



VENUS is in the water!

by Valerie Shore

The first leg of the world's most advanced cabled seafloor observatory has successfully been installed in Saanich Inlet near Victoria. Live data is now flowing from instruments at the bottom of Saanich Inlet to the University of Victoria.

The Victoria Experimental Network Under the Sea (VENUS) project, led by UVic, is a network of scientific instruments connected to shore by power and fibre-optic cable. Via the Internet, VENUS will provide scientists, educators and the general public with around-the-clock biological, oceanographic and geological information and images from the seafloor.

"We're very excited to see the data flowing from the instruments and into the data archive," said VENUS project manager Adrian Round following the cable-laying on Feb. 5-8. "As expected, the installation was technically challenging, but thanks to the hard work and planning of our partners and the VENUS team,

everything went very well."

There are five components to VENUS: an array of scientific instruments connected by underwater cables to a central node; fibre-optic cable linking the node to shore; a shore station providing power and two-way communications to the instruments; a data management, archive and distribution centre; and a network operations centre at UVic.

Working with the VENUS team on the installation were industrial partners Global Marine Systems Ltd. and OceanWorks International Inc. (based in North Vancouver), assisted by Advanced Subsea Systems in Sidney, and Fisheries and Oceans Canada, which runs the Institute of Ocean Sciences where the cable comes ashore.

Global Marine operates the cable-laying ship, *Wave Venture*, which spent three days in Saanich Inlet during the installation. OceanWorks designed and built various software and hardware components of the array, including the 2.5-tonne

node and the specialized scientific instrument interface modules.

To install the array, the node was lowered from the *Wave Venture* 100 m to the bottom of Saanich Inlet, approximately 3 km from shore. The fibre optic/power cable was then deployed from the ship, attached to floats, and pulled to shore by a "messenger rope" guided by dive teams from Advanced Subsea Systems.

Once ashore, the cable was pulled through a specially built conduit and connected to equipment in a nearby shore station. Two days later the VENUS instrument platform was lowered into the inlet, not far from the node.

At 4:45 p.m. on Feb. 8 the instrument platform was connected and the system was powered up, signifying the official launch of the VENUS observatory.

Deployment of the next set of instruments took place from the Coast Guard vessel *John P. Tully* during the week of Feb. 20, using the

SEE VENUS P.2

The *Wave Venture* deploys the VENUS cable in Saanich Inlet and, inset, the VENUS node is lifted aboard prior to installation.



INSET: DEBBIE SMITH

VALERIE SHORE

New network promotes research on B.C. youth

Some of B.C.'s children and youth face medical and social challenges every day that threaten the quality of their lives and their future potential. A newly established B.C. Child and Youth Health Research Network aims to improve the health and well-being of young people in this province and beyond through increased attention to child and youth health research.

By assisting B.C.'s researchers to collaborate with other disciplines and with policy-makers, health authorities and service providers, the network hopes to raise the profile of child and youth health research to a new level.

The network is funded by the

Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research and is based at the University of Victoria and the University of British Columbia. It's co-directed by UVic psychology professor Dr. Bonnie Leadbeater and UBC clinical professor Dr. Robert Peterson, along with a steering committee representing most B.C. research universities.

"Through the network we also hope to raise research on the health of children and youth to a new level of excellence, assist our researchers to strengthen their skills and have a major impact on the policy, practices and programs of government, clinical practice and communities," says Leadbeater.

"The network emphasizes inter-professional research teams which we expect will address research in virtually every aspect of infant, child, and youth health needs," says Peterson.

Network-supported teams are currently investigating the prevention and treatment of childhood and adolescent obesity; the treatment of self-injury in B.C. children and adolescents; the safety of prescription drugs for children; and how to improve services for children and youth with disabilities.

For more about the B.C. Child and Youth Health Research Network and how to participate in its research activities, visit www.cyhrnet.ca.



Rhodes and his dog, Sydney.

Demanding doggies provide health benefits

by Patty Pitts

Like most dog owners, University of Victoria exercise psychologist Dr. Ryan Rhodes can't resist those pleading doggy looks from his golden retriever, Sydney, when she wants to go walkies. Rhodes, who studies the motivation behind exercise and activity, wondered if other dog owners responded in a similar fashion and if there were benefits from being at the other end of a leash.

Physical education master's student Shane Brown had similar thoughts when walking his adopted mutt, Charlie. Teaming up with Rhodes for a directed study project, the pair did a random survey of 177 men and 174 women between the age of 20 and 80 in Greater Victoria to determine if dog owners are more motivated to get out and if they benefit from leash time with their pooch.

Their co-authored study, published in the February edition of the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, concludes that dog ownership nearly doubles the amount of time spent taking healthy walks.

"There's this extra dog obligation that helps get people up and out for their exercise," says Brown. Other than walking, dog owners in the study actually got less overall exercise

than people without dogs, suggesting that when dog owners go for walks, they do it partly because they choose to be active with their pets.

The study determined that the 70 dog owners walked an average of 300 minutes a week compared to 168 minutes a week for the others.

Neither the sex of the owner nor the size of the dog made a difference; men and women who owned dogs both participated in increased amounts of moderate exercise compared with those who had no dog.

However, not all dog owners feel compelled to get off the couch just because Fido is sending them "walk me" looks. "About 25 per cent of the dog owners we surveyed did not walk their dogs," says Rhodes. "We want to do further study to determine whether the people who walk their dogs have a predisposition to walking, or whether it's the dog that prompts the activity."

Despite the findings, Brown said he's certainly not recommending people get a dog just to help them get exercise. "We're saying that for those of us who have dogs, or those who are thinking of getting a dog, this is an added benefit."

The study was funded by the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.

English profs publish academic writing guide

by Patty Pitts

If you've ever contemplated the comma versus the colon or pondered your past and present participles, English professors Kim Blank and Michael Best have a book for you. *The University of Victoria Writer's Guide* is an easy-to-use, easy-to-understand review of all aspects of the English language and formal writing.

"The goal of good writing is, it seems, simple: clarity," writes Blank in the book's introduction, and the guide reflects that philosophy.

The guide is an updated version of the 1991 publication *A Writer's Guide: An Introduction to the Process of Writing*. "It was terrific," says Blank, "but much of it was geared to first-year English courses, particularly literature courses. It was clear the publication needed updating and expanding."

