

AN ERA OF  
*Discovery and  
Achievement*

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THE UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA  
UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF  
DAVID H. TURPIN: 2000 – 2013



University  
of Victoria

50  
YEARS



## Chancellor's Tribute

As Chancellor of the University of Victoria, I have enjoyed the great privilege of working closely with David Turpin over the past five years. Having watched him in action, I can attest that he has set the bar high for inspirational leadership and thoughtful engagement throughout the university community.

The years of Dave's tenure have been truly remarkable and through his passion, energy and strategic vision we have witnessed the continuing evolution of UVic as one of Canada's leading research and teaching universities. I thank him and his wife Suromitra Sanatani, as well as all those on and off campus who have supported UVic's celebrated growth over the past 13 years.

Murray A. Farmer  
Chancellor



## *A Vision for the Future*

An excellent vision is one that's both aspirational and inspirational. A truly brilliant vision is one that's shared.

Engaging the entire campus around shared strategic goals has been the cornerstone of the University of Victoria's ambitions and successes since 2000. That's because UVic's vision is more than words on paper: it is an actively shared perspective, forged through consultation and commitment.

During President Turpin's tenure, this perspective has guided three forward-looking strategic plans. They reflect the full diversity, experience and wisdom of the campus community, have helped bring the campus together and have served as a call to action towards future goals.

"By being highly strategic, working collaboratively, and getting so much done, Dave has led UVic to a position of national and international influence."

—Basil Alexander, public interest lawyer, adjunct professor at Osgoode Hall Law School, York University, and former student representative on UVic Senate and Board of Governors





# Enriching the Student Experience

David Turpin has consistently emphasized the horizon ahead for graduating students at convocations: “You have gained the knowledge and skills at UVic to make a difference in a world that’s full of change, challenge and opportunity. You are ready for your own unique journey of discovery.”

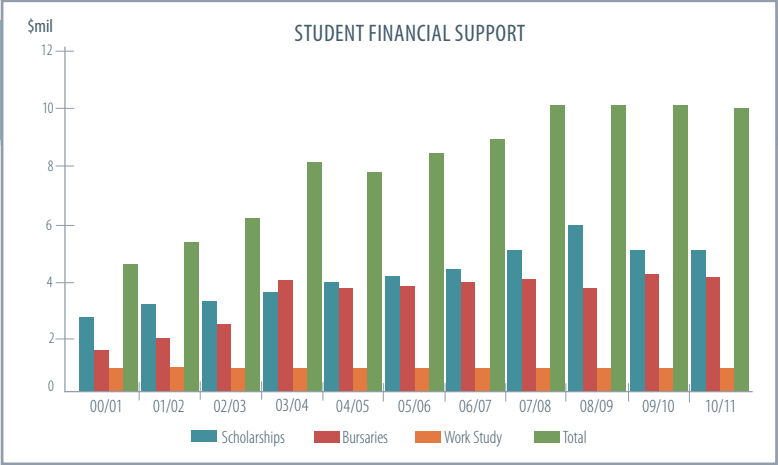
The learning and living environment on campus has been enhanced during the past 13 years to better support students throughout their studies and prepare them to thrive in a changing world. Financial assistance has more than doubled, reducing barriers so students can reach their full academic potential — and placing UVic in the top 20 per cent of Canadian universities for student support.



The campus has also gained a greater sense of community since 2000, with a campus-wide emphasis on diversity, healthy lifestyles and environmental sustainability — resulting in a high level of student engagement in and out of the classroom.

UVic is a destination university, drawing students from across Canada and around the world in increasing numbers. Since 2008, UVic has had the highest proportion of out-of-province students of any Canadian university west of Quebec.

And since 2004, UVic has offered all incoming first-year students a place in residence. Athletics and recreation opportunities also enrich student life, building on a tradition of excellence that ranks UVic fourth in the country for national team championships — a remarkable feat for a young university.



