DIANA NETHERCOTT

Professor honoured for beneficial work

by Patty Pitts

UVic biologist Dr. Nigel Livingston is this year’s recipient of the inaugural Lieutenant Governor’s Technology and Innovation Award from the BC Innovation Council. The award recognizes the development of highly innovative, new technology based on applied research that has a positive impact on the province.

For several years Livingston has led the UVic Assistive Technology Team (UVATT), a group of UVic faculty, staff and students who have volunteered their time and expertise to develop and test new devices for people with disabilities.

“I feel so privileged to be part of UVATT and to work with such incredible people—students, faculty, staff, community volunteers and, most especially, those people with special needs and their caregivers,” says Livingston. “It’s wonderful that the work done by members of the team and their supporters has been recognized in this way.”

UVATT’s current projects include hands-free communication systems that can be activated by eye, tongue, adjustments to wheelchairs to make them comfortable in inclement weather, and a glucose meter that will voice test results for people who are visually impaired.

Earlier this year, a new spin-off company, Inspired Devices (IDI), was formed to work with UVATT to deliver its innovative solutions to people with special needs on a local, national and international level.

“Nigel’s achievements are truly exceptional and UVic is proud to be the base for these extraordinary contributions to the health and well-being of the communities we serve regionally and nationally,” says Dr. Pat McKinley-Taylor, UVic’s vice president research.

“The innovative technologies that Nigel and his UVATT team have developed are transforming the lives of those disadvantaged by physical and cognitive challenges.

From a young developmentally disabled boy learning to walk with musical footprints to a young girl with cerebral palsy triggering a talking toy with the nod of her head, all have benefited from the work of UVATT and Nigel’s leadership.”

The BC Innovation Council (formerly known as the Science Council of B.C.) supports applied research and commercialization of science and technology to foster province-wide economic development. Livingston and the UVATT members will be recognized at a gala awards dinner in Vancouver next month.

In April, Livingston was named Academic of the Year by the Confederation of University Faculty Associations of B.C. In June, he won the Vancouver Island Advanced Technology Centre’s Community Involvement Award. He is also a recipient of the 2005 University of Victoria Community Leadership Award.

The University of Victoria is fine-tuning some of its senior administrative portfolios to provide a more integrated response to the needs of students, faculty and staff.

“We operate in a rapidly changing and highly competitive environment,” says UVic President David Turpin.

“These changes will help us accomplish our objectives of offering an outstanding student experience and providing our students, faculty and staff with the technological systems and support they require.

“I truly appreciate all the insights and advice we received from the campus community and particularly those who took the time to participate in the university’s administrative review process this year. That input played a key role in informing the decisions about the most effective structures to allow us to meet our goals.

“The review of the roles, responsibilities, and structures of the senior portfolios which report to the president was conducted by Alice Massell and Glenn Harris of Leading By Design. It included 78 interviews with members of the UVic community, as well as an open invitation for comments from the campus community.

“UVic is in an enviable situation,” says Harris. “Alice and I were struck during our interviews by the remarkable level of support enjoyed by the executive team and a consistently positive view of the university’s direction and prospects.

“Drawing on insights gained through the interviews, a review of structures at other universities and our own experience, we recommeded several modest organizational changes. These changes are focused on the strong foundation that already exists, and should enable the development of more integrated approaches to planning and the pursuit of new initiatives.”

The changes directly affect student and ancillary services (STAS) computing and systems services (CASS), and graphics and photographic services, and also involve positions in the offices of the vice president finance and operations (VPFO) and vice president research. Changes in reporting relationships will be effective Jan. 5.

Support for students will be brought together by moving STAS to the vice president academic and, with assistant vice president Jim Anglin assuming a new “student affairs” portfolio.

“It’s part of a move to more fully integrate the student experience at UVic from first contact with the student recruitment and admissions office right through to graduation,” says vice president academic Jamie Casels. “Placing STAS within the academic fold speaks to our desire to put more emphasis on coordinatng student services throughout the institution.

“Bringing together academic and student affairs responsibilities within a single AVP portfolio will mean that there is someone involved at the senior level of decision-making who is focused on the full range of the student experience,” says Casels.

He emphasizes that the ancillary units such as athletics and recreation will maintain a strong relationship with the office of the vice president finance and operations to support their unique financial and business planning functions.

A new advisory council to the provost will be established, co-chaired by the AVPs academic planning and student affairs, to ensure collaboration and communication among all units with a role in supporting the student experience, and integration across the academic and other functions.

Cross-membership between this body and deans’ council will ensure there is also close integration between the two groups.

As part of an initiative to ensure that the university as a whole has

Administrative changes designed to provide more support

Donation establishes Scottish studies program

by Beth Haywood

The plaintive skirl of bagpipes and a bustling Gaelic laments echoing around the campus heralded the realiza- tion of the late Marion Alice Small’s dream of bringing Scottish history and culture to the University of Victoria.

