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MAY 2006

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Spring convocation honours five for lifetime accomplishments

by Mike McNeney

Esteemed for their various contributions in the fields of education, anthropology, the environment and the arts, six recipients will receive honorary degrees from the university during Spring Convocation ceremonies in June.

The honorands are: Vicky Husband (Doctor of Laws); Barbara Lane (Doctor of Laws); Lewis Perinbam (Doctor of Laws); Martha Piper (Doctor of Laws); Arthur Vickers (Doctor of Fine Arts); and Ray Williston (Doctor of Laws).

A tireless advocate for nature conservation, education and cultural integrity in British Columbia, Vicky Husband is perhaps best known for her work on behalf of the Sierra Club and its role in protecting old-growth forests and endangered wildlife.

Husband has also been an unfailing supporter of the UVic school of environmental studies and its students through the creation of a scholarship and through guest lectures. Husband has previously

been awarded the United Nations Environment Programs Global 500 Award, the Order of Canada and the Order of British Columbia.

Barbara Lane is regarded as an expert in First Nations anthropology and rights, having given evidence in more than 40 court cases—many of which have been pivotal in determining aboriginal access to resources (particularly fisheries) and land claims.

Lane is equally respected by First Nations groups across the Pacific Northwest, within legal circles and in the academic community, often working behind the scenes and with little public recognition. She has also made important contributions to the education of UVic history and anthropology students who have worked with her as research assistants.

A true citizen of the world, Lewis Perinbam dedicated his career in the Canadian public service to global issues in every corner of the world. For 18 years he was vice-president of

SEE HONORARY DEGREES P.2

Computer graphics expert is newest Canada Research Chair

A top scholar in the field of modeling and animation for computer graphics is the latest Canada Research Chair awarded to the University of Victoria.

Dr. Brian Wyvill, currently a professor of computer science at the University of Calgary, has been awarded the Canada Research Chair in Computer Graphics. He'll join UVic's department of computer science in January 2007.

Canada Research Chairs are aimed at increasing Canada's research capacity by attracting and retaining the best researchers. UVic's chair was included in a national announcement on April 28.

Wyvill is a tier-1 chair recipient, which means he is acknowledged by his peers as a world leader in his field. The chair provides him with \$200,000 annually for seven years.

Wyvill completed one of the first two PhDs in computer graphics in the UK in 1975 and subsequently worked in industry, including some animation work for the movie *Alien*. He joined the University of Calgary in 1981 where he developed an interest in modelling forms that can change their shape easily.

Along the way, Wyvill was one of the early pioneers of "implicit surface modelling," techniques used



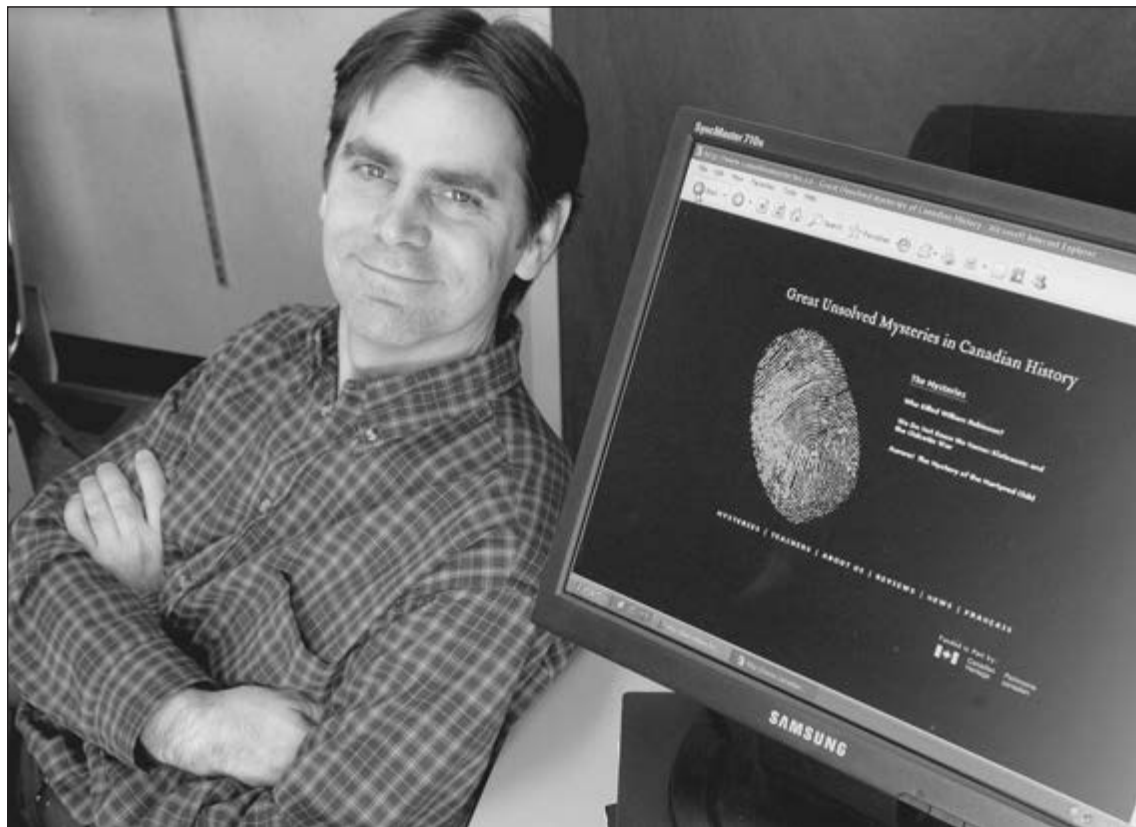
Wyvill

to model objects as diverse as the parts of a car engine to the delicate spirals of a complex sea shell. He has published about 100 research papers on this and related topics.

Wyvill says the long-term objective of his chair program is to search for new methods that will allow a wide variety of users to visualize complex models and processes.

"Whether the application is to show realistic images of dinosaurs walking for entertainment, or non-realistic sketches of internal organs that emphasise particular characteristics for educating surgeons," he says, "better tools are needed to help experts produce accurate models."

To date, UVic has been awarded 33 Canada Research Chairs out of its total allotment of 35.



Lutz

More mysteries added for student sleuths and teachers

by Patty Pitts

There are more mysteries for student sleuths to solve on the University of Victoria's home-grown national history mysteries website.

The violent and unsolved death of charismatic Doukhobor leader Peter Verigin in 1924 is the latest addition to the award-winning website, "Great Unsolved Mysteries in Canadian History." It joins "Torture and Truth: Angélique and the Burning of Montreal" and "Heaven and Hell on Earth: The Massacre of the Black Donnelly's."

