The majority of research suggesting "moderate" drinking helps prevent heart disease may be flawed, says an international research group led by the University of Victoria’s Centre for Addiction Research of B.C. (CARBC) and the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) school of nursing.

The group analyzed 54 research studies linking how much people drink with their long-term health. The results of seven studies showed no reduction in risk of death among the light drinkers compared to abstainers. The other 47 studies showed significantly lower risk of death among light drinkers, compared to a group of "abstainers" that included people who had recently cut down or quit drinking.

"The authors caution that their report, published in the April 2006 issue of Addiction Research and Theory, has not disproved the notion that light drinking is good for health, as too few cross-over studies have been performed. They suggest, however, that the extent to which these benefits actually translate into longer life may have been exaggerated. "We know that older people who are light drinkers are usually healthier than their non-drinking peers," say Kaye Fillmore of the UCSF School of Nursing. "Our research suggests light drinking is a sign of good health, not necessarily its cause. Many reduce their drinking as they get older for a variety of health reasons."

**SEE DRINKING BENEFITS P2**
A laboratory to better understand how young children perform basic movements such as running, throwing and catching is one of five University of Victoria research initiatives recently funded by the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI).

"Being physically active is important for health and well-being throughout life, yet very little is known about basic movement skills in young children," says Dr. Vivienne Temple (physical education). "We need to know more about the link between movement competence at a young age, and levels of physical activity in adulthood."

Using a $22,997 grant from CFI, Temple will establish a movement skills research lab equipped with specialized instruments to measure and assess the physical activity levels of children and people with disabilities.

Research shows that childhood obesity has tripled in Canada in the last 15 years, and current estimates indicate that 36 per cent of boys and 25 per cent of girls in B.C. are overweight or obese.

"This pattern has been caused by increased exposure by children to high-calorie foods and sedentary pastimes," says Temple. "Healthy behaviours and obesity track into adulthood so it's important that children learn to contribute to their physical well-being as they grow."

Temple's ongoing research focuses on creating the physical and social environments that support the development of movement skills. Her approach is to transfer this knowledge to parents, care providers and teachers who can help young children nurture a long-term commitment to physical activity.

Temple and the other four UVic researchers were awarded a total of more than $330,000 by the CFI under the new Leaders Opportunity Fund. The four other researchers are: Fraser Hof (chemistry), who will use $127,547 to equip a facility for fundamental and applied studies in biomolecular recognition and medicinal chemistry. The facility will design, synthesize and test new molecules for potential use in the development of new antiviral drugs.

Pari-Jean Naylor (physical education), who will use $44,007 to establish a research unit that will bring together researchers, students, practitioners and policy-makers to work on problems and activities related to physical activity, obesity and chronic disease prevention in children and youth.

Steven Pelham (biology), who will use $394,806 to establish a laboratory for studying how infectious organisms affect the evolution and ecology of their insect hosts. The research has potential applications in disease treatment and insect pest control.

George Triantafillou (computer science), who will use $42,538 to establish a laboratory for developing new ways of processing and analysing large amounts of audio data, especially music. Potential users include archives, libraries, recording studios and companies that deal with large amounts of multimedia data.

The Canadian Foundation for Innovation is an independent corporation created by the federal government to strengthen the capacity of universities, colleges, research hospitals and non-profit research institutions to carry out world-class research that benefits Canadians.

Drinking benefits continued from p.1

Light drinking was defined as having two drinks or fewer per day (or about 30 ml of pure alcohol per day) and drinking at least once a month. The effects of many other important factors such as tolerance, health and life expectancy were controlled as far as possible in the study.

"The study was performed in the spirit of the tradition that all scientific findings are open to challenge," Fillmore says. "(We) never stop hypothesising, even if unpoppable, should be encouraged and tested to be sure that accepted beliefs about health are sound."

The research was funded primarily by the Australian Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation, an independent agency established by the Australian government with funds collected from beer taxes. Seed money for development of the work came from the school of nursing at the University of California, San Francisco, and from NORDAN in Stockholm, Sweden.

Drinking benefits

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"The widely held belief that light (or "moderate") drinking protects against coronary heart disease has had great influence on alcohol policy and has contributed to their patients throughout the world."