“Dr. Turpin was approachable and accessible. He was a pleasure to work with and truly cares about UVic students.”  
 —Tara Paterson, Rhodes Scholar, former UVSS chairperson and former student representative to Board of Governors



# Powering the Knowledge Economy

Shining a light on the critical role of universities in Canada's growing knowledge economy and securing the resources that enable UVic to play an active part in it have been defining themes of Dr. Turpin's presidency.

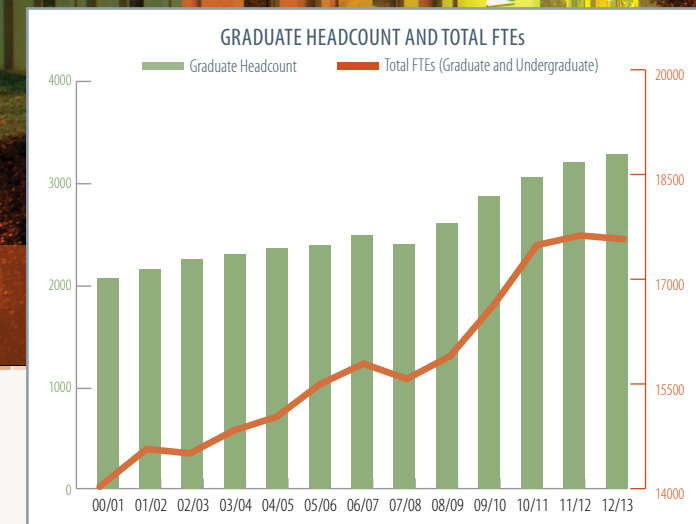


As Canada accelerates into a global environment that increasingly values analytical skills and social intelligence as economic and social drivers, President Turpin's personal advocacy for increased investment in students, faculty, research and facilities has benefited the Canadian higher education system as well as our campus.

At the national level, UVic's advocacy for sustained support for long-term major science initiatives has led to the creation of programs like the new Major Science Initiatives Fund of the Canada Foundation for Innovation, which provides multi-year funding to national research platforms like UVic's Ocean Networks Canada Observatory.

David Turpin has also championed BC-based research on environmental change and adaptation, leading to Government of BC support for the UVic-hosted Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions — the largest single contribution to a Canadian university endowment in history.

These achievements, along with an increase in student seats and core teaching capacity, have all followed from campaigns to position us for the future. They spring from our shared understanding that tomorrow's economic and social advances — and Canada's capacity to participate in the knowledge economy — will be animated by the intellectual drive of today's students. This is why we work to support them as they strive to achieve their full academic and civic potential to become the leaders of tomorrow.



"With the knowledge economy becoming the country's new driver, Dave's ability to focus on UVic's strengths boosted its credibility provincially, federally and internationally. Dave understood that UVic's huge growth in research dollars, high quality programs and world-class faculty and students was not all about UVic, but about the community around it."

—Gail Gabel  
Chief Executive Officer, eMedica Technologies





# Advancing Research and Scholarship

Building on established areas of institutional strength and responding to key opportunities during Dr. Turpin's presidency, UVic has been able to broaden the scope and societal benefits of its scholarship and research activities.

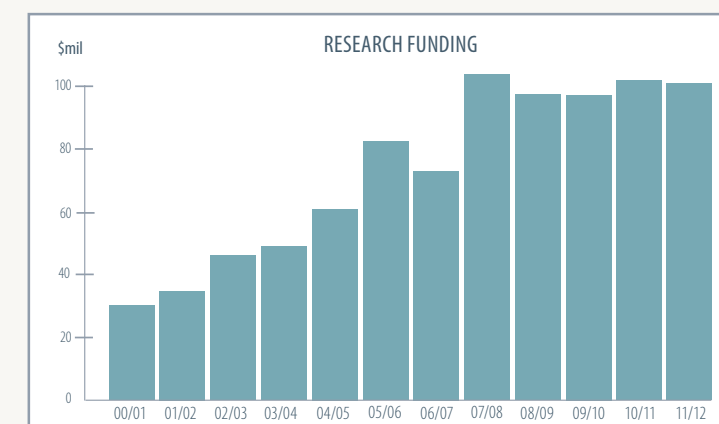


A crucial part of that success comes from the powerful synergies that emerge from innovative research programs, graduate scholars and the undergraduate academic experience. In its strategic plan, UVic has made recruiting faculty, graduate students and post-doctoral fellows of the highest calibre a key goal.