Like the other mysteries, "Explosion on the Kettle Valley Line: The Death of Peter Verigin" invites students, teachers and history buffs to search through the rich online archive of photos, documents and newspaper accounts to "solve" the murder and

learn more about Canadian history in the process.

Verigin, a female companion and seven other people, including a member of the B.C. legislative assembly, died when an explosion ripped through their rail car near Castlegar, B.C.

The new website was launched on April 27 by Iona Campagnolo, the Lieutenant Governor of B.C., at a special ceremony at the Royal BC Museum. The West Coast Doukhobor Choir performed their distinctive, traditional songs at the opening and closing of the event.

"There have been many theories about what caused the explosion but no one was ever charged," says UVic history professor John Lutz, co-director of the bilingual website. "Like the other sites, this one encourages users to put their research skills to work to

examine the evidence surrounding the explosion and learn more about the Doukhobor community and Canadian attitudes to immigrants in the years between the world wars."

UVic adjunct history professor Larry Hannant developed the Verigin mystery site. "Was Verigin murdered or was it an accidental explosion?" he wonders. "The Doukhobor community itself is split on whether or not this was an assassination, and it's very strange that neither the Canadian government nor the RCMP had any good leads. We're certainly hoping that the website will raise some new discussion."

Among the features on the Verigin website is a forensic report from a post-blast expert who has conducted investigations for the Canadian

SEE MORE MYSTERIES P.5

Funding supports technology behind VENUS and NEPTUNE observatories

by Valerie Shore

Two revolutionary, interactive, sea-floor observatories led by the University of Victoria are benefiting from more than \$2 million in new funding from CANARIE Inc., a national organization that promotes advanced networks and applications.

The NEPTUNE Canada (North-East Pacific Time-series Undersea Network Experiments) observatory, will lay 800 km of fibre optic cable and instruments off the outer coast of B.C., starting in 2007.

A sister observatory, VENUS (Victoria Experimental Network Under the Sea), is laying a total of 43 km of cable and instruments in two locations off the south coast of B.C.

The first 3-km leg of VENUS was installed in Saanich Inlet near Victoria in February.

Both observatories will use the Internet to continuously feed data, sounds and images from the ocean depths to laboratories, classrooms, science centres and homes around the world. Scientists will gather continuous information on ocean change, seismic activity, fish and marine mammal movements, and seafloor ecology.

The CANARIE funding, divided between two projects, will allow NEPTUNE and VENUS scientists to use leading-edge web services technology to communicate with their seafloor instruments and manage the large volume of data they collect. Web services

are software systems designed to support machine-to-machine interaction over a network.

"We're delighted that our major observatory projects have attracted this level of support from CANARIE," says Dr. Martin Taylor, UVic's vice-president research. "Computer control of the subsea sensors and autonomous and tethered vehicles from many laboratories on land represents a huge computational and communications challenge."

In the first project, funded by \$1.1 million from CANARIE, the NEPTUNE team is partnering with IBM Canada Ltd. to develop new technologies in software design and

SEE CANARIE FUNDING P.2

CANARIE funding continued from p.1

architecture. These technologies will ensure that NEPTUNE and VENUS instrument systems are as flexible as possible, and that data can be quickly processed and shared across platforms.

“With so many types of instruments connected to the observatories we need a system that will quickly respond on its own to configuration changes,” says Benoît Pirenne, NEPTUNE Canada’s assistant director for information technology. “We also need powerful, efficient and intelligent data processing to turn large volumes of raw data into information.”

It’s estimated that the NEPTUNE and VENUS archives will have accumulated several petabytes of data after only a few years of operation. One

petabyte is equal to one quadrillion bytes, or roughly the equivalent of 20 million four-drawer filing cabinets full of text.

The second project, funded by more than \$939,000 from CANARIE, will develop web services technology to operate the controls of underwater high-definition TV cameras hooked up to VENUS and NEPTUNE. The cameras will relay high-quality imagery from the ocean floor to the world via the Internet.

Dubbed “Undersea Window,” the project is led by McGill University researcher John Roston, a specialist in interactive multimedia. His partners are the NEPTUNE and VENUS teams, and Colin Bradley, director of UVic’s laboratory for automation,

communication and information systems research.

“This project will develop ways to interactively control camera and video transmissions from locations across the continent,” says Bradley, who is responsible for the underwater engineering aspects of the project. “Ultimately, we’d like to move a camera around on an underwater vehicle, but for now we’re working on the interfaces for a stationary system where the camera can pan, tilt and zoom on command.”

The CANARIE contribution is being augmented with funding from industrial partners, UVic and McGill, bringing the funding commitment for the two projects to \$1.5 million and \$1.3 million respectively.

LABOUR AGREEMENTS REACHED WITH FIVE GROUPS

After a busy month of negotiations in March and a series of ratification votes in April, the University of Victoria has reached agreements with five campus employee groups.

“UVic is very pleased that the members of our employee groups have ratified their contracts,” said associate vice-president of human resources Peter Sanderson. “I congratulate the members of the negotiating teams who worked so hard and showed such strong commitment and dedication to negotiating a settlement that recognizes the significant parts these employees play in making UVic an

outstanding university.”

Members of the faculty association voted 91.6 per cent in favour of a four-year agreement in mid-March. In April, five-year agreements (including one retroactive year) were ratified with three CUPE locals. Over 770 members of CUPE 951 (office, technical, support and child care employees) voted over 96 per cent in favour of the new agreement and nearly 500 members of CUPE 4163 who are sessional lecturers voted unanimously in favour of their new contract.

Later in the month, more than 340

members of CUPE 917 who maintain the university’s grounds, buildings and infrastructure and work in housing, food and conference services, also voted in favour of their agreement. Then the 670 members of the Professional Employees Union voted over 96 per cent in favour of a new four-year deal which takes effect July 1.

The agreement with the only other union groups on campus—components 1 and 2 of CUPE local 4163 which covers teaching assistants and English-as-a-second-language instructors—is effective until Aug. 31, 2006.

Honorary degrees continued from p.1

the Canadian International Development Agency. He has been a voice for the role of citizens, citizen-based organizations, and universities in the development of the poorest regions of the globe.

Perinbam currently resides in Vancouver and is chairman of the Commonwealth of Learning, an inter-governmental organization dedicated to improving the delivery of open learning and distance education in developing countries.

