Gore visit thrills crowd, inspires students

Before delivering a rousing try to a rap crowd at the Victoria Conference Centre on Sept. 29 to address global warming, environmental activ- ist and former US Vice President Al Gore gave a shout-out to three very tired but very thrilled Uvic students.

Acknowledging the effort by Jeff Jacobson, Stefan Krupicka and Justin Yorke to bring him to Victoria, Gore said “you guys really did show a lot of initiative, and I’m really glad you did.”

For the trio, that kind of recogni- tion made the past month of long days, endless meetings and missed classes worthwhile. “I didn’t know I could do it and so tired the same time,” said Yorke. “I’ve got three mid-terms coming up. I’ve got to get back to classes.”

UVic President David Turpin, who spoke in advance of Gore’s well- received presentation and moderated the follow-up question-and-answer session, also thanked the students in making the event happen.

Prior to Gore’s address in the main hall of the conference centre, Gore and Turpin paid a surprise visit to an overflow room of primarily UVic students who bought tickets to hear and see the presentation via closed-circuit feed.

Throughout his presentation Gore made reference to his student audience, advising them that “this is your moment . . . we need a shift in consciousness. When we shift our consciousness about this global crisis, we will solve it.”

UVic was the primary sponsor of Gore’s talk.

Student entrepreneurs win big

By Tara Sharpe

There looms on the horizon a new future for the delivery of online me- dia, and for one local small business, that horizon has already offered up a reward.

mPulse was one of three UVic winners in the recent student entrepre- neur competition hosted by UVic’s technology transfer office, the Innova- tion and Development Corporation (IDC). IDC handed out more than $30,000 in cash prizes last month to winners of the third annual IDC Challenge: Vancouver Island Student Business Plan Competition.

mPulse is an online media com- pany started by a group of UVic students from the business and engi- neering faculties. Lewis Sobotkiewicz (computer science), Ryan Bowden and Hongge Ren (commerce) teamed up to compete in the yearly challenge, which invites students from UVic and other island schools to pitch their entrepreneurial ideas and innovative business plans to a panel of local industry experts.

mPulse took in a total of $15,000 in seed money and services at the Gold Winner in the New Venture Category. mPulse’s business idea is focused on the way in which news and entertainment media are deliv- ered to and selected by consumers. The company’s website states that their mission is “to change the way people consume new media, [and make] it easier and more manage- able for people to work rich media content on the Internet into their daily lives.”

Since incorporating on Septem- ber 17 of this year, the founding trio has been seeking out investors and partners, and is registered for an “angel forum”—a gathering of venture capitalists seeking business opportunities in their early stages of development—in Vancouver this November. The company is also work- ing with marketing classes at UVic to gain further help with their business launch plan.

Because of the current buzz about their product, which is still under devel- opment, the boys of mPulse are reticent to discuss too many details of their business before they secure the invest- ment that will launch their service.

The other two winning UVic student proposals this year were Greendex (commerce student Sean Young) and Chewzles (commerce students Emily Springer and Michael Hofmaier). Greendex is an online listing of environmentally friendly products. Chewzles is a fun game for young children to motivate them to make healthy food choices.

Visit the IDC website at www. idchallenger.com for more informa- tion about the competition and this year’s winners.

Four decades at the forefront of Canadian literature

By Maria Leon

Did you know that Canada’s lead- ing literary journal is published at UVic?

The Malahat Review, launched here in 1967, has been a major influ- ence on Canada’s literary landscape for four decades. Named after the sacred mountain of the Malahat First Nation, The Malahat Review has evolved over the years from a European tradition of belles let- tres to become a forum for mainly Canadian poetry and short fiction. Published quarterly by UVic, it also features reviews of new books by Canadians.

Award-winning Canadian and international writers regularly grace its pages. Each year Canada’s best short stories are published in Journey Prize Stories, an anthology of selected magazine fiction submitted to the annual $10,000 McClelland & Stewart Journey Prize. Six Malahat winners have won Journey Prizes over the years and Malahat stories have appeared in 17 of the 19 editions of the anthology. In 2003, Malahat won the Western Magazine Award for fiction for the sixth time. It is also a three-time winner of the Magazine of the Year award. Malahat poems and stories have won 17 National Magazine Awards and, in 2000, Malahat writer Mary Swan won the prestigious O. Henry Prize.

From Oct. 10 to 14, Malahat invites poets to celebrate its 40th year by marking the legacy of Robin Skelton, its late co-founder. Known internationally as a poet, editor, and publisher, Skelton was key to establishing UVic’s Department of Writing, Special Collections at the McPherson Library and The Malahat Review. John Purves, a UVic English professor, was his co-editor until 1971. Skelton published over 100 books of poetry, fiction, criticism, and history, and was a renowned collector of art and a collagist. He died in 1998.

