



## Ethnoecologist awarded Killam Research Fellowship

by Valerie Shore

What patterns of ecological knowledge lie buried in the traditional ways that Indigenous Peoples perceive, use and care for the natural resources around them?

Dr. Nancy Turner (environmental studies) will spend the next two years finding out. She's one of 10 Canadian researchers recently awarded a prestigious Killam Research Fellowship for 2007.

Administered by the Canada Council for the Arts, the fellowships support distinguished Canadian scholars who have established an outstanding reputation in their area of research and who are engaged in projects "of broad significance and widespread interest."

The award is worth \$70,000 a year and allows UVic to release Turner from teaching and administrative duties so that she can concentrate full-time on her research. The fellowship term begins in January 2008.

Turner is a leader in the study of plant knowledge and traditional plant use by First Nations in Western North America. Over the past 35 years, she has worked closely with BC First Nations elders—her teachers, collaborators and friends—to document their knowledge and understanding of plants, ecology and use of natural resources. The work is helping to perpetuate traditional knowledge and customs that have been threatened by cultural and lifestyle changes.

In recent years, Turner has delved into ethnoecology, a relatively new field of study which looks at the linkages between ecosystems and social systems. For her Killam research project, she'll examine "overarching" patterns of ecological knowledge that define Indigenous cultures in Western Canada.

"These patterns will give us insights into cultural and ecological relationships, past and present, that have existed among Indigenous Peoples," explains Turner. "There are many lessons to be learned as we seek ways to restore threatened ecosystems and to renew and revitalize Indigenous cultures and languages."

The patterns Turner uncovers will help inform policymakers as they address the impacts of industrialization, urbanization and globalization on traditional and local food systems.

"For example, we can learn and possibly reinstate some of the approaches that First Peoples have developed to maintain and enhance their food resources," Turner explains. "We can identify focal species and habitats and work to regain the cultural profile they once held, to increase their productivity and, in doing so, can support Indigenous Peoples in their efforts to maintain healthy diets and healthy environments."

Turner is the author or co-author of dozens of articles, monographs and books including *Plants of Haida Gwaii* (2004), *The Earth's Blanket, Traditional Teachings for Sustainable Living* (2005), *Plant Technology of British Columbia First Peoples* (1998), *Food Plants of Interior First Peoples* (1997) and *Food Plants of Coastal First Peoples* (1995).

Among Turner's many honours are the Canadian Botanical Association's Lawson Medal for lifetime contributions to Canadian botany (2002) and the R.E. Schultes Award (1997), which is considered the top international award in ethnobotany. She is a member of the Royal Society of Canada and the 2006 winner of UVic's Craigdarroch Gold Medal for Career Achievement in Research.



DIANA NETHERCOTT

### A banner year for UVic co-op

Biology Co-op students Ingrid Sorensen (left), and Whitney Ayers display two of the banners that were created as part of the Co-operative Education Programs' 30th anniversary. Ayers and Sorensen were two of the winners of a co-op-run contest where students submitted image ideas to represent each of the 13 co-op program areas. Ayers and Sorensen received first prize for Biology Co-op for their image of a bee and a flower.

## UVic joins elite group of accredited business schools

The University of Victoria's Faculty of Business has been awarded the EQUIS Quality label, an achievement that places it among the top-tier business schools in the world.

"This is a significant achievement," says University President Dr. David Turpin. "It increases our international reputation and connections and distinguishes our business education as among the best in the world."

The European Federation of Management Development only grants accreditation, known as the European Quality Improvement System (EQUIS), after a rigorous examination process which includes self-assessment by the school and independent confirmation through interviews with

students, faculty, staff, university executive and the business community. EQUIS is the leading international system of quality assessment, improvement and accreditation of higher education institutions in management and business administration.

"In today's competitive environment, students and employers can rely on this as a symbol of excellence," says Dean of the Faculty of Business Dr. Ali Dastmalchian. "We have a unique business school here at UVic offering personal, exceptional service with academics, business associations and international opportunities that are world class."

"This was a two-year process for us, and I really want to thank the

university community and our wonderful students, professors and staff for their support and endorsement of the faculty as a world-class provider of business education and research."

The fundamental objective of EQUIS is to raise the standard of management education worldwide. Accredited institutions must demonstrate quality in all dimensions of their activities, from programs to research to business connections, as well as a high degree of internationalization. UVic Business has more than 45 international partner universities with more than 70 per cent of its undergraduates and all of its MBA students

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## Online access to social sciences, humanities research to be enhanced

Canadian university researchers and others interested in the social sciences and humanities will soon have greatly enhanced online access to information in these fields thanks to \$25 million in funding announced Feb. 8 by the Canada Foundation for Innovation.

The funds will support two complementary projects. One, called Digital Content Infrastructure for the Human and Social Sciences, will receive \$19.1 million over three years to provide researchers at 67 Canadian universities with electronic access to key research materials from around the world.

The funding was awarded to

the Canadian Research Knowledge Network (CRKN), a consortium of Canadian universities that provides its members with desktop access to a wide range of research content through licensing and purchase agreements with publishers.

The project will enable over 800,000 faculty and graduate students to draw upon a wealth of digital journals, databases and other scholarly content in the humanities and social sciences. The project will be based at the University of Ottawa. UVic's share of the funding is \$152,000.

CRKN currently provides online access to more than 2,200 electronic

journals and research databases in the natural and health sciences. UVic President David Turpin currently serves as chair of CRKN.

The second project—Synergies: The Canadian Information Network for Research in the Social Sciences and Humanities—will receive \$5.8 million to bring to the world the best of Canadian research in these fields. It will create a national network to produce, store and provide public access to Canadian-produced digital content, including journal articles, datasets, theses, conference proceedings and

SEE CFI P.7



VALERIE SHORE

Turner at Hartley Bay showing some crab apples.





Black

# David Black named UVic Distinguished Entrepreneur of the Year

By Dianne George

Newspaperman David Black, president of Black Press, has been named the 2007 UVic Business Distinguished Entrepreneur of the Year. The annual award acknowledges an inspirational entrepreneur who has had a significant and positive impact on the community through his or her business leadership.

Black's publishing empire began in 1975 with the purchase of a weekly newspaper in Williams Lake. Black Press Ltd. is now Canada's largest privately-owned newspaper company with more than 150 papers in Western Canada, the Pacific Northwest, Ohio and Hawaii, and includes 17 printing operations in North America and extensive web publishing operations. The company is headquartered in Victoria and has about 4,000 full-time equivalent employees. Annual

revenues will surpass the \$500 million mark this year.

"David Black was instrumental in getting UVic Business established at the University of Victoria," says Dean of the Faculty of Business Dr. Ali Dastmalchian. "He served as the first chair of our advisory board and helped guide the development of the school's vision and direction. David is a wonderful role model for our students."