As the 11th president of the University of British Columbia, Martha Piper has earned a national reputation for her work, not only on behalf of UBC but, as well, for the principles and value of higher education and research in B.C. and Canada. She is a strong, vocal advocate of the role of universities in modern society, particularly in terms of our economic, social and cultural well-being.

In addition, Piper has been instrumental in persuading decision-makers to invest more resources in

university research, having made convincing arguments for the establishment of the Canada Research Chairs program and the Canada Foundation for Innovation.

West Coast native artist Arthur Vickers combines respect for the rich traditions of the Heiltsuk and Tsimshian people with the pursuit of a highly original artistic vision. Working in a number of disciplines—serigraphs, paintings, gold relief works—he is able to capture mood in his work using subtle colour blends and multi-layered ink tones.

Vickers’s work is sought for its creativity and meticulous attention to detail. Known as a deeply caring and giving person, Vickers has donated his valuable works of art to a host of charitable organizations including the Greater Victoria Hospital Foundation, the CNIB and the Victoria Hospice Society.

A long-time member of the W.A.C. Bennett cabinet, Ray Williston epitomizes dedication to education and

public service in B.C. A graduate of the Provincial Normal School (predecessor of the UVic faculty of education), Williston began his career as a teacher.

He was first elected in 1953 as the MLA for Prince George and soon became Minister of Education. He engineered sweeping changes to the public school system and paved the way for the creation of UVic with his introduction of the 1955 Victoria College Act, combining the college with the normal school. His later role in natural resource development was acknowledged with the naming of the Williston Lake reservoir in central B.C.

Spring convocation ceremonies are at 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. daily from June 6 to 9 in the University Centre Farquhar Auditorium.



Green thumbs gather for popular plant sale

The university’s Finnerty Gardens keep getting better and a big reason for the growth is the annual support received from the UVic Plant Sale.

Each year, hundreds of gardeners flock to the university’s McKinnon Gym to select from an incredible array of plants, trees, shrubs, hanging baskets—you name it.

This year’s sale—huge by any standard—is on May 7 from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. The popular sale is organized by more than 150 community volunteers from the Finnerty Garden Friends.

Net proceeds from the sale go toward additions and improvements to the UVic Finnerty Gardens, located on the southwest corner of campus.

The gardens are open all year and there is no charge for admission. The site offers a stunning array of rhododendrons (around 500 varieties in all). Visitors also enjoy a range of plants, trees and shrubs alongside walking paths that wind through the 2.6-hectare site.

Plant sale shoppers are encouraged to arrive early for the best selection. Visa, MasterCard and Interac are accepted.

New journal showcases undergraduate talent

Last month, a group of enterprising students who manage a course union called the Undergraduate Politics Society (UPS) celebrated the inaugural volume of *On Politics*, a semi-annual academic journal of undergraduate and master’s level essays, and book and film reviews.

The journal topics are generally geared toward contemporary political science, but submissions from related disciplines are also encouraged.

The student-run, student-written, peer-reviewed journal was created to showcase budding new talent in political science. As editor-in-chief Will Colish explains, good ideas are often wasted because hundreds of papers are submitted every term, but are usually only

read by two pairs of eyes—those of the student and their professor. *On Politics* helps disseminate this scholarly work, and gives students the rare opportunity of being published.

On Politics also introduces students to the peer review and editing process. Twenty-one students make up the editing team for *On Politics* and they evaluate each submission using a blind peer review process. Professors are encouraged to flag student essays that are worthy of publication and reinforce the benefits of submitting essays to *On Politics*.

The editorial team is currently collecting essays and the next issue will be published this fall. To access an online version of the journal, visit www.onpolitics.ca/.

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Bob Reimer



Weaver at one of 50 school weather stations in the Victoria region.

School weather network wins kudos for climatologist

by Valerie Shore

A University of Victoria climatologist's mission to turn a new generation of students on to the wonders of weather science has earned him a 2006 Award of Recognition from the BC School Superintendents Association.

Dr. Andrew Weaver, one of the world's leading climate researchers and the Canada Research Chair in Atmospheric Science, received the award in Vancouver on May 4. The award recognizes individuals and organizations for their outstanding contributions to support and enhance public school education in British Columbia.

Weaver is the guiding force behind a unique network of weather stations installed at 50 public schools in Victoria, Saanich and Sooke. The goal of the Victoria Micro Meteorological Weather Network is to foster an interest among schoolchildren and the public in physics and mathematics—the two sciences that are fundamental to understanding weather.

"Physics and mathematics are often perceived as difficult and irrelevant," says Weaver, who created the network in 2005 with UVic colleague Ed Wiebe, in partnership with School District 61. "What better way to demonstrate the relevance of science to kids than weather, something we

see and feel every day?"

Each weather station consists of a series of small, solar-powered instrument packages mounted on the school roof. The instruments provide real-time measurements of temperature, humidity, wind speed and direction, precipitation, solar and UV radiation, and atmospheric pressure.

For local weather conditions go to www.victoriaweather.ca.

Wireless technology sends the data from each station to classrooms across the school district and to a central computer in Weaver's lab at UVic. There, the information is compiled and displayed graphically via the Internet at www.victoriaweather.ca.

"Over the next few weeks, we'll be installing stations at 17 more schools," says Weaver, who, along with Wiebe and students from the UVic climate modelling lab, gives presentations to school classes on how to use the weather station data. Weaver also guided the creation of resources for teachers so that they can integrate the weather stations into their science curriculum.

"Andrew has created an incredible resource for our educators that makes science a daily topic throughout the students' year," says John Gaipman, superintendent of schools for School District 61. "In his quest to support public education and the knowledge of science, Andrew has worked tirelessly to promote learning in our community."

The Victoria Micro Meteorological Weather Network is funded by \$108,100 from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council's PromoScience program, which supports organizations that work with youth to inspire an interest in science and engineering. NEC Corporation contributed another \$50,000 and in-kind support came from Davis Instruments Corp and School Districts 61 (Victoria), 62 (Sooke) and 63 (Saanich).

At UVic, Weaver has built one of the most sophisticated climate modelling facilities on the planet and has tackled subjects as diverse as the physics of sea ice formation, past abrupt climate change and the physics of El Niño. He's one of a handful of scientists working on the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's next climate assessment, due in 2007, which will direct international policies related to global warming.