SEE MALAHAT REVIEW P.8

Race to the finish: UVic’s United Way 2007 campaign is off and running

UVic’s United Way campaign has the taste of a race this year. On Sept. 26, the annual kick-off event started with burgers at the campus BBQ.

Two weeks after a friendly competitive challenge was issued by Royal Roads University to UVic and Camosun College. Of the three post-secondary institutions, one will be declared the ultimate winner for the largest overall increase in donor participation this year.

Clint Hamilton, director of advertis- ing and recreation, is leading UVic’s 2007 campaign steering committee and he knows how worthwhile this particular race will be.

“As we like to say in sporting terms, ‘the game is on,’” says Hamilton. “And the real winners will be Greater Victoria’s community members who rely on United Way funding for any number of invaluable services, such as emergency shelter and housing for the homeless and working poor, assistance with mental health and addiction, and projects for community well-being including Big Buddies’ programs and literacy initiatives.”

In the coming weeks, various fund-raising events will be held across campus to get the word out in hopes of sending the red line right out of 51 of the thermometer this year.

Departments and associations are encouraged to come up with creative informal competitions among depart- ments or groups on campus to boost donations. For instance, the history department challenged all other de- partments to roll as many pennies as possible during the 2004 campaign, and penny jars started filling up all over campus; others have held raffles or staged events in the past.

Stay tuned to the UVic 2007 United Way website at http:// unitedway.uvic.ca/. And feel free to send information about any new fund-raising initiatives to UVic United Way co-op student Monica Roberge at mroberge@uvic.ca for posting on the website. The cam- paign will run until December.

United Way

By R. Lewis Sobotkiewicz, R. Bowden and Hongge Ren received $17,000 for their business venture, mPulse. (L-R) Jeff Jacobson, Al Gore, Stefan Krupicka and Justin Yorke.
A new look for webmail, which will replace an old one, called Microsoft Outlook, will be available to all. Everyone is using the same technology for email performance; it will standardize access so that people who volunteer for different things in Greater Victoria can share passwords.

Farmers—to a respected business in Victoria, and a five-year term on the Board of Directors—will be honoured at the Legacy Awards dinner in November.

Farmers’ volunteerism includes his current membership on the UVic Board of Governors and a five-year term on the Board of Directors of the Victoria Foundation, and he is a past-chair of the Canadian Construction Association. His family’s business endeavors include Farmer Construction and Accent Inns.

Above all, he says, UVic taught him critical thinking skills and provided an educational footing that encourages young people to consider today, even if they plan on entering the building trades.

“Any industry needs well-rounded people,” he says, “and for me the personal development that I got from university was hugely important.”

Distinguished Alumni Award recipient Jim Hunter is a former Vikes basketball team member and remains a strong supporter of the Vikes program.

“I came to UVic to play basketball,” Hunter says. “When I left, my views of the world and my ambitions were broader.”

He is the CEO of Toronto-based mutual fund provider NexGen Financial and was president and CEO of Mackenzie Financial for eight years before beginning his career with Deloitte Haskins & Sells accounting.

Distinguished Young Alumni Award recipient Michael Tokarski is vice-president of marketing for MODA Solutions of Ottawa, an e-commerce software firm. She rose to prominence as the co-founder of Countel Contacts, the hugely successful online retailer of contact lenses that she started with her brother, Robb Hardy, while she was completing her UVic studies.

“The curriculum and the entrepreneurship option provided a deeper dive into the dynamics of start-up companies,” says Tokarski. Professors and classmates had this incredible wealth of life experience and I’m truly thankful for sharing during their experiences.”

The Legacy Awards, on the evening of Nov. 20 at the Victoria Conference Centre, will also recognize recipients of Alumni Awards for Excellence in Teaching and new members of the UVic Sports Hall of Fame.

Helping vulnerable children

British Columbia’s first Representative for Children and Youth, Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond, will deliver a President’s Distinguished Lecture on Oct. 9 at 8 p.m. in the University Centre as part of the lecture series. Laidlaw Hall, webmail for Children!” Turpel-Lafond will identify and discuss problems that exist around the treatment of vulnerable children and propose a rethinking of both the attitudes held and the practices employed by those who interact with these children at all levels. Turpel-Lafond has worked to develop partnerships to better serve the needs of youth in the justice system and remains active in her First Nations community, the Muokag Lake Civil Nation. Although this event is free of charge, seating is reserved and tickets should be booked in advance.