"David Black is a respected and well-known entrepreneur and business leader," adds David Schneider, chair of the faculty's board of advisors. "He is admired by so many because of the success he has had in building Black Press in a very competitive industry and doing so in a quiet and always professional way. He epitomizes the term 'first-class gentleman.'"

The Vancouver-born Black earned a civil engineering degree at UBC and an MBA at the University of

Western Ontario. He chaired the 1994 Commonwealth Games Bid Committee and recently completed a three-year term as chair of the BC Progress Board.

A five-member panel of Faculty of Business board of advisor members assessed the nominees' vision, entrepreneurial drive and impact on the Canadian and global economies before choosing Black.

Past winners of the Distinguished Entrepreneur of the Year award include Gwyn Morgan, who established EnCana Corp. as the country's largest energy company (2006); Dave Ritchie, chairman of Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers (2005); and Jeff Mallett, former president and chief operating officer of Yahoo (2004).

Black will receive the award at a gala celebration on April 18 beginning at 6 p.m. at the Victoria Conference Centre.

# Institute to challenge conventional thinking about disabilities

Commitment to social change has led Studies in Policy and Practice graduate students Rachel Gold, Tamara Herman and Crystal Gartside to team up on a new initiative at UVic called "Engaging Disability 2007." The social action institute aims to challenge our views on disability and shed light on contemporary issues surrounding the meaning of disability. Over a nine-month period the institute will involve students, community members, government employees, non-profit organizations, university faculty and the public in workshops,

research seminars, a lecture series, performance and film series, art exhibits, a community book club and a summer institute.

The project was conceptualized by Dr. Pamela Moss, associate dean of research in the Faculty of Human and Social Development and professor in the interdisciplinary graduate program Studies in Policy and Practice. "I wanted to bring together research, teaching and activism in a new and exciting way that would encourage all interested people to be part of the project," Moss explains. With col-

leagues and graduate student Rachel Gold, they secured funding from a number of sources across campus and in just three months "Engaging Disability 2007" became a reality.

The project will kick off with an opening panel on March 12 at 7 pm. "Engaging Disability: From Advocacy to Action" will feature five experts from Victoria, Vancouver and Toronto on a panel moderated by UVic Lansdowne Professor on Social Policy Dr. Michael J. Prince.

A complete listing of institute events is available at [www.uvic.ca/disinst](http://www.uvic.ca/disinst).

# The art and science of engaging students

As part of the University of Victoria's commitment to maintaining and enhancing the quality of teaching and learning in undergraduate programs, first- and fourth-year students were asked to participate in the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) in 2006 for the first time.

The NSSE survey measures the extent to which students engage in effective educational practices related to academic learning, personal development, student satisfaction, retention and completion. Student engagement is a key predictor of student learning and success, and can be used as an overall measure of educational quality.

Approximately 60,000 students from 31 Canadian universities and 270,000 students from 526 American institutions responded to the survey. At UVic, 4,940 first-year and fourth-year students were randomly selected to participate, with 2,635 completing the online survey.

The participation rate of UVic students (53 per cent) in the survey was higher than the average for students at similar Canadian universities (43 per cent). The level of student engagement at UVic was comparable to that at other Canadian universities, and fourth-year students were typically more engaged in their studies than first-year students.

In addition to student engagement questions, the NSSE survey asked students to evaluate their overall educational experiences.

Eighty-six per cent of UVic students felt their entire educational experience was "excellent or good." Eighty-seven per cent would "definitely or probably choose UVic again if starting over."

The NSSE data will be used to inform university and academic planning and to enhance the quality of students' classroom experiences. Several objectives in UVic's strategic plan, such as broadening students' experiences through experiential learning and community engagement, are grounded in the concept of student engagement.

"The results of this and other surveys show that we do provide a challenging and engaging educational environment and that our students appreciate their experience here—but also that there is room for improvement and many opportunities to further enhance our students' experience," says Vice-President Academic and Provost Jamie Casels. "A number of new initiatives to address student engagement are already underway at the university through the Learning and Teaching Centre and in the faculties. Over the next year we'll be exploring a variety of initiatives to deliver on our strategic plan's commitment to provide the highest quality education for our students, and we'll continue to use the NSSE survey to measure our progress."

To view the complete report of the 2006 NSSE survey online, visit <http://www.inst.uvic.ca/surveys.html>.


## EQUIS continued from p.1

gaining an international experience through exchange, study terms, international co-op work terms or an MBA international management exercise.

Accredited business schools must also demonstrate strong connections with the business community. UVic Business maintains close ties with the business community through its board of advisors, its required co-operative education program and its unique executive mentor pro-

gram where both MBA and BCom students can be matched up with a mentor.

Launched in 1997, EQUIS has now accredited 105 management schools worldwide. On Feb. 27, UVic Business joined the five other EQUIS-accredited business schools in Canada: UBC's Sauder School of Business; Queen's School of Business; Western's Richard Ivey School of Business; and ESG UQAM and HEC Montréal in Quebec.



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# Sea Change

Forum examines the health and future of the oceans

By Jennifer Cador

Are we killing the world's oceans? That's the troublesome question addressed by nine international experts along with delegates from around the globe at the Oceans Forum, sponsored by the University of Victoria and RSC: The Academies, Feb. 21 and 22. Vigorous debate and discussion revealed a healthy diversity of opinion, but one key message shone through: worldwide, the oceans are in crisis.

## Fishing down the food chain

UBC's Dr. Daniel Pauly sounded the alarm in his keynote address, while simultaneously offering hope for the future in discussing whether societies have gone too far in mining fish from the sea. In his capacity as director of the Fisheries Centre at UBC, Pauly reassured an audience of close to 700 people at the Farquhar Auditorium that there is no "point of no return" for the oceans, but cautioned that the world has much fewer fish than it did before the onset of industrial fisheries. That drastic change means, among other things, that fishers are catching smaller and smaller fish, and species not previously sought, a phenomenon known as "fishing down the food web."

"In the past," Pauly explains, "there were lots of large, long-lived predators and small populations of small fish." In other words, large fish such as tuna are disappearing and we're left with smaller ones such as anchovies, although Pauly points out that anchovies and other smaller fish are just as edible as larger ones.

Government subsidies to de-

pressed fishing industries are bad news too, Pauly says, because they encourage overfishing by paying fishers to continue plying their trade when stocks are depleted. Of course, telling fishers they can't fish can have serious social consequences too, as explained by Professor Renato Quiñones of the University of Concepción in Chile, who described the riots and protests that took place in that country when the jack mackerel fishery was closed.