Inmemoriam

Roland Brener, a professor of visual arts at UVic for 23 years and the creator of many powerful sculptures and graphic works, died on March 22. Roland's contribution to the practice and understanding of art over the last 40 years has had a major impact on the Canadian art world and on Victoria's reputation as a centre of artistic achievement. At UVic, he was an early and central figure in the development of a visual arts program dedicated to contemporary practice. He supported the development of the visual arts gallery, the department's well-designed workshop, the honours program, the graduate program, and the visiting artist program. He was responsible for the department's first foray into digital media and introduced it into the curriculum. Roland's work can be found in many public collections, including the National Gallery of Canada, the Art Gallery of Ontario, the Musée d'Art Contemporain de Montréal, the Vancouver Art Gallery, and the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria.

Excerpted from an obituary written by visual arts professor emeritus Mowry Baden. For the full text visit <http://finearts.uvic.ca/visualarts/>.

Lucie Daigle, a member of the department of French since 1985 and a senior instructor since 1991, died on March 24. Lucie was well known for her devotion to her students and for her innovative pedagogical strategies. Inspired by the passion of her sister, Louise, for other cultures, Lucie left the Quebec farming community where she grew up to pursue a diploma in multilingual public relations, followed by a BA in English and education at Université Laval in 1980. The following year, she came to Victoria, earning her MA in linguistics from UVic in 1984. At Lucie's request, a scholarship for graduate students in linguistics is being endowed in her name. Her gentle humour and creativity will be missed by colleagues and students in the department, who made dozens of origami cranes to lift her spirits during her time at Victoria Hospice. Donations may be made in her memory to the Victoria Hospice Society and the BC Cancer Foundation.

Contributed by associate dean of humanities Claire Carlin and John Greene from the department of French.

Gerry Horne, manager of UVic's aquatic facility, died suddenly on April 4. Gerry first joined the office of research administration in 1997 as an aquatic technician. He brought with him a wealth of experience both from the aquaculture program at Malaspina College, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, and private industry. His previous experience as a heavy equipment mechanic served him well as he upgraded the water treatment systems for both fresh and seawater. Gerry had the opportunity to tour some of the best aquatic systems in North America and combined all the data to guide construction of the UVic aquatic facility. A state-of-the-art freshwater recirculation system was his crowning achievement. His legacy at UVic also includes a long list of friends, who knew him as a gentleman, a person with integrity, and a major asset to the university's Canadian Council on Animal Care committee.

Contributed by Ralph Scheurle, manager of the animal care unit.

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Hallam

Martlet editor elected national bureau chief

by Jessica Gillies

Martlet staff members are going places. For the third time since 2003, a *Martlet* staffer has been elected to a national position at the Canadian University Press (CUP).

Bryna Hallam, 2005/06 editor-in-chief of the *Martlet*, has been elected national bureau chief of the student newspaper collective. “I have a strong background in editing,” she says. “This has been a position I’ve been working toward for the last couple of years.”

Hallam, who graduated from UVic last November with a major in linguistics and a minor in professional writing in journalism and publishing,

first got involved with the *Martlet* in 2001. Her first staff position at the paper was in fall 2003 as a contributing editor. In fall 2004, she held the position of senior news editor. Last year, Hallam was the CUP features bureau chief, and she’s currently the western bureau chief.

CUP, which currently has 68 member papers across Canada, has daily and weekly wire services that include news, arts, sports, features, opinion and graphics. The main responsibility of the national bureau chief, says Hallam, is preparing the wire each day and writing and editing stories for it when necessary.

“There have been people from the

Martlet involved in CUP before,” she says. “The *Martlet* is well-regarded in the CUP world, and it has a reputation for not only being a good paper, but for having good people come out of it.”

In 2003, then-*Martlet* managing editor Craig Battle was elected CUP president. In 2005, then-*Martlet* editor Sean Sullivan was elected to the same position.

Hallam, who grew up in Armstrong, B.C., says she doesn’t know what she’ll do after she completes her term as national bureau chief in Toronto (the position runs from July to April), but she’s sure about one thing: “Whatever I’m doing, I want to be writing.”

Campus portal now extends to students

After a month-long introduction to faculty and staff, UVic’s new online portal, uSource, is now available to students.

The portal provides access to on-line UVic information systems, along with the ability to personalize the content to suit individual needs.

What’s in it for students?

The portal will replace ISIS, the student registration system. It will give students access to their personal records such as transcripts and tuition balances in a secure, online venue.

Extensive user-testing was conducted with students before the



launch. Like faculty and staff, they logged in to the portal using personal netlink ID’s and passwords. Unlike faculty and staff, they had (and still have) access to a special “students” tab. The tab contains their personal student records, a list of financial awards and aids, student forms from administrative departments across

campus, a list of important academic dates and a connection to online course tools, such as WebCT.

Students reported that the comprehensive list of online course tools will help them improve communication with faculty and fellow classmates. The “groups” tool, in particular, enables chatting, file-sharing and collaboration. The popular calendar will be especially useful for managing tasks, events and busy social lives.

More portal features will be implemented throughout the next few years as faculty, staff and students increasingly use it to interact and carry out their work.

Ringers

Larry McCann (geography) has won a Hallmark Society Award of Merit for his outstanding work educating students about the value of local heritage and his ongoing contributions to heritage preservation. In a letter of support, Oak Bay Mayor Chris Causton says “Dr. McCann...has done a superb job of communicating his enthusiasm for research... to a whole new generation and he is to be highly commended for his efforts in this municipality and for his untiring devotion to heritage.” McCann received the award on May 2 at the Hallmark Society’s annual awards night.

Four outstanding professors and staff from the faculty of social sciences were honoured in March at the faculty’s annual awards and recognition ceremony. **Stephen Lindsay** (psychology) receives this year’s Teaching Excellence Award. Winner of the Research Excellence Award is **Eric Roth** (anthropology). **Wendy Major** (dean’s office) is the first recipient of the Social Sciences Meritorious Staff Contributions Award and **Bonnie Leadbeater** (psychology) receives the inaugural award for Outstanding Community Outreach.

Education graduate student and high school English teacher **Wendy Muscat-Tyler** is this year’s recipient of the Meyer and Ghita Kron Award for Excellence in Holocaust Education. The Vancouver Holocaust Education Society presents the award to only one B.C. teacher annually. When Muscat-Tyler first prepared to teach *The Diary of Anne Frank* in 1991, she realized she needed to learn more about the Holocaust to truly serve the memory of the book’s author. Since then, Muscat-Tyler has presented papers on her research at Yad Vashem, Jerusalem’s International School for Holocaust Education, and is completing a fellowship in Holocaust education at the Imperial War Museum in London. Muscat-Tyler hopes to design a curriculum for Holocaust education for Grade 8 English classes as part of her master’s studies. *The Diary of Anne Frank* is on the reading list of every Grade 8 English student in B.C.