A former UVic professor, Small shared a passion for all things Scot- tish with her late husband Hugh Campbell, and in her will bequested $56,000 to create the Hugh Campbell Marion Alice Small Fund for Scottish Studies.

The gift is the largest single dona- tion to the faculty of humanities and the first donation ever designated to support the study of Scottish history and culture at UVic.

The endowment will support a facul- ty fellowship, a graduate scholarship and an annual public lecture delivered to the St. Andrews and Caledonian Society of Victoria. The fund will also provide for the acquisition of new ma-
terials by the university’s McPherson library to support Scottish studies.

“The study of Scottish literature, thought, culture, society and history will become a focal point of activity here at the faculty of humanities as a result of this gift,” says Dr. Andrew Rippon, dean of humanities.

“It will be of tremendous benefit to our faculty, our students and the community as a whole.”

Small was a professor in UVic’s faculty of education, where she taught art education until her retirement in 1986. She was born in Saskatoon in 1920, and lived the first 17 years of her life on a farm near Seaman, Saskatchewan. The family moved to Victoria in 1937 after the farm—in her words— “blow away.”

Small graduated from Victoria Normal School and went on to re- ceive an MA in education from UBC. Her teaching career spanned more than 40 years. In 1986 the married Hugh Campbell Small, a native of Glasgow, and soon thereafter they both joined the St. Andrews and Caledonian Society. Marion was actively involved in the affairs of the society and served as president on four occasions.

Small’s gift was announced at a special ceremony held Sept. 20 at the university, attended by her sister, Aline Parish, other members of the couple’s family and representatives of Victoria’s Scottish community. UVic President David Turpin, special guests and dignitaries were led in procession to the outdoor event by members of the Canadian Scottish Regimental Pipe Band.

The ceremony closed with a poignant Gaelic song about a Scottish sol- dier dying on a far off battlefield and his longing to go home, performed by Laurie McCaug-MacDougall, who said, afterwards: “It’s an appropriate song because we Scottish people make ourselves at home by celebrating our culture wherever we are, and that’s Marion’s gift to the University of Victoria.”

The gift to the Scottish studies program is “part of a move to more fully integrate the student experience at UVic from first contact with the student recruitment and admissions office right through to graduation,” says vice president academic Jamie Casels. “Placing STAS within the academic fold speaks to our desire to put more emphasis on coordinatng student services throughout the institution.

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As part of an initiative to ensure that the university as a whole has...
Information session outlines disc golf proposal

The sport of disc golf is becoming increasingly popular in Canada and at UVic but on campus, flying frisbees and pedestrian traffic, trees and buildings were becoming an uneasy mix.

Last year the newly formed UVic student disc golf club presented a possible solution—a nine hole temporary course layout on the southwest portion of the university’s Cedar Hill Cross Road property.

“Th ere is a growing demand for disc golf facilities among students at UVic and the university is attempting to meet their recreational needs,” says Clint Hamilton, director of athletics and recreation.

Brad Love of the disc golf club made a presentation on the sport and the course layout to more than 30 people who use the property at a Sept. 29 community information session. The club will use tee, marking to protect the grass and disc baskets to discourage the use of trees and other natural markers as targets. Only members of the UVic disc golf club will be authorized to play on the proposed course.

The club members spent a great deal of time designing a course that has a minimal impact on the property’s natural surroundings and current recreational activities on the property. The property has become a popular place for dog owners to walk their pets.

The university is considering whether suggestions made at the information session can be incorporated into course design. The course could be active by early November.

UVic is not the first location to introduce a multiple-use facility. Disc golf courses in Nanaimo, Coquitlam and other sites in the Lower Mainland currently share their facilities with dog walkers, and recreation officials in those areas say the different groups co-exist peacefully.

University welcomes new registrar

Lynda Wallace-Hulecki has joined UVic as the new administrative registrar. She replaces Glen Thomas, who retired after 18 years in the position.

“I was drawn to the opportunities at UVic when I researched Project Nova, the university’s vision, and the strategic plan on the website,” says Wallace-Hulecki, who has worked at Mount Royal College in Calgary for the past 27 years.

“UVic is an outstanding, forward-looking university with a compelling vision and exciting future prospects. It places a high value on investing in people, supporting our students and people as well as on creating a community, and these are the values that have kept me at Mount Royal College for so long.”

At Mount Royal, Wallace-Hulecki was most recently executive director of enrollment management and registrar.

For the first 23 years of her career at the college, she led the development of the office of institutional analysis and planning and served as its managing director.

“Very pleased that Lynda has chosen to join us,” says Jamie Canels, vice president academic and provost.

“Her extensive experience and knowledge of the post-secondary system gained through her years at Mount Royal College will be a great benefit to us as UVic moves into a new period of growth.”