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UVic-born companies are breaking new ground in the marketplace—literally. In fact, if you have a medium to large dog with a penchant for digging holes and you live in the Greater Victoria area, 6th Dimension Devices is a sideline for 6th Dimension Research Council, the Social Sciences in B.C. It is strongly supported by the Development Corporation (IDC).

The initiative is the first of its kind in B.C. It is strongly supported by the three federal granting agencies—the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, the Social Science and Humanities Research Council, and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research—with a total of $390,000 over three years.

The funding is part of the joint Intellectual Property Mobilization program, designed to encourage Canadian universities, hospitals and colleges to work in accelerating the transfer of knowledge and new technology for use in the Canadian economy. Western Economic Diversification Canada has also contributed $232,500.

The announcement took place in March at the Vancouver Island Technology Park (VITP), which is owned by UVic. Through VITP, UVic provides a range of commercial-space for UVic research-generated spin-off businesses and outside high-tech companies. UVic is the only university in B.C. to own its own research park.

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uSource is now available for faculty and staff

After more than one year of planning, programming and testing, two major components of Project Nova are now available for faculty and staff to use. Project Nova is part of the strategic plan objective to provide the UVic community with an advanced technology infrastructure. Both uSource, the new web portal, and FAST, an upgraded version of the student system and a student system to replace ISIS, the current mainframe operation system and a student system to replace ISIS, the current mainframe, will broaden our experience as UVic community members. It will encourage each of us to make new discoveries about our campus and each other," says Janice Johnson, co-director of Project Nova.

The portal contains fun elements, too. Community members are encouraged to submit a digital photo of campus life or one of the weekly feature photos. The new channel can be set to automatically receive up-to-the-minute headlines (RSS feeds) from news media such as BBC or CNN.

An online scavenger hunt is being held until April 15 to familiarize staff and faculty with the portal. Contest details are posted in the “Employee Forms” section in the Home tab. In-person and online tutorials on portal use are available for those interested in learning more.

What are the next steps? Students will be given access to uSource in May. They’ll be able to register for classes, track tuition payments, set up schedules using the calendar tool, and more.

Further project components will be rolled out over the next few years. These include implementation of a new human resources information system and a student system to replace ISIS, the current mainframe for the student record database.

Log into uSource at: https://uSource.uvic.ca. If you have questions about the portal, contact Dave Buchmann, project manager, at 721-5632 or dbuchmann@uvic.ca.

“Bringing our campus community together through the portal will broaden our experience as UVic community members. It will encourage each of us to make new discoveries about our campus and each other,” says Janice Johnson, co-director of Project Nova.

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It’s 7 p.m. on Tuesday evening in Victoria, and the city is winding down. Struggling workers warily make their way home while part-time workers set up new stations for their nighttime vigil.

But beneath the city streets in UVic’s downtown campus classroom, an unusually diverse group of 20 adult students is wide awake, eagerly awaiting Alicia Ulysses to begin her lecture on Mexican poet and feminist writer, Rosario Castellanos.

This is University 101, a new, thriving, 10-week introductory course in humanities. It’s offered by UVic free of charge to adults in Victoria whose economic and social circumstances normally pose obstacles to university education.

Many of the students are graduates of the school of hard knocks—recovering drug addicts, single parents, people with disabilities or mental health issues and those close to the poverty line. But at University 101 none of that matters. They’ve checked all that baggage at the door and for the next two hours they’re just like any other students, listening intently to Ulysses, asking probing questions, soaking up all the knowledge they can.

Among them is Laurie Nerman, who used to love learning until drug addiction and depression took her life down a different path. Now she’s successfully overcoming those challenges but, until she joined University 101, she thought university education was a vanished dream. “I was afraid, I thought my memory would be shot, but then I told myself I’ve conquered other things, so I should try this. Honestly, it’s been the most wonderful thing in my life,” says Nerman, who wrote her first essay in 28 years on “the definition of justice” and hasn’t looked back.

Now Nerman and fellow students who share her passion for learning are celebrating completion of their class with a conversation-style ceremony at the university on April 11.

“I always say, ‘It’s a great achievement,’” says Becky Cory, University 101 project coordinator. “The students are thrilled by their educational experience, and so are we. This course has been a resounding success.”

UVic’s faculty of humanities and office of the vice-president academic joined with sponsors and volunteers from community groups and social agencies to set up the university student studies and are looking for ways they can join regular courses at UVic.