The division of continuing studies certificate program in business administration honoured an outstanding student and much-loved teacher last month when the first Gary Holtom award was presented to **Bruce Connell** for having the highest overall average in the program. Holtom joined the business, management and technology programs in 2000 following many years of management experience, primarily with IBM. Last year he became very ill and is still receiving care. “We knew Gary was a popular teacher but the ongoing concern and support from his past students has been truly amazing,” says Richard Mimick, director of business, management and technology programs.

Vikes swimmer **Stephanie Dixon** added another award to her already impressive collection on April 29 when she was named Victoria’s Female Athlete of the Year for 2005 at the 39th annual Sports Celebrity Awards Dinner. Dixon, who beat out former Vike and national team member Andrea Rushton (field hockey) and Idaho State University’s Natalie Doma (basketball), has enjoyed great success on the international stage. In October, she was named B.C. Swimmer with a Disability Athlete of the Year and in March received the Martlet Award at the annual Vikes varsity awards banquet for outstanding contribution to the athletic program.

Oceanographer elected to U.S. science academy

University of Victoria oceanographer Dr. Chris Garrett is one of 18 foreign associates—and the only Canadian—recently elected to the U.S. National Academy of Sciences.

The academy is an honorific society of distinguished scholars engaged in scientific and engineering research and is dedicated to the furtherance of science and technology and their use for the general welfare.

Election to the academy is considered one of the highest honours that can be accorded a scientist or engineer. Members and foreign associates are elected in recognition of their distinguished and continuing achievements in original research. Among its 2,000 members and 350 foreign associates are approximately 200 Nobel Prize winners.

Garrett, the Lansdowne Professor of Ocean Physics, joined UVic in 1991 after 20 years at Dalhousie University. He was born in Bude, England, and earned an undergraduate mathematics degree and a PhD in fluid dynamics from the University of Cambridge.

His scientific interests are mostly in the theoretical fluid dynamics

of the ocean, with some emphasis on the processes that lead to ocean mixing. This plays a major role in controlling ocean circulation and climate, and in marine productivity and oceanic waste disposal. Garrett also contributes directly to the evaluation of ocean energy sources such as tidal power.

“Physical oceanography provides a wonderful combination of intellectual challenge and societal relevance,” says Garrett, who has some advice for budding oceanographers. “Students wishing to work in this and most areas of ocean science need to recognize that it’s really a field for post-graduate rather than undergraduate study. A first degree in a basic science or mathematics is almost essential.”

Garrett is a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and of the Royal Society of London, as well as the American Geophysical Union and the American Meteorological Society (AMS). Other awards include an NSERC Steacie Memorial Fellowship (1977-78), a Guggenheim Fellowship (1981-82) and the Henry Stommel Research Award (2001) from the AMS.



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UVic physicists probe the origin of the universe

by Maria Lironi

University of Victoria researchers are playing a critical part in the biggest science experiment in history, currently underway in Switzerland.

Since 1992, UVic physicist Michel Lefebvre has been instrumental in organizing Canada's participation in the ATLAS project, the particle detector component of a massive new proton collider facility being built by the world-famous Laboratory for Particle Physics, or CERN.

In addition, Lefebvre led a \$4.2-million project to design and build a key part of the ATLAS detector. ATLAS-Canada now consists of 80 scientists from 10 institutions, including UVic.

Data produced by the ATLAS project at CERN's Large Hadron Collider (LHC) will be filtered, analysed and stored at the new Vancouver-based ATLAS Data Centre, which received \$10.5 million in funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) last month.

The LHC will be the most powerful and sophisticated particle accelerator in the world,

capable of reproducing Big Bang-like conditions by smashing particles together that have been accelerated to velocities just shy of the speed of light.

A central part of the LHC facility will be the ATLAS detector, an instrument engineered to measure the after-effects of those collisions—information that will allow physicists to study nature at its most fundamental level.

“ATLAS will give us a chance to examine the most fundamental building blocks of nature in the most fundamental of ways,” says Lefebvre. “For a scientist to try and extract the secrets of nature in this way is very exciting, especially since it's so intimately connected to the beginnings of the universe.”

The ATLAS Data Centre will be housed at TRIUMF, Canada's national laboratory for particle and nuclear physics in Vancouver. TRIUMF is owned and operated by a consortium of Canadian universities, including UVic.

Installation will begin this summer, with full-scale testing slated to begin in the early fall. For more information about the ATLAS project at UVic, visit particle.phys.uvic.ca/~web-atlas/.

UVic involved in two national research projects on governance

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) is investing a total of \$5 million in two multi-university Major Collaborative Research Initiatives, both involving UVic.

One of the projects is a five-year initiative to develop models for aboriginal governance that incorporate traditional knowledge and modern scholarship. UVic faculty involved in this project include Jeremy Webber (law), Dr. Avigail Eisenberg (political science), Dr. Michael Asch (anthropology) and John Borrows (law).

The UVic team will play a major role in the project, with Webber and Borrows on the steering committee and Webber heading up a research section.

“This should be a remarkable project because it simultaneously seeks to explore self-government from both an aboriginal and non-aboriginal perspective, bringing the two into dialogue,” explains Webber.

Other members of the research team include 35 indigenous and non-indigenous researchers from 20 different universities across Canada, as well as numerous aboriginal groups.

The second major SSHRC-funded project involves the study of democratic governance and ethnic diversity. UVic's Dr. James Tully (political science) is a member of the advisory committee and Avigail Eisenberg is one of 12 co-investigators working with an international team made up of members from Europe, Asia and Africa and a number of partner organizations. They'll explore the social and political complexities of multi-ethnic societies and look for democratic ways to accommodate linguistic and cultural diversity.

Eisenberg says she is inspired by the prospect of working with “the best and brightest in the world” and “thinking in a coordinated way about how to advance our understanding of democracy from the context of ethnic diversity and conflict.”

The Ethnicity and Democratic Governance Project seeks to develop strategies for improving national and global responses to ethnic conflict and reform institutions in ways that address political instability and potentially violent situations.

Mateer confirmed as associate VP academic planning

Dr. Catherine Mateer has been appointed associate vice-president academic planning for a term of five years, effective July 1. Mateer has been in the position in an acting capacity since last July. Her appointment was confirmed in a ratification vote of more than 96 per cent.

“Dr. Mateer has a track record of success as a teacher, a researcher and as an academic administrator. She has an understanding and appreciation of the diverse methods and approaches to education and research across the university, and a commitment to quality in all of the university's programs,” says vice-president academic Jamie Cassels. “The appointment committee was impressed with her intellectual capacity, breadth of experience, professionalism and commitment to the university.”

