DRAWING LAW FROM THE LAND
As the Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Law, John Borrows is committed to restoring Indigenous law to its place alongside Canadian common law. Borrows, who won a prestigious Killam Award in 2017, is working with law faculty colleague Val Napoleon to develop a joint degree program at UVic in Indigenous legal orders and common law—a world first.
THE EDGE IS HERE

“The UVic Edge is the combination of dynamic learning, vital impact and an extraordinary academic environment that can’t be found anywhere else. This describes the advantage students gain by coming here; the commitment we’ve made to research that makes a difference; and the special characteristics of our academic community.”

—UVic President and Vice-Chancellor
Jamie Cassels
EXPERIENCE IS THE BEST TEACHER

“Through co-op, I learned that the only way to bridge the gap between my university education and the fast-paced environment of a research lab was to work in that setting,” says 2017 biochemistry grad Paul Junhyuck Kim, a 3M National Student Fellow and a UVic Co-op Student of the Year. Kim’s co-op term in immunotherapy research at the BC Cancer Agency Deeley Research Centre stoked his passion for public health.
Unearthing BC’s rich human history

“It shows how far back the occupation of this land goes in deep time,” says PhD candidate Alisha Gauvreau, who was part of an archaeology team to unearth an ancient village on BC’s central coast. The 14,000-year-old village—one of the oldest known sites of human occupation on North America’s northwest coast—affirms the oral history of the Heiltsuk First Nation.

New field school shifts perspectives

“It was transformative,” says one instructor of UVic’s new European Studies Field School, offered for the first time in 2017. Eleven UVic graduate students travelled to historic and significant sites in Hungary, Germany, France and Canada to deepen their understanding of urgent global issues such as migration, the refugee crisis, the memorialization of the Holocaust and human rights.

Our global reach is on the map

We’re proud of how much our students, faculty and staff are engaging with communities around the world. An online map project led by the Office of Community-University Engagement provides an access point to learning opportunities in more than 70 countries—from community research projects to co-op work terms, courses and field schools.

DYNAMIC LEARNING

The world is interconnected and ever-evolving. Learning should be too. Here, every student is immersed in dynamic learning fueled by research-inspired insights and hands-on experiences—a powerful blend of career-relevant expertise and personal growth.

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ENERGY FOR THE FUTURE

For many of Canada’s off-grid coastal communities, marine energy in the form of wave, wind and tidal is a renewable energy option. A new project funded by Western Economic Diversification Canada and led by UVic mechanical engineers Brad Buckham and Curran Crawford is working with private sector partners to consolidate the data needed to plan for and initiate community-based marine energy projects.
VITAL IMPACT

Our students and faculty are driven by a commitment to the urgent issues that matter to people, places and the planet.

Sustainability, healthy societies, social justice, jobs and a strong economy are at the core of our commitment to meaningful change.

Tiny life forms, huge impact
Miniscule in size yet vast in global impact, the microscopic phytoplankton that biological oceanographer Diana Varela studies are helping us better understand the impact of climate change on marine ecosystems and food production. In 2017, Varela had water samples collected for her research during the C3 Expedition, a 150-day voyage through Canada’s Northwest Passage.

Speaking about health
In fall 2017, UVic’s School of Health Information Sciences launched Canada’s first certificate program in standardized e-health terminology. The program responds to a critical national need for trained professionals who can decipher and standardize the many terminologies being used across the country as health authorities modernize patient records.

Mobile drug detector tackles fentanyl crisis
Biophysical chemist Dennis Hore and graduate student Nic Medgyesi partnered with a Victoria pharmacist to develop an inexpensive mobile device that detects and measures any deadly additives, such as fentanyl, in street drugs. “We’re aiming to build a tool that could be used by a range of health and social service providers,” says Hore.
SWIMMING INTO THE PAST

On the 100th anniversary of iconic landscape artist Tom Thomson’s drowning in Algonquin Park’s Canoe Lake, UVic intermedia artist Paul Walde swam the length of the lake—accompanied by synchronized swimmers, a brass band, a film crew and a flotilla of canoes. Video and audio from the event will be part of Walde’s planned gallery installation on Thomson’s enduring legacy.
EXTRAORDINARY ENVIRONMENT

Our Pacific Rim location breeds a passion for exploration, inspiring us to defy boundaries, discover and innovate.

Living and working in one of the world’s most environmentally rich regions, we build relationships essential to a vibrant learning community.

ONC leads the way

A five-year, $46.6 million investment from the Canadian government—through the Canada Foundation for Innovation—ensures that UVic’s Ocean Networks Canada (ONC), working with multiple partners, will continue to lead the world in ocean observatory science and technology. Recent ONC accomplishments include community observatories along the BC coast and earthquake early warning sensors in the deep sea.

Stewards of the forests

In a groundbreaking and award-winning study, a team involving UVic ecologists, geographers and anthropologists in the Faculty of Social Sciences found that coastal First Nations are so tightly intertwined with their land that 13,000 years of repeated human occupation enhanced rather than depleted the productivity of temperate rainforests.

New program tackles challenges and opportunities for Indigenous nations

In fall 2017, UVic launched Canada’s first program in Indigenous nationhood to train the next generation of leaders, scholars and researchers in how law, politics and Indigenous governance intersect. “There are calls for leadership coming out of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission,” says program director Heidi Kiiwetinepinesiik Stark. “This multidisciplinary program is training students to be ready to do that work.”
PLAN FORGES NEW PATHWAYS FORWARD

In 2017, UVic launched its first Indigenous Plan—the culmination of more than two years’ work and consultation both on and off campus. The plan builds on the university’s long-standing commitment to Indigenous education.