More than half of UVic's 860 faculty members have been hired since 2000, with a net gain of nearly 300 positions.

The result — spectacular growth in graduate enrolment, graduate programs and research funding during the past decade — has supported innovation and scholarship across the disciplines and helped make UVic one of the top research universities in Canada.

UVic led all other Canadian comprehensive universities in increasing research income and research intensity from 1999-2009. The proportion of invention disclosures to research funding at UVic has also climbed to second in the country — demonstrating a new innovation and discovery intensity that enhances the learning environment as well.



"By concentrating on its strengths and developing new unique opportunities, UVic is now recognized globally for its inspired learning, world-leading discoveries and exceptional community engagement. These are the trademarks of David's presidency; they will define his legacy."

—Gilles G. Patry, President and CEO, Canada Foundation for Innovation



# Transforming Indigenous Education

UVic's commitment to supporting the success of Indigenous students in the postsecondary environment has led to remarkable achievements at UVic and in the communities we seek to serve. Indigenous enrolment at UVic has grown tenfold since 2000, and a broad array of supports welcome Indigenous students and engage them in the campus community.

UVic programs and partnerships to support Indigenous education have grown in every area — shaping student services, improving research that serves communities, and fostering many partnerships and programs that nurture dialogue between Indigenous communities and the university.

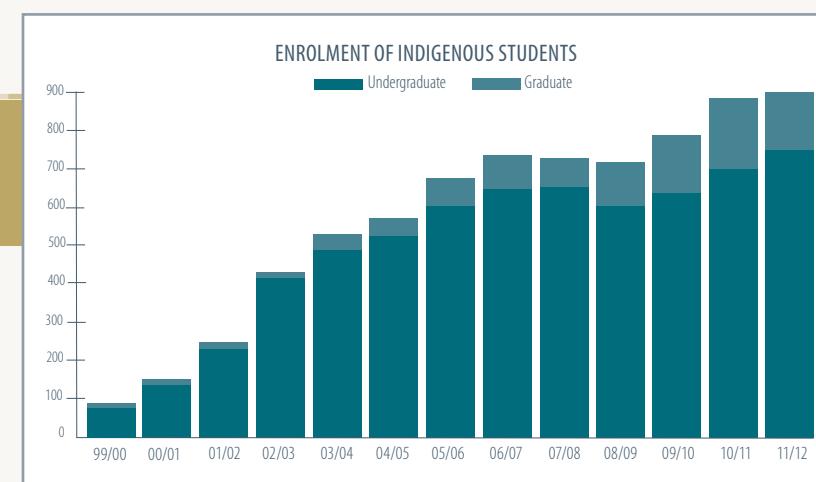
One signature effort of the era personally advanced by President Turpin is LE,NONET. Begun as a pilot research project, funded by the Government of Canada through the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation, LE,NONET welcomes Indigenous students to campus with culturally grounded support and financial aid — achieving dramatic quantitative and qualitative improvements in students' success. These outcomes demonstrate how universities across Canada can improve their own Indigenous success initiatives. In so doing, the program has fulfilled the meaning of its SENĆOTEN name: success after enduring many hardships.

First Peoples House, opened in 2009 in the heart of campus, has also helped bring Indigenous support programs together. The building serves as a “home away from home” for Indigenous students, faculty and staff on campus, and as a place for furthering intercultural understanding.



“Dr. David Turpin has been a great friend to the Aboriginal People and a strong advocate for reconciliation. I first met him at a graduation ceremony and he struck me as a very humble yet strong leader who spoke from his heart first. Although he wore the formal university gown, he was nonetheless down to earth, approachable and sincere.”

