Society of Canada AGM will take place in Victoria, BC, with the University of Victoria as the presenting sponsor.

—Brad Buie
Call for nominations – 2015 Craigdarroch Research Awards

Do you know a colleague with an excellent record of research, creative activity or knowledge mobilization? Consider nominating him or her for a Craigdarroch Research Award.

The Craigdarroch Research Awards were established at UVic in 2003 to recognize outstanding research, scholarship and creative contributions. The four award categories include career achievement, research excellence, knowledge mobilization and artistic expression.

The deadline for nominations is January 30, 2015, with a ceremony to honour recipients to be held on May 7, 2015.

For the 2015 Terms of Reference and Nomination Form and to see past recipients, please visit the Craigdarroch Research Awards webpage. Any questions can be directed to UVic’s Awards Facilitator, Brad Buie, at awardfac@uvic.ca.

—Brad Buie

CSRS Artist-in-Residence Fellowship

The Centre for Studies in Religion and Society (CSRS) invites applications from working artists and MFA graduate students interested in conducting a project within the centre’s community of multidisciplinary scholars and students. Applications for the Chih-Chuang and Yien-Ying Hsieh Award for Art and Spirituality are now being accepted. The Fellowship is valued at approximately $4,000 plus space at the CSRS.

Deadline: Jan. 20, 2015

For more details visit the CSRS awards and fellowships section of their website.

—Robbyn Lanning
Dr. Nicholas Bradley is awarded a major fellowship at Harvard

Dr. Nicholas Bradley, an associate professor in the English Department at UVic, has been awarded the 2014-2015 William Lyon Mackenzie King Research Fellow at Harvard University. Dr. Bradley will teach two half courses through Harvard’s Department of English: Indigenous Literatures of North America—Oral and Written Traditions (fall 2014) and Poets of the Pacific West (spring 2015), as well as carrying out his own program of research at Harvard.

The fellowship is made possible by the William Lyon Mackenzie King endowment; it presents rich intellectual opportunities for Canadian studies at Harvard, including graduate and undergraduate courses offered by distinguished visiting Canadian scholars. The endowment was established in 1967 following a campaign spearheaded by David Rockefeller, who wished to honour William Lyon Mackenzie King (1874–1950), a great friend of his father, John D. Rockefeller, Jr. A Harvard graduate, King was deputy minister of labour in Canada.

—G. Kim Blank

Kelli Stajduhar receives Excellence in Nursing Research Award

Dr. Kelli Stajduhar, School of Nursing and Centre on Aging, was the recipient of a 2014 Excellence in Nursing Research award from the College of Registered Nurses of BC for her clinically-focused research on end-of-life and palliative care and for her contributions as a research facilitator, mentor and communicator.

Kelli has worked in oncology, palliative care, and gerontology for over 25 years as a staff nurse, nurse clinician, clinical nurse specialist, educator and researcher. She began her career as a front line nurse, but returned to an academic career with a desire to improve care for palliative patients and to reduce distress felt by nurses who care for them. Her clinical work and research has focused on health service needs for those at the end-of-life and their families and on the needs of marginalized and vulnerable populations. Kelli is the academic lead investigator on the iPANEL (Initiative for a Palliative Approach in Nursing: Evidence and Leadership) research project in British Columbia, which brings together nursing researchers, practitioners and administrators to integrate a palliative approach into the health care system. She also currently leads an international research collaborative on family caregiving involving researchers from the United Kingdom and Australia and a Victoria-based study on access to care for structurally vulnerable populations.

Kelli’s work transcends the boundaries of practice, education and research, and speaks to her commitment to support patients, family caregivers and nursing staff. She is known nationally and internationally for her expertise in the field. Her collaborations with researchers, educators and practicing nurses ensure that key topics are addressed and that nurses have access to the best information in order to deliver the most supportive care.

—Cara Pearson
Not just a licence to drill: Water governance and hydraulic fracturing workshop

On Oct. 16 and 17, POLIS’ Water Sustainability Project (WSP) co-hosted a workshop on water governance and hydraulic fracturing, held in Victoria, B.C. Amongst other discussion items, key questions that were actively debated included: What are the key governance challenges for the various actors involved in the debates about water use for hydraulic fracturing? and What are the knowledge gaps in this field and what are the best research approaches for addressing them?

Building on its previous research under the theme of the water-energy nexus, the WSP is partnering with lead researchers Michele-Lee Moore (University of Victoria), Karena Shaw (University of Victoria) and Heather Castleden (Queen’s University) to help support a Canadian Water Network-funded water governance project to study challenges related to hydraulic fracturing across Canada. The WSP team will explore certain public policy implications of this research and will specifically look at how the new B.C. Water Sustainability Act, and supporting legal regime, might better address these concerns and promote the protection and stewardship of fresh water in the province.

The workshop brought together a diverse group of experts from across the country, including researchers and academics, First Nations organizations, NGO leaders, water regulation experts and industry. It succeeded in building a shared understanding of the differences and similarities in priority water governance challenges related to hydraulic fracturing across Canada—from B.C. to the North and all the way out to the Maritimes. Participants worked collaboratively to identify preferred methodological approaches for addressing existing knowledge gaps that contribute to these challenges and informed the foundation of a potentially comprehensive research program.

