



UVic launches Canada's first university-wide community-based research office

By Valerie Shore

University-community partnerships in Canada took a major step forward last month with the official launch of the Office of Community-Based Research (OCBR) at the University of Victoria.

The office is the first university-wide initiative of its kind in the country and is attracting national and international interest from other institutions seeking closer research ties with community groups.

"UVic has a rich history of community engagement," says Dr. Valerie Kuehne, UVic's vice-president external relations. "This new research initiative affirms that commitment and places us in a national leadership role. It's an exciting opportunity to demonstrate what great things can be achieved when communities and universities work closely together."

The OCBR will create and support research partnerships that enhance the social, environmental and economic well-being of communities. It will be a focal point for university faculty and students who are doing or wish

to do community-based research, and an open door for community groups to access UVic research partners. It will also make evidence-based recommendations for new policies, programs and practices to meet community needs.

In most academic research, the idea for the research comes from a scholar and is driven by questions of science and intellectual thought. Community-based research themes originate in the communities themselves, are carried out collaboratively with community groups, and are focused on action-oriented solutions.

"With many of the social, environmental, health and economic issues facing us today we need research that engages those who are working on the front lines," says Dr. Budd Hall, director of the OCBR. "Issues such as homelessness or climate change are best understood and acted upon when those working to find solutions are driving the research."

The OCBR was created after two years of consultation with community groups and First Nations in the

SEE OCBR P.7



SHARON LI

The Victoria Street Women's Art Project (above) was a community-based research partnership between Our Place Society and UVic education professor Darlene Clover.

OCBR to sign new partnership agreements

The University of Victoria's new Office of Community-Based Research is finalizing two formal partnership agreements that will broaden the scope of its work locally and nationally.

An agreement with the United Way of Greater Victoria (UWGV) is the first step toward a long-term research partnership, with a special focus in three impact areas: family and community well-being; housing for the homeless, low-income and poor; and mental health and addictions.

The United Way of Canada will participate in the development of the partnership as a national pilot to determine how United Ways across the country can work with universities to develop research and policy that improve the quality of life of Canadians.

An agreement with the Wellesley Institute in Toronto allows for sharing of databases and skill-building in community-based research at the local and national levels. The institute will also be a national partner in the CUexpo 2008 conference, to be held in Victoria on May 4-7, 2008.

The Wellesley Institute is a non-profit organization that develops research and community-based policy solutions to the problems of urban health and health disparities.



Portrait of Bob Wright by Myfanwy Pavelic

"Gumboot fisherman" gives \$11 million to support ocean and climate science

Oak Bay Marine Group President and CEO Bob Wright has made an unprecedented gift of \$11 million toward the support of ocean, earth and atmospheric research and education at the University of Victoria.

This donation—the largest cash gift UVic has ever received—was announced on June 21. It will enable the university to reach a new level of research in the most critical issue facing the world today—climate change.

"A lifelong passion and affinity for the sea has underscored my concern about the impact of global warming on our oceans," says Wright. "As a community and as a country, we must expand our investment in solid scientific research so we can pass on a

healthy environment for generations to come."

"UVic is a global centre of excellence in ocean, earth and atmospheric sciences, and this generous gift will help take our research and education to an even higher level," says UVic President David Turpin. "Bob Wright's profound generosity is a true example of how an individual and company can go above and beyond to both support the community in which they operate and contribute to the solution of global issues."

The gift is being donated on behalf of the crew who work at the Oak Bay Marine Group of Companies.

Of the \$11-million gift, \$10 million will help fund the new Ocean,

Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Building. Currently under construction, the building will provide synergy and maximize collaborative teaching and research opportunities by bringing together under one roof the university's marine and climate scientists, who have been housed in various locations across campus.

Wright's gift also includes \$1 million to fund student scholarships.

"I have had many UVic graduates and students work with the Oak Bay Marine Group over the years, and I've always valued the education they received there," adds Wright. "The scholarship fund will help more students experience the tremendous

SEE WRIGHT P.6

Legacy Gallery and Café opens downtown

A new addition to Victoria's downtown arts scene opened its doors on July 4. The Legacy Art Gallery and Café, a collaboration between the university and Heritage Realty Properties Ltd, is made possible by the generosity of well-known local benefactor Michael Williams.

Williams passed away in November 2000. He left his estate to UVic, including an extensive art collection and real estate portfolio which includes the building at Yates and Broad where the gallery is located. Williams bequeathed his collection with the express wish that it be made available for public viewing at a downtown location.

The gallery features Pacific Northwest art, as well as an enticing selec-

tion of gourmet café fare.

"Michael wanted to share his passion for art with the people of the city he loved so much," says UVic President David Turpin. "We're so grateful to Michael for his tremendous generosity and his support of teaching, learning, research and culture at UVic and Victoria."

The gallery program will be based around Williams' collection of over 1,000 paintings, drawings and sculptures by some of the most renowned artists of the Pacific Northwest.

The inaugural exhibition, "Michael's World," showcases a number of works by studio artists, many of whom received support from Williams in the early days of Old Town Victoria's artistic revival.

From the 1970s to the 1990s, more than 100 artists and craftspeople were situated in downtown studio space and constituted the core of this revival.

UVic and Heritage Realty Properties, the company that manages much of the property from the estate, including Swans Hotel, are working together to maintain Williams' vision and tradition of combining great food, excellent service and a stimulating setting.

"UVic will provide the art and the expertise to present it in this wonderful new venue, while Heritage will bring knowledge in the hospitality business," says Janina

SEE LEGACY GALLERY P.2



Hollefreund (front) with volunteer Meredith Bingham in the CFUV music library

CFUV volunteer coordinator recognized for supporting inclusivity

By Maria Lironi

Kate Hollefreund, volunteer coordinator at UVic’s student radio station, CFUV, is being honoured by Volunteer Victoria with a certificate of recognition of excellence in volunteer management.

“This award is given to coordinators of volunteers who promote inclusively, diversity, innovation and openness,” says Lori Elder, Volunteer Victoria’s public relations and marketing coordinator. “Kate is winning it because she is very welcoming to volunteers who need a little extra support or have special challenges.”

