



of Victoria

Sustainability Coordinator at centre of green hub

Gore visit thrills crowd, inspires students

Before delivering a rallying cry to a rapt crowd at the Victoria Conference Centre on Sept. 29 to address global warming, environmental activist 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 Krepiakevich 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 recognition made the past month of long days, endless meetings and missed classes worthwhile. "I didn't know I could be so excited and so tired at 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 wellreceived 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.



(L-R) Lewis Sobotkiewicz, Rian Bowden and Hongge Ren received \$15,000 for their business venture, mPulse

Student entrepreneurs win big

By Tara Sharpe

There looms on the horizon a new future for the delivery of online media, 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 entrepreneur competition hosted by UVic's technology transfer office, the Innovation 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 company started by a group of UVic students from the business and engineering faculties. Lewis Sobotkiewicz (computer science), Rian Bowden and Hongge Ren (commerce) teamed up to compete in the yearly challenge, which invites students from UVic

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

ics and recreation, is heading UVic's

2007 campaign steering committee

and he knows how worthwhile this

'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

"As we like to say in sporting terms,

particular race will be.

Clint Hamilton, director of athlet-

year.

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 as the Gold Winner in the New Venture Category. mPulse's business idea is focused on the way in which news and entertainment media are delivered 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 manageable for people to work rich media content on the Internet into their daily lives."

Since incorporating on September 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 working 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 development, the boys of mPulse are reticent to disclose too many details of their business before they secure the investment that will launch their service.

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

Visit the IDC website at www. idcchallenge.com for more information about the competition and this year's winners.



(L–R) Jeff Jacobson, Al Gore, Stefan Krepiakevich and Justin Yorke

Four decades at the forefront of Canadian literature

By Maria Lironi

Did you know that Canada's lead-

appeared in 17 of the 19 editions of the anthology. In 2003, Ma lahat won the West-

Race to the finish: UVic's United Way

ing literary journal is published at UVic?

The Malahat Review, launched here in 1967, has been a major influence 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 lettres 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 writers have won Journey Prizes over the years and Malahat stories have

ern 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 you 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 McPherson Library and The Malahat Review. John Peter, 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

SEE MALAHAT REVIEW P.8

2007 campaign is off and running

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 Buddy' 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 the top of the thermometer this year.

Departments and associations are encouraged to come up with creative informal competitions among departments or groups on campus to boost donations. For instance, the history department challenged all other departments 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 campaign will run until December.

United Way

Accomplished alumni to be honoured at Legacy Awards

The winner of this year's UVic Alumni Association Distinguished Alumni Award for Lifetime Achievement admits to feeling a bit embarrassed by the attention. "It's something I never thought I would be chosen for," says Murray Farmer, BA '68 (economics and political science). "But I take it as recognition of my volunteer work, and so I accept it on behalf of so many, thousands, of people who volunteer for different things in Greater Victoria."

Farmer—a respected Victoria construction industry leader with a strong track record of community involvement-will be honoured at the Legacy Awards dinner in November along with investment industry leader Jim Hunter, BA '74 (economics), who will receive a Distinguished Alumni Award, and Michaela Tokarski, MBA '01, the Distinguished Young Alumni honoree.

Farmer's volunteerism includes his current membership on the UVic Board of Governors and a five-year term on the board of the Victoria

Foundation, and he is a past-chair of the Canadian Construction Association. His family's business endeavours include Farmer Construction and Accent Inns.

Above all, he says, UVic taught him critical thinking skills and provided an educational footing that he 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 far broader."

He is the CEO of Toronto-based mutual fund provider NexGen Financial and was president and CEO of Mackenzie Financial for



Farmer



Tokarski

as the co-founder of Coastal Contacts, the hugely successful online retailer of contact lenses that she started with her brother, Roger 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 to them for sharing their experiences."

eight years after beginning his ca-

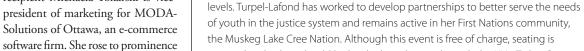
reer with Deloitte Haskins & Sells

recipient Michaela Tokarski is vice-

Distinguished Young Alumni

accounting.