Wallace-Hulecki holds a degree in mathematical sciences from the University of Manitoba, and is completing a masters of education in higher education leadership, with a specialization in enrollment management, at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln.
In B.C., nearly 9,000 grandparents are being raised solely by their grandchildren, according to the 2001 Census. The challenges and rewards of inter-generational child-rearing are many but often grandparents have few resources at their disposal and little support for their child-raising role. An upcoming conference, "Gathering—Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren," will give grandparents, other relatives raising children and those who support them valuable information on their special role.

The conference is sponsored by the "Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren" project, a partnership of UVic’s school of social work, Parent Support Services of B.C., and the Association of Family Serving Agencies of Victoria. It takes place Nov. 4 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. and Nov. 5 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at James Bay Community School (140 Osgoode Street). Conference sessions will address the issues that grandparents raising grandchildren face: legal rights, financial strains, family tensions, and relationships with government agencies. Grandparents raise grandchildren for a variety of reasons—death of natural parents, divorce, family breakdown due to illness or drug use—or often had no plans to assume their new responsibilities. The conference is open to grandparents of all ages and circus-sizes and will provide a program for children. For further information contact project coordinator Marion Gaucy at 472-4129 or mgaucy@uvic.ca.

ELECTION
Convocation Senators

The University of Victoria is conducting elections for four representatives of its Convocation to serve on its Senate. If you are a UVic alumnus or alumnna, Board of Governors or Senate member (past or present), faculty member (including retired faculty), staff member with a degree who has been employed for at least 12 months, or you completed one full year at Victoria College prior to 1963, you are entitled to vote in this election. The election begins on Monday, October 17, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. PST and runs until Friday, November 18, 2005, 4:30 p.m. PST. Cast your vote online at https://webvote.uvic.ca or by mail. To request a paper ballot, telephone 250-721-8102 or fax 250-721-6223. Paper ballots must be received by the Office of the University Secretary by Friday, November 18, 2005 at 4:30 p.m. PST.

Conference looks at issues faced by grandparent “parents”

TEN PER CENT MORE IS UNITED WAY GOAL

The University of Victoria’s United Way 2005 campaign is off to a great start. Pledge forms were distributed on campus at the end of the month and donations are already coming in. For the goal this year’s United Way campus campaign is $220,000, up from the $208,000 raised last year. The overall goal for the Greater Victoria United Way campaign is $5 million. “I want to make our key strategy last year plus 10 per cent,” said UVic campus campaign chair Dr. Ron Skelton (psychology) at the campaign’s kickoff breakfast on Sept. 22. “Let’s try to get 10 per cent more people participating. Let’s try to get people who haven’t given before to give just 10 per cent more than last year. Let’s try to get every event to raise 10 per cent more than last year.”

Fundraising events for the campaign have already started. The Sept. 28 lunchtime barbecue at the fountain raised $2,800 from students, faculty and staff. The Engineering Students’ Society’s held its annual 24-hour Bug Push around Ring Road on Sept. 30–Oct. 1 raising $2,700. Collection boxes in departments and faculties across campus are already filling up with donations for the ever-popular United Way book sale. This year’s event takes place in the library Nov. 1–2 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Book-lovers can score some good deals since everything—books, CDs, videos, albums and DVDs—are only a toonie each. The Hearts and Hands Craft Fair takes place Nov. 15 in the University Centre lobby. Members of the UVic community will be selling crafts and it’s a great chance to get a head start on holiday shopping.

Other upcoming events include a ladies’, student group challenges, Smoothie Day at Village Greens, and the Commerce Students’ Society fundraiser. For more information or to donate online visit the campus campaign website at unitedway.uvic.ca.

Honorary degrees go to astronaut and eco-forester

Honorary degrees will be granted in November to Bjarni Tryggvason, a Canadian astronaut whose research and contributions have contributed widely to space-based experiments conducted in space. With colleagues at the Canadian Space Agency, Tryggvason developed a mounting device that protects sensitive experiments from the vibrations that occur while a space vehicle is in orbit. The "microgravity-vibration isolation mount" was tested on the Mir space station and Tryggvason operated a second generation of the device during his space shuttle flight. The device is considered one of the major contributions of the international space program.

Tryggvason has owned "Wildwood," a 55-hectare woodland at Yellowpoint since 1938. Inspired by Scandinavian selective logging techniques, Wilkinson embarked on a "productivist" approach to timber harvesting that emphasizes retention of forest structure and the wildlife that depends on it.

Since 1945 the pioneering environmentalist has harvested 2.1 million board feet of lumber while the standing volume has actually grown by 10 per cent. Over the years, the university's environmental studies program has conducted regular field trips to see Wilkinson's property and hear his philosophy on eco-forestry. He has been previously awarded the Order of Canada and the Order of B.C.