According to the award citation, Hollefreund’s “ongoing commitment to fostering the integration of volunteers with diverse needs and

abilities has resulted in extremely positive outcomes for clients of both Access and Youth Connections. Our volunteers have worked alongside of university students in a variety of capacities resulting in skill development and increased self esteem. CFUV is committed to honoring and promoting diversity, and Kate plays a fundamental role in actualizing this philosophy—involving people of various ages, abilities and needs. She has been open to having job support staff working alongside of clients with complex learning issues providing an enriching work experience situation.”

CFUV has engaged people with disabilities since the station first started in 1984.

“We’ve had some volunteers

who have been here ten years,” says Hollefreund. “They make a great contribution to the station. In fact, they’re among the best volunteers I have—they’re meticulous, engaged and always punctual. As well, being at CFUV gives them the skills, job confidence and references they need to go on to paid work at other locations.”

Currently, the station has about 15 regular volunteers with disabilities; some with autism, Down syndrome, mental health issues, cerebral palsy, visual impairment and developmental disabilities. They range in age from high school students to people in their 50s. On average they work one or two hours a week. For more information visit <http://cfuv.uvic.ca/> or www.volunteervictoria.bc.ca/.

Moving UVic “Beyond Climate Neutral”

Common Energy, a network of students, staff, faculty and regional partners at the University of Victoria, released a progress report June 12 on its emerging strategy to make the university a leader in the local and regional challenges of climate change.

The report, “Going Beyond Climate Neutral: Planning for Climate Change Leadership with the University of Victoria,” outlines actions and proposals in six key focus areas: creating a local “green” business cluster, reducing the impact of energy use, developing the local sustainable food supply, revitalizing buildings and infrastructure, creating a climate-friendly transportation system, and engagement in university governance and regional planning.

It also includes three overarching projects that bridge focus areas: a climate trust to finance local carbon dioxide reduction projects, a university challenge to support university units in their sustainability efforts, and integration into the curriculum of the goal of going beyond climate-neutral.

“Our work can be boiled down to answering this question: How can we do more to solve the problems of climate change than we do to cause them?” says Jamie Biggar, member of Common Energy and UVic’s board of governors. “The university combines research capacity, creativity and energy with the expertise and knowledge of a massive company, and the physical presence and economic power of a city. That gives us a lot to work with.”

The report focuses on strategies that integrate those diverse abilities. For example, it notes that while transportation is the biggest contributor of direct greenhouse gas emissions in the region, UVic’s transportation demand management strategies have been extremely successful. With interdisciplinary research and a range of partnerships the university could be instrumental in the creation of a sustainable regional transportation network.

The report is authored by dozens of people using a collaborative planning process called Common Ground. “The political climate has shifted toward climate action, and people want to be part of solutions that will make a difference,” says Naomi Devine, a member of Common Energy and of UVic’s senate. “Through our collaborative process, we are engaging the diversity of people we need to create a plan that is both realistic and effective. We are also working with Common Energy UBC, and plan to connect climate change action from universities and colleges across the province.”

Over the coming months Common Energy will expand this process to engage more people, culminating in a conference on Sept. 28–30 where students, staff, faculty and regional partners will finalize the plan.

To read the report or find out more about the project, visit www.commonenergy.org, or contact info@commonenergy.org.



Devine and Biggar



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Legacy Gallery continued from p.1

Ceglarz, Heritage Properties’ CEO. “In the coming years, the gallery will continue to evolve and will provide opportunities for UVic students and faculty to showcase new works and to interact with the downtown public. Heritage Properties is honoured to help continue Michael’s patronage of the arts and culture in Victoria.”

The most recent tenant of the building, Starfish Gallery, opted not to renew its lease, creating the opportunity for this new use of the structure.

In announcing the gallery, UVic is

respecting Williams’ wish that it not bear his name.

Admission to the Legacy Art Gallery and Café, located at 630 Yates Street, is free. The café features menu items such as panini sandwiches, bagel melts, espresso coffee and various desserts. There is also a gift shop. The Legacy Art Gallery and Café’s regular hours are Wednesday to Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. It is also available for private functions.

To view the Williams’ art collection online, visit www.maltwood.uvic.ca/mcw/.

the ring

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Aroundthering

Name the new library café

A new java joint is coming to campus this fall as part of the Mearns Centre for Learning expansion of the McPherson Library. UVic Libraries invites all UVic students, faculty and staff to participate in a contest to name the new café. Please visit the website at <http://gateway.uvic.ca/coffee> before July 20 to submit your suggestion(s). You may enter the contest as many times as you like. The winning suggestion will be chosen by the University Librarian and a panel of judges. The winner will receive a \$50 Housing, Food and Conference Services card to spend at the new café and other food services locations on campus.

More than 600 of you biked to work

Bike to Work Week was a resounding success at UVic this year, with 42 teams and more than 600 people participating between May 28 and June 1. UVic won 13 team prizes, a new rider prize, a commuter challenge prize and eight of 36 team dinner prizes from the Bike to Work Society. Congratulations to the 65 riders who won UVic-sponsored prizes, including Marie-France Laurin from the MacPherson Library, who won the CFUV draw for a \$650 gift certificate to Reckless Bicycle Stores.

Once again, UVic was a gold-level sponsor. New for 2007 was a partnership between SPOKES and UVic that provided loaner bikes to people without cycles who wanted to participate. Eighteen employees borrowed the bikes and seven have decided to keep them for the remainder of the summer.

UVic’s participation in Bike to Work Week was coordinated by the Office of Campus Planning and Sustainability, with the assistance of the bicycle users committee and helps support the key Campus Plan goal of reducing motor vehicle traffic to campus.

Thanks to Thrifty Foods, BC Transit, Old Victoria Water, Island West, Pepsi, Oak Bay Recreation Centre, UVic’s Bookstore and Finnerty’s, IQ Bistro and Cinecenta for their support for Bike to Work Week activities on campus.

Kids invited to participate in Face Camp

This summer, Drs. Jim Tanaka and Ulrich Mueller (psychology) will be conducting research examining face recognition in children. They invite children ages 7 through 9 to participate in Face Camp, a free, fun and educational program at which kids will learn about face recognition through a series of fast-paced hands-on activities and demonstrations by guest scientists and artists. Lunch will be provided and participants will receive a cool Face Camp t-shirt. The July 14 session is booked, but there are still a few spaces available for the July 21 session. For further information, please go to the Face Camp website: <http://web.uvic.ca/~jtanaka/facecamp/>.