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.



the Muskeg Lake Cree Nation. Although this event is free of charge, seating is reserved and tickets should be booked in advance through the UVic Ticket Centre, 721-8480 or www.auditorium.uvic.ca. An evening parking permit of \$2 can be purchased in advance when booking tickets.

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 Farquhar Auditorium. In "Rights and Wrongs: Leading the Way 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

President's Distinguished Service Award

Around the ring

Helping vulnerable children

The deadline for nominations for the President's Distinguished Service Award is just around the corner—Oct. 15. So if your co-workers have made an exceptional contribution to the university community, now is the time to recognize their hard 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://web.uvic.ca/hr/pdsa.

Fighting Stalin's regime

In 1930, Soviet women took the lead in a little-known nation-wide rebellion against Stalin's radical transformation of the countryside. In an upcoming Women Scholars Lecture, "Women Against Stalin," on Oct. 10 at 7 p.m. in the Strong Building, room C118, Lynne Viola will explore the scope and dynamics of the women's rebellion, making use of the latest findings from Russian archives. A leading voice in debates about social life and gender relations under communism, Viola has published widely on the Russian peasantry under Stalin. She pioneered the study of "women's riots" in the countryside as a form of resistance to the forced collectivization of agriculture.

And speaking of Women Scholars...

Nov. 15 is the deadline for making your nominations for Women Scholars guest speakers for the 2008/09 academic year. The series will bring three distinguished women scholars to campus to deliver lectures to a general audience and to academic units. All nominations should be submitted to the provost's office via department chairs and deans. For further information, contact the Office of the Vice-President Academic and Provost at 721-7216.

UVic presents "Best of the City—Senior Style"

Which businesses provide the best service to seniors in the Capital Regional District? That's what UVic's Centre on Aging wants to know as it presents its inaugural Senior Business Friendly Award. The award will honour businesses that provide the most friendly high-quality services and facilities to customers 55 years of age or better. Let the centre know about your pick for this award—even if you're not a senior—by downloading a nomination form at www.coag.uvic.ca/. The deadline for nominations is Oct. 15 and the winners will be announced in early November.

In case of emergency, read this

How prepared are you for an emergency on campus? A new emergency procedures guide from the Occupational Health, Safety and Environment Department provides easy-to-follow tips for responding to a variety of emergency situations, including fire, earthquakes, medical emergencies and gas leaks. Look for the colourful 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 Daphne Donaldson at 721-6355 or ddonald@uvic.ca.

Students join 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 lebridge@uvic.ca or 853-3141, or visit the Canadian Obesity Network—Student and New Professional website at www.con-snp.ca.

New email, calendaring system coming

Computing and Systems Services (CASS) is introducing 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 Nav Bassi, manager of the Project Management Office for CASS.

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, Bassi 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 resemble Microsoft Outlook. It will be faster, more user-friendly and more powerful, says Bassi. All email users will get more storage space as well.

Users of email clients supported by the new system—Outlook on PCs and Entourage on Macs-will get new email features, such as better handling of vacation messages. With Exchange, vacation messages can also be scheduled to begin and end on certain dates, and permission to access a mailbox can be delegated to a co-worker, so there is no need to share passwords.

The amount of change users will

they switch to one of the supported clients, in which case they will have to learn a new program—similar to switching from Internet Explorer to Firefox for a web browser.

Hunter

Under the new system, students will also have access to the same calendaring system as faculty and staff. The new Exchange calendar will integrate better with email and will have new features, including the option to divert voicemail to email inboxes and remote access to messages and calendar.

System transfer will begin later this year for faculty and staff. Students will be responsible for transferring their own mail to the new server at a later date. CASS will provide extensive support documentation and free drop-in training sessions for the new applications.

experience depends on the email client they use now, says Bassi. Someone using a supported client will see very little change but will have access to the new features. Someone using a non-supported client will see no change, but they won't be able to access the new features unless

For more information, check out the ECS website at ecsinfo.uvic.ca.