The new version explains all aspects of grammar, provides tips for better writing (for everything from a term paper to a CV) and acknowledges

changes in technology by including advice on writing a PowerPoint presentation. The book breaks down the elements of the essay and offers extensive instruction in the proper use of quotes and citations.

Like its predecessor, all proceeds from the book's sale will go toward bursaries for UVic students.

Although much of the guide is directed to those writing academic papers, anyone who has ever wrestled over whether to use a dash or a hyphen will find useful advice in the guide. It offers proofreading tips, e-mail and memo-writing advice and a list of frequently misspelled words.

With funding from the dean of humanities, English graduate student Paul MacRae was hired to assist in updating and revising the new guide. While the previous version was published by the professors as a required text for selected English courses, the latest version has been



published by Pearson Publishing.

"They gave us \$10,000 up front and we hope to have off-campus sales to generate more bursary revenue," says Blank, adding that thousands of dollars has already been generated from the guide's predecessor to assist students. The guide is available in the UVic Bookstore.

Survey measures library satisfaction among users

How do you rate the UVic libraries? Campus opinions are being polled this month via an e-mail to 4,000 randomly selected students, faculty and staff inviting them to participate in LibQUAL+™, a web-based survey of library services.

"We're hoping to get a good response. This information will help us make improvements and shape our future plans," says Lisa Hill, libraries assessment assistant. The survey, now underway, takes about 15 minutes to complete. Participants who respond

by the March 10 closing date are eligible to win an iPod Nano.

LibQUAL+™ is being implemented by the Association of Research Libraries, an international organization that will enable UVic to compare its findings against benchmarks for library services. The results will be distributed to interest groups within UVic libraries and the university community later this spring.

Although similar surveys have been undertaken in the past, this is the first in a long-range plan to iden-

tify best practices and improve quality of service for the UVic libraries, including McPherson and its branch services. Information will also be used to develop future plans for the Mearns Centre for Learning.

Library users not selected for the survey may submit comments or suggestions via the libraries' Gateway site (gateway.uvic.ca/top/site_feedback.html) or by requesting a yellow feedback form from staff at the McPherson Library loan or reference desk.

VENUS is in the water continued from p.1

ROPOS remotely operated vehicle. These instruments included a hydrophone array to monitor and track the movements of marine mammals, and a digital still camera system to observe marine life and other subsea phenomena.

The camera and hydrophone arrays complement the other seven instruments deployed on the instrument platform on Feb. 6.

"Over the next few weeks, engineers will monitor system performance and scientists will review and confirm the quality of the data," says Round. Meanwhile, data management specialists will finalize testing of data retrieval from the shore station and storage on the UVic servers. They'll also test the generation of automatic data plots and data products to quickly process and display live information online.

Live data, acoustics and imagery from Saanich Inlet will be available for public viewing and listening in early April, when a new and more comprehensive VENUS website will be launched. For updates on the project's

progress visit www.venus.uvic.ca.

When fully operational, the Saanich Inlet array will support studies of ocean processes and animal behaviour in a confined inlet. It is also a test site for the design and development of new seafloor observatory components.


A second, 40-km VENUS array is scheduled for installation in the Strait of Georgia this fall. Initially, this leg will support studies on: long-term ocean change; tides, currents and ocean mixing; fish and marine mammal movements; seafloor community ecology; underwater noise pollution; sediment and slope dynamics; and plankton behaviour.

"VENUS is not only an infrastructure project; it's a whole new way of doing research," stresses Round. "One of our goals is to foster a broad interdisciplinary research community that uses VENUS as the enabling mechanism for collaborative research."


The VENUS project is funded in large part by \$10.3 million from the Canada Foundation for Innovation and the B. C. Knowledge Development Fund.

A squat lobster checks out the VENUS camera in one of the first images received from the depths of Saanich Inlet.





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Construction projects bring parking changes

Watch for makeovers to some UVic parking lots this spring to accommodate major construction projects.

The university is moving forward on a \$130 million capital expansion to make room for more students, faculty and staff and relieve the space pressure on existing facilities. The B.C. government has committed to funding an additional 1,900 full-time students at UVic by 2010.

Here's an update on the upcoming parking lot changes.

Lot B, located between the Elliott Building and the library, has been partially shut down to accommodate construction activity for a new science building. The nearest alternative lots are: Lot 1 which is across the road and has space for motorcycles and reserved-permit parking; and Lot 5, behind Cadboro Commons, which can accommodate general parking.

Lot 5 is accessible via Sinclair Road, which will save time driving around Ring Road in the morning. Handicapped parking spaces will remain in Lot B throughout construction. This lot will be fully restored when the science building opens in 2008.

Lot D, in front of the Sedgewick Building, is scheduled to be perma-

nently closed in mid-March. This is the site of the new social sciences and mathematics building. The nearest alternative lots are: Lot 4 near the stadium, where 64 general spaces close to Ring Road will be re-allocated into reserved spaces and eight meters will be installed; and Lot 8, adjacent to the Fraser Building, where 10 general spaces will be re-allocated into reserved spaces.

Enough space will be made to accommodate all reserved permit holders across campus. Drivers may find parking faster by accessing lots off Gordon Head Road—lots 10, 6 and 9 near fine arts. These lots will be especially convenient if drivers need to park after 10 a.m., since lots 4 and 8 will fill up quickly.

Signage and websites will be updated to inform visitors and permit holders of the best options.

Facilities management asks for patience and cooperation from everyone during construction. "We understand that there may be some initial frustration as parking habits change," says Tracy Corbett, director of campus planning, "but the end result will be well worth the wait."

For more information call 721-6683 or parkalot@uvic.ca.



Above, sketch of the new social sciences and mathematics building.

New council takes "holistic" approach to student services

A new provost's advisory council has been formed to coordinate academic and support services for the success and well-being of UVic students.

"Eventually we hope there will be no such thing as a wrong door for students looking for help," says Jim Anglin, associate vice-president academic and student affairs. Anglin and Catherine Mateer, acting associate vice president, academic planning, are co chairs of the new campus council that was formed last month.

Advisory to Jamie Cassels, vice-president academic and provost, the new council will meet monthly. It will bring together a dozen senior administrators from a range of campus offices representing student and ancillary services, co-op education, libraries, student advising, campus security, distance education, information services, the administrative registrar, academic faculties and the diversity advisor.

While the council is still clarifying its goals, the overall mandate is to establish a formal link between people in key positions, allowing them to talk, share information, address challenges and streamline support for students.