An evening parking permit of $2 can be purchased in advance when booking tickets.

President’s Distinguished Service Award

The deadline for nominations for the President’s Distinguished Service Award is just around the corner—Oct. 15. So far 33 co-workers have made an exceptional contribution to the university community, thanks in part to the work by nominating them for an award. The annual awards, established five years ago by President David Turpin, honour UVic’s outstanding employees who have helped improve the university and the outside community. Any UVic employee or recognized student organization can nominate an individual, group or team.

The winners will be announced at the president’s holiday reception in December. Nomination forms and more information are available at http://uvicsvu.ca/pdsa

Fighting Stalin’s regime

In 1930’s Soviet women took the lead in a little-known nation-wide rebellion against Stalin’s radical transformation of the countryside. In an upcoming Woman’s Scholars Lecture, “Women Against Stalin” on Oct. 10 at 7 p.m. in the Strong Building, room C118, Lynda ella will explore the scope and dynamics of the women’s rebellion, making use of the findings of a new, comprehensive, multi-national study of the coloured posters and wallet cards around campus soon. And be sure to recycle the previous flip-chart version. For more information or to download a copy of the new poster, visit the website at http://ohs.uvic.ca/emergencymgmt/index.html. Or contact Emergency Planner Danielle Donovan at 721-6315 or ddonovan@uvic.ca.

Students joint network of obesity professionals

Grad students in the School of Exercise Science, Physical and Health Education are doing their part to raise awareness about obesity. They’ve formed a UVic chapter of the Student and New Professional Branch of the Canadian Obesity Network, through which new Canadian obesity professionals connect across disciplines for the advancement of obesity education, research, treatment and management.

The students plan to collaborate on research, seek out funding opportunities, help run special events and raise awareness of obesity. They’re looking for people from a variety of faculties and departments to join the chapter. For more information, contact chapter co-chair Laura Bridgewater at lefbergj@gmail.com or ELS-3141, or visit the Canadian Obesity Network—Student and New Professional Branch at www.con-irp.ca.

Combing and Systems Services (CSS) is implementing a new email and personal scheduling system that will make it easier for members of the UVic community to stay organized.

“The Enterprise Collaboration Services (ECS) project is, in its simplest sense, implementing a brand new email and calendaring system on campus,” says Nar Basu, manager of the Project Management Office for CSS.

The new technology will improve email performance; it will standardize programs across campus so that everyone is using the same technology, and it will offer new features that will better support teaching, learning and research, Basu says.

The old mail server is being replaced by a new one, called Microsoft Exchange. This means an entirely new look for webmail, which will re-
In memorium

Margot K. Louis, a faculty member in the English department, passed away in her Victoria home on Aug. 28 after a long and courageous struggle with cancer. Born in 1934 in Buffalo, N.Y., Margot attended Smith College and Oxford University before receiving her PhD from the University of Toronto. She was a valued member of the English Department at UVic since 1965, and inspired many students and faculty members with her intellect and kindness. A renowned specialist in the poetry of A. C. Swinburne, Margot was one of the most influential figures in Swinburne scholarship of the last two decades, and her book and many articles remain invaluable sources of knowledge for students of Swinburne. Margot remained an extraordinarily productive scholar until the very end of her life. She died with two works nearing press: an edited collection of essays on Swinburne, and a monograph entitled Persephone Rises, 1886-1927. Mythography, Gender, and the Creation of a New Spirituality. The latter will be published by Ashgate later this year. An eminent scholar, great teacher, and a true friend, Margot will be missed by many.

Contributed by Yisrael Levin, former graduate student of Margot Louis

 Alan Oliphant, long-time employee and project officer in the Facilities Management Department, died on Aug. 30. Alan’s contributions to the university began back in 1956 when he started working with building staff and grounds in 1979. Alan left UVic to start his own private firm working on custom residential and commercial projects. The Design Institute recognized his excellence in 1986. He was a consultant for UVic campus planning from 1986–95 and in 1995 became a full-time member of facilities management, formed when buildings and grounds and campus planning amalgamated in 1994. Alan contributed to simply too many projects to mention them all. He was a research advisor in theetcher of Swinburne's poetry.