Mateer, a board-certified clinical neuropsychologist, earned her undergraduate and mas-

ter's degrees from the University of Wisconsin at Madison and her PhD from the University of Western Ontario.

She joined UVic in 1994 as a professor in the psychology department and the director of clinical training for the graduate program in clinical neuropsychology. Her research interests include cognitive and behavioral rehabilitation, particularly with respect to attention, memory, awareness, and executive functions. She works primarily with adults and children who have sustained traumatic brain injury, individuals with schizophrenia, and cognitive disorders of aging.

Mateer also co-chairs, with associate vice-president academic and student affairs Jim Anglin, the new provost's advisory council, which coordinates academic and support services for the success and well-being of UVic students.



Victoria in 1889.

Uncovering Victoria's secrets

UVic student researchers help bring Victoria's history to life on the Internet

by Debbie Willis

When John Lutz is asked why he teaches web design skills in his history classes, he points to the cardboard boxes stacked in the corners of his office and under the desk.

“Students write papers, and all that original work ends up in boxes like this,” says the University of Victoria professor. “I thought, what a waste.”

Because Lutz wanted the work of his students to be accessible to others, rather than confined to essays, he started Victoria's Victoria, a website about B.C.'s capital during the Victorian era.

The website contains maps of Chinatown and other locations, a history of Victoria's “red light” district in the 1890s, pictures of old Victoria, and much more information about the capital city. “It's about Victoria, for Victoria, and ultimately by Victorians,” says Lutz.

The website was constructed in partnership with Malaspina University College, but consists mostly of student work done for Lutz's classes on local history. Instead of listening to lectures, students do micro-history projects, meaning they study local events to understand the broader currents of the era. They research topics of their choice in local archives, then present their findings on the web.

“I think one of the things we don't do as well as we could at university is make our teaching active,” says Lutz. “I want students to do historical detective work, rather than tell them what other people have found.”

Lutz has been guiding his student sleuths since 2002, when he redesigned his local history class to focus on web and research skills.

“The website is an example of how teaching and research are intrinsically connected,” he says. “In putting it together, the students and I learn. It's a showcase for new and engaging student research, and it's a growing resource for other researchers.”

Victoria's Victoria was officially relaunched last month to celebrate the addition of more student work, as well as a 1,000-page index to the *British Colonist* newspaper (a predecessor of today's *Times Colonist*) from 1858 to 1919.

The website includes links to other online books and resources on Victoria's history, a list of the city's mayors, information on cornerstones and time capsules in many of the city's prominent buildings, and a historical timeline. “Researchers, or the just plain curious,” says Lutz, “can search the site by decade, theme, person or images.”

Lutz is careful to give his students the historical context for their micro-history projects, and doesn't feel that his students learn less than they would in a more traditional class. In fact, he's found that students generally put more effort into the research for their Victoria's Victoria projects than into traditional essays or exams, because their projects will be available to a wider audience.

“The course has really changed my approach to academia,” says Laura Ishiguro, a fourth-year honours student in history. “Much of academia seems inwardly focused. This course encourages students to look outwards.”

And it's not just the students who appreciate the course. Lutz loves to teach it. “History for me is about detective work, solving mysteries,” he says. “It should be fun.”

Visit <http://web.uvic.ca/vv>

More mysteries continued from p.1

Forces and the RCMP. Extensive newspaper articles from the era discuss some settlers' unease with the new arrivals, who Hannant describes as “cultural rather than religious dissidents.” One article describes a public talk given about explosives just weeks before the infamous blast.

Another addition to the “Great Unsolved Mysteries in Canadian History” website is the “Mysteryquest” feature which offers teachers assignments based on the mysteries for younger students. There are three suggested scenarios for the Verigin mystery for students aged 14 to 16. A scenario for

students as young as 11 involves examining how heating methods in 18th-century New France contributed to the devastating 1734 Montreal fire.

The website receives financial support from the Department of Canadian Heritage through the Canadian Culture Online Program. Draw your own conclusions about Peter Verigin's death at www.canadianmysteries.ca.

To find out more about another website project Lutz is involved with—this one with a distinctly local theme—see the feature story above.

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Community-conscious students honoured

by Patty Pitts

Eight University of Victoria students who excel both in and out of the classroom are recipients of this year's Blue and Gold awards. The students are being honoured for their outstanding volunteer contributions to the university and/or the Greater Victoria community while maintaining at least a B average.

Three students—Joseph Akerman, Barbara Harvey and Steven Moore—receive \$2,500 awards while five students, Anna Burianova, André Campos, Cynthia Korpan, Julie Lee and Dylan Robinson, receive \$1,000 awards.

The \$2,500 winners: **Joseph Akerman**, a third-year recreation and health education student, has raised funds for Red Cross tsunami relief and for Cedar Child and Family Services. He mentors first-year aboriginal students, assists with the aboriginal teaching education program and works with the Aboriginal Sports and Recreation Association of BC.

Barbara Harvey, a third-year law student, played a key role in establishing the faculty of law's Environmental Law Centre Clinic as a full-scale legal clinic with a supervising lawyer, a pa-

ralegal and articling law students. She has also donated many hours of volunteer time organizing events to educate the public and students about environmental law issues.

Steven Moore, a fourth-year biology student, is a starting guard and assistant captain for the Vikes men's basketball team, a lab assistant in the school of physical education and a member of the Vikes Varsity Council. He is also an ambulatory care unit volunteer for the Vancouver Island Cancer Centre and a volunteer basketball coach for two teams.

The \$1,000 winners: **Anna Burianova**, a fourth-year microbiology student, is a former member of the national youth volleyball team who now coaches and referees volleyball at the junior, senior and college levels. She volunteers in the Victoria General Hospital emergency room and tutors high school and university students in calculus and chemistry.

André Campos, a residence advisor for over two years, routinely exceeds expectations in his commitment to make first-year students feel welcome on campus. He established the charity "RAs 4 Good" to involve his fellow advisors in the community and

through several events raised over \$9,000 for the BC Children's Hospital Foundation and \$3,000 for the United Way.

Cynthia Korpan, an anthropology graduate student, juggles her studies with volunteering for the Canadian Cancer Society, co-ordinating anthropology student visits to local schools through the "Let's Talk" program, and co-editing *Cultural Reflections*, the anthropology department's peer-reviewed journal.

Julie Lee, a third-year women's studies student, is a director of the UVic Students' Society, a member of the CFUV board of directors, and helped establish the Anti-dote Multi-Racial Women's and Girls' Network. She has also participated as a volunteer in numerous arts, multicultural and activist community organizations.