"In the past, the supportive work across many of these areas often came about through informal and individual relationships between staff," says Anglin. "But the significant growth in the size and complexity of UVic calls for a more systematic, holistic approach."

The council includes members of the existing deans' council, which focuses on UVic's academic direc-

tandem to create a cohesive environment, develop an even stronger sense of community and enrich the student experience at UVic.

Ultimately, council members hope that UVic will be widely known not just for the excellence of its academic programs, but also for the quality of the whole student experience. "Analysis and planning undertaken by the advisory council will help to integrate the academic experience with the rest of student life," says Mateer.

As the advisory council progresses, working groups, including student representatives, will deal with specific issues, such as enhancing student engagement across campus, improving access to information, and promoting healthy lifestyles and wellness.

"It's not quite one-stop shopping, but we certainly want to make it much easier for students to get what they need, when they need it, regardless of who they are," says Mateer. "Students with disabilities and special needs, aboriginal students, distance education students, and those from overseas face particular challenges, but all students are likely to need support at some point during their university careers in order to succeed."

The council expects to glean more insights about the ways in which UVic students currently use and experience campus resources from a national survey of student engagement, sent to more than 5,000 first- and fourth-year UVic students in the past few weeks. "We hope to use the results to inform and guide our discussions and recommendations" says Mateer.

New book urges more consultative approach to research on youth

by Patty Pitts

They're vulnerable, complex, full of opinions and the focus of much public policy and resources. Yet children and adolescents are seldom the subject of the same level of research usually required for decision-making and assignment of funds.

It's not for lack of interest within the research community, says Dr. Bonnie Leadbeater, the director of UVic's centre for youth and society. "There is a lack of guidelines for handling the ethical concerns that arise out of community-based research involving youth and youngsters," she says. "Often, worthwhile projects are shut down simply because just one individual has concerns that could be addressed if a proper process was in place."

Leadbeater hopes a new book, *Ethical Issues In Community-based Research With Children* (University of Toronto Press), that she edited with fellow UVic researchers Elizabeth Banister, Cecilia Benoit, Mikael Jansson, Ann Marshall and Ted Riecken, will encourage and improve research on young people in the community.

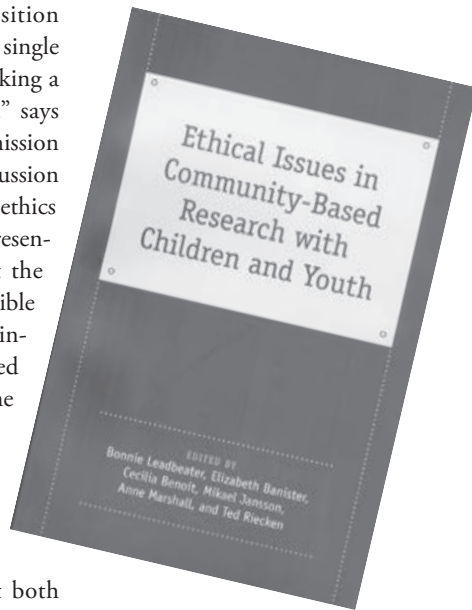
Ethical Issues features case studies of successful projects conducted by the centre's researchers. The book grew out of the difficulties they encountered trying to conduct their own research as part of the "Healthy Youth in a Healthy Society" project, funded by the Community-University Alliance for Health Research.

"The book takes the position that we need to move from a single body making a decision to taking a more consultative approach," says Leadbeater. "Often, the permission process involves a private discussion between a researcher and an ethics board. There is no public presentation or explanation about the planned research and the possible benefits. Parents, school administrators and other interested parties are often not part of the process."

Ethical Issues recommends that researchers have more open discussions with those whose role it is to protect children and youth, so that both groups can share the common interests they have in improving young people's lives. Once the various parties realize the long-term benefits of community-based research, says Leadbeater, they can negotiate methods to conduct studies that still protect vulnerable children and youth.

"A study can be designed to give respondents the option of not answering certain questions," explains Leadbeater, "but when it comes to conducting youth research ethics, boards often shut the research down completely rather than allow some flexibility."

For example, she says, a proposed study on HIV prevention never got off the ground because the researchers weren't permitted to ask young people questions about sexual activity. "It



took our centre months to get ethics board approval for an anonymous survey of adolescents on drinking and driving," she adds. "The 16- to 18-year-olds invited to be part of this study were deeply concerned about and affected by programs and decisions made for them. Their input into strategies for change is essential but they aren't allowed to decide for themselves whether to fill out a research survey. More collaborative approaches are needed to ensure their voices are heard."

Leadbeater is hoping *Ethical Issues* will help change how community-based research is planned and conducted so that society's vulnerable members are the focus of research, rather than being overlooked.

Strategic Plan renewal process continues

The university's planning and priorities committee would like to thank everyone who participated in the many consultations on campus to review the UVic Strategic Plan.

Almost 30 consultations have been hosted by the committee across campus since November 2005. Students, faculty, staff, alumni, retirees and members of other groups contributed their opinions on the future of the university—opinions that will be invaluable to the committee in determining how the plan will be renewed later this year.

Dozens of submissions from the campus community were received

by e-mail and on paper by the end of February.

What are the next steps now that the four-month internal consultation process is winding down? Over the spring, UVic President David Turpin will continue to receive input from the external community through a combination of regular meetings, individual consultations and breakfast sessions with neighbourhood groups, elected representatives, community leaders and business and community organizations, as well as a general request for feedback.

The annual joint senate/board retreat, which takes place March 4,

will be devoted to the renewal of the plan. Input will also be obtained from the president's advisory council on aboriginal education in March.

After sifting through and analysing the input, the committee will embark upon the renewal of the plan. It hopes to issue a draft of the renewed plan for feedback this September. Later in the fall, the committee will revise the draft in light of comments received, so that a renewed plan can be submitted to the senate and the board of governors for approval in December 2006 or January 2007.

To keep up to date on the process, visit uvic.ca/strategicreview.



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Several UVic Vikes are nominated for Sport BC athlete-of-the-year awards to be presented in Vancouver on March 8. Multiple medal-winning Paralympian swimmer **Stephanie Dixon** has been nominated in the category of athlete with a disability. Vikes women's field hockey midfielder **Ali Lee**, the 2005 Canadian Interuniversity Sport women's field hockey player-of-the-year, is nominated for university athlete-of-the-year, and **Jacob Doerksen**, now a member of the Vikes men's basketball team and a 2004 Canada West player-of-the-week, is nominated for high school male athlete-of-the-year.