As evidenced at the workshop, an obvious appetite exists for the sharing of knowledge, ideas and experiences across jurisdictions to help improve governance structures across regions in Canada. A Regional Snapshot Report on Water Governance and Hydraulic Fracturing, the detailed report containing conclusions from the workshop, will be published in 2015 and will inform ongoing work by the WSP team in the context of innovative governance and law reform to address the water-energy nexus in Canada.

—Raluca Hlevca
Aboriginal knowledge and ways of knowing

Dr. Charlotte Loppie (Reading), Director of the UVic Centre for Aboriginal Health Research and Chair of the Aboriginal Health Research Networks Secretariat is the principal investigator on the recent successful CIHR Network Catalyst Grant for “Aboriginal Knowledge and Ways of Knowing” in Aboriginal health research.

The Aboriginal Health Research Network for Aboriginal Knowledge and Ways of Knowing (AHRN-AKWK) is a national network of regional hubs co-led by a national research team of experts in Aboriginal health and their community partners. The goal of the three year network catalyst project (2014-2017) is to meaningfully engage Indigenous knowledge holders, practitioners, researchers, trainees and knowledge brokers at the regional and national level to collaborate and advance health research that foregrounds Aboriginal knowledge and ways of knowing in all aspects of the research process.

Key activities include development of a national resource website, regional engagement of Aboriginal knowledge holders in research, collaboration with national and regional organizations and projects in Aboriginal health, and organization of a national gathering focussed on Indigenous knowledge and health research.

This network builds on the strength and capacity of the CIHR-funded Aboriginal Capacity and Development Environments (ACADRE) and Network Environments for Aboriginal Health Research (NEAHR) program (2001-2013).

—Amy Mawdsley

Another eventful year at CSSI

For the past three years, the Centre for Social and Sustainable Innovation (CSSI) at the Gustavson School of Business has cultivated sustainability thinking throughout Gustavson’s educational programs.

CSSI’s beautiful 2013-14 Year in Review highlights some of the great stories that show Gustavson students, faculty and staff inspiring, empowering and enabling all of Gustavson to realize its vision: to pioneer business education that creates sustainable value.

—Rachel Goldsworthy
Interactive climate change courses go live

**Discover what is causing climate change**
**Interpret what it means for BC’s future climate**
**Learn how to help slow the rate of change and to adapt**

Answers are now just a click away with the launch this fall of a complete series of animated and interactive courses on climate change causes, mitigation and adaptation from the UVic-hosted and led Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (PICS) and the Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium (PCIC).

The new online course that completes the popular PICS Climate Insights 101 free education series is entitled BC Climate Impacts & Adaptation. Like its predecessors Climate Science Basics and Mitigation Needs & Action, it contains a number of test-your-knowledge sections and typically takes two hours to complete, although users can jump directly to individual topics within the lessons.

Collectively, the three courses provide users with a solid understanding of the causes of climate change, both natural and human-induced, and where the solutions lie through mitigation and adaptation. Topics covered range from the science of the global carbon cycle and climate variations such as El Niño, to how climate will affect major river basins and agricultural zones, plus how we can minimize our impact through emissions cuts, clean technology and carbon pricing.

The series has been developed and peer-reviewed by leading scientists from British Columbia including PICS executive director, Dr. Tom Pedersen and PCIC’s director Dr. Francis Zwiers, who is also a vice chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

BC is projected to experience more warming than the global average in the coming decades. This will affect regional water flow and supply, crop suitability and food security, distributions of pests, urban and industrial planning. Global warming will cause sea level to rise, and it is likely to increase the frequency of extreme weather events, among other impacts.

Dr. Pedersen says the new course will be of special interest to British Columbians, with resources such as PCIC’s “Plan2Adapt” tool that allows municipalities to visualize projections of future climate change at the local level, and to gain insights into its potential impacts.

Pedersen says the importance of taking action to slow global warming, as well as adapt to its impacts, has never been more crucial. This is backed up by the latest report from the IPCC, which states “It is extremely likely [meaning at least 95% certainty] that human influence has been the dominant cause of the observed warming since the mid-20th century” and that “recent climate changes have had widespread impacts on human and natural systems”.

Check out PICS website’s revamped Education section. Mini lessons that sum up key elements of the courses are also available online.

—Robyn Meyer
In January 2014, UVic’s POLIS Water Sustainability Project, based at the Centre for Global Studies, organized and co-hosted the national, three-day watershed governance forum “Watersheds 2014: Towards Watershed Governance in British Columbia and Beyond.” Delegates from a diversity of backgrounds—including watershed groups, researchers, professional resource managers and decision-makers at all levels of government, including First Nations—came together to re-envision the way we use, share, and respect our freshwater and watershed resources. The event was held on Cowichan Tribes territory in Duncan, British Columbia and focused on bringing forward innovative ideas and developing new skills for implementing watershed governance on the ground.