## Aquaculture, pro and con

Aquaculture isn't necessarily the answer either. Often a source of controversy, aquaculture, according to Pauly, breaks down into two types: good and bad. The good involves the raising of herbivorous fish. But the carnivorous fish we raise in BC, such as salmon, need fish meal. "The use of fish to feed other fish is not a solution to our fish supply problem."

Examined from another angle, though, aquaculture starts to sound more promising. Dr. Harald Rosenthal from the University of Kiel in Germany says it has potential as a system to feed the hungry and, in addition, fish can be cultured for biomedical research purposes. The potential exists as well for synergies with other ocean industries. For example, aquaculture could be combined with offshore wind farms to create energy.

The secret to success, says Rosenthal, is regulation. Growth must be managed. Rosenthal says the future for aquaculture is with rising powers like China, with North America and Europe playing smaller roles as drivers of quality and standards.

## Offshore energy development

If aquaculture as a commercial enterprise hits a sore spot with the public, offshore oil and gas development provokes perhaps an even more intense reaction. Dr. Graham Shimmield of the Scottish Association for Marine Sciences told a skeptical audience that ocean damage from oil and gas exploration in the North Sea has been minimal.

Shimmield concedes there have been problems in the past, such as oil discharges, but says now these rarely exceed established limits of 40 mg/L. Where there have been spills, Shimmield says disturbed areas are small—about 0.3 per cent of the spatial area of the Norwegian shelf—and environmental assessments are now required before drilling can take place.

## Changes in ocean chemistry

One of the central stressors impacting our oceans today, however, is carbon dioxide—the same gas that is primarily responsible for global warming. UVic's Dr. Andrew Weaver, one of the authors of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report presented in Paris last month, is passionate and convincing when he says the amount of carbon in our atmosphere now dwarfs anything the Earth has seen in the last 650,000 years.



Weaver says we're on track to heat up 2.5 – 3° C by 2100, which coincidentally, is the critical threshold for the melting ice sheet that covers most of Greenland. Any warmer, warns Weaver, and the ice sheet is gone.

Stanford University's Dr. Ken Caldeira says high carbon emissions are essentially killing off coral reefs, although he shies away from predicting their extinction. High carbon levels in the atmosphere combine with water molecules, causing the oceans to become acidic and corrosive to corals. Corals need calcium carbonate to form their shells, but the acidification process takes away the necessary building blocks. Even more alarming, Caldeira says many species of plankton are threatened by ocean acidification because they, too, make calcium carbonate shells. Since they are the first link in the ocean food chain, their disappearance would have dire consequences for entire marine ecosystems.

Caldeira is clear on what needs to happen. "If we're really going to address both the climate and the ocean acidification problem, the goal needs to be to eliminate carbon dioxide emissions from our energy sector."

Weaver points out that meeting the Kyoto targets is not going to do it. "We're not talking about 6 per cent reductions. We're talking about 60–90 per cent reductions by 2050, sooner rather than later."

If carbon emissions are a problem, so is a lack of oxygen in the oceans. Hypoxic zones are areas of ocean that don't have enough oxygen to support much life, and Dr. Lisa Levin of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography

says there has been a tremendous increase in the number of hypoxic zones in the last 50 years. Dead zones are even worse. These are areas where fish have either died or left. A big dead zone, covering over 2,600 sq km, has just opened up in the last five years off the coast of Oregon.


There is reason for optimism, though. "Hypoxia is actually controllable through nutrient regulation, and there's a lot of work in progress to try to cut down nutrients coming into our estuaries," Levin says.

## What is to be done?

But if our oceans are in trouble, who's responsible? Dr. Barbara Neis of Memorial University of Newfoundland says we need to look at current philosophies underlying fisheries management.

"Our governments are increasingly giving fish stocks to corporations or fishermen who are in turn selling them off to corporations," Neis explains. "The goals and mandates of governments and business are different and non-transferable. Government is legitimately responsible for the stewardship of this country—its people and its resources. The business of business is profit."

In the end, we come back to the basic question: are we killing the world's oceans? Animated and occasionally emotional discussion concludes that our oceans are in trouble and to avoid future catastrophe, we need to act now—by demanding action from political leaders, by insisting on accountability, and, ultimately, by re-evaluating the impacts of our own lifestyles.



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## Public Issues Community Forum

# Engaging Disability 2007

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A free community forum to explore, broaden and re-conceptualize dominant understandings of disability, brought to you by Studies in Policy and Practice, Faculty of Human and Social Development, in cooperation with the Division of Continuing Studies. Further sponsorship for this panel is provided by the Office of the President, Office of the Vice-President Research, Equity and Human Rights Office, Diversity Advisor to the Provost, and the University of Victoria's faculties of Education, Humanities, Law, Science and Social Science.

### OPENING PANEL SESSION

#### Engaging Disability: From Advocacy to Action

March 12, 2007, 7 to 8:30 pm

Senate Chambers (Room A180), University Centre  
Registration not required, seating is on a first come basis, so please arrive early to ensure a good seat. The venue is mobility accessible and there will be simultaneous visual interpretation.

University  
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Continuing  
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For more information visit: <http://web.uvic.ca/disinst/>

- Seven-week Lecture Series, March 19 – May 7
- Two-week Summer Institute in June
- Fall session university course for graduate and senior undergraduate students, September – December 2007
- Film Series, April – November 2007
- Community Book Club (dates to be announced)
- Art exhibits in local venues (dates to be announced)

Community members will be able to register for individual workshops and research seminars through the Division of Continuing Studies commencing March 15, 2007.





Akins in Cusco, where her foundation supports post-secondary education for 20 Peruvian youth

# Student’s foundation offers hope, renewal

By Beth Haysom

Shuttles are flying in Peru’s Patakanca Valley where visitors flock to scoop up the intricate multi-coloured tapestries, scarves, wallets and purses created by traditional Quechuan weavers.

But during a trip to the area last year, UVic student Ashley Akins was shocked to discover that these traditional crafts are seriously threatened by consumers’ insatiable demands.

“Tourism is both a blessing and a curse. It’s too bad,” says Akins, a third-year student in environmental studies and Hispanic studies who originally went to Peru to volunteer and brush up her Spanish language skills.

Weavers are not getting fair prices for their laborious work, she explains. Worse, in their haste to sell the work of their elders, younger people are not learning the skills to keep the traditional Incan crafts alive.

“Because knowledge of weaving is passed by oral tradition, within one generation the skill could be lost,” says Akins.

Now Akins is determined to help turn this around through “Mosqoy,” a foundation supporting business and educational projects, which she has established to mend the broken threads in the weaving communities.

Akins’ mission through Mosqoy —“to dream” in the communities’ indigenous language—is to “educate, preserve and connect.” She hopes to accomplish this through Proyecto

Colibri (Project Hummingbird) and Banco de Jovenes (Youth Bank).