Dr. Nancy Turner (environmental studies) is co-editor of a new book on First Nations traditional plant use and cultivation along the Oregon coast to southeast Alaska. *Keeping It Living: Traditions of Plant Use and Cultivation on the Northwest Coast of North America* (UBC Press and University of Washington Press, 2005), is the first comprehensive overview of its type on traditional plant management systems in the region. The book delves into a variety of topics, including estuarine root gardens on B.C.'s central coast and the tobacco gardens of the Haida and Tlingit.

Being a model employee is paying off for business student **Alice Ko**. She's the winner of the faculty of business 2005 Co-op Student of the Year Award. Ko was nominated by her co-op employer, BC Hydro, for exceeding all expectations in the performance of her job duties as a Power Smart representative. To be eligible for this \$1,000 TD Financial Group sponsored-award, students must be nominated by their co-op employer, maintain a 6.0 or higher grade point average, act as an ambassador for the faculty and co-op program, and write an essay explaining their contribution to their employer and their contributions to the community.

Mary Kerr (theatre) will design the set and costumes for a new play about the life of Canadian Ojibwa artist Norval Morrisseau that will premiere at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa in May 2007. Titled *Copper Thunderbird*, Morrisseau's aboriginal name, the play is being written by Marie Clements and will be directed by acclaimed Canadian director Peter Hinton. Kerr will draw her design inspiration from the rich canvas of Morrisseau's life: his Ojibwa cosmology, his life on the street, and his spiritual and philosophical transformations to become a grand shaman and the "father of contemporary native art." *Copper Thunderbird* is a collaborative project between the National Arts Centre, urban ink (a Vancouver-based First Nations arts production company), and Playwrights Workshop Montreal. Kerr is an internationally renowned designer whose credits include the opening and closing ceremonies of the 1994 Commonwealth Games in Victoria, and the set and costume designs for the Gemini award-winning children's television show, *The Toy Castle*.

Dr. **Tim Stockwell** (Centre for Addictions Research of B.C.) has been elected president of the Kettil Bruun Society for a two-year term ending in June 2007. The society is an international multidisciplinary organization of scientists engaged in research on the social aspects of alcohol use and alcohol problems. It also acts as a medium for comparative research projects, sponsors international seminars and organizes regular meetings for the presentation of research papers and discussion.

Soccer for the fun of it

A special UVic-hosted soccer program scores big with the community

by Jessica Gillies

The small gymnasium in the McKinnon Building explodes with noise as nearly 20 kids thunder across the floor and back in a warm-up exercise. Afterwards, they split into teams and begin a soccer game in which no one keeps score and everyone, even the goalkeepers, cheers with every goal.

"Just for Kicks," a soccer program for children with disabilities, was created in 1999 by UVic biology professor Dr. Nigel Livingston. "I used to coach my older daughter's soccer team, and my younger daughter Hannah, who has Angelman syndrome, would come along to the games and watch."

Eleanor Liddy, Livingston's wife, suggested they start a program for kids with special needs. "There wasn't anything around for kids who couldn't participate in the regular teams," she says.

UVic supported the program right away. The university donated the gym time and pinnies (worn to show which teams the kids are on). The Victoria-based McAdams Foundation has donated twice to the program, and those donations paid for soccer shirts, nets, balls and trophies. Thrifty Foods donates oranges for the kids every week.

"It's nice to give these kids an opportunity to be the stars," says Livingston. "It's great to see them celebrate that they can excel in something, and that everyone is a winner. They're all very proud of their playing, and at the end of the season they all get a trophy."

Soccer is ideal for the program, says Livingston, because it's a fairly low-risk team sport. "The kids love it, and there aren't a lot of skills required. What's really nice is that sometimes the bigger, more skilled kids back off and let the younger ones go for it."

Many of the children have been playing with Just for Kicks for years. Sarah Gurney, an 11-year-old with Down syndrome, is a four-year veteran.

"When we first heard about it Sarah was too young," says her father,



UVic "soccer buddy" Jennie Crockford and 11-year-old Sarah Gurney.

Lyle. "But other parents kept us in the loop and once Sarah was old enough, we started coming. It really helps her overall motor skills, and socially it's a good thing, too."

Livingston says the program couldn't function without "soccer buddies"—volunteers from UVic and the community.

"The kids can't all play at the same time, and they love sitting on the bench between games and chatting with the volunteers," says Livingston. "The volunteers are wonderful; they come out week after week and have shown a very touching commitment to the program. It's deeply appreciated."

Many of the student volunteers are graduating this year, so the program is looking for new recruits. "The key is that they enjoy being with children; they don't need soccer experience," he says.

Jennie Crockford, a fourth-year

anthropology student, has been volunteering as a soccer buddy since her first year at UVic. "I keep going back because of the kids," she says. "They're so fun and so positive and they know how to make soccer a good time."

Crockford's enthusiasm encouraged Jose Ranawayaya, a fourth-year biology student, to volunteer. "The kids are so happy to see you. They perk you up if you're having a bad day, and it's a good distraction from school," she says. "It's a very safe atmosphere for them to play and interact with other kids with disabilities, so they don't feel that they're being limited by anything."

Just for Kicks is a drop-in program with no fees and no formal registration. It takes place Sundays from 2 to 3 p.m. in the McKinnon Gym. For more information or to volunteer, visit web. uvic.ca/uvatt/ or contact Nigel Livingston at 721-7121 or njl@uvic.ca.

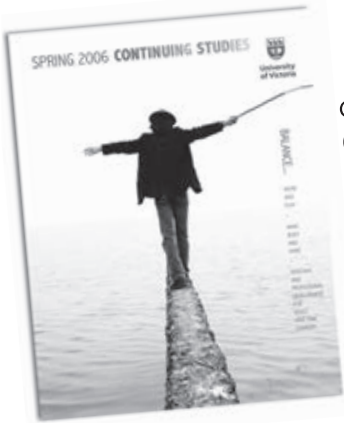
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Spinning Out of Control
Spring 2006 Public Issues Community Forum
Thursday, March 9, 7:30 to 9:30 pm.

Is the fast pace of today's society stressing out not just individuals but our hospitals, schools and other cherished social institutions? Is a reliance on data rather than dialogue disconnecting people from the consequences of their actions? If people are multitasking all the time, when are they fully present and accountable? Are we living in an attention-deficit world and, if so, is there an ethical deficit, a deficit in responsibility and accountability, involved that could threaten our ability to confront the big issues of our times?