Dylan Robinson, a fine arts graduate student, has made significant contributions to the Victoria arts community (including as volunteer director of the opera *What Time Is it Now?* with a libretto by PK Page). He also conceptualized and organized a successful international conference on the arts and interdisciplinarity in 2005.

The Blue and Gold awards receive financial support from CIBC.

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Calendarhighlights

Events free unless otherwise indicated. For a complete list of events, see www.uvic.ca/events

At the Galleries

www.maltwood.uvic.ca
721-6562
Seeker, Sentry, Sage: Shades of Islam in Contemporary Art. May 11–June 19. Examines identity of Muslim-Canadian artists. Maltwood Art Museum & Gallery.

Hamlet's Secret Signs. May 9–30. Paintings by Wade Stout based on scenes from Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. McPherson Library Gallery.

Saturday, May 6

Making Tomorrow Conference 12 p.m. Kenote address: *The Seeds of Today Hold the Flowers of Tomorrow*. Mary Gordon, child advocate and parenting expert. Sponsored by the school of child & youth care. Student Union Bldg. Register \$40-\$55. 383-4380

Sunday, May 7

UVic Plant Sale 10 a.m. A wealth of choices from trees and shrubs to annuals and native plants for spring planting. McKinnon Gym. 721-7014.

Tuesday, May 9

CEOR Lecture 3:30 p.m. *Formation Conditions of Copeton (New South Wales) Diamonds*. Lawrence Barron, Geological Survey of New South Wales and the Australian Museum. Elliott 060. 721-8848

Wednesday, May 10

School of Nursing Lecture 3:30 p.m. *Understanding the Hospital Environment and Older People: A Social Ecological Analysis*. Belinda Parke, UVic school of nursing alumna. Celebrating the school's 30th anniversary and 2006 Nurses Week. MacLaurin A144. 721-6333

Saturday, May 13

Symposium 12:30 p.m. Presentations and open discussion with 15 artists involved with *Seeker, Sentry, Sage: Shades of Islam in Contemporary Art* at the Maltwood Art Museum and

Gallery. Guest curator: Astri Wright. Univ. Centre A180. 721-6562

Monday, May 15

2006 Graduate Innovation Forum: 9 a.m. *Bringing Research to Reality While Sustaining Our Social Responsibilities*. Graduate students in engineering present their research in 15-minute talks or poster presentations. MacLaurin A144. 472-4216

Tuesday, June 06

UVic Convocation Ceremony 10 a.m. Social science and law grads. Univ. Centre Farquhar Auditorium. 721-8480

UVic Convocation Ceremony 2:30 p.m. Social science grads. Univ. Centre Farquhar Auditorium 721-8480

Wednesday, June 7

UVic Convocation Ceremony 10 a.m. Humanities grads. Univ. Centre Farquhar Auditorium 721-8480

UVic Convocation Ceremony 2:30 p.m. Business, human & social development grads, diploma and certificate recipients. Univ. Centre Farquhar Auditorium 721-8480

Institute for Dispute Resolution Lecture 12:30 p.m. *Landscapes of the Heart: How Do the Places We Call Home Affect Our Conflicts?* Michelle LeBaron, UBC. Hickman 105. 721-8777

Thursday, June 8

UVic Convocation Ceremony 10 a.m. Science grads. Univ. Centre Farquhar Auditorium. 721-8480

UVic Convocation Ceremony 2:30 p.m. Engineering and fine arts grads. Univ. Centre Farquhar Auditorium. 721-8480

Friday, June 9

UVic Convocation Ceremony 10 a.m. Human and social development grads. Univ. Centre Farquhar Auditorium. 721-8480

UVic Convocation Ceremony 2:30 p.m. Education grads. Univ. Centre Farquhar Auditorium. 721-8480.

Spring/Summer 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, June 8	Tues. May 30
Thursday, July 6	Tues. June 27

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International study explores challenges faced by immigrants

Most people assume that with the effects of globalization it should be easier for educated professionals to migrate to countries such as Canada and work in their chosen professions.

Dr. Oliver Schmidtke, acting director of UVic's European studies program and a leading scholar in European integration, is testing this assumption by researching the challenges immigrants face when they move to new countries and re-enter their chosen professions.

The research project, entitled *Cultural Capital During Migration: Labour Market Integration of Migrants*, is being funded by the German Volkswagen Foundation. It includes an international team of researchers in Canada, Germany,

Turkey and the UK—countries that have all experienced significant increases in immigration levels.

Researchers in each country are studying the key factors that limit immigrants from accessing the labour market and the ways they're being treated. These results will be compared for similarities and differences and then used to improve conditions for immigrants.

Schmidtke is a key member of this international initiative and project leader of the UVic component. His research team is looking for recent immigrants to Victoria to interview for the project. More specifically, the team is looking for people who have immigrated to Canada within the last 20 years and who have a professional degree that

they earned either in their country of origin or in Canada.

If you fit this description and you're interested in taking part in this research and/or you know someone else who might be, contact Beatrice Marry or Mirko Kovacev at 472-5120 or culcapit@uvic.ca. For more information about the project visit <http://culturalcapital.magistudio.com>.

Schmidtke will speak on European integration and migration at the 2006 Biennial Conference of the European Community Studies Association—Canada. The event, hosted by UVic's European studies program, is being held at the Victoria Conference Centre, May 19–20. For more information visit <http://web.uvic.ca/europe/>.

Symposium shines spotlight on youth issues

The University of Victoria's school of child and youth care is holding its first bi-annual symposium, "Child and Youth Care in Action," on May 25 and 26 and members of the on- and off-campus communities are invited to attend.

Faculty members, graduate students, visiting faculty, and alumni will present the latest in research and practice in working with children, youth, families and communities.

Featured keynote speakers include: Dr. Jessica Ball on engaging in community partnerships; Dr. Jim Anglin on working in the field of child and youth care; Dr. Alan Pence on alternative approaches to providing and delivering graduate child, family and social development programs; and Dr. Marie Hoskins on media influence on girls, identity and eating disorders.

Conference participants have a wide choice of workshops to

choose from, including war-affected children, incarcerated mothers, children's mental health, family intervention, youth suicide prevention, youth addiction, the challenges of problematic Internet use, human trafficking, and adventure therapy.

The full program and registration forms are available at www.cyc.uvic.ca/conf/index.php or contact Sandra Curran for at 472-4857 or scurran@uvic.ca.