Newsmakers

Armed with a report by **Dr. Benedikt Fischer** (Centre for Addictions Research BC), the City of Victoria plans to apply for a pilot project to open up to three safe-injection sites for drug addicts in the BC capital. The report, which considered the experience of dozens of other sites around the world along with data and opinion collected from the local community, says supervised drug-consumption sites prevent overdose deaths and reduce the spread of disease, in addition to steering more people toward detox and rehabilitation. “Such a program will not make sense if the long-term, backup services in terms of detoxification, addiction treatment, resources and care facilities are not available or accessible to the target population,” says Fischer in a *Globe and Mail* article (June 28).

Gigantic ocean waves called planetary waves, spanning hundreds of kilometres from crest to crest, have been speeding up due to global warming, according to a new model by **John Fyfe** and **Oleg Saenko** (Canadian Centre for Climate Modelling and Analysis) reported in *New Scientist* (June 12). “We were really surprised at how quickly the ocean responded to temperature change,” Fyfe says. “We knew we’d see an effect, but we didn’t think it would be significant for at least another two centuries.” The faster planetary waves will have an effect on global weather, he adds.

Mercury levels in lake small-mouth bass and ocean rockfish caught on or around Vancouver Island are up to twice what Health Canada safety guidelines allow, says **Dr. Asit Mazumder** (biology) as reported in the *Vancouver Sun* (June 1). He called for a survey of all BC fish species caught for human consumption to determine if their mercury levels are dangerously high, plus placing labels on fish for sale in stores indicating how much mercury they contain. “It’s only that way,” he says, “that consumers will be able to make safe, healthy choices.”



Lassonde, from a video forming part of her e-thesis

UVic theses and dissertations on the web

Law student wins international e-thesis award

By Robie Liscomb

UVic graduate students can now submit their theses and dissertations electronically and make them immediately available on the web, thanks to a new system implemented by the UVic Libraries and the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

And one of the first electronic theses and dissertations (EDTs) in the system has been awarded an ETD Innovative Award by the Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD) consortium, an international organization dedicated to promoting the adoption, creation, use, dissemination and preservation of electronic analogues to traditional paper-based theses and dissertations. The award recognizes student efforts to transform the genre of the print dissertation through innovative use of electronic formats.

Performing Law

Julie Lassonde, who received her UVic LLM last November, received one of six NDLTD Innovative Awards in Uppsala, Sweden, earlier this month for her e-thesis “Performing Law.”

Lassonde practises both law and performance art, and her thesis, co-supervised by Rebecca Johnson (law) and Lucy Pullen (visual arts),

bridges these two realms. Her thesis takes the form of a website, using text, video and live performance to explore how law is “performed” in daily life through physical acts.

She defines “law” as not just statutes and court cases but as multiple overlapping and conflicting systems of rules guiding social behaviour. Her thesis explores how these behavioural norms are generated, expressed and developed in even the most banal physical gestures of daily life.

Lassonde develops this performative concept of law by enacting narrative situations that explore how people behave toward each other in relation to expected norms. These involve, for example, the gendered space of certain sports activities, how seatmates on a public bus claim their personal space, the negotiating of sexual intimacy, and reacting to annoying or distracting public conversations.

Lassonde is currently running a small enterprise combining law, translation and performance—a direct application of her thesis. Her interdisciplinary practice responds to the need to make law accessible and engaging. Her typical week involves giving popular legal education workshops to community-based organizations, conducting research for NGOs and the private sector, and improvising with dancers and musicians.

To view “Performing Law” on the web, go to UVicDSpace at <https://dspace.library.uvic.ca:8443/dspace/> and enter “Lassonde” in the search box.

For information about workshops and upcoming performances, contact Julie Lassonde at julie.lassonde@gmail.com.

UVic’s EDT system

The new ETD system at UVic provides instant availability of UVic electronic theses and dissertations on the web through Google, Google Scholar, and the CARL Harvester (the Canadian Association of Research Libraries institutional repository search service), and—soon—through the Libraries and Archives Canada Theses Canada Portal. This greatly increases the exposure and dissemination of the research results of UVic grad students.

The use of ETDs also eliminates the need for students to provide multiple paper copies for the library and saves paper and physical storage space in the library.

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Further information is available on the UVic Libraries website at <http://gateway.uvic.ca/lib/dig/uvthesis/index.html>.




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Walker

Weathering a sea of change

The effects of climate change are all too real for residents of Haida Gwaii

Treacherous seas, tempest-force winds, transportation delays, and power outages—these are common inconveniences for residents of Canada’s remote coastal communities. But what will happen as global warming causes more extreme changes and these challenges become a threat to coastal livelihoods and landscapes?

University of Victoria geographer Ian Walker is wrapping up a three-year study on the impacts of climate change in northern Haida Gwaii (also known as the Queen Charlotte Islands) and how its residents are adapting to change.

“There are a lot of strengths in coastal resource-dependent communities that can be built on in the face of climate change, but there are also some inescapable vulnerabilities,” says Walker, who studies coastal erosion and sand dune systems across North America.

Meshing modern earth science techniques with community-based social science methods such as community mapping, workshops and door-to-door surveys, the study is a first step toward solutions for dealing with the environmental and socio-economic implications of climate change.

“The study’s findings are telling of the strengths and the pressures that are facing a lot of Canada’s coastal communities, whether they’re on the Pacific, Arctic or Atlantic coasts,” says Walker.

Some of the results, he says, are quite alarming. The team found that sea levels in Haida Gwaii are rising at a rate of 16 cm per century—twice as fast as sea levels around Victoria.

During extreme storms, sea levels rise at more than twice this rate.

Walker and his team also learned that the coastline is eroding at a rate of one to three metres per year. “This will bring a variety of hazards,” he says. “For example, the coastal highway will see increased flooding and erosion in the next 10 to 20 years.”

How the Haida First Nations people perceive these changes to their landscape and how they have adapted to past changes are important considerations in the study.

“This kind of community-based research demands a great deal of time and preparation, but in the end there is no better way to collect locally relevant data,” says Walker, who spent two years in the area establishing ties with community members before beginning the study.

“You can’t just jet in and be an academic tourist. We strived to ensure our methods were culturally sensitive and locally relevant.”