Ivan Livingstone of the Métis First Nation, who was turned off education by his early experiences in Nova Scotia, now plans to take political science. He has high praise for University 101. “I thought there was going to be a gimmick here; that they were going to psychoanalyse me or something. But this course has been fantastic. I’ve been treated as an adult and with respect. It’s excellent.”

Ulysses told the class that she would be back on Thursday for the next lecture unless she won the lottery to which one of the students replied, “If you do, that can take all of us to university!”

Lottery winnings aside, University 101 organizers are looking for more sponsors to continue and expand the program. For more information contact Becky Cory at unit101@uvic.ca or phone (250) 361-7014.
Top UVic researchers make their mark in the world

A world expert on the human use of plants, an internationally renowned physicist, and a historian who brings Canada’s colourful past alive to the world via the Internet are among this year’s winners of the University of Victoria Craigdarroch Research Awards.

Craigdarroch Gold Medal for Career Achievement in Research

Described by her international peers as one of Canada’s “national treasures,” Dr. Nancy Turner (environmental studies) integrates the scientific practice of botany with a rich cultural understanding of the traditional use of plants, especially among First Nations in British Columbia.

From Haida Gwaii to the Hesquiaht, from the U’katcho Band to the Nitinaht people, Turner is well-known in First Nations communities for helping to document and revive their rich, cultural connection to plants. In fact, Turner is widely acknowledged as the authority on the ethnobotany of the Pacific Northwest.

Throughout her career, Turner has shared that knowledge in the classroom, in community workshops, in the news media, and in more than 20 books where she raises awareness of the fragility of ecosystems and the importance of maintaining a connection to the earth.

Among Turner’s many honours are the Lawson Medal for lifetime contributions to Canadian botany (2012) and the R.E. Schultes Award (1997), which is considered the top international award in ethnobotany. She is a member of the Royal Society of Canada and a University of Victoria Distinguished Professor.

Craigdarroch Silver Medal for Excellence in Research

Dr. Michel Lefebvre (physics and astronomy) is an internationally respected physicist who has made significant contributions to the reputation of Canada and UVic on the world stage of particle physics research.

Lefebvre’s outstanding contributions to science began shortly after earning a PhD from Cambridge University in 1989. Two papers he co-wrote were published in the prestigious journal, Physical Letters. He has since published four dozen or so papers in top journals describing experimental techniques of particle detection.

In the early 90s Lefebvre was instrumental in organizing Canada’s participation in ATLAS, the particle detector component of the massive new proton collider facility being built by the European Laboratory for Particle Physics, or CERN. ATLAS currently consists of 80 scientists from eight institutions, including UVic where Lefebvre led a $5-million project to design and build a key part of the ATLAS detector.

Craigdarroch Award for Project Excellence

Under the B.C. Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources–UVic Partnership Project, created in 2015, university researchers and co-op students in the faculties of engineering, science and the social sciences work side-by-side with ministry staff on a variety of projects related to alternative energy, minerals, and onshore and offshore oil and gas.

Benefits for both parties include increased access to infrastructure, additional research capacity for the ministry, experiential work for students, and additional funding for UVic research. The project has provided UVic with more than $850,000 for 18 research projects and more than 15 co-op student work terms.

On behalf of the project, the award recipients are UVic’s Dr. John Schofield (economics) and Ross Curtis, Dave Lefebvre and Ron Smyth from the ministry.

Craigdarroch Award for Research Communication

For Dr. John Lutz, history has never been simply a subject to study, research and teach. Instead, he harnesses every opportunity he can to share history with as many people as possible.

Lutz studies the history of the Pacific Northwest, the history of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal relations, European colonialism in the Pacific, and the history of race and racialization. He’s perhaps best known for his popular, award-winning “Great Unsolved Mysteries in Canadian History” website, which invites visitors to solve real crimes in Canadian history.

Other websites focus on the histories of Victoria and Vancouver Island. Lutz frequently and enthusiastically shares his passion for history with the news media and community groups, speaking on topics as disparate as sex in the fur trade and the history of municipal landscapes.

He was also a vocal advocate, through media interviews, for the bid to keep Victoria’s land titles records in this city and accessible to all.