The honorary degrees will be presented during fall convocation ceremonies Nov. 9–10 in the University Centre Farquhar Auditorium.

Ringers

Dr. Olivier Alixrous, professor emeritus and former chair of the French department, has been appointed a Chevalier of the Ordre National du Mérite by the French government. The award, second in importance only to the Légion d’Honneur, recognizes distinguished civil or military service to France. At the medal presentation in August, the Consul General of France in Vancouver cited Alixrous’s outstanding contributions to the furtherance of French language and culture, while serving both the academic and wider communities at the University of Aberdeen, University of Saskatchewan (Regina campus), and UVic.

Dr. Norman Ruff, who retired in June after 16 years as a faculty member in political science, has been awarded the 2005 Pierre De Celles Award from the Institute of Public Administration of Canada (IPAC). The national award, named in memory of the director general of Quebec’s École nationale d’administration publique, recognizes “exceptionally effective and creative teachers.” At the awards ceremony in August Ruff was cited for his commitment to the continuing education of public servants and scholars. Said one of his nominators, “[Norm] is a knowledgeable individual who, in a way that both the layman and the sophisticated observer understand and appreciate the nuances of complicated government decisions.”

U.Vic playwright Joan MacLeod (writing) is on the short list for Canada’s richest theatre award, the $100,000 Siminovitch Prize in Theatre. The seven writers short-listed for the Siminovitch are nominated for the body of their work rather than for a single play. The award winner receives $75,000, with the remaining $25,000 going to an organization or individual of the winner’s choice. The award is presented October 25 in Toronto. The Belky Theatre has staged four of MacLeod’s six plays. Her latest, Homechild, goes into rehearsal in early December at Toronto’s Can Stage.

University of Victoria Continuing Studies

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Call 472-4747 to register.

You can download the complete fall calendar from our Web site at www.continuingstudies.uvic.ca.

NEW SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE

The Canadian Centre for Energy Information has created an award called the Petroleum Communication Foundation Legacy Scholarship for Excellence in Communication. A scholarship of $1,250 will be awarded to a student in the UVic Public Relations Certificate Program who demonstrates an interest in a career in communications with the oil and gas industry.

Application deadline: October 10

For more details go to www.uvic.uvic.ca/pcf/scholarship.aspx

COURSE STARTING IN NOVEMBER INCLUDE:

INTERNET, BLOGS AND PR

LOST WORLDS: ROME’S ENDURING JEWISH COMMUNITY FROM ANCIENT TO MODERN TIMES

DOING ENOUGH AND DOING IT WELL: COMMITMENTS TO CARE FOR ONE’S PARENTS

COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT (CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM) ...

HONORARY DEGREES

Astronaut and Eco-forester

Honorary degrees will be granted in November to Bjarni Tryggvason, a Canadian astronaut whose research and contributions have contributed widely to space-based experiments and to Merv Wilkinson, a Ladysmith eco-forester known for his lifelong commitment to sustainable logging practices.

Tryggvason, of Vancouver, flew on the space shuttle mission in 1997 and is widely respected in the international space science and engineering community. His research has helped advance our understanding of microgravity and its effect on scientific experiments conducted in space.

Wilkinson, currently a researcher at the Canadian Space Agency, Tryggvason developed a mounting device that protects sensitive experiments from the vibrations that occur while a space vehicle is in orbit. The "microgravity-vibration isolation mount" was tested on the Mir space station and Tryggvason operated a second generation of the device during his space shuttle flight. The device is considered one of the major contributions of the international space program.

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**Around the ring**

**Look before you cross the road**

The return to classes means increased pedestrian and vehicle traffic on Ring Road and other campus streets, but not all pedestrians are checking the traffic flow before stepping onto the curb. David Guthrie, B.C. Transit manager of safety and training, reports several bus operators have had “close calls” with pedestrians who stepped out in front of moving buses. He asks pedestrians to look both ways (or one way when Ring Road) before stepping out into traffic—even if they’re using a marked crosswalk. He reminds pedestrians to use the same caution on campus roads that they would use on streets elsewhere in Greater Victoria.

**Exhibit illustrates the unseen**

Art and science merge at an unusual exhibit at the McPherson Library Gallery this month. In a series of images and movies contributed by scientists and research institutions around the world, “The Art of Physics” reflects the efforts of physicists and astronomers to render the unseen seen—from impossibly tiny spars to the mind-numbing immensity of the universe. “Imagery of the physical sciences truly straddles the boundary between science and art,” says Dr. Art Babel (physics & astronomy), who organized the exhibit with departmental colleague Margaret Fink-Keller. “Throughout history, physics and astronomers have always made extensive use of visual imagery,” says Babel. “It’s one of the key elements that can spark the imagination, leading to the discovery of the unexpected.” The exhibit, which celebrates the International Year of Physics, runs from Oct. 7–27. For more information visit the events page at www.maltwood.uvic.ca or call 721-6562.