“The hummingbird is a powerful Andean symbol representing regeneration and rebirth to a new life,” says Akins. “My goal is to create this connection between North America and Peru.”

To this end Akins buys the woven products, hand made of 100 per cent

“Because knowledge of weaving is passed by oral tradition, within one generation the skill could be lost.”

natural materials, and sells them at three times the purchase price. One third of the proceeds is returned to the weavers, another third goes to projects chosen by the communities (including a school to revitalize textile handicrafts) and another third goes to the Youth Bank to fund 20 students annually to attend post-secondary studies in Cusco, the nearest city.

“There is a lack of professionals in the Patakanca Valley. Only 5 per cent of the young people go on to university or technical school,” says Akins. “Through Banco de Jovenes, students’ tuition is covered if they agree to return to the valley to practise. In turn a portion of their income returns to the fund to help others.”

The first 20 students are beginning this month, and Akins can hardly wait to see their progress. She is returning to the area in June to buy more weavings, develop more community contacts and help select the next group of Youth Bank sponsored students.

Akins is currently spending most of her free time finding Canadian venues for the Peruvian weavings, which range from \$10 to \$180 for purses, wallets and tapestries, and is also seeking sponsors and grants for the Youth Bank.

It’s about more than just selling the textiles for Akins who wants to “bridge the gap” between producers and consumers. “It’s not just a pretty wall hanging,” she says. “We want to connect people to the weavers — their names, their families, the hours it takes to make a particular tapestry, the plants they hand-picked to dye the wool. Every piece of weaving tells a story.”

As well as selling textiles, Mosqoy hosts events, photographic exhibits, forums, assemblies and slide shows. For more information visit [www.mosqoy.com](http://www.mosqoy.com) or contact Akins at [agakins@uvic.ca](mailto:agakins@uvic.ca).

## Aroundthering

### Desert race raising money for breast cancer

Rob Mackay, (athletics and recreation) is training for the Gobi March, a grueling seven-day race across China’s Gobi desert. Mackay, who has competed in more than a dozen ultra-marathons across North America and one in the Sahara desert, is captain of the three-member Canadian team that will compete in the 250-km self-supported footrace. “We are taking on this challenge in an effort to raise awareness for breast cancer prevention and research, as each of us has been touched by the disease,” says Mackay. “Even though our team is inexperienced, I think we have a great opportunity to finish first because extreme ultra adventure races are unlike anything else in the sporting world; they are totally unpredictable.” For more information or to donate to the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation, visit [www.teamgobi.com](http://www.teamgobi.com).

### Cancer survivor brings groundbreaking theatre to Victoria

Local volunteers are helping a three-time cancer survivor bring her groundbreaking live theatre performance to Victoria. Jonna Tamases, an actor who has been treated for Hodgkin’s disease, large-cell lymphoma and breast cancer, has turned her experience into a funny, uplifting performance that conveys a message of power and joy. *Jonna’s Body, Please Hold* shows one night only, Sat. March 24, at 7:30 p.m. at the First Metropolitan United Church, 932 Balmoral Road, Victoria. The UVic Equity and Human Rights Office and the UVic Department of Women’s Studies are among the show’s sponsors. Net proceeds from the performance will be donated to the BC Cancer Foundation. Tickets are \$20 and are available at Munro’s Books (1108 Government Street), the BC Cancer Foundation (third floor, BC Cancer Agency, 2410 Lee Avenue) and online at [www.bccancerfoundation.com/jonnasbody](http://www.bccancerfoundation.com/jonnasbody). For more information, call 250-598-9634 or visit [www.jonnasbody.com](http://www.jonnasbody.com).

### No foolin’ at the Family Centre

How often do you get to enjoy pizza and ice cream for breakfast? Everyone is welcome to the UVic Family Centre’s the fourth annual “No Foolin’ Breakfast,” Fri., March 30, 7:30–9:00 a.m. at the corner of Finnerty Road and Lam Circle. Come and celebrate the wonderful diversity and energy that families and children bring to campus life. There will be music, games, free breakfast, prizes, balloon animals, face painting, henna and more. Info: 472-4062 or [web.uvic.ca/family-centre](http://web.uvic.ca/family-centre).

### The Healing Power of Pie

Once again, the UVic engineering Order of Pi is raising money with its “Cream Pie a Friend for Charity” event. From March 12–16, a donation of at least \$10 from an “accuser” will bring a team of musical monks, equipped with the latest in medieval pieing equipment, to a location chosen by the accuser. Should the accused be found guilty of the charge, he or she will receive a cream pie in the face. To be found innocent, the accused must donate \$5 more than the previous donation and lay charges against someone they know to be deserving of the justice of Pi. The Order of Pi has been an annual fundraiser of the UVic Engineering Students Society since 1993. All funds raised go to the Queen Alexandra Hospital for Children, with an additional \$2 for each pie ordered going to the Mustard Seed Food Bank. For more information or to book a pieing visit [www.engr.uvic.ca/~pi](http://www.engr.uvic.ca/~pi) or call 721-8822.



## Prospective students to test drive campus

One weekend—two options, that’s what prospective University of Victoria students will be offered in late May when “Experience UVic” and “Destination UVic” team up to offer high school students a taste of campus life.

On May 26, Grade 12 students with offers of admission, their parents, and other high school students curious about student life are invited to “Experience UVic” through a half-day program of tours, events and information sessions. The event is free, and interested students will soon be able to register online.

This year “Destination UVic,” the popular sneak peek at campus life that includes a stay in residence and visits to local tourist attractions, is being held the same weekend as “Experience UVic” to give students two options for checking out the campus.

For more information on both events visit [www.uvic.ca](http://www.uvic.ca) and click on the licence plate. If you’d like to join the fun and share your enthusiasm for UVic as a volunteer at “Experience UVic” contact Melana Mar at 472-4618 or [mmar@uvic.ca](mailto:mmar@uvic.ca).



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# Translating learning into practice:

Student Mentorship at the Aboriginal Health Research Group

By Liz Estey and Ashley Heaslip

A political science background may not look like the typical route into Aboriginal health research. But when we realized the strength of drawing on our UVic political science undergraduate degrees to make connections between society and health, we found ourselves at the doorstep of the Aboriginal Health Research Group (AHRG).

The AHRG began in 2005 and has since been headed by leading researchers in the field of Aboriginal health, including Drs. Jeff Reading and Andrew Kmetic. By engaging in community-based research and developing partnerships with academics and Aboriginal communities, the AHRG pursues a strong commitment to chronic disease research and capacity building.

Recognizing our interests in issues related to Aboriginal health, such as HIV/AIDS and ethics, the AHRG took us under its wing and provided us with unique and powerful opportunities to expand our university learning beyond the books.