Contributed by Ron McDowell, projects co-ordinator, facilities management

Mary Margaret Thomas, a wise and knowledgeable elder of the Secwepemc (Shuswap) Nation at Salmon Arm, BC, passed away in Vernon on July 30. A recipient of a UVic honorary degree in 2000, she was a friend, teacher and mentor to countless people, from many First Nations communities and academic institutions. She worked closely with a number of students and faculty at the University of Victoria, from child and youth care, to the schools of social work and environmental studies. In February, 2001, she visited UVic as a Lansdowne Lecturer, delivering four lectures on environmental and conservation knowledge of her people. She became an expert up into the mountains, digging wild root vegetables, picking berries, harvesting the wisdom of Dr. Mary Thomas. A member of the Nechako community, she lived her entire life in the Shuswap and Okanagan regions. As a child she spent many happy hours with her grandmothers, parents and siblings travelling out into the mountains, digging wild root vegetables, picking berries, harvesting wildroot vegetables, picking berries, harvesting wildroot vegetables, picking berries, harvesting wildroot vegetables, picking berries, harvesting "mother nature" by many, she left a wealth of knowledge to her community and the world. She will be greatly missed by her friends here at UVic and across British Columbia.

Submitted by Dr. Nancy Turner (environmental studies)

Some people feel that the possible extinction of some of Earth's creatures is nothing to be concerned about. Not Brad Anholt.

UVic's Canada Research Chair in Experimental and Applied Community Ecology, Anholt believes that the fangs, tiny crustaceans and single-cell organisms and other creatures that he studies at his lab are as much part of our heritage as great works of art.

Ignoring the potential demise of a threatened species is ecological vandalism, he says passionately. "You wouldn't walk into an art gallery and rip out a collection of paintings and just throw them away."

Anholt has spent the last decade at UVic looking out for various creatures in the global gallery through his lab that focuses on relationships in ecological communities. Simply put: Sex, death and who-eats-whom. "That's what ecology is all about," says Anholt. Motivating Anholt and his team of researchers are the key questions: What allows biological communities to persist? And what happens when we lose species through extinction or add species through invasion or introduction? Anholt sees the big picture wherever he goes. A walk along the beach is never just that. Seemingly peaceful tidepools for Anholt are a teeming world of organisms engaged in the everlasting struggle for survival.

During one such stroll amid the splash pools ten years ago, Anholt spotted copepods, tiny crustaceans that aroused his scientific curiosity. Among the copepod mysteries, he discovered, is a hard-to-explain variation of sex ratios that flies in the face of current theories. "Widely fluctuating sex ratios in the wild evolve to 50-50 in the lab — how cool is that?" asks Anholt. "Theory is very clear about why the sex ratio should evolve to equality, but we don't have an explanation for why these highly distorted sex ratios should exist in nature," Anholt explains. "This remains a puzzle for the moment."

Another curiosity for Anholt and his team are protozoa, minute single-cell aquatic micro-organisms that change their shape in the presence of predators so that they are harder for the predator to capture and eat. He uses this as a model for antipredator defenses that almost all organisms have in some degree. With such a small system, he can study experimentally the role of these defenses in population dynamics in a way that one could not in systems such as moose and wolves. "More than academic enigmas, these are fundamental biological issues," says Anholt. "Intellectually, if we can't understand the simplest biological communities, how can we pretend to understand much more complex ones such as those that sustain our fisheries."

When it's time to move from copepods and protozoa, Anholt has no worries about what's next: "I'll just go for another walk along the beach," he says, "and there's sure to be something else waiting to be explored."

Combating “ecological vandalism”

Canada Research Chair champions even the humblest of creatures

You can make the difference to our environment!

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Combating “ecological vandalism”

Canada Research Chair champions even the humblest of creatures

You can make the difference to our environment!
The for-profit model sweetens a corner of Africa

By Melanize Groves

“Pesticide-Free Naturally” says a sign above Sarah Webb’s desk. Another reads, “So where did you two meet? Our carpool?” There’s no doubt the university Sustainability Coordinator—a year-round cyclist without a driver’s license—practices what she preaches.

Webb’s new position is located within the Office of Campus Planning and Sustainability, directed by Neil Connolly. The office develops policy and acts as a resource for research and learning about sustainable initiatives, from green building design and recycling to cycling initiatives and community green mapping.

Webb describes the office as a “hub” of sustainability, connecting the operational, administrative and academic realms of the university. She acts as a facilitator, bringing students, staff and faculty together to advance environmental stewardship across campus. “If I do it right, I’ll work myself out of a job,” she says.

“The university has a long history in environmental responsibility and in 2007 established leadership in sustainability as a key strategic goal for the future. Webb looks forward to the creation of a new university sustainability policy and management system over the next year. The plan will set out broad objectives and actions related to “triple bottom line sustainability” (environmental, social and economic) on campus. It will also create an evaluation and monitoring system for sustainability initiatives.