**UVic Speakers Bureau turns 25**

For a quarter of a century, the UVic Speakers Bureau has served community groups, schools, clubs, and other not-for-profit organizations looking for knowledgeable speakers. This year, the free community service includes 142 faculty, staff, graduate students and retirees who are sharing their expertise and enthusiasm on a total of 372 topics. Last year, the bureau provided speakers for 384 talks and reached an estimated audience of 13,000 people. To receive a list of topics or more information about the Speakers Bureau visit the bureau website at www.uvic.ca/speakers or contact Mandy Crocker, UVic Speakers Bureau coordinator, at 721-8587.

**University salutes contribution of local seniors**

The UVic centre on aging is acknowledging the contributions of local seniors who have made to the capital region by presenting five people with Valerdi Elder Recognition Awards (VERA). The recipients are Victoria resident Michael Brodky for his work with the Victoria READ and the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, Saanich's Georgie and Ruth Cook for volunteering with the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres and the Two-Four-10 Le Lou Society's Substance Abuse Treatment Centre; Victoria resident Joyce Morris-Jones for lending a hand at local schools and the Vancouver Island Cancer Lodge; and Elizabethan. June Fryer for her work with the Schizophrenia Society and the Saanich Health Unit.

**Come celebrate UVic's aboriginal alumni**

Join the UVic Alumni Association and the aboriginal alumni chapter in a celebration of the achievements of aboriginal alumni. Guest speakers will be Mary Burganuta, BA 77 of the M'yrinking First Nation, and Frank Conibear, BEd '88 from the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres. The event runs from 6–8 p.m. at the Royal BC Museum. Admission is free. Register online at alumni.uvic.ca/events.

**Courses offer help with living on chronic conditions**

UVic’s centre on aging is offering a series of four courses designed to help people experiencing chronic conditions—such as asthma, bronchitis, heart disease, arthritis and depression—improve their quality of life. The six-week course (Students Promoting Awareness of Research Knowledge). This article was written by Debbie Willis, a nursing professor at UVic and seven at UBC will now be known as nurse practitioners. At a time when more than two million Canadians don’t have a primary health care provider, the hope is that nurse practitioners will improve access to health care, say Schreiber and MacDonald. Their research in other jurisdictions has shown that people who consult a nurse practitioner as they would a family physician, and that they’re satisfied with the care they receive. "Nurse practitioners provide a unique value-added service," says MacDonald. "Their work is often structured to allow them to spend more time with patients than physicians can, and to work with other health and social service providers—such as social workers, nutritionists and occupational therapists.”

**HR offers professional development courses**

Are you a supervisor looking for information on the basics of managing? Or are you a faculty member who wants to learn how to be a better communicator, or a staff member who wants to develop new skills to find solutions to conflicts in the office? The human resources department is offering a wide range of professional development courses this fall.

"These initiatives are part of our response to the university’s strategic plan goal to attract and retain outstanding people to campus,” says Terrie Connery, director of organization development. “We believe in considering a UVic career fair to make employees aware of employment opportunities on campus. And we’re recruiting staff volunteers for an employee orientation peer host program whose members help new employees welcome and ‘at home’ at UVic.”

"Selecting for Success,” a course designed for university leaders responsible for hiring and managing staff, offers a cost- effective way to improve access to health services. Ten students in UVic and seven at UBC will complete master’s degrees in 2005 to become nurse practitioners. Research carried out by UVic nursing professors Majorette MacDonald and Rita Schreiber—in collaboration with government, professional association and health authority partners—helped make this possible. MacDonald and Schreiber have researched the role of the nurse practitioner for more than five years, working with the Registered Nurses Association of B.C. (RNAO), the Vancouver Island Health Authority, and the B.C. Ministry of Health. They interviewed nurses, doctors, patients, and employers and studied areas where nurse practitioners already practice. Their work resulted in recommendations that were adopted by the B.C. government. “What we are happening now is informed by our research,” says MacDonald.

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By Debbie Willis

**When the University of Victoria first class of named nurse practitioners graduates this fall, the new grad nurses will have to thank two UVic researchers.**

Nurse practitioners are advanced practice registered nurses who can provide a range of primary health care services. They can diagnose and treat common illnesses, order tests, prescribe medications, and refer to specialists. They can also help patients with chronic problems such as depression, hypertension, diabetes and asthma.

The nurse practitioner role was introduced in B.C. to improve access to health services. Ten students in UVic and seven at UBC will complete master’s degrees in 2005 to become nurse practitioners.