Mentorship from AHRG staff has helped us, as non-Aboriginal young women, understand the importance of collaborating with communities in ethically responsible and culturally appropriate ways. Through AHRG's community-based research lens, we have also learned that knowledge of disparities between the health of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples is only useful if it can be used and applied by those affected. Connecting knowledge gained from research with practice has been broadly termed "knowledge translation." Understanding the importance of ethical research in the quest to improve the health of Aboriginal peoples and restore Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal relations, AHRG has made knowledge translation a priority.

The need to attend to knowledge translation is particularly visible when considering Aboriginal health research in a colonial context. The continued application of traditional research practices, which exclude Aboriginal peoples from the research and policy processes, hinder knowledge translation efforts that seek to develop dialogue and trust between researchers and Aboriginal communities.

I, Liz, have been deeply engaged with the AHRG's work in the area

of knowledge translation. Starting in the summer of 2005, my work with Drs. Reading and Kmetic has focused on examining the connection between research and practice in the context of Aboriginal health. My first individual project in this area was to develop a literature review on knowledge translation. I co-presented this paper in March 2006 at the National Indigenous Knowledge Translation Summit. This was a valuable opportunity to share my ideas with key Aboriginal health researchers, elders, and community leaders. From these experiences, I was inspired to pursue my current interdisciplinary master's degree at UVic, looking at knowledge translation in both theory and practice. In June, I will be presenting some of the preliminary findings of my master's research at the International Union on Health Promotion and Education (IUPHE) Conference in Vancouver.

When I, Ashley, walked in the door of AHRG in December 2006, I was looking for advice on graduate studies. I was overwhelmed to receive not only this advice but also an opportunity to work with AHRG before beginning my master's degree in September 2007. I began working for AHRG in January, and I have had the opportunity to research and write on global indigenous HIV/AIDS issues, which directly relates to my master's thesis work. Recently, I attended the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network's Community-Based Research Conference which was an enriching opportunity to learn from the communities I hope to work with in the coming years.

Looking out from the doorstep of AHRG, we see opportunities for community and academic engagement that will benefit the health and well-being of both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples in respectful and innovative ways. We have been challenged by AHRG to look beyond the books and engage with communities to find innovative solutions to emerging Aboriginal health issues. We will carry this vision of engagement forward into our academic and personal futures.

Further information and a copy of Estey's knowledge translation presentation to the National Indigenous Knowledge Translation Summit are available on the AHRG website: [www.ahrg.uvic.ca/](http://www.ahrg.uvic.ca/).



L-R: Wood, Welsh

## Telling the stories of missing Aboriginal women

Documentary by women's studies prof has UVic premiere

By Amy Geddes and Joy Poliquin

When UVic women's studies professor and celebrated Métis filmmaker Christine Welsh set out to tackle her latest project, she knew exactly where she wanted to focus her energy. For the past several years, Welsh had been following news coverage about missing Aboriginal women from Vancouver's East Side and other Canadian cities, and always felt that something vital was missing. But it wasn't until she saw a 2004 news report confirming the discovery of the DNA of missing Aboriginal woman Dawn Crey at a Port Coquitlam farm that something clicked.

Welsh identified a lack of coverage about the missing Aboriginal women's personal stories and felt compelled to put a human face to the tragedy. She set to work on a two-year project that would take her across BC and Saskatchewan, into the homes of many of the missing women's families and, ultimately, on a journey of hope. The result of her efforts is the feature-length National Film Board documentary *Finding Dawn*, an Amnesty International Film Festival award winner that tells Dawn Crey's story as well as the stories of two other missing Aboriginal women.

"I wanted to contribute to the conversation that's taking place around the issue of missing Aboriginal women and why our deaths and disappearances go unnoticed," says Welsh. "This film gives voice to our friends, and our relatives, about what it's like to be an Aboriginal woman in this country."

Welsh was assisted throughout the production of *Finding Dawn* by history co-op student Jessica Wood, who spent two work terms as a production assistant on the film. Wood, who comes to UVic from the Gitksan Nation, wanted to take her degree to the next level and work on a tangible project. "I didn't want to just focus on the historical narratives of Indian-White relations at first contact," she says. "I wanted to look at the histories we're experiencing now, such as the issue of violence against Aboriginal women." Wood realized her goal of gaining hands-on experience—she and Welsh spent time engaging with members of their own Aboriginal communities, assisting with foot searches for missing women, and connecting with community members of Vancouver's downtown East Side before ever turning on the camera.

Both women hope that the film will also have a lasting effect on audiences and inspire hope for the future.

"I've always felt strongly that if you're going to tell a story, no matter how dark it is, you have to leave people with some hope," says Welsh. "Our people have incredible beauty and strength and resilience and that's part of the story too."

As the first feature-length documentary film on missing Aboriginal women in Canada, *Finding Dawn* has been part of a growing movement of awareness and activism around the issue. The film premiered last fall at the Amnesty International Film Festival, where it won the Gold Audience Award, and has also been shown at the Seattle Human Rights Festival and the American Indian Film Festival in San Francisco. This spring Welsh and Wood will travel to New York to screen the film for the UN Commission on the Status of Women.

The Victoria premiere of *Finding Dawn* will take place March 21 at 7 p.m. at UVic's Farquhar Auditorium. The evening will open with the Saanich Singers and will include a question-and-answer session with Welsh and film participant Janice Acoose, professor of English at the First Nations University of Canada. Visit the film's website at <http://communications.uvic.ca/media/findingdawn.php> for more information.

## Review of administrative processes under way

Ever wished life was a little simpler? It soon could be for faculty members whose administrative responsibilities at the university have increased in recent years. An administrative processes task force, a joint initiative of the university administration and faculty association, has been struck as part of a broader initiative to streamline university work processes.

Committee chair Mary Anne Waldron explains that "there's a sense that many university processes, such as reporting and financial processes and research administration, could be more efficient. Finding ways to make

these things easier for faculty will free up time for their primary responsibilities of teaching and research."

The committee's first tasks are to identify priority issues and outline a work plan in a preliminary report in May. Waldron encourages staff and faculty to contact committee members with ideas of processes they feel could be simplified. "I think this review will result in really positive changes. Even if we can free up a few minutes a day for faculty, we'll have accomplished a lot."

If you have questions or feedback, email [vpaccoop@uvic.ca](mailto:vpaccoop@uvic.ca) or contact

any of the committee members: Mary Anne Waldron, chair (associate vice-president, legal affairs); Rebecca Johnson (professor, Faculty of Law); Rachael Scarth (director, Office of Research Services); Gary MacGillivray (chair, Department of Mathematics and Statistics); Peter Driessen (professor, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering); Tom Pedersen (dean, Faculty of Science); Murray Griffith (executive director, Financial Services).

Updates on the review process will be available on the VPAC website at <http://web.uvic.ca/vpac/>.