The stack of coloured file folders on Webb’s desk speaks to the number of projects she currently has on the go, which include:

Bike to Work Day Oct. 17, sponsored by the UVic Bicycle Users’ Committee and the Bike to Work Society. The goals of the event are to encourage people to cycle year-round, and to raise awareness of cycling as a sustainable transportation option. Look for the tent near the Henderson Road campus entrance, and stop for treats and give-aways.

Car Share Program for UVic employees. The university will purchase a number of memberships in the Victoria Car Share Co-op for employees willing to trade-in their regular parking passes. See the September Ring or www.uvic.ca/sustainability for details.

New sustainability website: www.uvic.ca/sustainability. Webb cites the university’s green building program as one of her favourite sustainability success stories. UVic has already received LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification for the Medical Sciences buildings, and several new facilities are also being constructed to LEED standards. “It’s very exciting to see how our development practices have become more sustainable and how several different departments can collaborate to make it happen,” Webb says.

When not busy working on this multitude of projects, Webb fields many inquiries from the campus community and general public. On a recent afternoon, for example, she enthusiastically discussed with a student his idea for a business importing reusable bamboo plates.

Helping students to understand and champion sustainability is all in a day’s work for Webb. “Our goal is to make UVic a leader in sustainability—not just in operations but in what we teach. I would like to see every graduate have an awareness of sustainability and the tools to put it into practice in the real world,” she says. “Sustainability offers so many opportunities to improve our quality of life, save money, attract the best students and staff, and reduce our impact on the planet.”

For information about sustainability at the University of Victoria, visit www.uvic.ca/sustainability.
Astrophysicist awarded UVic's highest academic honour

By Valarie Shore

Dr. Arif Babul remembers the exact moment when his lifelong passion for outer space began. It was July 20, 1969, and he was one of millions around the world who were glued to their televisions at 7:20 a.m. as astronaut Neil Armstrong stepped down onto the moon and into history.

“I was completely captivated by the whole idea of space and trying to understand the universe,” says Babul, who was six years old at the time. That moment launched him on an intellectual path that, 38 years later, has led to his new title as a University of Victoria Distinguished Professor.

The title is the highest academic honour that the university can bestow on a faculty member in recognition of individuals who have achieved great distinction in teaching and research, and who have made a substantial contribution to the university and the wider community.

“Arif is an internationally acclaimed scientist, a dedicated teacher at all levels, and a strong proponent of broad intellectual discourse within and outside the university community,” says Jamie Casals, vice-president academic and provost. “He is a wonderful university citizen and his achievements and contributions make him highly deserving of this award.”

Babul is a specialist in theoretical cosmology who studies the origins of structure in the universe and the evolution of galaxies. He develops theories of how the universe evolved, and tests them with computer-based numerical simulations.

His quest to understand how the universe evolved from an extremely smooth state at the time of the “Big Bang” 13.7 billion years ago, into the rich tapestry of dark matter and galaxies that we see today.

“Since the beginning of human civilization we have been wondering how the universe came into being, how life evolved, how it all came together,” he says. “It’s a fascinating riddle.”

Born in Tanzania, Babul emigrated with his family to Canada in 1973 due to political instabilities in East Africa at the time. “My parents were doing really well there, at least materi- rally,” notes Babul. “In moving to a new country, they made tremendous sacrifices to secure a bright future for us, the next generation.”

Encouraged by “phenomenal” high school teachers in Toronto, Babul’s spirit for science and mathematics flourished. He later earned a BSc in engineering science from the University of Toronto and a PhD in astrophysical sciences from Princeton University. After three years at New York University he joined UVic’s Department of Mathematics and Astronomy in 1997.

“I spent a month here before I de- cided to take the job,” recalls Babul. “I found a tremendously vibrant group ranked as the top in Canada and one of the best in North America. It was, and still is, a very stimulating environ- ment to be in.”

Although Babul is barely in mid- career, he already has an international reputation for quality research. Three- quarters of his papers rank within the top 10 per cent in terms of cita- tions—a clear measure of the impact he is having in his field.

Babul is also founding director of the UVic-based Canadian Com- putational Cosmology Collaboration (C4), in which computational cosmologists from coast-to-coast are using massive computer-generated simulations to trace the evolution of the universe.

In 2002, Babul was awarded a senior fellowship from the Canadian Institute for Theoretical Physics and in 2006, he received the prestigious Leverhulme Visiting Professorship that he held jointly at the University of Oxford and Durham University in England.

At UVic, Babul was the 2004 win- ner of the Faculty of Science Award for Research Excellence and is a highly regarded mentor and teacher. He is especially well known for creating and teaching a popular third-year course for non-science students on the origin of space, time and matter in the universe.