University of Victoria Innovation and Development Corporation Entrepreneurship Award

In partnership with the Innovation and Development Corporation, James deGreef and Jonathan Kerr—UVic undergraduate students at the time—founded Genologics Life Sciences Software Inc. in 2002.

The company, which is housed in UVic’s Vancouver Island Technology Park (VITP), helps life science researchers and pharmaceutical laboratories to manage, integrate and analyze the large volumes of data generated by genomics and proteomics research. It now employs more than 40 people, has sales offices in Boston, Atlantic Philadelphia and London, England, and is the worldwide market share leader in its field.

While Kerr is now developing software for Kodak Graphic Communications Canada Co., deGreef remains with Genologics as vice-president of product management. Last year, VITP presented Genologics with the Emerging Technology Company of the Year Award for its excellence in innovation while increasing profitability and community involvement and maintaining sound business principles.
Trumpy awarded President’s Cup
at annual awards ceremony

Vikes basketball player Chris Trumpy took home the top honour—the President’s Cup—at this year’s varsity athletic awards banquet, held on March 28.

The President’s Cup is given to the student-athlete in fourth or fifth-year who best combines scholastic achievement and athletic ability. Trumpy, a co-captain of the men’s basketball team, recently graduated with a degree in economics and is now studying for a master’s degree in public administration.

Trumpy played his final game as a Vike in a narrow loss to the Carleton Ravens in the Canadian Interuniversity Sport national championship game on March 12. The Vikes mounted a valiant effort in a nationally televised contest, coming from behind to within one point of the Ravens, who ultimately won the game 73-67 for their fourth consecutive championship.

Trumpy earned a spot on the second CIS all-star team, following up being named a Canada West all-star. He’s a three-time academic all-Canadian, and his grades from this year will likely earn him the honour for a fourth time. During his career, he was twice named Canada West defensive player-of-the-year.

“Chris exemplifies what it means to be a Vike—on the court, in the classroom and in the community,” says head coach Craig Beaucamp.

Over the past five years he’s been a great ambassador for UVic. As a future member of our basketball alumni, he’s a perfect role model for all future players.”

Trumpy’s teammate Jacob Dorken was named UVic’s male rookie-of-the-year. He was the team’s leading scorer at the CIS championship, was named CIS and Canada West rookie-of-the-year and was named to the tournament all-star team along with teammate Brandon Ellis. Vikes swimmer Anne Schmuck was named female rookie-of-the-year. She also won Canada West rookie-of-the-year honours.

The outstanding male and female athlete-of-the-year awards went to nugy players Mike Dukandjian and rover Lindsay Jennerich. Both were in the spotlight on the international stage this year withDanskin on the Canadian national men’s 7’s and 15’s rugby teams and Jennerich finishing first in the lightweight four at the Head of the Charles and sixth in the World Indoor Rowing Championships.

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For more information on the other athletic award winners, visit vikes.uvic.ca.

Last month the Vikes men’s 4 x 800-metre relay team ran to a gold medal performance at the CIS track and field championships in Saskatoon. Daniel Mallie, Brandon Green, Rich Lehman and Geoff Martenson were all named first team all-Canadians. Vikes swimmer Mackenzie Downing collected three bronze medals at the CIS swimming championships in Quebec City. She set a Vikes record in the women’s 100m butterfly at the March event.

Meanwhile, several Vikes athletes and coaches are nominated for 2005 Victoria Sports Award. Paralympic World Cup swimming multi-medalist and Vikes swim team member Stephanie Dixon is nominated for female athlete-of-the-year along with UVic field hockey alumnus Andra Resoltion.

The Vikes women’s soccer team, current CIS champions, are nominated for team-of-the-year and head coach Tracy David is nominated for coach-of-the-year. Nominated in the same category is Vikes golf team coach Brian Carbery. Vikes women’s field hockey players, Ali Lee, is nominated for female athlete-of-the-year. The winners will be announced at the 2005 Victoria Sports Awards banquet on April 29.

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A UVic research team contributes to a major cross-border study on air quality and health

by Suzanne Connell

Have you ever wondered about what effects air pollution may be having on your health?

A University of Victoria research team is working with researchers from the University of British Columbia and the University of Washington to find answers.

It’s part of an ambitious international project called the Canada-U.S. Border Air Quality Study (BAQS).