—The Hon. Steven Point, former Lieutenant Governor of BC





# A Growing International Profile

A global perspective is fundamental to a university's core mission. Over the past 13 years, UVic has dramatically extended its international reach — in research, teaching, academic supports and civic engagement, and through an increasingly cosmopolitan student body.

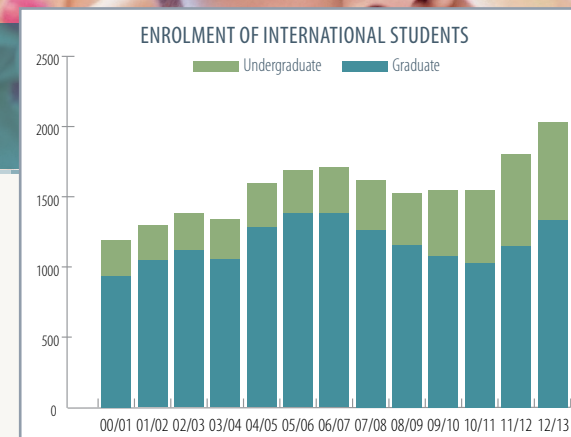
In keeping with our vision of global citizenship, we have strengthened our partnerships and educational exchanges around the world. Building on our institution's early history of engagement with China, UVic was one of the first Canadian universities to sign an agreement with the China Scholarship Council, obtaining preferred status as a destination for top graduate students from leading Chinese universities.

UVic also played a leadership role in provincial and national educational delegations to India and Brazil, which highlighted our stature and enhanced our international relationships.

Our rising presence around the world ranges from field schools to international research collaborations, including the ATLAS particle detector at the Large Hadron Collider, the Ocean Networks Canada cabled ocean observatory and the Canada-China Clean Energy Workshop.

New campus initiatives and facilities like the Pathway program and the Marnie Swanson International Commons support the growing presence of international students in our increasingly diverse campus community.

In an era of expanding international connection and collaboration, these enhancements help UVic students and graduates become true citizens of the planet — committed to the betterment of our global society.



"Dave Turpin raised Canada's game. With his characteristic collegiality and strategic foresight, his leadership advanced both UVic and Canadian higher education on the global stage. Thanks, Dave, for always thinking globally and locally — at the same time."

—Paul Davidson, President, Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada



# Laying a Foundation for the Future

The expansion of student enrolment and research activity since 2000 has required new infrastructure to meet today's needs, prepare the campus for the next era, implement principles for sustainable growth and preserve the unique spirit of the campus. UVic's 2003 *Campus Plan* outlined a blueprint for expansion while reducing vehicle traffic, situating buildings on former parking lots and advancing sustainable building practices for construction and ongoing operations.



That vision has led to new world-class facilities for teaching and research, operations and student support. The William C. Mearns Centre for Learning, an innovative companion to the updated McPherson Library, has helped the campus prepare for a new age of scholarship. First Peoples House, with its Coast Salish-inspired architecture, has been recognized with international awards for its design, and is one of seven new campus buildings that have been certified to LEED Gold green building standards.

New academic buildings have risen to greet future generations of students, while student housing has flourished, driven by the commitment to guarantee an opportunity for every first-year student to live on campus. That priority saw nine student residences built.

In 2010, UVic acquired the nearby Queenswood property as part of its long-term planning objectives.

The university also acquired the Vancouver Island Technology Park, providing space for collaboration and increased opportunities for knowledge transfer between UVic and the island's rapidly-growing high-tech sector.