Estey and Heaslip at the AHRG offices



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NATO must change role in Afghanistan

UVic expert provides "realistic report"

By Christine Roulston

While last week Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced \$200 million in reconstruction aid for Afghanistan, many experts are questioning NATO's effectiveness in the country where, since 2001, the organization has assisted the Afghan government in establishing authority in the turbulent area.

A new report released March 1 by UVic's Dr. Gordon Smith says NATO must change its course in Afghanistan in order to achieve sustainable peace and a representative government in the country.

Smith, executive director of UVic's Centre for Global Studies and former deputy minister of foreign affairs and ambassador to NATO, completed the report over six months with the help of a team of experts from across Canada.

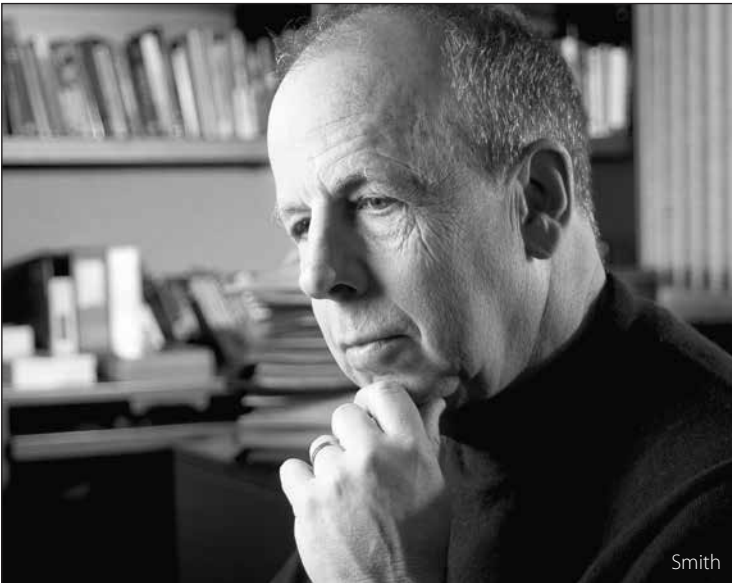
Smith says he was motivated to provide a realistic report to illuminate the current debate about Canada's role in Afghanistan, something he describes as woefully uninformed.

"People seem to fall into two groups," he says. "Those who believe we need to support the mission all the way and those who believe Canada should get out right away. Both are wrong."

But Smith can sympathize with Canadians' seemingly simplistic views of the war in Afghanistan. "In all my years in government, I have not grappled with a tougher issue," he says.

The report, prepared for the Canadian Defence and Foreign Affairs Institute (CDFAI), a think tank pursuing authoritative research to ensure Canada has an influential voice in the international arena, provides a pessimistic look at NATO's role in Afghanistan.

The report recommends NATO find a way of negotiating with ele-



JO ANN RICHARDS

ments of the Taliban. It also questions whether there is adequate co-ordination in Afghanistan between military activities and civilian relief in the zones of conflict in the South.

Smith cites several problems with the mission to date, such as the lack of resources being expended by NATO and other members of the international community on the mission in Afghanistan.

"If you look at the resources given to the Balkans compared to the resources given to Afghanistan, 25 to 50 per cent more was devoted to the number of military and the amount of development assistance for the Balkans. That's a major problem."

The report details how the Taliban are deeply entrenched in Afghanistan and are organizing themselves for a new offensive, in part because of assistance flowing in from Pakistan. There are also signs al-Qa'ida is attempting to reconstitute itself in Pakistan.

"Meeting NATO objectives requires some form of political resolution within Afghanistan," says Smith. "It also requires Pakistan playing a more positive role by facilitating negotiations with those Talibs not deter-

mined to fight to the bitter end."

Smith highlights one group in particular, the Pashtun, a people living on the border with Pakistan, as key to the Taliban. "Even if you have more resources devoted to the mission, if the Pashtun don't feel they are adequately represented in President Karzai's government, it will cause problems."

The report also criticizes the government's poppy eradication campaign designed to cut down on illegal narcotic production. Smith says farmers in rural regions of Afghanistan have no other means of supporting themselves, and their poverty and discontent is leading to alliances with the Taliban.

He suggests the crop should be sold through a marketing board and processed for opiate-based medicine.

"Things have to change," says Smith. "And change has to come from the inside to fight things like the corruption that is so prevalent in the country right now."

The complete report, "Canada in Afghanistan: Is it Working?" is available online at www.cdfai.org.

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Calendarhighlights

Events free unless otherwise indicated. For a complete list of events, see [www.uvic.ca/events](http://www.uvic.ca/events)

### At the Galleries

[www.maltwood.uvic.ca](http://www.maltwood.uvic.ca)  
721-6562

**Touching Ground: Mexico to British Columbia.** Until March 30. A collection of works highlighting Mexican and British Columbian landscapes. Maltwood Art Museum and Gallery.

**Artists at Work: Photographs of BC First Nations by Ulli Steltzer.** Until June 1. Black and white portraits of North West Coast carvers, weavers and other First Nations artists. McPherson Library Gallery.

### At the Theatres

[www.phoenixtheatres.ca](http://www.phoenixtheatres.ca)  
721-8000

**Crackpot** March 15-24. By Rachel Wyatt. A spirited immigrant girl overcomes poverty and exploitation to find hope and renewal.

Friday, March 9

**Music** 12:30 p.m. *Fridaymusic*. School of Music Chamber Ensembles. MacLaurin B125. **721-7904**

**Lansdowne Lecture** 1:30 p.m. *Hamlet's Truth*. Prof. Marshall Grossman, leading Miltonist, literary-historian and psychoanalytic critic. Strong C116. **721-6331**

**Centre for Global Studies Lecture** 5:30 p.m. *Human Rights—Human Wrongs*. Sally Armstrong, award-winning documentary film maker and journalist. Sponsored by the International Women's Rights Project. Fraser 159. **721-7656**

Tuesday, March 13

**UVic's Let's Talk Science Lecture** Noon. *What is "Stroke"?* Island Medical Program students present the underlying science of stroke.

### 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 [ucom@uvic.ca](mailto:ucom@uvic.ca)) or entered into the online calendar ([www.uvic.ca/events](http://www.uvic.ca/events)). For information call 721-7636.