Through more than 200 door-to-door surveys and community interviews, the team gathered information about exposures to environmental and social changes—including a large number of young people leaving the island, roadways flooding, ferry delays and frequent power outages—and how people have adapted.

The team also learned about the many strengths of the Haida and local residents and how these have helped them cope with change. Some of these strengths include strong social networks to help share burdens or resources, income diversification from arts and crafts and tourism to help supplement seasonal incomes from fishing, and a high

level of preparedness due to experience with past storms.

“When we study a community’s response to natural hazards we typically examine traditional indicators such as levels of education, gender, household income, and access to information technology,” says Walker.

“Communities that lack those things are traditionally viewed as less adaptable or more vulnerable than communities that have those things. However, if you take that approach in remote coastal communities you’re missing a lot of important local factors and considerations.”

Walker’s research program

Ian Walker is a co-lead author of the BC chapter of the Natural Resources Canada assessment of climate change impacts and adaptations, to be released this fall. It discusses current and future risks and opportunities that climate change presents to Canada.

In addition to Walker’s research on Haida Gwaii, he studies wind processes in coastal and semi-arid environments across North America.

Walker’s research is funded by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, the Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation Program of Natural Resources Canada, and the Canada Foundation for Innovation.

Ringers

Award-winning neuroscientist, **Dr. Brian Christie** (Island Medical Program, Division of Medical Science, IMP) has been awarded a Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research Career Investigator Award to pursue research on the mechanisms by which exercise can benefit the brain. Christie joined IMP on July 1 and his research laboratory is now being established at the Medical Sciences Building. Christie received an MSc from the University of Calgary and a PhD from the University of Otago in New Zealand. Postdoctoral work followed with Dr. Daniel Johnston at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston and later with Dr. Terrence Sejnowski at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies in San Diego. Before moving to UVic, Christie spent six years at the University of British Columbia as associate professor of neuroscience. The IMP is a UBC Faculty of Medicine program delivered in collaboration with UVic and the University of Northern British Columbia.

Lorna Crozier, chair of writing, was awarded an honorary doctor of letters in June from the University of Saskatchewan. She has authored 14 books of poetry, including *The Garden Going on Without Us*; *Angels of Flesh*, *Angels of Silence*; *Inventing the Hawk* (winner of the 1992 Governor-General’s Award); *Everything Arrives at the Light*; *Apocrypha of Light*; *What the Living Won’t Let Go*; and most recently, *Whetstone*.

Dr. Robert Gifford (psychology and environmental studies) is the winner of the Environmental Design Research Association’s 2007 Career Award. Gifford, who has specialized in environmental psychology for 37 years, is among the most recognized and respected experts in the field. His textbook, *Environmental Psychology: Principles and Practice*, is praised for its scope and detail. Gifford is the author of more than 60 peer-reviewed articles, and since 2002 has edited the well-respected *Journal of Environmental Psychology*.

Dr. Robin Hicks (chemistry) was recently named a Visionary Under 40 by the Victoria *Times Colonist*. More than three dozen young artists, entrepreneurs, health care professionals, athletes and educators were named to the 2007 edition of the list, which recognizes personal achievement and societal contributions. Hicks, who designs new magnetic materials, attracted international attention earlier this year when he and his research team announced the discovery of a new class of lightweight magnets. The magnets could be used in making everything from extra-thin magnetic computer memory to ultra-light spacecraft parts. Also on the *Times Colonist* list were **Dale Gann**, vice-president of UVic’s Vancouver Island Technology Park, and **Jonathan Kerr**, a UVic alumnus and co-founder of GenoLogics Life Sciences Software Inc., a UVic spin-off company.

Dr. Terry Prowse (geography) has received an honorary doctorate of environmental studies from the University of Waterloo. Prowse is an internationally recognized physical geographer and leading expert on the impact of climate variability and change on hydrology, water resources and freshwater ecosystems in northern environments. He leads the Water Climate Impacts Research Centre, which is jointly sponsored by the University of Victoria and Environment Canada.

Canada Basketball has named former Vikes basketball coach **Ken Shields** winner of the 2007 James Naismith Award. The award, named for the inventor of the game, is presented to honour significant lifelong contribution to basketball in Canada. One of the most successful university basketball coaches in the country, Shields led Vikes men’s teams to seven consecutive national titles from 1980–86 and coached the senior men’s national team from 1988–94.

UVic was well represented at the podium when the Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society (CMOS) held its annual awards banquet in late May. **Dr. Andrew Weaver** (earth and ocean sciences) won the President’s Prize for his pioneering work in Earth system climate modelling. A second President’s Award went to **Dr. Howard Freeland**, an adjunct professor in earth and ocean sciences and a researcher with the Institute of Ocean Sciences in Sidney. One of Weaver’s graduate students, **Dr. Jeff Lewis**, won one of three 2007 Graduate Student Prizes for his contributions to the physics of sea ice modelling. Lewis graduated this June and is now a research associate with the climate modelling group. And Weaver was named a CMOS Fellow for his leadership in the field of global climate research and for his “outreach on behalf of climate research to the wider community.” CMOS is the the national organization for Canadian meteorologists, climatologists, oceanographers, limnologists, hydrologists and cryospheric scientists.

The newly renamed School of Exercise Science, Physical and Health Education is flexing its academic muscles. A faculty member and grad student are recipients of recent awards. **Dr. Ryan Rhodes** received a distinguished scholar award in June from the North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity for early outstanding achievements in his scientific career. Rhodes’s research program is focused on motivation and physical activity, and one of his current projects is addressing the health behaviours of couples who have become new parents. His research is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, the Canadian Diabetes Society and the Human Early Learning Partnership. **Rachel Dean**, a doctoral student in the school, has won an award from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) for her research and an article on aging. Dean’s study addresses why older adults choose to engage in weight training and explores the factors that influence strength training participation in individuals 55 years and older. Dean’s article is expected to be published in the CIHR Institute of Aging e-bulletin.



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Study examines care for seniors with mental illnesses

By Maria Lironi

What does it take to look after an elderly person who has a mental illness or addiction? The answer may come from a team of researchers at the University of Victoria, the Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) and the BC Medical Research Foundation.