“This is a must-take course for non-physicists,” wrote one student. “Dr. Babul has a gifted ability to explain mind-boggling concepts at a level that is easily understood, even though it feels like you leave each class with a mental hangover.”

Babul’s intellectual pursuits also extend to more earthly issues. Before and since 1991, he has promoted public discussion on the nature, history and diversity of the Islamic civilization.

“The Muslim world has tremen- dous diversity,” says Babul, who is a member of the Islamic community. “We speak hundreds of languages, come from many cultural backgrounds, and encompass a mult-itude of interpretations of faith. The vast majority are your average com- mon folks just trying to live a decent life. It’s important for people in the West to understand that.”

In fact, in addition to his parents, teachers and colleagues, Babul credits the spiritual leader of the Ismaili com- munity, the Aga Khan, for inspiring him to attain his childhood dream.

“As far back as I remember, the Aga Khan has always emphasized the pursuit of excellence in education and the intellectual legacy that Ismailis are heir to,” he says. “This message was central in driving me forward.”

“The Aga Khan has always pro- moted the value of education and has been monumental in my continuing to pursue excellence at the highest level,” he says.

Distinguished professors hold their title as long as they remain on faculty at UVic and continue to display excel- lence in their teaching, research and service. The award provides a five-year salary stipend and an annual profes- sional development allowance.

Babul is the university’s 16th Dis- tinguished Professor and the first from the Faculty of Science. For a complete list of winners, visit web.uvic.ca/spac/ news/professorawards.html.

Centre on Aging helps make Saanich—and the world—a better place for seniors

By Maria Lironi

How can we improve the living con- ditions for seniors who live in cities? That’s the question the World Health Organization (WHO) posed to 35 provinces around the world, including Saanich, in 2006.

UVic’s Centre on Aging conducted the WHO research component in Saanich through focus groups with 65 seniors, caregivers and community leaders and service providers that as- sessed the community’s strengths for promoting active aging. The Ministry of Health provided the $20,000 in funding for this research.

The results of the study were released on October 1 this year—the International Day of the Older Person—by Ida Chong, Minister of Community Services and Minister Responsible for Seniors’ Issues.

“An age-friendly community benefits all residents young and old alike. Secure neighbourhoods are safe for children, youth, women and older adults,” says Chong.

Families experience less worry and stress when their older relatives have the services and supports they need, and barrier-free buildings and streets enhance the mobility and independ- ence of all younger and older persons with disabilities. The whole community benefits from the partici- pation of older persons in volunteer or paid work and civic activities.

Guide recommendations include linking transportation services with social participation for older popula- tions, ensuring older people’s homes are located in safe areas and close to services, and making community information more accessible to older populations.

“This project afforded an exciting opportunity to demonstrate UVic’s capacity to collaborate with municipal and provincial partners to effect real life changes affecting peoples’ health and well-being,” says Dr. Elaine Gal- lagher, project researcher and director of the centre. “It is reflective of a new vision of the future role that universi- ties will have in decades to come.”

In response to the WHO report and Gallagher’s research, Saanich issued its own report to improve the district’s current best practices. It makes more than 60 recom- mendations to ensure the community’s future is age-friendly. These include the development of new volunteer opportunities for older persons, and efforts to engage older persons and improve the awareness of services of-fered by hosting open house seniors days at recreation centres, municipal hall, fire and police facilities.

Results from Saanich’s involve- ment in the project, along with key objectives for 2008, are documented in the District of Saanich World Health Organization Global Age- Friendly Cities Project report. The provincial government will look to Saanich’s example in creating age- friendly communities as it rolls out a province-wide initiative over the next three years.

Approximately 23 per cent of Saanich’s population is over the age of 60, and this will increase by 9 per cent by 2026. The proportion of the Saanich population aged 75 and over is 9 per cent, compared to the average of 6 per cent for British Columbia.

Copies of the WHO Global Age- Friendly Cities project are available at www.who.org. The District of Saanich World Health Organization Global Age-Friendly Cities Project report can be viewed at www.gov.bc.ca.

Also on Oct. 1 the Centre on Aging hosted its annual Valued Elders Rec- ognition Awards. For more, see http:// ring.uvic.ca/2007/06/elder.html.

REALLY BIG PURCHASING POWER.

When you’re purchasing for your department, you need to make the most of your money.

For three years, we’ve been official suppliers to UVic, helping departments stack up at budget-stretching prices. Need help? Talk to Mike, our super UVic Account Manager.

The Ring October 2007 Page 5
UVic’s board of governors has two new members and a new chair and vice-chair this fall.