Publication Date	Copy Deadline
Thursday, April 5 .....	Wednesday, March 28
Thursday, May 3 .....	Wednesday, April 25



## Upcoming Events

Mar 10	Women's Rugby—Ravens 1st Div at UVic Wallace Field	11:30 a.m.
Mar 10	Men's Rugby—Veloxs Valhallaans at UVic Wallace Field	2:45 p.m.
Mar 17	Women's Rugby—Cowichan 1st Div at UVic Wallace Field	11:30 a.m.
Mar 17	Men's Rugby—Capilano at UVic Wallace Field	2:30 p.m.
Mar 17	Men's Field Hockey—Island Selects at UVic Turf	4:00 p.m.
Mar 24	Women's Soccer—Spring Cup at UVic Centennial Stadium	6:00 p.m.
Mar 24	Men's Soccer—Spring Cup at UVic Centennial Stadium	6:00 p.m.
Mar 25	Women's Soccer—Spring Cup at UVic Centennial Stadium	6:00 p.m.
Mar 25	Men's Soccer—Spring Cup at UVic Centennial Stadium	6:00 p.m.



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Medical Sciences 150. **472-5543**

Wednesday, March 14

**UVic Editorial Style Guide Workshop** 10 a.m. Introduction and overview of UVic editorial style. MacLaurin D111. Register **721-8587**

**Lansdowne Lecture** 4 p.m. *Secularism in Multicultural Canada: A Political Issue or Anachronism in the Charter of Rights?* Danièle Letocha, specialist in Renaissance and classical philosophy. Strong C116. **721-6325**

Friday, March 16

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

**Music** 8 p.m. *University of Victoria Chamber Singers*. Bruce More, conductor. MacLaurin B125. \$12. **721-7904**

Wednesday, March 21

**Studies in Religion & Society Lecture** 4 p.m. *Race-ing Religion / Regulating Sexuality: Same-Sex Marriage Debates in Canada*. Roshni Narain, UVic Graduate Student Fellow. Strong C116. **721-6325**

**Film** 7 p.m. *Finding Dawn*. Directed by acclaimed Métis filmmaker Christine Welsh, *Finding Dawn* puts a human face to the tragedy of missing Aboriginal women. University Centre Farquhar Auditorium. Free admission, to guarantee a seat, book by calling **721-8480**

Friday, March 23

**Music** 12:30 p.m. *Fridaymusic*. School of Music students in a program for various instruments. MacLaurin B125. **721-7904**

Saturday, March 24

**Theatre** 7:30 p.m. *Jonna's Body, Please Hold*. A one-night fundraiser for the BC Cancer Foundation. Jonna Tamases, an actor who is a three-

time cancer survivor has turned her experience into a funny, uplifting performance. Sponsored by UVic Equity and Human Rights Office and Dept of Women's Studies. First Metropolitan United Church, 932 Balmoral Rd. \$20 **598-9634**

Sunday, March 25

**Music** 2:30 p.m. *String Chamber Music*. Students from the studios of the Lafayette String Quartet. MacLaurin B125. **721-7904**

Thursday, March 29

**Women Scholars Lecture** 7 p.m. *The Virtues of Violence: the Ampitheatre, Gladiators, and the Roman System of Values*. Dr. Kathleen Coleman, Harvard Univ., Clearihue A201. **721-8514**

Friday, March 30

**UVic Family Centre** 7:30 a.m. *No Foolin' Breakfast*. UVic students, staff, faculty and families are invited to the centre's 4th annual No Foolin' event! Family Centre near Lam Circle and Finnerty Rd. **472-4062**

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

**Exhibit** 4–7 p.m. *Engineering students design project showcase*. Senior electrical, computer and software engineering students display and demonstrate their projects. Engineering Lab Wing lobby. Free, open to the public. **853-3259**

Haveyoursay

Survey measures library satisfaction

How do you rate the UVic libraries? Campus opinions are being polled this month via an e-mail to 3,000 randomly selected students and faculty inviting them to participate in LibQUAL+™, a web-based survey of library services. The survey, which takes about 15 minutes to complete, is being implemented by the Association of Research Libraries and will enable UVic to compare its findings against benchmarks for library services. Participants who respond by the March 18 closing date are eligible to win **\$100 UVic Bookstore gift certificates** and **\$100 UVic Computer Store gift certificates**. For more information, go to the Libraries Gateway: <http://gateway.uvic.ca/lib/admin/surveys/default.html>

Family Centre requests input

The UVic Family Centre wants your input on the services they provide to students with families. This evaluation is part of a review of the centre. If you are a student family member living on or off campus, take a few minutes to participate; provide feedback on the current services offered by the centre and provide input about what you might need. You can participate by filling out a questionnaire and dropping it off in the box located outside the family centre no later than March 12. Find the questionnaire on the website at [web.uvic.ca/family-centre](http://web.uvic.ca/family-centre) or call 472-4062 to get your copy. Enter your name for a chance to win one of three great prizes.

Grad students: Your opinion counts

Graduate students have the chance to win \$200 toward tuition fees just for participating in an online survey this spring. UVic will be one of 28 Canadian universities participating in the Canadian Graduate and Professional Student Survey. The online survey, targeted to UVic's nearly 2,600 current graduate students, will be administered by the Office of Institutional Planning and Analysis from March 19–April 12. "All graduate students are encouraged to participate and let us know what you really think," says Dean of Graduate Studies Dr. Aaron Devor. "Your input will help us improve the experience of UVic graduate students." Across Canada, more than 97,000 students will be asked to participate in the survey, and survey results will be made available to all participants. It is part of the university's strategic vision to be nationally competitive in the recruitment and retention of graduate students of the highest calibre. For more information, visit the Faculty of Graduate Studies website at <http://web.uvic.ca/gradstudies/>.

CFI continued from p.1

scholarly books. It will be based at the University of Montréal.

The Synergies Project will draw heavily upon the research of Dr. Ray Siemens, UVic's Canada Research Chair in Humanities Computing. His Electronic Textual Cultures Lab

is in the forefront of research on professional reading environments, rich web-based toolkits for the enhancement of scholarly investigation.

UVic funds will supplement the CFI monies, and further funding from other sources is anticipated.



## Clean sweep Sale

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 **UVIC bookstore**



The English Language Centre (ELC) is the winner of the Canadian Language Council's (CLC) Lynn Howes Award for its Home Placement program. The annual award is presented for commitment and/or innovation in the delivery of quality programs and services. The Home Placement program, operated by the Division of Continuing Studies, provides English language students with the opportunity to live with local host families and learn more about Canadian culture while they study at UVic. It is administered by coordinators **Sandra Partridge, Atarah Humphreys and Marc Bavin**, with the support of secretary **Angie Howlett**. The program places between 1,000 to 1,500 students each year.

A new UVic law course that examines the gap between how animals and humans are treated by the legal system, created and taught by UVic law professor **Maneesha Deckha**, has been awarded the Distinguished Animals and Society New Course Award from the Center for Respect of Life and Environment, an affiliate of the Humane Society of the United States. "Animals, Culture and the Law," explores whether animals should have legal rights, whether the law should recognize some other interests for animals and whether some animals are more equal than others. The Humane Society described the course as "notably the product of a highly creative scholar" and says the course approach and content "distinguish it from many other courses focusing on animals and the law."