Vol. 33 No. 9 The Ring is published monthly, except in August, by UVic Communications.

Director Bruce Kilpatrick

Managing Editor Robie Liscomb

Production Beth Doman

Contributors Dianne George, Melanie Groves, Beth Haysom, Maria Lironi, Christine McLaren, Mike McNeney, Patty Pitts, Tara Sharpe, Valerie Shore, Linda Sproule-Jones

Advertising Bonnie Light, 388-5321 or ringads@uvic.ca

Calendar Mandy Crocker, ucom@uvic.ca

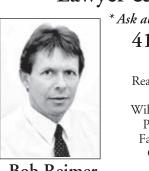
Printer Goldstream Press

The Ring, PO Box 1700, University of Victoria, Victoria, BC V8W 2Y2

Tel: 250-721-7636 • Fax: 250-721-8955 e-mail: ucom@uvic.ca • website: www.uvic.ca/ring

The Ring reserves the right to select and edit all submissions. Story suggestions should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the copy deadline listed on page 7.

© Copyright 2007 University of Victoria Canadian Publications Mail Agreement No. 40014024.



Lawyer & Notary Public

* Ask about alternatives to costly litigation * 4195 Shelbourne Street

(two blocks north of Feltham Rd.)

Real Estate - Purchase/Sale/Mortgage Estate Litigation Wills & Estate Probate/Administration Power of Attorney/Representation Family Law - Divorce & Separation General Legal Advice & Referral 721-2441

Bob Reimer

Inmemorian

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 1954 in Buffalo, NY, 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 1987, 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, 1860-1927: Mythoaraphy, Gender, and the Creation of a New Spirituality that 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 1968 when he started working with buildings 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 headed up research lab renovations in the Petch, Cunningham, Elliott, Engineering Lab Wing and Engineering Office buildings. He spearheaded the artificial turf field, Ian Stewart ice arena retrofit, UVic seismic upgrading program and construction of the Glover greenhouse facility. His team devotion to organizing UVic Centennial Stadium for the 1994 Commonwealth Games will never be forgotten. Alan touched the hearts of many faculty and administrators, who relied on his great artistic skill to portray exactly was being designed for them. He was especially well liked by the community, consultants and contractors all over the city. His wife, Kathryn Oliphant, is assistant to the director of UVic athletics and recreation.

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 which were videotaped and later transcribed and printed into an illustrated booklet entitled The Wisdom of Dr. Mary Thomas. A member of the Neskonlith 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 up into the mountains, digging wild root vegetables, picking berries, harvesting Indian-hemp for cordage making, and learning all of the cultural traditions and environmental and conservation knowledge of her people. She became an expert and a beloved teacher on traditional knowledge of the environment, including stories, Shuswap place names, plant names and language, Indigenous food systems, healthcare and family values. Fondly known as "Mother Nature" by many, she left a legacy of love for her culture and for the environment. She will be greatly missed by her friends here at UVic and across British Columbia. Submitted by Dr. Nancy Turner (environmental studies)



Combatting "ecological vandalism"

Canada Research Chair champions even the humblest of creatures

by Beth Haysom

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 frogs, 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 and fascinating world of organisms engaged in the everlasting struggle for survival.

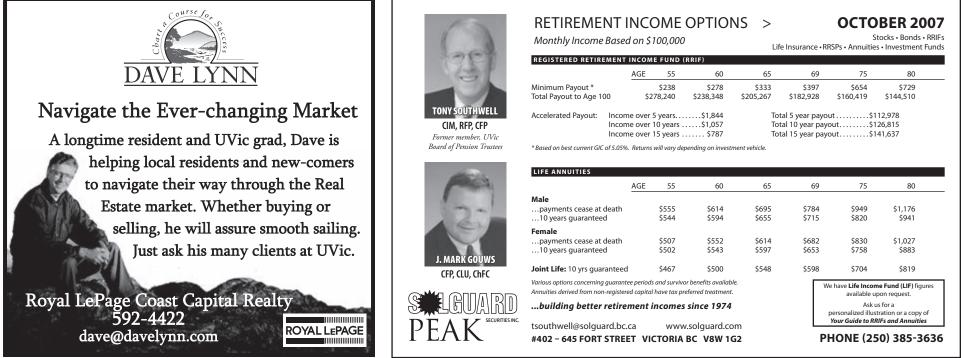
During one such stroll amid the splash pools ten years ago, Anholt spotted copepods, tiny crustaceans that aroused his scientific curiosity.