“This plan places Indigenous students, faculty, staff and their communities at its heart and will guide our work over the coming years,” says UVic President and Vice-Chancellor Jamie Cassels. “It reiterates how our university strives to integrate and honour Indigenous cultures, histories, beliefs and ways of knowing and being into our strategic planning, curriculum, teaching, research and operations.”
MILESTONES

Ocean and climate hub begins to take shape
Renovations began in early 2017 on the 26,000-sq.ft. Queenswood building—two kilometres from the Gordon Head campus—to become the home of a new hub for UVic’s ocean and climate research. By mid-2018 Queenswood will house scientists and staff of Ocean Networks Canada in the initial phase of transition to offices and research labs.

Policy builds culture of consent and respect
UVic’s new Sexualized Violence Prevention and Response Policy, approved in spring 2017, covers education and prevention, support and resources, and fair and consistent responses to incidents of sexualized violence. Developed after a year of extensive consultations and research, it includes a central resource office, a coordinator of education and response, and production of support materials.

Green star for UVic
In 2017, UVic became one of Canada’s 100 Greenest Employers—an elite group of workplaces across the country that are committed to advancing sustainability. UVic is the only organization from Victoria to be listed. Initatives cited include: staff and student engagement, campus waste reduction and composting, a green procurement strategy, and green building accreditations.

Business is booming at revitalized Innovation Centre
The Coast Capital Savings Innovation Centre (CCSIC) is becoming a beacon for entrepreneurial students, faculty and staff across campus, as well as recent graduates. That’s exactly what was envisioned when ICE, the original innovation centre, was expanded and relaunched in May 2016. In its first 16 months, CCSIC met with 251 entrepreneurs, supported 84 ventures and helped 28 of them get to the marketplace.

Customer service partnership earns global recognition
A collaboration between UVic’s Gustavson School of Business and the Whistler Chamber of Commerce was one of 35 innovations from around the world cited in 2017 by AACSB International, the world’s largest global education network. The Whistler Experience, a community-wide customer service training program in Whistler, BC, now involves about 50 per cent of the town’s workforce.
SUPPORTING STUDENT SUCCESS
2016/17

UVIC OPERATING BUDGET
Undergraduate scholarships | Graduate fellowships | Bursaries | Work study

$16.2 MILLION

SPONSORED RESEARCH
Fellowships and research grants

$12.5 MILLION

DONOR SUPPORT
UVic foundation scholarships Other donor-based scholarships

$7.2 MILLION

TOTAL $35.9 MILLION IN COMBINED STUDENT SUPPORT

ATTRACTING STUDENTS FROM 127 COUNTRIES
International enrolment
In 2016/17 international students made up 15.8% of our student population

TRANSFORMING INDIGENOUS EDUCATION
Enrolment of Indigenous students
In 2016/17 Indigenous students made up 5.6% of the student population

ALUMNI AROUND THE WORLD
Graduates with global reach

124,469 LIVING UVIC ALUMNI ARE IN 119 COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD, FROM ARGENTINA TO ZIMBABWE
A CANADIAN CO-OP LEADER
UVic has the third largest co-op program among Canadian universities. One in three undergraduates participates.

Co-op and community service learning placements by employer type

PATHS TO EMPLOYMENT
Employment rates by degree area—two years after graduation

UVIC GRADUATES BY FACULTY | EMPLOYMENT RATE | AVERAGE ANNUAL INCOME
--- | --- | ---
BUSINESS | 95% | $58,246
EDUCATION | 92% | $46,237
ENGINEERING | 96% | $73,664
FINE ARTS | 93% | $36,313
HUMAN & SOC. DEV. | 95% | $63,649
HUMANITIES | 80% | $41,203
LAW | 100% | $81,567
SCIENCE | 71% | $46,107
SOCIAL SCIENCES | 89% | $48,287
UVIC TOTAL | 88% | $54,975

IN THE GLOBAL TOP 200
FOR RESEARCH IN EARTH AND MARINE SCIENCES, ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE, GEOGRAPHY, LAW, PHILOSOPHY. (2017 QS World University Rankings).

HIGH LEVELS OF SATISFACTION
2016 graduate survey, two years after graduation

92% of recent UVic grads satisfied or very satisfied
95% of recent UVic grads satisfied or very satisfied

Overall program satisfaction
Satisfaction with quality of instruction
# UVIC FACTS & FIGURES

- **21,700** students (undergraduate & graduate)
- **900** full-time faculty members
- **55** research chairs across a wide range of disciplines
- **515** patents filed to date
- **1,026** invention disclosures to date
- **123** start-up companies to date
- **3.7** billion UVIC annual economic impact
- **126th** in the world and the top university in Canada, across all sciences, for international collaboration (Leiden)

- **#1** among Canadian comprehensive universities in THE citation rankings (2016/17)
- **#3** among all Canadian universities in citation impact per faculty member (QS rankings, 2018)
- **#2** among all Canadian universities in CFI funding per faculty member (2016)
- **Gold star** performer for sustainability practices in the 2017 Sustainable Campus Index, compiled by the International Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
- **#1** among comprehensive universities in medical/science grants per faculty (Maclean’s 2018)
- **#1** for citation impact among all Canadian universities (tied with U of T) (Maclean’s 2017)
Stories with a symbol have accompanying videos online at the Annual Review website listed below.

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