## NEW CAMPUS BUILDINGS

- 2001 Glover Greenhouse
- 2001 Lou-Poy Child Care Centre
- 2003 Cluster Housing Blocks 46-50
- 2003 Continuing Studies
- 2003 Technology Enterprise Facility
- 2004 Medical Sciences
- 2004 Park Residence
- 2004 Ring Road Residence
- 2004 Tower Residence
- 2006 Engineering / Computer Science
- 2008 Administrative Services
- 2008 Bob Wright Centre – Ocean, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences
- 2008 Mearns Centre for Learning
- 2008 Social Sciences and Mathematics
- 2009 Enterprise Data Centre
- 2009 First Peoples House
- 2010 South Tower Residence
- 2015 Centre for Athletics, Recreation and Special Abilities





“[David Turpin] understands the value of what we can accomplish together when we join forces to build a strong and caring community. As a former chair of the regional campaign and leadership donor, David is committed to seeing the United Way address the root causes of social issues.”

—Linda Hughes, CEO, United Way-Victoria

## *Fostering Community through Civic Engagement*

UVic’s Strategic Plan positions civic engagement as a key part of our mission, and the work our faculty, students and staff do in collaboration with an increasingly diverse range of community partners in Canada and abroad is widely recognized.



One of UVic’s most inspiring successes, CanAssist, has grown to collaborate with partners and clients in the community and around the world to develop practical, customized technologies that improve life for people with a wide range of disabilities.

The Centre for Addictions Research, established in 2003, has worked with some of society’s most disadvantaged populations to discover community-wide solutions to the problems of addiction — and gained growing international attention for its research.

UVic has provided increasing support to collaborative initiatives that help make a difference in our world. For the past six years, a series of innovative interdisciplinary workshops has developed a curriculum for community-based research with health agencies, government service ministries and community organizations to improve outcomes.

Our national leadership in promoting community-engaged research is exemplified by the creation of Canada’s first Research Partnerships and Knowledge Mobilization (RPKM) unit, which supports socially and economically beneficial research collaborations with business, government, community organizations and other academic institutions. The innovative RPKM unit builds on and replaces the community-linking services formerly offered through the Office of Community Based Research and UVic Industry Partnerships, and represents the evolution of our commitment to benefiting society through our research and creative activities.





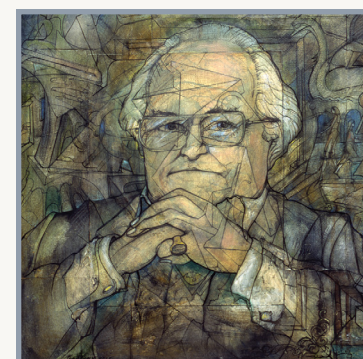
“President David Turpin has been a major inspiration regarding my interest in the University of Victoria. His strong leadership took the university to the next level, and was the major influence in my contribution to the university’s School of Earth and Ocean Sciences. His footprint will leave a lasting legacy at the University of Victoria for generations to come.”

—Bob Wright, philanthropist  
and founder of Oak Bay Marine Group

## Celebrating an Abundance of Support

*Dreams are priceless. So, too, are the generous gifts that each of you has given the university over the years. ... When you choose to share those gifts with our university, you’re making a very real investment in people, and the future. And that investment will pay enormous dividends for all of us — for the students themselves, as well as for society. ... To use a quote attributed to Winston Churchill: “We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”*

—David H. Turpin  
UVic Benefactors Dinner, February 25, 2004



The remarkable advances made at UVic during the last 13 years could not have been realized without an exceptional circle of friends and supporters. Community organizations, businesses, government and its agencies at all levels, and thousands of individuals have given their support to the university on an increasingly broad array of partnerships and initiatives. We gratefully acknowledge the many different ways in which they have encouraged us to expand our capacity for achievement and discovery — and our ability to contribute to the betterment of our world.

We also celebrate the generosity and vision of donors, foundations, businesses, governments and research partners who have funded our efforts. Thousands of friends of the university have helped to fund needed scholarships, leading-edge programs, state-of-the-art facilities, and innovative research. Among these important supporters, a number of exceptional philanthropists have provided extraordinary gifts that have transformed the campus, creating lasting legacies at UVic. Each of us benefits from living in a better-educated community and we owe these generous donors a debt of gratitude.