Research carried out by UVic’s nursing professors Majorette MacDonald and Rita Schreiber—in collaboration with government, professional association and health authority partners—helped make this possible. MacDonald and Schreiber have researched the role of the nurse practitioner for more than five years, working with the Registered Nurses Association of B.C. (RNAO), the Vancouver Island Health Authority, and the B.C. Ministry of Health. They interviewed nurses, doctors, patients, and employers and studied areas where nurse practitioners already practice. Their work resulted in recommendations that were adopted by the B.C. government. “What we are happening now is informed by our research,” says MacDonald.

MacDonald and Schreiber and their team recommended that nurse practitioners have sole authority for their practice rather than being supervised by physicians, that they receive master’s level education, and that the position be implemented only when stable funding to sustain the role is assured.

These and other recommendations were adopted by policy-makers and regulations allowing nurse practitioners to practice in the province were approved in 2005. At a time when more than two million Canadians don’t have a primary health care provider, the hope is that nurse practitioners will improve access to health care, say Schreiber and MacDonald. Their research in other jurisdictions has shown that people who consult a nurse practitioner as they would a family physician, and that they’re satisfied with the care they receive. "Nurse practitioners provide a unique value-added service,” says MacDonald. “Their work is often structured to allow them to spend more time with patients than physicians can, and to work with other health and social service providers—such as social workers, nutritionists and occupational therapists.”

Some nurses and doctors remain opposed to the nurse practitioner role because it overlaps with medical practice. “On the medical end, they don’t see it as nursing. And on the medical end, they don’t see it as nursing either,” says Schreiber.

She’s certain, however, that the students in UVic’s nurse practitioner program—all registered nurses with 10 to 15 years experience—will impress the public and other health care providers. “They are so smart and competent, I could weep!”

After the first students graduate, Schreiber and MacDonald will help ensure that they’re smoothly and successfully included in B.C.’s health care system. They plan to study sites where nurse practitioners are employed and to interview the nurses, their colleagues, and patients.

“We have to make sure they’re effectively integrated,” says MacDonald, “because we think they have something really significant to contribute to the health of British Columbians.

Schreiber and MacDonald’s research has been funded by the Canadian Health Services Research Foundation, the Nursing Research Fund, the B.C. Ministry of Health Services, the Vancouver Island Health Authority, and UVic. 

The article was written by Debbie Willis, a student in the department of English and geography, as a participant in UVic’s SYMR program (Student and Faculty Mentoring). "On behalf of UVic," 

**IMPROVING YOUR ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE**

UVic research helps create B.C.’s first crop of nurse practitioners

There are nurse practitioners working in most Canadian provinces and territories. Canadians are more likely to receive treatment from one if they live after age 50 because of a shortage of doctors, such as rural or remote areas. Nurse practitioners can also work extensively in palliative care, diagnosing and treating people with chronic or terminal illnesses.

For more information on nurse practitioners in Canada, visit www.can-nurses.ca/cna and click on the Canadian Nurse Practitioner Initiative.
Committee seeks women guest speakers

The Women Scholars Lecture Series committee is seeking nominations for guest speakers for the 2006-07 academic year. The series, which brings distinguished women scholars to U Vic, is sponsoring up to four speakers for the 2006-07 year. Each guest speaker is requested to give one public lecture suitable for the university and community audience, as well as to remain on the campus for an average of three to five days. An average speaker visit lasts three to five days, and the proposing faculty member is responsible for arranging most of the details and is expected to act as host.

The primary criterion is the candidate’s scholarly excellence, but support by more than one constituency or academic unit on or off campus is a key concept that all students, faculty, staff, and recruits are under-represented in the sciences and to determine why aboriginal high school students are under-represented in the sciences and to find solutions.

Guided by Williams and Snively, 10 aboriginal and four non-aboriginal graduate students from U Vic are working with First Nations elders, community leaders and educators to identify science content elements of aboriginal knowledge and determine the most culturally appropriate and effective ways of teaching and learning science.

“Aboriginal knowledge, until now, has been invisible and devalued,” says Williams, who is a member of the Lil’wat Nation from the B.C. Interior. “It’s been thought that in order to join the modern world we had to give up our traditional knowledge. We’re here to say that it continues to exist and that it’s valuable.”

In 2002, when Williams worked as director of the aboriginal education enhancements branch of the B.C. Ministry of Education, she discovered that very few indigenous students were enrolled in senior-level high school science—courses that are essential for entry into post-secondary education and science-related careers. “The statistics showed that the high school graduation rate of aboriginal students was increasing, but what was that graduation leading to? They weren’t taking the classes that would get them into university. This creates barriers and limits their career opportunities.”

Something had to be done, so Williams called on Snively, a longtime friend. In partnership with the B.C. Ministry of Education, they created the Aboriginal Knowledge and Science Education Research Project to determine why aboriginal high school students are under-represented in the sciences and to find solutions.

Four alumni to share Legacy Awards limelight

A pair of business leaders, one of the country’s leading corporate lawyers and a rising star in health information science will join the ranks of the university’s “Distinguished Alumni” Nov. 22 at the fourth Legacy Awards gala dinner at the Victoria Conference Centre.