Biology undergraduate Andrew Bateman has been elected as a student representative for a one-year term. Alumnus and long-time board member Murray Farmer has been elected chair for a one-year term.

And former public and private sector executive Raymond Protti has been appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council for a three-year term and elected as vice-chair for one year.

Murray Farmer is president of Farmer Industries Group Inc., vice-president of Accent Inns and Rockton Estates Inc., and vice-president of Farmer Management Inc., which provides project management services and oversees a portfolio of company-owned commercial properties. Farmer holds a BA in economics from UVic, is a registered quantity surveyor and completed the Harvard Business School’s owner/president executive education program.

He has been active in a number of community organizations including the United Way of Greater Victoria and is a past chair of the Victoria Foundation and the Royal Jubilee Hospital Foundation. Farmer is also recipient of the 2007 Distinguished Alumni Award for Lifetime Achievement (see story and photo, p. 2 of this issue). Raymond Protti has more than 30 years’ experience managing banking, agriculture, security and intelligence, and labour issues both domestically and internationally in the Canadian public and private sectors. He served in four federal deputy ministerial positions including director, Canadian Security and Intelligence Service and deputy minister, Agriculture and Agri-Food. Most recently, he served as president and chief executive officer of the Canadian Bankers Association. Before moving to Victoria, Protti served on the boards of directors, Common Energy, finding local organizations, including director, Canadian Centre Foundation and the Toronto University, St. Joseph’s Health Foundation and the University of Alberta.

Bateman is in his final year of a biology honours degree with a second major in mathematics. He has been active in a number of capacities on campus and last year served on the UVic Students’ Society Board of Directors. He now works with Common Energy, finding local answers to the question “How can we do more to solve the problems of climate change than we do to cause them?” Bateman is also an artist and avid cyclist. After graduation, he hopes to pursue graduate studies in mathematical biology.

And former public and private sector executive Raymond Protti has been appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council for a three-year term and elected as vice-chair for one year.

Board welcomes new members, chair

On Sept. 27, two teams of UVic health discipline students were on stage at the Cinecenta theatre for the second annual Health Care Team Challenge. In front of over 200 people the teams were challenged on the spot to demonstrate best practices in patient care while collaborating effectively with teammates from other disciplines.

Theatre students set the stage for the audience with a live preamble of the case and a closing performance. This year, students from nursing, social work, clinical psychology, and educational psychology and health information science participated along with health care practitioners from VIHA (Vancouver Island Health Authority).

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Saturday, October 6

LECTURE 1 October 6
Flesh and Blood: The Eucharist, Desire and Gender
Sponsored by the Anglican Source of British Columbia and the Centre for Studies in Religion and Society at the University of Victoria
Sarah Coakley
University of Cambridge

“The Eucharist, Desire and Gender”

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

Wednesday, October 10

President’s Distinguished Lecture
8 p.m. Rights and Wrong: Leading the Way for Children. Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond, Representative of Children and Youth, British Columbia University Centre Farquhar Auditorium. 721-8480

Wednesday, October 10

Women Scholars Lecture 7 p.m. Women Against Stalin. Prof. Lynne Viola, Univ. of Toronto. Strong C118. 721-7516

Thursday, October 11

Lansdowne Lecture 12:30 p.m. A Return to Forensic Literary Criticism and Literary Art. Prof. Derek Attridge, Univ. of York. Clearihue A217. 721-6351

Friday, October 12

Orion Lecture 12:30 p.m. The Scenario in Theatre Today. Jennifer Hedge, head scenic artist for theatre arts at the Banff Centre, the Calgary Opera, and Theatre Calgary. Phoenix Theatre. 721-7992

Music 12:30 p.m. Fridaymusic. School of Music student choirs
MacLaurin B125. 721-7904

Monday, October 15

Lansdowne Lecture 1 p.m. On Knowing Words: Art. Prof. Derek Attridge, Univ. of York. Strong C118. 721-6351

Tuesday, October 9

Monday, October 15

Lansdowne Lecture 1 p.m. George Eliot’s Middlemarch: Sexualization, the Author’s “Gift,” and the Literary Marketplace. Prof. Linda Hughes, Texas Christian Univ. Engineering/Computer Science 116. 721-6351

Wednesday, October 17

Lansdowne Lecture 7 p.m. Transatlantic Cable: U.S. Transmissions to the British Literary Canon. Prof. Linda Hughes, Texas Christian Univ. Human & Social Development A207. 721-6351

Friday, October 19

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

Monday, October 22

Women’s Studies Reading 2:30 p.m. Stealing Nasreen Reading. Writer, psychotherapist and consultant Farzana Doctor will read from her widely acclaimed first novel. Clearihue A207, 721-7518

Lansdowne Lecture 4:30 p.m. They Licked the Platter Clean: The Role of the Sacred/Secular Binary and the Future of Religious Studies. Dr. Russell McCutcheon, Univ. of Alabama. Strong C116. 721-6653

Friday, October 26

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

Volunteer mace bearers needed for Convocation

Traditionally the University of Victoria mace has been carried at Convocation by senior members of faculty as they retire. Retirements are becoming rare, however, so Convocation Committee Chair Dr. Reg Mitchell invites all established faculty and senior staff to volunteer to carry the mace at future ceremonies.