Speaker: Heather Menzies, award-winning author of *No Time: Stress and the Crisis of Modern Life* and the best-selling *Whose Brave New World* and *Fast-forward and Out of Control*. Described in the *Vancouver Sun* as "A deep thinker for the people," she is also an adjunct professor of Canadian Studies and Women's Studies at Carleton University, as well as a mother, a gardener and a peace and social justice activist.

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Check the spring guide (available on campus and online) for all our March/April courses. Register online at continuingstudies.uvic.ca or call 472-4747

Grant expands environmental law clinic

The University of Victoria's trail-blazing Environmental Law Centre Clinic is poised to expand its operations even further, thanks to a grant worth more than \$640,000 from the Quadra Island-based Tula Foundation.

The clinic gives law students hands-on training in environmental law and provides free legal information to a wide range of community groups. The grant will pay the clinic's expenses for the next three years, allowing it to expand its operations by hiring a full-time supervising lawyer and administrator, and giving UVic law graduates the opportunity to complete their articling terms at the clinic.

The foundation can renew the grant for a further two years, potentially bringing the value of the gift to more than \$1 million.

"Although environmental law clinics are commonplace at leading U.S. law schools, our clinic is the first of its kind in Canada," says UVic law dean Andrew Petter. "The clinic is

nationally recognized for inspiring, mentoring and training Canada's next generation of public interest environmental lawyers."

It's very important to train this future generation, adds Eric Peterson, executive director of the Tula Foundation. "If community organizations are to play on a level playing field, they need to be as well-represented as government and industry."

UVic law students at the clinic earn credits for providing free legal assistance to conservation groups, community groups and First Nations. Working under the supervision of legal director Calvin Sandborn, students represent clients at legal tribunals, produce legal handbooks for those working to protect the environment, and develop proposals for environmental law reform. The clinic is currently providing legal representation to groups concerned about deletions of land from the Agricultural Land Reserve and clients appealing pollution permits.

Among the clinic's publications are the recently published *A Citizen's Guide to FOI: How to Get Government Records* (a handbook now widely used by conservation groups), and a book on reforming Canadian laws to encourage water conservation. It is developing a publication on cyclists' legal rights and responsibilities for the Greater Victoria Cycling Coalition and has authored a model municipal bylaw designed to protect sensitive areas.

"This generous grant is a ringing endorsement of the hard work and achievements of the students who have been associated with the clinic," says Chris Tollefson, the environmental law centre's founder and executive director. "The grant will ensure that we remain at the forefront of Canadian public interest environmental law for years to come."

The Tula Foundation is a private Canadian family foundation formed in 2002. Funded exclusively by private donations, it provides grants to selected non-profit organizations.



Canada Research Chairs

DIANA NETHERCOTT



Chappell visits with 91-year-old Helen Simpson.

Local festival celebrates aging

As part of Embrace Aging Month, a citywide festival of events celebrating seniors and the agencies that support them, UVic's centre on aging is hosting lectures, presentations and an art exhibit.

The UVic events include a fabric art exhibit by Vermont artist Deidre Scherer (Feb. 27–March 21), facilitated conversation circles to talk about her work (March 1, 10, 13, 21), and a lecture by Scherer on “Challenging Notions of Aging and Dying” (March 4).

The festival also features a performance about Alzheimer's and caregiving entitled “The Love Stories.” This 45-minute, two-person performance shows how family caregivers go to extraordinary lengths to provide creative and imaginative care (March 4).

UVic education professor Dr. Robert Dalton will present seniors' stories translated into works of art by university students. Students and elders will be present to share their experiences, their perceptions and insights gained from this intergenerational encounter (March 7).

To help kick-start Spring to Life Health & Fitness Week (March 12–18) UVic doctoral candidate Rachel Dean will give a keynote address on March 12 entitled “Strategies for Incorporating Physical Activity in Daily Life,” which will be followed by an interactive sampling of the health and fitness options in the region.

“Masterminds: A Lecture Series by UVic Retirees” is five lectures held every Wednesday in March at 7:30 p.m. in the Hickman Building, room 105. Register by calling 472-4473. Plan to arrive early, because seating will be limited. The series is presented by the UVic Retirees Association and the centre on aging. See Calendar Highlights on page 7 for more details.

For more details on the above events visit www.coag.uvic.ca/events.htm or call 721-6369.



LIVE LONG, LIVE WELL

A UVic researcher champions the social, psychological and health care needs of Canada's aging population

by Beth Haysom

University of Victoria gerontologist Neena Chappell doesn't miss a beat when she's offered a “magic wand” wish for seniors. With adroitness born of a lifelong career studying issues affecting Canada's seniors, she shoots back: “Can I make that two wishes?”

Chappell, who established UVic's multidisciplinary centre on aging, is the Canada Research Chair in Social Gerontology and an internationally recognized leader in the field of senior's issues. Her current research embraces respite care for caregivers, care for people with dementia, palliative care, aging and ethnicity, and quality of community-based home and residential care.

What to pick for those two wishes?

Topping her list is a radical change of heart within Canada's health care system. Chappell wants to see funding and resources directed toward a broad range of senior health care options, such as home support, instead of being channelled

into the bottomless pit of acute care hospitals and medicine.

“Home care is like the poor second cousin of the system,” says Chappell “but this doesn't reflect the real world where seniors, valuing their independence, prefer to stay in their own homes as long as they can.”

Fresh from a study that demonstrated the cost effectiveness of maintaining seniors in their own homes, Chappell is now part of a major study to evaluate a Veteran's Affairs national home-based community care program. She hopes that the results will underscore the case for better home care alternatives for non-veterans.

Such findings are crucial in an aging world. By 2020, 25 per cent of the world's population will be over the age of 60, representing a huge challenge for allocating precious health care dollars. But it's not only governments that should take heed.

As time ticks by for midlife baby boomers, one aspect of Chappell's current research is a wake-up call. People have time to gift themselves

a healthy, successful old age or delay the onset of chronic conditions if they start making healthy choices in middle age.

“There is a window of opportunity in midlife when people who start to recognize their mortality are open to change,” says Chappell, who has been leading a \$2.5 million project to develop best practices for coordinated health promotion and health services in midlife.