The UVic Alumni Association selects Distinguished Alumni Award recipients from nominations submitted by alumni and the campus community.

Last year nearly 500 university supporters attended the Legacy Awards in honour of the association’s Distinguished Alumna and Excellence in Teaching Award winners, as well as inductees to the Sports Hall of Fame. The event raised upwards of $50,000 for scholarships and athletic awards.

This year will also recognize the top-level recipients of the Blue and Gold Awards for student service and academic achievement. For ticketers, call the ceremony offices at 721-7445.

The Distinguished Alumni Award winners are Richard Flury, Brad forth, Sheridan Scott and Jeremy Smith.

Flury (BSc, 1970) built a remarkable career in the oil and gas industry, retiring in 2001 as chief executive of industry giant BP (British Petroleum). He’s one of a small number of Canadians to reach such heights on the international business stage. As head of the largest business segment in the company, Flury had responsibility for BP’s worldwide gas marketing, trading and renewable businesses. He says his physics degree was essential in that it introduced him to a disciplined approach to problem-solving as well as to the combination between philosophy and physics.

Forth (BEng, 1988) was a UVic co-op student when he first walked in the door of Victoria’s Power Measurement. Today he’s president of the company, a highly successful manufacturer of digital power and billing meters and Vancouver Island’s largest technology firm. He leads a group of more than 300 employees (about a third of whom are UVic alumni) with annual revenues upwards of $70 million from products that save money and reduce energy usage.

As the head of the Competition Bureau of Canada, Scott (LLB,1981) is one of the country’s most influential public servants. After graduation she became law clerk to Chief Justice Bora Laskin. Later, she worked in senior legal and regulatory positions at the CRTC, CIBC and Bell Canada. Scott arrived at her current post in the Globe and Mail to describe herself as “the poster person” for Canada’s legal community, representing the voice of women in corporate law. In health information science—an increasingly critical area of health care—Smith (BSc,1999) is a rising star. In only a few years, he has worked his way to the influential position of chief information officer for the Calgary Health Region, leading the creation of an electronic health record for each resident of the area. The 2002 Romanow Report said that a functional electronic health record will be essential in the future. Smith is at the forefront of that move toward better, safer health care delivery.
Local students win cash for business ideas

By Maria Lironi

University of Victoria and Royal Roads University student teams grabbed $15,500 in prizes for their business ideas last month. They were participating in a competition hosted by UVic’s technology transfer office, the Innovation and Development Corporation (IDC).

The first annual IDC Challenge, which ran from May to September, featured more than 65 Vancouver Island students from university and college in various age groups, disciplines and programs. The participants presented their business plans to a panel of entrepreneurs, business experts and investors.

The winning ideas include a vehicle security system, an automated vending device for the tourist industry, a web-based “customer relationship management tool” for the multi-level marketing industry, a device for sport fishing, a new approach to video game advertising, and an indoor surfing complex.

“Companies provided the necessary catalyst to encourage students to act on their ideas,” says Doug Tolson, IDC’s vice-president.

“By taking part in this competition students learned about the entrepreneurial process of developing a business plan, moving ideas into action, and converting concepts into companies. They received the support they needed to succeed, whether it was start-up funding, the creation of a network or guidance from a mentor. It was a tremendous experience for the students. The competition was supported by the National Research Council’s industrial research assistance program, Vancouver Island Advanced Technology Centre, IDC, UVic’s faculty of engineering and its alumni association, and the business faculties at UVic and Camosun College.

IDC is the link between the university’s researchers, their inventions and innovations, and the marketplace. Its mandate is to move research into the public and private sectors through partnerships, licensing of technologies, and the formation of new spin-off companies. For more information visit www.idchalleng.com.

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Calendar Highlights


At the Theatres www.phoenixtheatres.ca 721-8000
Accidental Death of an Anarchist (until Oct. 22) A farce based on a true incident when a railway worker “accidentally” fell to his death from a police headquarters window.

Thursday, October 6 Lansdowne Lecture 7:30 p.m. Women on Top: Livia and An-dromache. Dr. Alessandro Bucheli, Univ. of Siena at Arezzo/Stanford Univ. Cornett B143.

Friday, October 7 Music 12:30 p.m. Fridays Music. School of music students in a program for various instruments. MacLaurin B125. 721-7904

Saturday, October 8 Music 7:30 p.m. Cappuccino Vocal Ensemble, Hospice Fundraiser. Voices for Hospice, the world’s largest si-multaneous singing event in aid of hospice palliative care to coincide with the 15th anniversary of the Vic-toria Hospice Society. Univ. Centre Auditorium. 721-8480

Friday, October 14 Music 12:30 p.m. Fridays Music. School of music guitar students. MacLaurin B125. 721-7904

Fall 2005 Ring Schedule

Calendar items should be sent by 4 p.m. on the copy deadline date shown below to UVic Communications ( Deadline C149, 721-8000, e-mail=uvacommunications@uvic.ca) or entered into the online calendar ( www.uvic.ca/events).