Earlier this month, the Edited Proceedings from Watersheds 2014 was released. This substantial document organizes and summarizes the presentations given, questions raised and discussions held at the forum. This written record of Watersheds 2014 is not simply intended as a summary for those who attended the event, but also as a resource and reference document for anyone researching or working on implementing innovative new decision-making practices and processes within their watershed.

To effectively present all the information from the various panel sessions, workshops and keynote presentations, the edited proceedings has been organized by broad thematic categories, including: Watershed Governance and Attitudes Around Water, Watershed Governance in Practice, First Nations and Water Governance, Water Law and B.C.’s Water Act and Resilience and Climate Change Adaptation.

The second half focuses on skills-building topics, including: Watershed Planning and Source Protection, Watershed Assessments, Report Cards, Indicators and Water-Use Reporting, Community Engagement and Social Financing.

Another important outcome of the event—beyond new understanding, connections, and networks—was the “Watersheds 2014 Forum Consensus.” This statement captures the core sentiments and primary conclusions from the event. It is meant to signal to others the emerging importance and priority of fresh water for the health and prosperity of our communities, our economy, our sense of place and, critically, our environment.

**Watersheds 2014 was co-organized by the POLIS Water Sustainability Project, based at the University of Victoria’s Centre for Global Studies, the University of Victoria’s Department of Geography, and Brock University’s Environmental Sustainability Research Centre, along with the support of numerous partners and sponsors, including Cowichan Tribes and the Cowichan Watershed Board.**

—Laura Brandes
CFGS highlighted fall events

Centre for Global Studies (CFGS) had a busy fall which began with an external review and continued with the hosting of multiple events, a couple of our more prominent events are highlighted below.

A public forum, Politics of Energy: Oil and beyond?, was held at UVic Sept. 26-27, 2014 and co-hosted with the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation New York office. The event addressed the challenges of establishing an energy strategy which is socially just, and both environmentally, and economically viable from a global perspective. Presentations were given on the topics: pricing lessons from Europe; energy for whom?; global/ UN response”; Indigenous perspective; and the keynote presentation Carbon Shift: The coming Global Energy transition was given by Thomas Homer-Dixon. It was fruitful experience collaborating with the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation and we hope to continue to work with them in the future.

On Nov. 20, 2014, Keith Banting, Queen’s Research Chair in Public Policy gave a public lecture, Transatlantic Convergence? Multiculturalism and immigrant Integration in Canada and Europe. CFGS co-sponsored this event in partnership with the European Union Centre of Excellence (EUCE). CFGS would like to thank the EUCE for its generous financial contribution making this event possible. Dr. Banting’s presentation examined how at first glance Canada and Europe seem to be diverging dramatically in their approach to immigrant integration. While support for a multicultural approach seems strong in Canada, a backlash pervades European debates. Beneath the political rhetoric, however, there are important elements of convergence in integration policies governments have put in place on the two sides of the Atlantic. We would also like to thanks our two panel respondents, Dr. Avigail Eisenberg, professor and chair of UVic’s Political Science department and Jean McRae, executive director of the Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria.

—Jennifer Swift
CAHR supporting Aboriginal HIV/AIDS initiatives

Over the last several years, the Centre for Aboriginal Health Research (CAHR) has focused on HIV & AIDS research and partnerships, most recently involving a partnership with the Aboriginal HIV & AIDS Community Based Research Collaborative Centre (AHA Centre) and an upcoming Learning Lodge on Indigenous HIV research.

The AHA Centre

Located at CAHR, the AHA Centre is a 5-year CIHR-funded collaborative centre, which works in conjunction with the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network that supports Aboriginal-focused HIV & AIDS research. Community Research Associates (CRAs), who are based provincially, play a key role in bridging community and academic engagement in HIV and AIDS research.

The objectives of the AHA Centre are to:
Support, evolve and expand the collaborative work between HIV & AIDS national structures with regional and provincial HIV & AIDS Community Based Organizations and researchers in order to foster the national coordination of HIV & AIDS Community Based Research efforts; Provide infrastructure support to position HIV & AIDS community organizations and academic teams to develop strategic research programs that succeed in securing research funding through other opportunities; and, Promote the creation and translation, of new knowledge that is relevant to communities and to the goals of the Federal Initiative and advance the uptake of research and evidence into action so that it may positively impact the response of community-based organizations to the HIV & AIDS epidemic.

The Learning Lodge

CAHR has been hosting Learning Institutes each year since 2012. The 2014 CAHR Learning Institute, held in November at the University of Victoria, provided an opportunity for academics, community research coordinators and students to come together to learn about Indigenous intervention research.

Our 2015 event will involve a week-long gathering to talk about and experience a project called ‘Visioning Health’, which is strengths-based, arts-informed, community-based participatory research exploring the meaning of ‘health’ from the perspective of HIV Positive Aboriginal Women (PAW) and the role of culture and gender in supporting PAW health.

To build on this strength, CAHR is in the initial stages of planning for the Learning Lodge to be held in the spring of 2015. Please contact cahr@uvic.ca if you are interested in being involved.

—Amy Mawdsley
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.

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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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