Chappell, the Vancouver Island Health Authority and Blanshard Community Centre have established PATH (Promoting Action Towards Health) a community-based project in Hillside Quadra, North Park and Saanich to find ways to help neighbourhoods promote healthy choices. Through PATH, the communities have chosen to organize an art centre, Tai Chi and a neighbourhood kitchen, among other initiatives.

Among the early findings, Chappell says that where you live affects well-being: “People's sense of belonging to their neighbourhood, as well as other structural factors

such as their socio-economic levels, affects how they deal with problems associated with aging.”

Chappell, who grew up in Nova Scotia, wonders whether it was her enigmatic grandfather who sparked her respect and abiding curiosity for the older generation. “I always liked old people and enjoyed their company,” she says.

While Chappell puzzled her professors by choosing to study gerontology before its importance was understood, she found herself “riding the crest of the wave” during the late '70s and '80s when governments, recognizing demographic realities, went looking for gerontology experts.

Chappell spent a decade establishing a centre on aging at the University of Manitoba before being invited to do the same at UVic in 1992. The centre now has 4,300 square feet of bursting-at-the-seams space in the Sedgewick Building, a satellite office in Ladner, more staff members than Chappell can easily count, and a flourishing network of enthusias-

tic volunteers and supporters.

Chappell credits the receptiveness and energy of Vancouver Island and B.C. seniors' groups for the centre's success. Weary of countering the stereotype of seniors as society's drones, Chappell spells out her second wish.

“I'd love to see society, especially government policy-makers, realize that seniors are simply older adults still capable of living independent lives and that they still have much to offer in terms of making a valuable contribution to society,” she says.

For role models for quality of life in later years, Chappell has to look no further than her own parents. Her mother, who died last year at age 88, lived an energetic life and refused to settle for a docile dotage in spite of being a widow for eight years.

“I could never get her on the phone because she was always out and about somewhere with her friends, including a boyfriend who was 92,” says Chappell. “Now that's living life to the fullest.”

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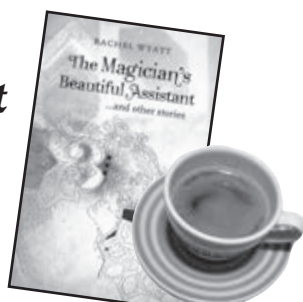
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Energy executive named distinguished entrepreneur

by Dianne George

Dr. Gwyn Morgan, who established EnCana Corp. as the country's largest energy company, is the recipient of the 2006 Distinguished Entrepreneur of the Year Award, presented by UVic's faculty of business board of advisors.

The annual award acknowledges an inspirational entrepreneur who has had a significant and positive impact on the global community through his or her business leadership.

"Gwyn is an outspoken visionary who established EnCana as a world-class Canadian company," says David Schneider, chair of the board of advisors. "He's been instrumental in defining the ethical behaviour expected of leaders, employees and contractors and is a great example to our students."

Morgan, who stepped down as president and CEO of EnCana last December, describes himself as a "farm kid from Carstairs, Alberta." He first considered a career in medicine, then biomedical engineering. In the end, he studied mechanical engineering and joined Alberta Energy Company (AEC) at the time of its startup in 1975.

"My first job was to develop its

oil and gas business," says Morgan. "We drilled our first well in 1976. One of my proudest moments was seeing a Canadian flag fly above that first well."

Now EnCana's executive vice-chair, Morgan spent nearly 30 years with AEC then merged it with Pan Canadian Energy to create EnCana in early 2002. It's now North America's largest producer of natural gas. "EnCana sprung from my desire to keep the Canadian flag flying over a Canadian-headquartered company," says Morgan.

Morgan was voted Canada's most respected CEO for 2005 in an end-of-year survey of 250 chief executive officers. In the 1990s Morgan created an ethics/code of conduct for AEC and later developed the EnCana constitution. The constitution defines the company's business and moral principles and forms a part of each employee's annual performance review.

"I consider creating an ethical company that is a positive force in the communities and countries where we work to be the heart of my life's work," he says.

Morgan's commitment to healthy living is equal to his commitment to maintaining a Canadian presence in the oil patch. His fitness regime includes running, biking, hiking and a daily dose



Morgan

of yoga. Morgan is no stranger to Victoria. He and his wife, Patricia Trottier, have moved to North Saanich and are making this community the base for the next chapter of their life.

Morgan holds a BSc from the University of Alberta and honorary degrees from the University of Lethbridge and the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology. He's also a fellow of the Canadian Academy of Engineering.

Morgan will be presented with the award at a gala evening on May 18 at the Victoria Conference Centre. For more information on Gwyn Morgan, the nomination process and the event visit www.business.uvic.ca/deya.

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Surrounded by Family and Friends and The Last Year (until March 21) Textile portraits of Deidre Scherer. Maltwood Art Museum & Gallery.

At the Theatres

www.phoenixtheatres.ca or

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Fen (until March 5) A story of grace, humour and courage about a group of women farming the lands in England's Fen Country.

Studio Series March 2–4. Staged play readings and a coffee house, presented in association with the department of writing.

Tyrants March 16–April 1. A backstage look at America's most famous theatrical family, the “Mad Booths of Maryland,” and their link to the assassination of Abraham Lincoln.

Friday, March 3

Anthropology Lecture 12:30 p.m. *Baboons of the South African Cape Peninsula*. Nick Ellwanger, UVic. Business & Economics 363. 721-7047

Saturday, March 4

Lansdowne Lecture 11 a.m. *Plots Against America: Anti-racism and Neo-liberalism*. Walter Benn Michaels, Univ. of Illinois. Commons Block, Arbutus/Queenswood. 721-7236

Aspreva Distinguished Speaker Series 7:30 p.m. *Global Health and Citizenship*. Dr. James Orbinski, past international president of Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors without Borders. Univ. Centre Auditorium. Reserved seating. 721-8480.