An estimated 13 per cent of Canadians are 65 years of age and older, and one out of every five older adults has a mental disorder. In an 18-month study entitled “Understanding the Needs of Caregivers of Mentally Ill Older Adults: Hearing Their Voices To Inform Services,” the team will discover how the program and service needs of caregivers dealing with seniors with mental illness differ from those of caregivers of elderly people suffering from dementia.

The research team is conducting focus groups with the Vancouver Island Health Authority and the Northern Health Region with “informal caregivers”—that is, family, friends, neighbours or others—of any age who help seniors with long-standing mental illness or substance abuse issues. It is also receiving input from service providers.

“Older adults with mental illness are a unique population,” says Dr. Holly Tuokko (psychology, Centre on Aging), the study’s principal investigator. “On the one hand, older adults experience age-related physical, psychological and social changes that individually and together may challenge their mental health,” she says.

“For some, this may result in the development of a mental illness for the first time in late life. For others who have a lifelong mental illness, age-related changes may present new challenges.”

Jane Milliken (Nursing) and the VIHA’s clinical nurse specialist in geriatric psychiatry Bev Wilden are also on the research team. The study’s project coordinator is Dr. Penny MacCourt (Centre on Aging). The \$50,000 study is funded by the Vancouver Foundation and the BC Medical Services Foundation.

Once the study is complete, the research team will share the results with both health authorities so that the regions can tailor their programs and services to meet the needs of informal caregivers. The team will also publish its results in the *Canadian Journal of Gerontology* and the *Canadian Journal of Community Mental Health*.

STEVEN CONNOR



Tremain and some of Tremain Media Inc.’s products

“Momtrepreneur” honoured for promoting child literacy

By Tara Sharpe

University of Victoria graduate Leah Tremain wants more children to have every chance to embrace literature with the same passion as she does. Her love of reading and advocacy for literacy issues have been the guiding forces behind her company Tremain Media Inc., which produces educational multi-media material for schools, universities, libraries, companies and non-profit groups.

After receiving her MEd from UVic in 2003, Tremain established Tremain Media in 2005, and its first production, “Read-TV,” was released that same year. Her company’s recent video is a 22-minute production, “I Love When You Read,” featuring tips for parents on how to help children learn to love reading. It is the perfect example of the community-minded business ingenuity behind Tremain’s company.

In May, the BC Chamber of Commerce applauded Tremain’s entrepreneurial efforts by giving her its first annual Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award.

Tremain has received guidance from the UVic Innovation and Development Corporation (IDC) in support of her business endeavours. Tremain Media is one of numerous spinoff companies helped by IDC.

“IDC has been an excellent resource for us,” says Tremain. “People respect educational material that has strong links to the university community, so when IDC brought its name to my most recent production, that presence was definitely helpful in securing funding for the project. And IDC continues to help us grow by providing a solid base of expertise in accounting, bookkeeping, and more. It’s a very productive partnership.”

“IDC is honoured to be a shareholder in Tremain Media Inc.,” says Dr. Tim Walzak, IDC president and CEO. “Leah’s exceptional business sense and entrepreneurial creativity are excellent reasons for any company or organization to invest in her projects. She is one of many talented people from our university community who are bringing fresh and innovative ideas to the marketplace.”

Tremain is serious about encour-

aging children to read. She thinks of herself as a “momtrepreneur,” balancing the demands of her business while raising her two sons and volunteering for the Campbell River LiteracyNow task force and Campbell River Community Literacy Association. Through IDC, she also provides mentorship to UVic Business Co-op students.

Tremain Media distributes its productions widely through educational and home markets, and over 50,000 British Columbians will receive “I Love When You Read” for free this year through various learning initiatives. It will be included in the stack of reading treats tucked into give-away bags and distributed to new parents through local BC libraries as part of the provincial BC Books for Babies literacy program.

Tremain’s new DVD series “Educational Frontiers” is currently being developed with the participation of UVic’s Faculty of Education.

Further information is available online about Tremain Media (www.tremainmedia.com), IDC (<http://web.uvic.ca/idc>) and BC Books for Babies (www.bcpl.gov.bc.ca/books4babies).

UVIC PHOTO SERVICES



Tuokko (left) and Alice Jean Raffan with their Excellence in BC Healthcare Award

Tuokko shares health care award

Dr. Holly Tuokko (psychology, Centre on Aging) recently received one of five inaugural Excellence in BC Healthcare Awards from the Health Employers Association of BC. The awards honour excellence and innovation in BC’s publicly funded health care community and recognize exceptional health care employees who provide quality care and support to the people of British Columbia. Five Awards were presented in four categories, selected from 143 nominations from across BC and Tuokko is one recipient of the Top Innovator-Affiliate Award.

Tuokko and Alice Jean Raffan of Central Care Corporation were recognized for their work in the development and implementation of an innovative new health care model that focuses on supporting seniors living with persistent mental illness. Until recently, psychogeriatric patients could only be treated at Riverview Hospital. Now, at Central Care Corporation’s Sandringham Care Centre in Victoria, 46 patients are receiving care. Under the leadership of Central Care, a new model of care was introduced in partnership with UVic, the Vancouver Island Health Authority and the Central Care Corporation.

For more information about Tuokko’s research visit <http://web.uvic.ca/psyc/tuokko/>.

IDC helps found eight new spinoff companies

UVic’s technology transfer office launched eight new spin-off companies in the 2005/06 fiscal year. The Innovation and Development Corporation’s (IDC) mandate is to move research conducted by university students, faculty and staff into the public and private sectors through partnerships, licensing of technologies and the formation of new spin-off companies.

In 2005, IDC expanded its services to Camosun College, Royal Roads University, Malaspina University-College, and North Island College. To date, with IDC’s help, these institutions have a combined total of 91 projects under way.

The new IDC companies range from developers of robotic and underwater technologies to producers of cellphone and educational software.

Cortex Mobile Media commercializes cellphone software.

Dynamic Systems Analysis (www.dsa-ltd.ca) specializes in subsea robotic controls.

FloraPure BioSciences will produce and purify proteinaceous molecules (components or molecules of plant or animal tissue) from floral nectar and honey. These molecules will have uses in medicinal and cosmetic applications. The company is currently in research and development mode.