The ultimate aim of the study is to measure air pollution to contribute to poor air quality in the Georgia and Puget Sound air-sheds, which includes the Capital Regional District, the Greater Vancouver area and northern Washington State.

Although air quality in the region generally meets federal air quality guidelines, research shows that health impacts from air pollution continue to occur. The problem is expected to intensify as the region’s population grows from six million to a projected nine million by 2020.

The study aims to address the issue of air pollution by providing opportunities for Canadian and American authorities to coordinate air quality management in the air space shared by both countries.

Over the next year, Health Canada is providing $1 million in funding to this initiative, which is being overseen by the B.C. Centre for Disease Control.

Specifically, BAQS researchers are looking at the health effects of fine particulates caused by traffic and wood smoke on the birth outcomes of pregnant women, and then tracking the respiratory health of their newborns over a period of three years. Also, the researchers are studying the implications of air pollution on the cardiovascular health of one million adults aged 45 and older.

The UVic research team — consisting of geographer Dr. Peter Keller (lead investigator) and graduate students Eleanor Sermon, Perry Hystad and Christy Lightowlers — is playing a key role in this initiative. The team is developing three techniques for measuring the exposure of each study subject to air pollution. The results will be used by UBC epidemiologists for statistical analyses of the relationship between exposure and negative health impacts.

Working from UVic’s spatial science research lab, Sermon has developed a model for adjusting measures of exposure to air pollution by simulating how people move through changing air pollution levels.

“Typically, air pollution studies have exposure on a person’s residential address, but my model adjusts for the time that most people spend at work in locations with varying levels of pollution,” says Sermon.

“This kind of information can effect change at a policy level, because it shows decision-makers exactly where to target air quality programs for the best results.”

Hystad is developing a second model for predicting exposure to air pollution, but this one looks at the level of outdoor air pollution that seeps into our homes, school rooms and workplaces. This is important because most large air pollution studies fail to account for the time that most people spend indoors.

Hystad is measuring pollutants inside and outside a sample of homes in the Capital Regional District. If you live in a non-smoking household and you’re interested in having your home tested, contact Hystad at phys@uvic.ca or 858-0922.

Lightowlers and colleagues at UBC are working on a third model focused solely on wood smoke.

During winter evenings, Lightowlers drives mobile equipment through the CRD to measure pollutants released from wood smoke. The data will be used to refine the UBC wood smoke model so that it can be applied to the CRD.

To learn more about the study and the implications it has for cleaning up our air-shed now and into the future, visit www.ubc.ca/UBCBAQS/welcome.htm.
UVic softens bus pass increase for employees
BC Transit raised the cost of monthly adult bus passes from $560 to $565, effective April 5, with new investing additional resources from the transportation demand management (TDM) program to cover the fee increase and keep the price at $38 per month for UVic employees. The increase brings the UVic investment to $3 per pass. In compliance with Canada Revenue Agency policy, the UVic supplement is considered a taxable benefit for those participating in the program. The deduction from participating employees will be the tax at .01%, translating to approximately $0.59 per month. At $38 a month, the pass can save an individual or a family thousands of dollars a year over the cost of owning and operating a car or a second vehicle," says Allan Dryikop, UVic TDM coordinator. "I'm happy to help people with route planning and how to work transit in with other ways of getting to work, such as cycling, walking and carpooling."

What's in a name? Maybe a prize
UVic's diversity advisor is looking for a great name for the new diversity newsletter to be launched in the fall. Feeling creative? Send your suggestions to Grace Wong (somial@uvic.ca) by April 28. If your submission is chosen, you'll win a $50 gift certificate from the UVic Bookstore. Watch for the inaugural issue in early September, which will be packed with news about diversity and equity initiatives and resources across the university. There will be ideas and best practices about what we, both individually and collectively, can do to make UVic a welcoming, inclusive and supportive place to work and learn.

Was it a big bang or a big bust?
Professor Sandra Kfoury of the University of California's Lick Observatory will give a guided tour of that most mysterious of astronomical events—the Big Bang in the next Women Scholars' Lecture. In her presentation "The Big Bang: Truth or Nonsense?" on April 6 at 7:30 p.m. in the David Lam Auditorium (MacLaurin room A144), Faber will discuss our theoretical and experimental route from the cosmic dawn. She has had a long and distinguished career in observational astronomy, but is particularly well known for her work related to distant galaxies.