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 on 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."







It's easy to order sustainable office products.

- > Over 1100 environmentally friendly products.
- > Recycled Toner Cartridges.
- www.eway.ca

Visit us at www.corporateexpress.ca

The for-profit model sweetens a corner of Africa

By Dianne George

UVic Business faculty member Michael Valente's passion for sustainability pervades his life, even to the books on his bedside table. One of the titles currently piled near his pillow is *The White Man's Burden: Why the West's Efforts to Aid the Rest Have Done So Much Ill and So Little Good* by William Easterly. It highlights the complexity of sustainable development in poor countries that is traditionally underestimated by industrialized countries.

"Easterly makes the point that traditional foreign aid approaches, which attempt to alleviate poverty in developing countries, are not working," says Valente. "As a business researcher, I was captivated by the growing number of businesses that were picking up some of the slack left by public institutions and having a positive impact on sustainable development. Yet I felt there was something blatantly missing in the management field that researched how companies were able to do this," he says.

"Given the immense growth of industry in the last 150 years, I thought it would be tremendously compelling if we understood how to leverage the power of business to create social and environmental value."

That thought inspired Valente's research into sub-Saharan Africa and the challenges it faces in arising out of poverty. As part of the work he was doing with his thesis advisor and the International Finance Corporation, an arm of the World Bank that promotes sustainable private sector investment in developing countries, Valente had access to a number of success stories.

"Africa represents an extreme example of social and environmental degradation. So, understanding how a business is able to survive profitably in this situation while alleviating poverty and reversing negative impacts on the environment should help inform businesses around the world how to succeed through this approach."

Valente's research took him to Africa where he examined a number of for-profit operations including Honey Care Africa (HCA), a Kenyan company credited with helping to substantially increase the income of local farmers. By establishing a network of farmers and beekeepers, providing training and a guaranteed market for the honey, HCA found a way to be profitable while supporting the goals of non-governmental organizations and rural communities.

"It is a model where the product is purchased direct from the farmer, eliminating the many intermediaries and thus returning the margins back to the farmers.

"Honey Care is a good example of a for-profit company that is making inroads in the global marketplace while successfully building the capacity of local farmers, not to mention increasing pollination in the very arid regions of Kenya," he says.

Valente, who joined the Faculty of Business at the start of the semester, teaches business sustainability and sustainable development to BCom students as part of their core classes.



Sustainability central: The green hub of campus

By Melanie 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 Connelly. 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 of 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 yearround, 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

People

are talking



Webb at a campus composting station

employees willing to trade-in their regular parking passes. See the September *Ring* or www.uvic.ca/sustainability for details.

Naturescape project outside the Elliott building—a partnership between facilities management, the restoration of natural systems (RNS) program and the Office of Campus Planning and Sustainability. RNS students will design and plant a natural landscape with assistance and guidance from UVic grounds employees. The result will be a waterefficient, low-maintenance natural landscape that will attract birds, butterflies and other wildlife.

Residence sustainability project, in collaboration with the Residence Life Office. Residence students will gain skills and volunteer experience while educating students and increasing awareness about sustainability.

Green events program. This new program will provide guidelines and checklists to event organizers to help them reduce the environmental impact of events on campus.

New sustainability website: visit www.uvic.ca/sustainability. Webb plans to add more tips and practices to assist departments in adopting and using sustainable practices and products.

A UVic alumnus (biology/environmental studies) who has been employed at UVic since 2003, Webb 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 and Engineering/Computer Science 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 recyclable 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,



the Victoria Car Share Co-op for cites the university's green building visit www.uvic.ca/sustainability.