Master Underwater Technologies Inc. (www.masterunderwatertech.com) develops innovative underwater technologies,

Sportmeter Technologies Inc. (www.puttmeter.com and www.powerstriker.com) develops innovative products for the golf and karate markets. It is IDC’s first spin-off company originating from Malaspina University-College.

Tactics Design Corporation (www.fishtactics.com) develops information products for the sportfishing market.

Tremain Media Inc. (www.tremainmedia.com) makes multi-media educational materials for children. See the article on Tremain Media (above).

Zola Design (www.zoladesign.ca) creates and manufactures unique “green” lamp covers for fluorescent lighting.

As of March 2007, IDC had filed more than 270 national and international patent applications, helped incorporate more than 50 university spin-off companies and received more than 410 invention disclosures.

For more information, see the IDC website at <http://web.uvic.ca/idc/>.

Wright continued from p.1

benefits of a UVic education.” Wright modestly describes himself as “just a gumboot fisherman who sells fish hooks for a nickel apiece.” However, he has built the largest sport fishing operation in North America. Today, the Oak Bay Marine Group includes resorts, marinas and attractions in Canada, the United States and the Bahamas and employs over 1,000 staff and management. Over the years, Wright has served BC and Canada through activities such as being a director for the Victoria Marine Resources Centre and a commissioner for the Canada–Pacific Salmon Treaty. He is a life member of the International Association of

Aquatic Animal Medicine and the Explorer’s Club. Wright has also been active in the Victoria community, including such initiatives as the placement of the original totem pole in Beacon Hill Park, spearheading the original City of Victoria’s Heritage Program and serving as a director for both the Victoria Symphony and Art Gallery. He has served as vice-chair of BC Ferries, managing director of the BC Steamship Company, and was instrumental in the creation of Chinatown’s Gate of Harmonious Interest. In 2000 the University of Victoria awarded him an honorary doctorate of laws.

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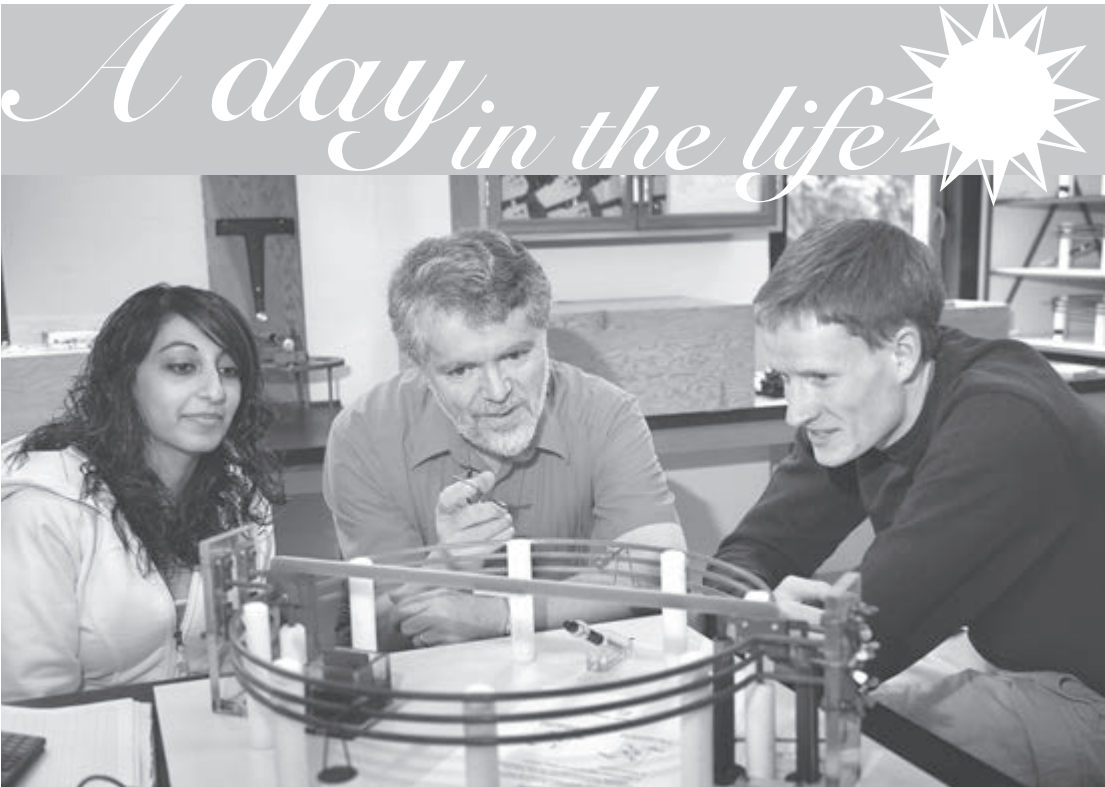
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Rosa (centre) in the lab with students Mandeep Saroya and David Chapman

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF DANILO ROSA sees him surrounded by students doing experiments. Rosa is a senior lab instructor in the Electricity and Magnetism Lab working primarily with second- and third-year physics students. “Unlike faculty, we routinely interact one-to-one with the students,” says Rosa. “Lab work is a big component for them—they spend half their time doing labs. But our jobs remain somewhat in the background. We kind of like it that way.” There is more specialization by lab instructors now than when Rosa started 27 years ago, and he feels that this benefits the students. “We are encouraged to develop new ways to explain concepts, new technologies and new software.” He and Don

Stenton, a former colleague, won an award from the American Association of Physics Teachers for a new way to analyze and display magnetic fields. The opportunity to innovate is very satisfying, but working with students is most rewarding, he says. “I have a very positive view of the ways students are changing. I’m not sure how the high schools do it, but students are more confident and there is more collaboration between them.” He notes the gender ratio in physics has changed with more women now. “Maybe that’s part of the difference.” Born in Italy, Rosa came to Victoria from Montréal. “We came for a vacation, and I was hired as a temporary sessional while my wife was

enquiring about taking courses.” A parent of two daughters, Rosa says what he does at work and at home is related. “Raising children is all about education. Our table conversations can get pretty weird, as physics jargon creeps into them.” Rosa also likes to read about art and practises in tempera and acrylics. One of Rosa’s annual highlights is the summer Science Venture camp for children in grades 2 to 6. “I change my holidays around so I can do demonstrations for the kids,” he explains. His office door is covered with pictures and letters from some of the budding scientists. He recalls one young girl who, at the end of the session, solemnly told him: “I have found my purpose in life: solid state physics.”