Sunday, March 5

Music 2:30 p.m. *Donors Concert*. A special program in appreciation of those who support school of music scholarships and bursaries. MacLaurin B125. 721-7904

Monday, March 6

Beck Lecture 7:30 p.m. *Digital Illustration: An Icelandic Artist's Perspective*. Olafur Petursson, Iceland Academy of the Arts, Reykjavik. Strong C126. 853-7656

Tuesday, March 7

Fraser Lecture on Professional Responsibility 12:30 p.m. *The Challenges of Being a Judge in the Charter Era*. Catherine Fraser, Chief Justice of Alberta. Fraser 158. 721-8154

Lansdowne Lecture 1:30 p.m. *Theorizing the New World Baroque*. Lois Parkinson Zamora, Univ. of Houston. Cornett A125. 721-7413

Beck Lecture 7:30 p.m. *Beyond The Thickest Veils—Erla's Vision*. Olafur Petursson, Iceland Academy of the Arts, Reykjavik. Strong C130. 853-7656

Wednesday, March 8

Orion Lecture 3 p.m. *Encounters with Dramaturgy*. Don Hannah,

playwright, dramaturge and novelist. Phoenix Theatre. 721-4494

Studies in Religion & Society Lecture 4:15 p.m. *Conquest and Co-Existence: Religious Experience in the Anglo-Norman Period*. Sabrina Jackson, UVic. Hickman 110. 721-6325

UVic Retirees Masterminds Lecture Series 7:30 p.m. *Can Religions Live Together?* Harold Coward, UVic. Hickman 105. Register at 472-4473

Thursday, March 9

Public Issues Community Forum 7:30 p.m. *Spinning Out of Control*. Speaker Heather Menzies, author of *No Time: Stress and the Crisis of Modern Life*. Fraser 159. Register 472-4747

Friday, March 10

Music 12:30 p.m. *Fridaymusic*. School of music chamber ensembles. MacLaurin B125. 721-7904

Sunday, March 12

Embrace Aging Kickoff Event 1 p.m. The official kick-off to “Spring to Life Health & Fitness Week.” Features a keynote address by PhD candidate Rachel Dean, UVic, on *Strategies for Incorporating Physical Activity in Daily Life*. Strong C103. 721-6369.

Monday, March 13

Lansdowne Lecture 7 p.m. *What Have We Learned from Ukrainian History?* Mark von Hagen, Columbia Univ. Strong C116. 721-7316

Tuesday, March 14

Annual Book Faire 3 p.m. Peruse a large selection of second-language teaching texts. Hosted by the department of applied linguistics and the division of continuing studies. Continuing Studies 136/138. 472-4665

Centre for Earth & Ocean Research Lecture 3:30 p.m. *Earth Science Education—New Initiatives and Resources for Teachers and the Public*. Eileen Van der Flier-Keller, UVic. Visit www.edgeo.org/ for more information. Cornett B112. 721-8848.

Sessions in Spirituality 4 p.m. *Going Against the Grain—Living and Working Boldly and at Peace*. Chris Dobrzanski, Vancouver City Savings. Interfaith Chapel. 721-8338

Lansdowne Lecture 7 p.m. *Do the Helping Professions Need Help? Notes on the Teacher's Illness*. Deborah Britzman, Univ. of Massachusetts. MacLaurin D110. 721-7759

Wednesday, March 15

UVic Retirees Masterminds Lecture Series 7:30 p.m. *The NEPTUNE Project: Transforming our Understanding of the Deep Ocean Environment*. Chris Barnes, UVic. Hickman 105. Register at 472-4473

Orion Lecture 8 p.m. A presentation of Barbara Gallucci's sculptural works. MacLaurin A144. 721-8014

Thursday, March 16

Lansdowne Lecture 7 p.m. *Recognizing Terrorism*. Claudia Card, Univ. of Wisconsin. Human & Social Development A240. 721-7512.

Friday, March 17

Lansdowne Lecture 12:30 p.m. *Women's Writing in Quebec: New Propositions*. Louise Dupré, Université du Québec à Montréal. Strong C122. 721-7364

Anthropology Lecture 12:30 p.m. *Bordering Identity: Health, Migration, Diaspora in Multicultural Settings*. Leah Getchell, Julie Bartlett, Leah Shumka, UVic. Business & Economics 363. 721-7047

Music 12:30 p.m. *Fridaymusic*. School of music percussion students. MacLaurin B125. 721-7904

Tuesday, March 21

Linguistics & Continuing Studies Lecture 6:30 p.m. *Cultural Diversity in Language Classrooms: What Every Language Teacher Needs to Know*. Clearihue A206. 721-7424

Wednesday, March 22

Orion Lecture 12:30 p.m. *The Composer in Theatre*. John Mills Cockell, composer and sound designer. Phoenix Theatre. 721-7992

UVic Retirees Masterminds Lecture Series 7:30 p.m. *Inscapes in Time's Eye: A History of Printmaking*. Dr. Pat Martin-Bates, artist and printmaker. Hickman 105. Register at 472-4473

Thursday, March 23

School of Social Work Lecture 6 p.m. *Martha Joseph: Woman Warrior*. Meet this residential school survivor and hear her story. Strong C103. 889-0819

Distinguished Professors Lecture 7:30 p.m. *Convicting the Innocent: the Failure of Justice in Canada*. Gerry Ferguson, UVic. Fraser 159. 721-5666

Friday, March 24

Music 12:30 p.m. *Fridaymusic*. School of music woodwind students. MacLaurin B125. 721-7904

Monday, March 27

Public Administration Lecture 12 p.m. *The Democratization of Canadian Politics: The Changing Nature of Federal Decision-Making*. Raymond Protti, Canadian Bankers Assoc. Human & Social Development A373. Register 721-8056

Tuesday, March 28

Linguistics & Continuing Studies Lecture 6:30 p.m. *Teaching Positions Near and Far*. Clearihue A206 721-7424

Wednesday, March 29

Orion Lecture 12:30 p.m. *The Changing Face of Japanese Theatre*. Oriza Hirata, playwright, author and

teacher. Phoenix Theatre. 721-7992

Studies in Religion & Society Lecture 4:15 p.m. *Performing Culture: Dramatic Productions of Okanagan Legends*. Cynthia Korpan, UVic. Hickman 110. 721-6325

UVic Retirees Masterminds Lecture Series 7:30 p.m. *A Digital Photographic Tour of Germany and its Neighbours*. Donald Lobb. Hickman 105. Register at 472-4473

Friday, March 31

Music 12:30 p.m. *Fridaymusic*. School of music composition students. MacLaurin B125. 721-7904

Sunday, April 2

Music 8 p.m. *The Beauty of Brahms*. Presented by the UVic Lieder Singers under the direction of Angelika Arend. MacLaurin B125. Tickets \$15/\$12. 721-7320

Tuesday, April 4

Linguistics & Continuing Studies Lecture 6:30 p.m. *Classroom Management: Tools and Techniques*. Clearihue A206. 721-7424

Spring 2006 Ring Schedule

Calendar items should be sent by 4 p.m. on the copy deadline date shown below to UVic Communications (Sedgewick C149, fax 721-8955, e-mail ucom@uvic.ca) or entered into the online calendar (www.uvic.ca/events). For more information call 721-7636.