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Budding businesses get a boost

If you're a student with a cool business idea, UVic's tech transfer office wants to hear about it. Each year, the Innovation and Development Corporation (IDC) holds a business plan competition, the IDC Challenge, which promotes innovation and entrepreneurship among students and provides opportunities to connect with mentors, other entrepreneurs and business experts. The four-month competition is open to post-secondary and Grade 11 and 12 students from across Vancouver Island and begins this month. Last year's winning ideas included a vehicle security system, an automated vending device for the tourist industry, a web-based customer relationship management tool for multi-level marketing, a device for sport fishing, a new approach to video game advertising, and an indoor surfing complex. The second annual IDC Challenge starts with a launch party and information session on Wednesday, May 10 at 6 p.m. at UVic's Vancouver Island Technology Park. Find out more about the event at www.idcchallenge.com/.

Do hospitals give the elderly the attention they need?

When seniors arrive at emergency departments or are admitted to hospitals are they provided the same attention and care as other members of the population? Not always, says clinical nurse specialist and nursing doctoral candidate Belinda Parke. But not for the reasons you'd expect. "Some older adults don't receive the same kind of attention, but not because they're old. Rather, it's because they're different." Parke will speak about her research in an upcoming public presentation on May 10 at 4 p.m. in the David Lam Auditorium. This inaugural presentation of the school of nursing's seminar series marks Nurses'Week and the 30th anniversary of UVic's school of nursing. Parke says the current health care system is geared to dealing with acute situations and making assessments that lead to care in specific areas. This kind of system tends to overlook chronic health needs of older patients who may be frail and vulnerable but not displaying the kinds of symptoms emergency and acute care health providers are trained to recognize and treat.

Trans-Canada odyssey aims to raise trans awareness

UVic social work student Noah Adams plans to spend his summer cycling across Canada—not for the scenery but in memory of former UVic student and staff member Alexandria Tucker. Tucker, a transgendered person, committed suicide last year. Adams and friend Keenan Pinder are undertaking the ride to raise awareness about the challenges transgendered people face and support for suicide prevention programs. "We're not athletes or professional speakers. We're just two rather ordinary guys trying to best celebrate the life of a friend and make life a little bit easier for other trans people," says Adams. "In our speaking engagements across Canada we'll be discussing our experiences as trans people. We hope to help people understand that in our communities, suicide is not due to mental illness so much as it's due to intolerance and hatred." Members of the Trans Cycling Odyssey are seeking sponsors for their initiative. For further information visit www.flyingtrannys.com or contact Adams directly at somethinglikeme@gmail.com.

Decriminalizing pot Down Under

Dr. Simon Lenton, the deputy director of Australia's National Drug Research Institute, will discuss the background, process and evaluation of the decriminalization of *cannabis* use in Western Australia during an upcoming public lecture at UVic. Lenton's main interest is in bridging the gap between drug policy research and drug policy practice. His research has influenced Australia's legal approach to *cannabis*. Lenton's presentation is co-sponsored by the BC Mental Health and Addictions Research Network and the UVic-based Centre for Addictions Research of BC. Dr. Tim Stockwell, director of CARBC and co-leader of the BC Mental Health and Addictions Research, will chair the session and give an overview of the network's activities. The lecture takes place at noon on May 12 in the Clearihue Building, room A127.



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BETH DOMAN

Six-year-old Solomon Schafer bikes to "work" most days with his mom, UVic history professor Dr. Jessica Schafer.

CALLING ALL CYCLISTS!

Spring is sprung, the grass has riz. Bet you're wondering when Bike to Work Week is.

Each year, new and seasoned cyclists jump on their bikes and find a fun way to get to UVic in this popular annual event. This year, Bike to Work Week runs from May 29 to June 4. Over 60 teams (more than 700 people in all) participated in 2005, and this year is already shaping up to be bigger

and better.

Join a team and you may find a new commuting partner to share the road with. Never cycled to work? Take a free cycling skills course to learn the safest techniques and most convenient routes. Various two-hour seminars will be held throughout May; find further details in the campus announcements section of uSource (<https://usource.uvic.ca>).

If you're ready to be a team leader contact Allan Dunlop, TDM coordinator, at 472-5646 or adunlop@fmgt.uvic.ca.

Win prizes, hang out at the cycling support station and get an invitation to the celebration barbeque at the end of the week.

Find out more online. Cycling skills course information and further details can be found at www.transportation.uvic.ca.

UVic centre conducts nationwide survey on workplace health

by Maria Lironi

If you work in Alberta or B.C., you're more likely to have to undergo drug testing by your employer than if you work in any other province.

That's just one of the findings of a study led by Dr. Scott Macdonald at the Centre for Addictions Research of BC, based at UVic.

In the first study of its kind to address all of Canada, Macdonald's group surveyed 565 human resource managers across the nation in 2003. Each manager responsible for 100 or more employees completed a questionnaire on the characteristics of their worksite and types of wellness programs offered at their place of work.

The group discovered that more than 10 per cent of companies surveyed had drug testing programs. Drug-testing was nearly twice as likely to occur in companies that had a U.S. head office (18.2 per cent as opposed to 9.2 per cent if there was no U.S. head office). It was particularly prevalent in companies that dealt with

safety-sensitive primary resources (e.g. mining, forestry), and companies in the transportation, communications, utilities, and construction sectors.

Drug testing was the most prevalent in Alberta (25 per cent) and British Columbia (17.9 per cent), both with abundant primary resources, and least common in Ontario (4.6 per cent).

"What I find most interesting is that the drug testing programs are more ideological than evidence-based," says Macdonald. "Urine tests detect drug users among employees, but the problem is that the tests can't measure or identify current impairment. They can only be used to identify past use."

"For example, marijuana can be detected for up to 28 days, which means that a worker who tests positive may have used it 28 days ago, but it doesn't mean that person is unsafe in the workplace today. Yet the employee may be subject to disciplinary actions."

Along with drug testing programs, the study documented the frequency and factors related to employee assist-

ance programs (EAPs), where employees with substance use, behavioural, or personal problems can receive short-term counselling, and health promotion programs (HPPs), which may include such activities as fitness classes, stress management, and dissemination of health-promoting information.

The study found that most companies had EAPs (67.8 per cent), but they were unevenly distributed across different work sectors, with government most likely to have them and construction least likely. The most common type of HPP was a fitness program and the least common were day/elder care programs.

Macdonald's paper shows whether employers are focusing on prevention, treatment or deterrence. As well, it reveals the role of the private sector in health care and the disparities that may occur in the establishment of workplace wellness programs.

The paper is published in the March/April 2006 edition of the *Canadian Journal of Public Health* and is available online at www.carbc.uvic.ca.



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