**Dr. Hendrik Hoekstra** (physics and astronomy) was recently honoured for his research on dark matter and dark energy and how they are distributed throughout the universe. Hoekstra was selected as an Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellow, an award designed to enhance the careers of the very best young North American faculty members in specified fields of science. Only 10 fellowships were awarded to Canadians in 2007. Hoekstra plays leading roles in a number of large international projects. One of these is the Canada-France-Hawaii-Telescope Legacy Survey, the largest survey of its kind, which will provide major advances in the amount and quality of information available on little-understood dark energy.

**Linda Nicoll** was recently recognized by ASAP (Association of Student Advancement Programs) as Outstanding Alumni Advisor in District 8. A large part of Nicoll's job as manager of alumni programs involves building relationships with UVic students and overseeing alumni-supported student outreach programs. The award was presented Feb. 24 at the ASAP Districts 7 and 8 Conference in Boise, Idaho. At the conference, participating student groups also delivered a presentation on their best practices. **The UVic Student Ambassador Association** placed second for a presentation on its major fundraiser, diploma frames and flower sales at UVic convocation ceremonies.

**Dr. Dean Karlen** (physics and astronomy) has become the fourth UVic scientist named one of the world's most "highly cited researchers" by Thomson ISI. The designation means Karlen's research on particle physics has been extensively cited by other scientists in their publications. Citation is an important way to measure a researcher's influence through time. Karlen is R.M. Pearce Chair of Physics at UVic and TRIUMF (the national subatomic physics lab in Vancouver). One of his major projects includes leading Canada's participation in the next generation of physics experiments, the "International Linear Collider," which smashes electrons, creating exotic new particles from pure energy. The university's other three "highly cited researchers" are UVic president and plant physiologist/biochemist Dr. David Turpin, Dr. Don Vandenberg and Dr. Julio Navarro (both physics and astronomy).

## School of Health Information Science celebrates 25 years

The international conference Information Technology and Communications in Health (ITCH) 2007 provided the setting for the 25th anniversary celebration of UVic's School of Health Information Science. On Feb. 16, over 100 alumni and special guests from as far away as New York and Newfoundland gathered at the historic Maritime Museum in Victoria to celebrate the school's success. Carol von Hagen, BSc '88 thanked the evening's organizers for "doing justice to a great group of people and an outstanding program."

Special guests were joined by the "intellectual founder" of the school, Dr. William Gibson. While chairing the Universities Council of BC in the late seventies, Gibson envisaged a new type of professional who would have the knowledge and skills to effectively

introduce information technology into Canada's health care system. Through his encouragement UVic launched a new four-year bachelor of science program in Health Information Science in 1982. The first graduating class of one in 1986 was followed by 19 graduates in 1987.

For 25 years the School of Health Information Science has led the way nationally in the education and advancement of health informatics (the application of technology to health care delivery). Over those years, every graduate has been able to find a rewarding position in Canada or in countries around the world.

"Today, information technology affects nearly every aspect of the health care industry," says school director Andre Kushniruk. "All our graduates have a bright and exciting future."



L-R: Let's Talk Science volunteer Elizabeth Brothers holds a tube containing DNA extracted from bananas, and Kyla Uzzell and Finna McGillis hold models of DNA they made from licorice and marshmallows.

## Spreading the excitement of science

By Beth Haysom

UVic scientists demonstrating DNA at a community science fair experiment in Campbell River last month were surprised when a dad, toddler in tow, rolled up his sleeves and enthusiastically began mashing up bananas.

"I knew we'd appeal to different age groups, but I wasn't expecting parents to get so hands on," says Elizabeth Brothers, who was participating in the North Island College event as one of four UVic volunteers for Let's Talk Science—a national program to inspire enthusiasm for science through a partnership with university graduates.

After a hectic Saturday assisting dozens of curious, multi-age visitors to extract strands of DNA from bananas using a mixture of cold rubbing alcohol and shampoo, the UVic master's student in cell biology was hooked. "People were so excited to be doing an experiment, it was really gratifying. I can't wait to do this again."

Likely there will be lots of opportunities. Let's Talk Science, previously established at UVic but in

hiatus 2004–05, is now kick-started again by the combined energies of Andrea Coulter, a graduate student taking a master's in forest biology, and Jane Gair, a senior instructor for the Island Medical Program.

About 30 UVic graduate students have joined the revived UVic Let's Talk Science, including a few from the Island Medical Program.

Classroom experiences are the mainstay of Let's Talk Science, but Coulter has high hopes of broadening the program, which is being jointly sponsored by the UVic deans of engineering, science and graduate studies and supported by the Island Medical Program.

"Children in Victoria area schools are fortunate. Generally they are well served for access to science and scientists," says Coulter. "One of my main goals is to expand the program into Aboriginal and more rural communities."

So Let's Talk Science organizers are busy forging links with UVic's Office of Indigenous Affairs and Science Venture, which operates science camps and other community programs at UVic. They hope to connect with others on campus

### Stroke lecture

On March 13, as part of the Let's Talk Science partnership program, Island Medical Program students Zurab Ivanishvili and Sara Water will present "Stroke" a free campus lecture to explore the science underlying this third most common cause of death in Western society.

Both UVic graduates, Ivanishvili and Waters hope their talk will be a means for people on campus to meet some of the medical students who are based at UVic as part of the UBC Faculty of Medicine distributed program.

"Most people know someone affected by stroke and, if this lecture helps them to become more knowledgeable about what's happening, then that's a good thing," says Waters.

See UVic's online events calendar for details or contact Jane Gair, [jgair@uvic.ca](mailto:jgair@uvic.ca)

interested in promoting community science activities.

For more information contact Andrea Coulter [acoulter@uvic.ca](mailto:acoulter@uvic.ca) or visit the Let's Talk Science Partnership national website at <http://www.letstalkscience.ca/main/>.

## Outstanding UVic women recognized

Recognition Award recipients were announced February 20 at the ninth UVic Women's Conference, *Well Rounded, Well Grounded, the Whole Person*.

Recipients are chosen for their outstanding performance, excellent leadership and contributions which impact UVic and the community. The 2007 award recipients are:

**Nashira Birch**, who recently completed her BA in child and youth care; **Ina Bureau**, manager of production and catering; **Susan Corner**, student affairs coordinator; **Stephanie Dixon**, third-year social sciences student and champion swimmer; **Jo-Anne Lee**, women's studies faculty member; **Heather Raven**, senior instructor and former

director of the Academic and Cultural Support Program, Faculty of Law; **Mary Sanseverino**, senior instructor, computer science, and associate director, Learning and Teaching Centre; **Lisa Surridge**, faculty member in English.

For more information on the award winners, see: <http://web.uvic.ca/womennet/>.



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