For more information call 721-7056. 

Publication Date Copy Deadline
Thursday, Nov. 10  Wednesday, Nov. 2
Thursday, Dec. 1  Wednesday, Dec. 23

*Please note date change

Vikings Upcoming Events

Oct 7 MAW@ soccer vs. Trinity Western University 5:30 p.m.
Oct 8 Women’s Soccer, UK 2:15 p.m.
Oct 12-13 UVic Intramural—GIID at Cordova Bay Golf Course
Oct 13 Women’s Soccer, University of Regina 6:00 p.m.
Oct 14-16 Women’s Field Hockey
Oct 16 Men’s Exhibition Basketball—University of Lethbridge 7:00 p.m.
Oct 17 Men’s Soccer vs. UK 2:15 p.m.
Oct 15 New Balance Invitational—Cross Country
Oct 15 Men’s Exhibition Basketball—University of Lethbridge 7:00 p.m.
Oct 18 Women’s Soccer, University of Manitoba 12:00 p.m.

full schedule information at www.uvic.sports.ca

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Where quality meets affordability
Student ambassadors exercise generosity

The McKinnon Building has its first new equipment in a long time—a state-of-the-art multi-station resistance training centre—thanks to a donation from the Student Ambassador Association.

The $6,000 Life Fitness station was purchased from funds raised by the SAA during its diploma frame and flower sales at convocation ceremonies. “We were looking for (a service project) with wide benefits and thought this would be perfect,” says SAA president Jeremy Wallace, a fourth-year biology/environmental studies undergrad. “Hopefully, it will help keep students active and making healthy lifestyle choices.”

“We know that physical activity enhances academic life,” adds recreation co-ordinator Winona Pugh, who is thrilled with the equipment. She says the gym allows users to exercise muscle groups with precision, control and full range of motion.

“The circuit can accommodate four users at a time and because it’s located in the McKinnon fitness centre, it’s available free of charge to students, staff and faculty. I’ll have an expected lifespan of up to 20 years—for longer than other potential additions that were considered, such as cardio machines that tend to break down faster.”

The SAA’s other notable contribution to campus life was a $15,000 gift last year toward the purchase of 28 new armchairs for the McLennan Library study area.

The student group is affiliated with the UVic Alumni Association. Orientation sessions on the new gym equipment are planned, call 721-7822.

Program aims to prevent seniors from falling

For some seniors, falling can be fatal. In fact, according to a recent falls prevention study conducted by the B.C. Injury Research and Prevention Unit (BCIRPU), one-third of all seniors fall at least once a year, 90 per cent of hip fractures are the result of a fall, and 20 per cent of seniors die within a year of sustaining a hip fracture.

That’s why BCIRPU and researchers from the UVic’s centre on aging are joining together to create a unique national curriculum aimed at preventing falls among seniors. The $380,000, three-year Canadian Falls Prevention Curriculum Project, which is funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada’s Population Health Fund, is a national initiative which will provide health professionals and community practitioners with proven methods of preventing falls.

The Ministry of Health also funds the B.C. Injury Prevention and Research Unit by providing just over $600,000 annually through the Provincial Health Services Authority to support the development of ongoing educational and prevention activities. From this, approximately $245,000 is directed toward the prevention of falls in seniors, which includes the Canadian Falls Prevention Curriculum Project.

Drs. Vicky Scott and Elaine Gallagher, who lead the Adult Injury Management Network in UVic’s centre on aging, are recognized leaders in the field of falls and fall-related injury prevention among older people. Scott will be the principal investigator on this project and Gallagher will be assisting with the evaluation.

“One way seniors can reduce the risk of falling is by ensuring their environment is well lit and have clear walkways,” explains Scott. “We know what strategies work, but what was missing until now was a standardized way of imparting this message to all those who work with seniors in the community, hospitals or in residential care facilities. That’s why the curriculum project is such a great idea.”

The two-day course will be piloted in Vancouver and Halifax, and revised based on participant feedback. A final pilot will be conducted in Ottawa. The course will be coordinated through BCIRPU and delivered by trained facilitators across the country on a cost recovery basis.

For more information, contact us today.

Strength and fitness programmer Tyler Goodale (centre) with SAA members (clockwise) Jeremy Wallace, Jennifer Wingert and Erica Grainger in front of the McKinnon fitness centre’s new exercise station.

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Supporting Canadian Women

Nancy Jackman, a renowned supporter of women’s causes (founded by Toronto’s Nancy’s Very Own Foundation), is a national initiative which

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