# Milestones of an Extraordinary Era

As we mark the University of Victoria's 50th anniversary, we celebrate the extraordinary growth and accomplishments of our institution. ... The difference UVic makes in our region, across Canada and around the world is an extension of our core mission to integrate outstanding scholarship, inspired teaching and real-life involvement in a research-enriched university setting.

—David H. Turpin  
Introduction to the UVic  
Annual Review 2012

There are many ways to measure success, and UVic's extraordinary performance across the disciplines is a remarkable story of achievement. UVic's rise in a variety of national and international surveys and rankings of leading universities is one of them, but however impressive such metrics are, they don't fully capture the vibrancy of our young university and the value of its contributions to society.

## 2001

Michael C. Williams bequest announced — one of the largest gifts in the university's history

## 2002

Goal set to increase student financial assistance and move UVic into the top 20 per cent of Canadian universities in this area

Island Medical Program agreement developed to educate doctors at UVic

## 2003

Donation from BC Addiction Foundation helps establish Centre for Addictions Research of BC

Funding for the NEPTUNE Canada ocean observatory announced

## 2004

Fifth UVic Rhodes Scholar in four years announced

Province-wide expansion of postsecondary education announced

LE,NONET project launched to support Indigenous education

## 2005

Vancouver Island Technology Park (VITP) acquired

Akitsiraq convocation for arctic law students in Nunavut

## 2006

VENUS ocean observatory begins to transmit data from Saanich Inlet

## 2007

Nobel Prize-winning IPCC report issued with more than a dozen UVic-affiliated contributors

Bob Wright donation announced to support the construction of the Ocean, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences building and provide student assistance

## 2008

Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions established through Government of BC endowment

Research funding exceeds \$100 million for the first time

Mearns Centre for Learning opens, made possible by gift from Mearns family

## 2009

First Peoples House opens

## 2010

*Times Higher Education* rankings list UVic among top 200 universities in the world

*ReSearch Infosource* ranks UVic as Canadian comprehensive research university of the decade in research intensity and research income growth

Queenswood property acquired

David Turpin invested into the Order of Canada

UVic names the Peter B. Gustavson School of Business in recognition of Gustavson's philanthropy and support

## 2011

Third UVic Law student awarded a Trudeau Scholarship in five years

Graduate school of business named for former Victoria College student and local businessman Sardul S. Gill

## 2012

*Times Higher Education* ranks UVic first in Canada and eleventh globally among universities less than 50 years old

UVic ranked either first or second by *Maclean's* magazine among Canadian comprehensive universities for six consecutive years

UVic-led ATLAS-Canada particle detector team helps establish existence of Higgs Boson

Since 2000, UVic faculty have been awarded

- 6 3M National Teaching Fellowships
- 1 Canada Council for the Arts Molson Prize
- 2 Guggenheim Fellowships
- 3 Killam Prizes and Fellowships
- 1 Siminovitch Prize in Theatre
- 2 Sloan Fellowships
- 2 Steacie Memorial Fellowships
- 3 Trudeau Fellowships
- 1 Vanier Medal
- 19 fellowships in the Royal Society of Canada and four RSC medals of achievement.



"What an extraordinary legacy of leadership. All of Canada is better because of you."

—His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada



## Thank you

Dear colleagues and friends,

As the University of Victoria wraps up its 50th anniversary celebration, and I wrap up my own term as its president, I reflect on the thousands of students who have benefited from a UVic education and on all the contributions our university has made.

I would like to extend my thanks to the students, faculty, staff, alumni, parents, community partners and other supporters who have helped us achieve so much together. It's truly been an honour and a privilege to serve as president of this great university for the last 13 years.

Presidents are often in the spotlight, and I am touched by this tribute. At the same time, we all realize that it is through the hard work of everyone at UVic that our university has become so successful. We are incredibly fortunate to benefit from the efforts of such a fine community working together to achieve our shared vision. I thank each and every one of you for your contributions to our success. It has been an honour to work with you.

David H. Turpin, CM, PhD, FRSC  
President and Vice-Chancellor







University  
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50  
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