The mace has a significant symbolism in the Convocation ritual. It embodies the authority of the chancellor to confer degrees and assumes pride of place in the academic procession. During the Convocation ceremony the mace bearer precedes the chancellor and presides both on and off the stage. Only after the mace is placed in its cradle in front of the chancellor can the chancellor declare Convocation duly assembled and ready to begin.

Orientation to the role of mace bearer and rehearsal opportunities are available prior to Convocation. Ceremonial regalia will also be provided for those who require it.

If you are interested in being a mace bearer at any upcoming Convocation ceremonies please contact the Ceremonies and Events Office at 472-5644.

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

Publication Date Copy Deadline
Thursday, November 1 …………………… Wednesday, October 24
Thursday, December 6 …………………… Wednesday, November 28

Free and open to the public. Seating is limited.
Visit our online events calendar at www.uvic.ca/events.
At this summer’s Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences in Saskatoon, the Canadian Society for the History of Medicine awarded its Segall Prize for the best graduate student presentation to UVic history PhD candidate Judith Friedman for her paper “The Rediscovery of Anticipation in Hereditary Medicine.”

David Gardiner, an MSc candidate working with Dr. Stephen Johnstone (earth and ocean sciences), has received a monetary award from Vancouver-based Geoscience BC, an industry-led organization that provides funding for projects with a potential benefit for mineral or oil and gas exploration. Gardiner’s research is focused on orogens, or mountain-building processes. Gardiner has received a scholarship worth $5,000 to further explore the sedimentology and stratigraphy of a specific region in southeastern British Columbia.

Dr. Steve Perlman (biology) has been awarded a five-year (3% of $80,000) year Scholar Award from the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR). Perlman is a new member of CIFAR’s Integrated Microbial Biodiversity program, a national team of microbial biologists, statisticians, geneticists, immunologists, earth scientists and botanists exploring the vast universe of bacteria, viruses and other microbes. Perlman studies microbes that infect insects and other invertebrates. He’ll use the award to help fund a postdoctoral student for his laboratory.

At a special convocation held for him in Alba Iulia in Romania in August, Dr. Hari M. Srivastava (professor emeritus, mathematics and statistics) was awarded the degree of Doctor of Science (honoris causa) by the 1 December 1918 University of Alba Iulia.

This year’s Faculty of Science Teaching and Research Excellence Awards were handed out at a ceremony on Sept. 7. Co-winners of the teaching award are Barbara Currie (biochemistry and microbiology), the principal lab instructor in charge of the department’s core course, Microbiology 200; and Dr. Tom Fyles (chemistry), an organic chemist and former department chair who has taught a wide range of undergraduate and graduate courses. The research award goes to Dr. Allison Boraston (chemistry and biology) who has built an international reputation in the study of carbohydrate-protein interactions.

Barbara Currie (biochemistry and microbiology), [student. To donate, contact Karen Sylvia Skelton’s memory that will be given to a Faculty of Fine Arts student. To donate, contact Karen Sylvia Skelton’s memory that will be given to a Faculty of Fine Arts student.]

Finding your way around campus just got a whole lot easier with the launch of CellMap, a web-based cell phone map service developed by three UVic alumni.

In September, CellMap began an eight-month pilot project to deliver the UVic campus maps to visitor’s cell phones. Users can view the campus map via a cell phone web browser, or download the map as an interactive application.

The CellMap suite of software and service is the first of its kind in Canada, and UVic is the first Canadian university campus to offer a mobile navigation solution. So far the response has been positive, with a number of students and others using the map on a regular basis.

The idea for the CellMap project came to Hilton as a student, when he needed direction to a class that was just about to begin. He began developing the software and business idea in a directed study course, and graduated from UVic in 2007 with a Bachelor of Computer Science.

CellMap co-founder Wayne Choi finished his studies in 2004 with a BEng from the UVic Computer Engineering program. A third co-founder, Nonie Dalton, is also a UVic alumnus.}

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