Psychology grad scores highest in Canada
Graduates of UVic's clinical psychology doctoral program recently achieved the top average in the country for their performance in the exam required for registration as a psychologist. The Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP) is a standardized test written by anyone in North America seeking to become registered psychologists. Exam results from 1997 to 2005 show that UVic's grads scored a mean of 172.1, a full 10 points above the Canadian average. "This achievement demonstrates the high quality of the students and our training program," says Dr. Marsha Runtz, acting director of clinical training.

Don't let the pain get you down
Physiotherapist Dr. Lynneth Wolski and operating a car or a second vehicle," says Allan Dunlop, UVic TDM co-ordinator. "I'm happy to help people with route planning and how to work transit in with other ways of getting to work, such as cycling, walking and carpooling."

Internal transmitters assist in firefighter stress test
by Patty Pitts
The smashed and crumpled cars, the concerted teenage onlookers and the hovering television news cameras indicated another tragic story of young lives lost. But no ambulances stood by. The senior students of the Victoria Fire Department cut through shattered glass and pried open twisted cars doors in front of Vancouver High School. This was an exercise aimed at saving the firefighters. While they worked, University of Victoria physical education graduate students stood nearby holding palm-sized monitors. They were reading the vital signs of the firefighters, transmitted via body monitors and tiny internal transmitters the men had swallowed earlier that morning. Even during a simulation, the firefighters' heart rates soared and their blood pressure rose. UVic researchers Dr. Lynneth Wolski hoped the transmitter technology, being used for the first time in B.C., would give a true assessment of job stress on firefighters. "Heart attacks are the number one killer of working and retired firefighters," says Wolski. "Their cardiovascular systems are put under enormous stress because of the combination of heat and cold conditions, the physical demand of their duties."

These transmitters mean we can monitor vital statistics from the moment firefighters hear the alarm, through the rescue and during their recovery. Once we have more sufficient data, we'll be able to establish more accurate working standards."

Wolski and her team will conduct several more mock accident exercises using the transmitters with other fire department members before applying the technology in actual firefighting scenarios. That's when firefighters can face temperatures of up to 200°C. Currently, staffing levels and operating a car or a second vehicle," says Allan Dunlop, UVic TDM co-ordinator. "I'm happy to help people with route planning and how to work transit in with other ways of getting to work, such as cycling, walking and carpooling."

Project encourages nurses to opt for geriatrics specialty
by Patty Pitts
Nursing graduates are in high demand in B.C. and can often choose where they want to work. Yet few choose psycho-geriatrics—working with senior patients with mental health and/or addiction challenges. The University of Victoria's school of nursing, working with the Vancouver Island Health Authority, hopes to address this shortage with a pilot project involving nursing students who graduate this spring. The students have spent their final 12-week on-the-job practice experience with hospital units and community outreach organizations on Vancouver Island that deal directly with psycho-geriatric issues. Project administrators hope that by exposing the students to both the challenges and rewards of working with these senior patients, more nursing students will choose this area for their career.

"We made sure that students were aware of the need in this area and had health care professionals come in and discuss the benefits they receive from their work," says UVic nursing professor Jennifer Moreau. "As a result, six students chose the area for their practice experience. No students chose it last year. The reports from both the students and the supervisors are very positive."

Students gained experience in the wide spectrum of care needed for seniors by working with a variety of health care professionals in the field of psycho-geriatrics. During their six weeks at Victoria Royal Jubilee Hospital and six weeks at EOS (Elderly Outreach Service), VISTA (Victoria Innovative Seniors Treatment Approach) or with Nanaimo/Courtenay Seniors' Outreach teams, students were able to follow seniors through the health care system. Their learning was enhanced with seminars, workshops and attendance at conferences. "I appreciated being able to see what other community services are available to seniors to enable them to remain at home and to be able to follow the progress of a patient who might later require hospitalization," says nursing student Mishelle Chequer. "In traditional nursing practices you don't have the opportunity of seeing patients in a variety of settings." Moreau says that the program prepares the students to take a leadership role in the area of psycho-geriatrics upon graduation. UVic researchers will evaluate the outcomes of the program to see if more nursing graduates do seek work in this underserved area of care. Funding for the program came from the provincial ministries of Health and Advanced Education through the B.C. Academic Health Council.