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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

Fine Furniture 20 Year Retrospective. To Aug. 20. The Maltwood Art Museum and Gallery is pleased to present an exhibition of fine art furniture from graduates of Camosun College's Fine Furniture Program. McPherson Library Gallery, Main Floor. 721-6562

Cascadia: Studio Furniture from Oregon, Washington, British Columbia and Alaska. To Aug. 20. A Fine Furniture Society juried collection of fine studio furniture from the Pacific Northwest area. Jurors focused on the Northwest Coast to highlight the quality furniture makers of the area and

showcase the particular historical and geographical influences of the region that have contributed to the unique quality of design. Maltwood Art Museum and Gallery, University Centre. 721-6562

Michael's World: A Generation of Studio Artists in Old Town Victoria. To Dec. 1. A selection of works from the university's Michael Williams Collection, including pieces by many artists supported by Williams in the early days of Old Town Victoria's artistic revival. Legacy Gallery and Café, 630 Yates St. 381-7670

Tuesday, July 31

Lansdowne Lecture 7:00 p.m. *Crystals—Facination Materials in the Age of Information Technology.* Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Georg Müller, professor and head, Crystal Growth Laboratory, Department of Materials Science, Friedrich-Alexander University, Erlangen, Germany. Engineering and Computer Science Bldg., room 123. 721-8898.

When is the next Ring?

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 ucum@uvic.ca) or entered into the online calendar (www.uvic.ca/events). For information call 721-7636.

Publication Date	Copy Deadline
Thursday, September 6	Wednesday, August 29

OCBR continued from p.1

Victoria region and across Vancouver Island. It is guided by a 16-member steering committee composed equally of university and community members and an 11-member advisory committee of national and international experts and practitioners.

UVic has a large number of nationally and internationally respected leaders in community-based research in such fields as environmental studies, health promotion, coastal studies, assistive technologies, Indigenous and cultural studies and education.

The OCBR will have a special focus on partnerships with First Nations communities. "Aboriginal studies at UVic and elsewhere is one of the fields where the commitment to community-based research is strongest," says Hall.

Although the concept of community-based research is not new, universities and communities, as well as research funders and governments,

are increasingly interested in "mobilizing" research knowledge to solve societal problems.

"UVic has made a commitment to civic engagement, placing it at the forefront of Canadian universities," says Hall. "We're working with others across the country and around the world to promote community-based research as a new source of energy for local, national and international well-being."

Upcoming activities of the OCBR include: a seminar series for faculty and students on community-based research with Aboriginal communities (September–December); skill-building workshops (January–April, 2008); and CUexpo 2008 (May), a national conference on community-university partnerships, co-hosted by UVic.

For more information on the Office of Community-Based Research visit www.uvic.ca/ocbr.

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721-2441

Bob Reimer

UVic staff walk the talk on wellness

By Angela Voht

How excited can you get about walking? Wildly enthusiastic, if you're a part of the "Walk Across Canada" wellness initiative that has got UVic staff walking from Victoria to major cities all over Canada—that's virtual walking of course.

While pedometer-based walking programs are the hub of many wellness programs across corporate North America, the UVic initiative, spearheaded by Student and Ancillary Services, has departments on a walking spree that has brought 175 staff members on 16 teams together, having fun around common goals while creating important dialogue

around wellness.

While some teams have finished, others are still wending their virtual way across the country, and you can track their progress on the web at <http://stas.uvic.ca/staff/walking/>.

"It's been really good for our office," says Michelle Maynard of Housing, Food and Conference Services. "Our manager, Gavin Quiney, really stepped up and got involved and his enthusiasm and support fired everyone up that much more." That enthusiasm—plus an early start—is what got the team on the virtual road to St. Johns and back by April 16—well ahead of the other teams.

Upon reaching each capital city,

departments held celebratory draws with prize winners receiving small tokens of appreciation for their involvement. The website heralded the walkers' arrival in each city too, with geographic and cultural facts, even including the howl of wolves welcoming them to Whitehorse, Yukon.

Sara Wegwitz from the Health Services team gained insight into the way that team spirit increases a sense of community at work. "Some of us even got family members getting their own workplaces involved. It was really a fun event that we all enjoyed and benefited from."

The UVic initiative was coordinated by Julie Sanders of Career Services.

UVic starts conversation about healthy habits for undergrads

As first-year students get ready to begin their new life and studies at UVic, the university is turning to parents to help start the dialogue about healthy lifestyles.

The university recognizes that parents can have a significant influence on the choices that first-year students make. So this summer, UVic is mailing parents of first-year students coming from Canadian high schools a package of information to help students make a healthy transition to university life.

It includes information about UVic's smoking policy, communicable diseases, and support resources avail-

able through UVic Health Services.

The package also includes "A Parent Handbook for Talking with University Students about Alcohol," by Dr. Rob Turrisi of the Prevention Research Centre at Pennsylvania State University. Turrisi pioneered the concept in the US of engaging parents to reduce negative behaviours associated with drinking and young people leaving home. UVic is the first university in Canada to embrace this innovative approach by delivering a Canadian version of the handbook to the family homes of incoming first-year students.

The UVic Students' Society (UVSS)

has already voiced its support for the campaign and Turrisi has endorsed the handbook's use by UVic.

"More than a year ago, we decided this handbook would be the right thing for parents of first-year students, so it's very rewarding to see the packages going out in the mail this month," says Dr. Jim Anglin, associate vice-president academic and student affairs.

In September, UVic student affairs, the UVSS, and numerous others involved in student life across campus will be working hard to help students begin their new life at UVic on a positive note.

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Construction closes part of Ring Road during July and August

Four new campus buildings are under construction at the University of Victoria this summer, which means some detours will be in effect.

Scheduled to open in 2008, the new facilities will meet the needs associated with increasing student enrolment, and provide essential research, learning and office space. Underground heating, water, gas, electrical, sewer and treated waste water services for the new buildings will be installed this summer.

As a result, Ring Road inbound from the Cedar Hill Cross Road intersection to Finnerty Road is closed to vehicles during July and August so that sewers can be redirected from the Oak Bay system to the Saanich system. Campus parking lots 1, A, B and C are also closed. The nearest alternative parking is available in lot 5 off Sinclair Road behind the student residence buildings (see UVic parking map at www.uvic.ca/maps/parkingmap.html).