Publication Date	Copy Deadline
Thursday, April 6	Wed. March 28
Thursday, May 4	Wed. April 26

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Give that student the recognition she or he deserves

Even while facing end of term papers and exams UVic students still find time to volunteer in the community. With spring just around the corner, it's time to honour these dedicated students by nominating them for a Blue and Gold Award. Nominations close March 9 but there's still time to recognize graduate or undergraduate students who make significant contributions to the quality of life on campus and in the community. Two levels of award will be presented this year—three awards of \$2,500 each and five awards worth \$1,000 each. These awards recognize students who demonstrate leadership in volunteer roles with community groups, through participation in or coaching athletics, or being involved in arts groups or organizations—all while maintaining at least a 5.0 GPA. Nomination packages are available through the student awards and financial aid office in the University Centre or online at registrar.uvic.ca/safa. All nominations and supporting documentation should be mailed by March 9 to the Blue and Gold Awards program, c/o Student Awards and Financial Aid, P.O. Box 3025, STN CSC, Victoria, B.C. V8W 3P2

Scholars gather at UVic to discuss European Union

On March 2-4 UVic's European studies program is hosting an international conference on governance and policy-making in the European Union. The conference, organized by prominent German political scientist Dr. Ingeborg Tömmel and UVic's Dr. Amy Verdun (political science), brings together leading scholars from Germany, Italy, Switzerland, the U.K., the U.S. and Canada. Tömmel, a visiting professor, is taking a lead role in the conference as part of a research project on EU-governance. Last April, Tömmel was awarded the prestigious John G. Diefenbaker Award from the Canada Council for the Arts after being nominated by UVic's faculty of social sciences. Under the terms of the award Tömmel is spending one year at UVic to work on a research project dealing with governance, policy-making and system-building in the E-U. It's the first time that a Diefenbaker Award winner has been based at UVic. For more information on the conference call 721-7491 or visit web.uvic.ca/europe/governanceconf.htm.

UVic researcher participates in stellar survey

The astrophysics community is always hungry for new data from the nether regions of our galaxy, so there was some excitement last month when the Radial Velocity Experiment (RAVE) released its first set of data.

RAVE is an ambitious spectroscopic survey that seeks to measure the radial velocity and stellar atmosphere of up to one million stars near the sun. The international project involves scientists from Canada, Australia, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Slovenia, Switzerland, the U.K. and the U.S.

"The survey measures how fast nearby stars are approaching or receding from the sun," says UVic astrophysicist Dr. Julio Navarro, who sits on RAVE's executive board and is responsible for three of the survey's main projects.

Astronomical spectroscopy studies the spectrum of electromagnetic radiation emitted by stars and other celestial objects. The RAVE team is using a spectrograph attached to a telescope in Australia to gather spectral

information on as many as 150 stars at once over an area equivalent to more than 150 full moons.

The RAVE data set published last month includes information on 25,000 stars and their brightness, colour and motion across the sky.

"Information on the motion of stars helps us test ideas about how our galaxy formed, whether it was from the collapse of a giant cloud of gas, or through accretion and cannibalism of smaller galaxies," says Navarro, who is a world leader in the study of galaxy structure and dynamics.

The RAVE survey is also looking at properties of the "fastest-moving" stars. "These stars provide invaluable information about the mass of the galaxy, including its dark matter," says Navarro. "We expect to publish these results soon."

Canadian participation in RAVE is funded by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council. For more information on RAVE visit www.rave-survey.org.

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When disaster strikes...

A UVic admissions officer-cum-firefighter helps Hurricane Katrina victims rebuild their shattered lives

by Beth Haysom

A pager strapped to his belt is one of two clues that Chris Aubrey leads a Clark Kent style double life at the University of Victoria.

By day he's an admissions officer. But evenings, weekends and during major disasters, Aubrey switches to his role as a Langford volunteer firefighter responding to emergency calls, rescuing and comforting people.

In spite of the demands and inherent dangers, Aubrey is living his childhood dream: "I love doing this. My dad was a firefighter, so this is something I've wanted to do since I was eight or nine years-old," says Aubrey. "But now it's different because Langford gets involved in major disasters provincially and internationally."

Along with his fellow Langford firefighters, Aubrey went to New York City in the aftermath of 9/11. He helped to battle forest fires in the 2003 firestorm in the B.C. interior. And last month he spent a week of his vacation in southern Mississippi, helping the victims of Hurricane Katrina to rebuild their shattered lives.

The Langford fire department, along with three other local fire departments, sent down crews to help out in the Gulfport and Pass Christian areas, about 100 km away from New Orleans but similarly destroyed by the hurricane and the subsequent flooding. It was worse than anything Aubrey had ever seen before:

"I was with a bunch of veteran firefighters driving to our work site on the bus and you could have heard a pin drop. We just couldn't believe what we were seeing—miles and miles of utter devastation."

Six months after the hurricane, Aubrey describes vast areas that are still a wasteland of smashed and broken homes; roads going nowhere, whole communities wiped out; twisted McDonalds golden arches swaying above remnants of a restaurant underneath. Often, former residents have spray-painted messages on their abandoned homes to say where they've gone. A few, with indomitable humour, wrote "gone with the wind."

Aubrey, who has basic labourer skills, was part of a Canadian crew made up of firefighters and trades-



VALERIE SHORE

Above, Aubrey Inset, hurricane-damaged Gulfport Fire Station #7

"The university has been great, really understanding," says Aubrey. It doesn't happen that often but people here know that there are times when I just have to take off."

In fact, David Glen, admissions associate registrar and Aubrey's supervisor, is happy to have such an employee in the department: "It's great for the university to have someone with these skills," says Glen, "We're proud of his commitment to community service and we're glad to support him when we can."

The bond with fellow firefighters hit home for Aubrey the day he stood at Ground Zero in New York City and realized the enormity of what had happened at 9/11.

That's the second clue to his double life. On the wall of Aubrey's UVic office is a picture of a firefighter and poem written to honour the New York firefighters who lost their lives. The last two lines are:

"Keep on climbing," prays Our Captain; "Eyes raised, headed for the top."

"And when you're tired and feel like quitting, Remember them, They didn't stop!"

"That just about says it all for me," says Aubrey.