Alternative access for cyclists is available via the path adjacent

to the main University Drive entrance. Campus Security Services staff (phone 721-6683) can, with advance notice, assist those with mobility impairments to access campus buildings. Commercial delivery vehicles can access the southern portion of campus via the Finnerty Road entrance (at the intersection with Ring Road), where a flag person will be stationed.

Other projects require temporary disruptions of campus pedestrian paths in July and August, particularly in the area near the Sedgewick and new Social Sciences and Mathematics buildings.

A map and more information about campus construction activities are available on the UVic website at www.uvic.ca/construction. For more details, contact UVic Facilities Management at 721-7616. Visit www.uvic.ca/sustainability for more information on the university's sustainability initiatives, including sustainable building practices.



Facilities Management Project Officer Bruce James shows off the arching columns at the front entrance of the new Social Sciences and Mathematics Building. Made from laminated beetle-killed pine, the columns are one of many sustainable features in the new building.

Increased library hours

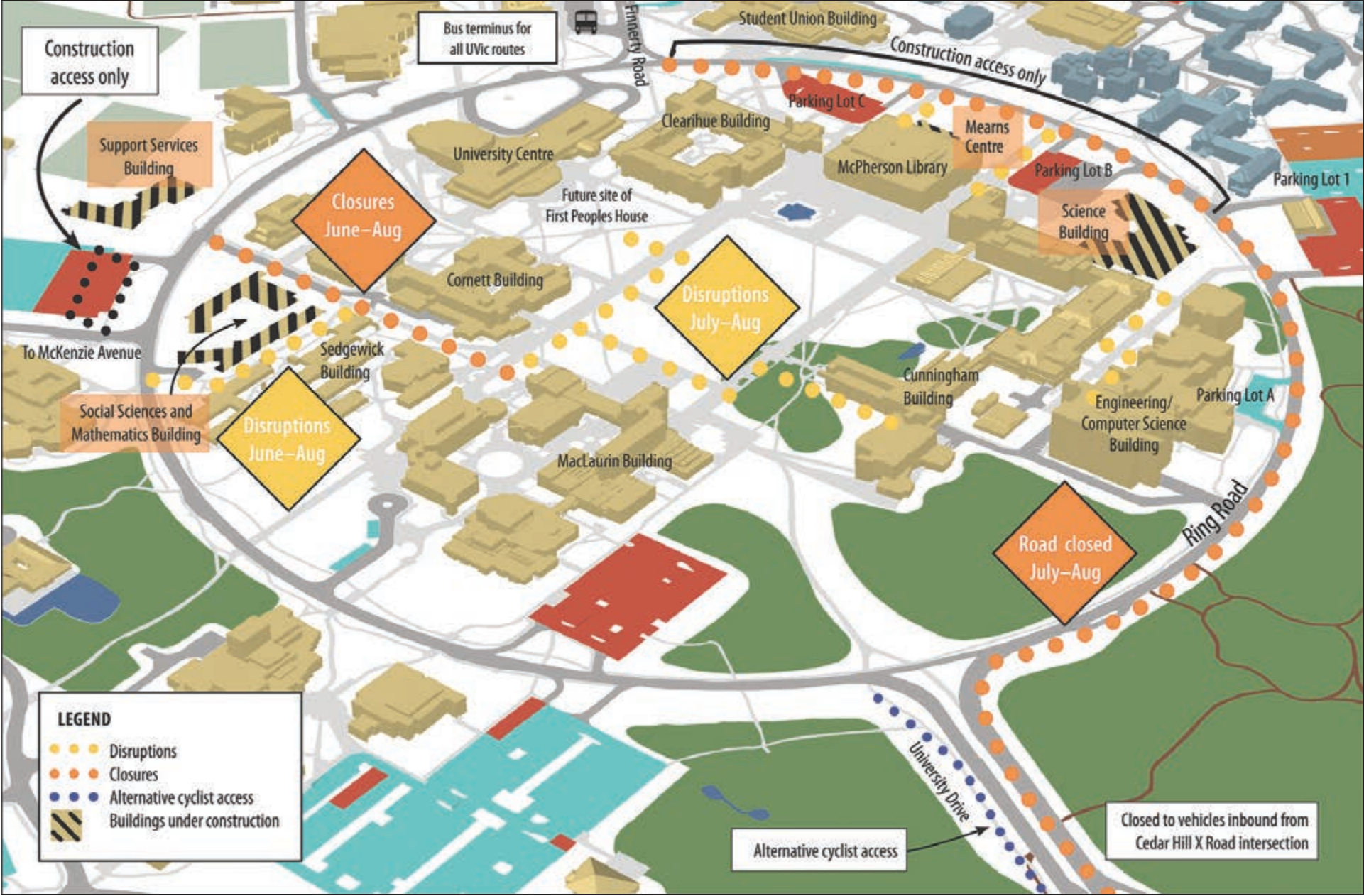
You're now able to spend more of your evenings and weekends in libraries on campus, as of July 1. In response to user requests, the libraries have increased their hours of service thanks to new 2007/08 base budget funding provided by the Vice-President Academic and Provost.

The McPherson Library
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Effective September 1
The McPherson and Priestly libraries
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Friday 7:30 a.m.–9:00 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m.–9 p.m.
Sunday 10 a.m.–11 p.m.

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For more information about university libraries, visit the website at <http://gateway.uvic.ca/>



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To the Division of Continuing Studies' **Certificate Program in Aboriginal Language Revitalization** on winning a **CAUCE Program Award** for 2007.

The program provides a responsive and accessible opportunity for First Nations and other participants to strengthen their understanding of the dynamics and implications of language loss while building their capacity to develop and implement language revitalization activities within their communities. It was initiated in 2003 through a partnership between the En'owkin Centre, an Aboriginal post secondary education centre in Penticton, British

Columbia, and the University of Victoria through its Department of Linguistics and the Division of Continuing Studies. The original concept for the program was proposed by the division's Cultural Resource Management Program as it recognized the importance of language as a fundamental and highly endangered keystone of cultural identity in First Nations across Canada and beyond.

Visit the program at www.continuingstudies.uvic.ca/calr/

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