The art and science of finding money

Essentials of Fundraising

October 30 – November 27 (5 sessions) • \$395 Tuesday evenings • 6:30-9:30pm Course code: 2007F FUND 500V

Learn development basics while networking with other fundraisers.

Check online or pick up Camosun's Fall Continuing Education calendar for details.

Ready for your next step? Take it at Camosun. **camosun.ca/ce**



Valente

Conference aims to help take UVic "beyond climate neutral"

Common Energy, a network of UVic students, staff, faculty and regional partners, is ready to take the next step in its strategy to move the university beyond "climate neutral" so it contributes more to solving climate change than to creating the problem.

Last summer the group released a report that outlined various actions and proposals to achieve its goal. This month it is holding a conference, "Going Beyond Climate Neutral" from Oct. 12–14 to engage more people to develop a plan that can be put into action.

The conference begins at

Victoria's First Metropolitan United Church on Friday evening with a local foods dinner, prepared by members of the Island's Chef Collaborative. On Saturday there will be a series of presentations on business, transportation and food, followed by deeper dialogue and project planning. On Sunday participants will take the ideas that emerged Saturday and move closer to a final plan. Both weekend events will take place at the Michele Pujol Room in the UVic's Student Union Building.

Visit www.uvic.commonenergy. org for more information.

Page 4The RingOctober 2007

Astrophysicist awarded UVic's highest academic honour

By Valerie 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 as Apollo 11 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. It is awarded to 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 promoter of broad intellectual discourse within and outside the university community," says Jamie Cassels, 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 is 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 materially," notes Babul. "In moving to a new country, they made tremendous sacrifices to secure a brighter future for us, the next generation."

Encouraged by "phenomenal" high school teachers in Toronto, Babul's aptitude for science and mathematics flourished. He later earned a BASc 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 Physics and Astronomy in 1997.

"I spent a month here before I decided 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 environment to be in."

Although Babul is barely in midcareer, he already has an international reputation for quality research. Threequarters of his papers rank within the top 10 per cent in terms of citations—a clear measure of the impact he is having in his field.

Babul is also founding director of the UVic-based Canadian Computational 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 winner 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 9/11, he has promoted public discussion on the nature, history and diversity of the Islamic civilization.

"The Muslim world has tremendous diversity," says Babul, who is a member of the Ismaili community. "We speak hundreds of languages, come from many cultural backgrounds, and encompass a multitude of interpretations of faith. The vast majority are your average common 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 community, 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 promoted 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 excellence in their teaching, research and service. The award provides a five-year salary stipend and an annual professional development allowance.

Babul is the university's 10th Distinguished Professor and the first from the Faculty of Science. For a complete list of winners, visit web.uvic.ca/vpac/ news/professorawards.htm.

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

By Maria Lironi

How can we improve the living conditions for seniors who live in cities? That's the question the World Health Organization (WHO) posed to 35 cities 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 assessed the community's strengths for promoting active aging. The Ministry of Health provided the \$20,000 in funding for this research. Person—by Ida Chong, Minister of Community Services and Minister Responsible for Seniors' and Womens' 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 relations have the services and supports they need, and barrier-free buildings and streets enhance the mobility and independence of both younger and older persons with disabilities. The whole community benefits from the participation of older persons in volunteer or paid work and civic activities. linking transportation services with social participation for older populations, 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 Gallagher, project researcher and director of the centre. "It is reflective of a new vision of the future role that universities will have in decades to come." the district's current best practices. It makes more than 60 recommendations 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 offered by hosting open house seniors days at recreation centres, municipal hall, fire and police facilities. 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.saanich.bc.ca and www.gov.bc.ca. Also on Oct. 1 the Centre on Aging bestowed its annual Valued Elder Recognition Awards. For story, see http:// ring.uvic.ca/07oct04/elder.html.



The results of the study were released on October 1 this year—the International Day of the Older

Guide recommendations include

In response to the WHO report and Gallagher's research, Saanich issued its own report to improve

Results from Saanich's involvement 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 agefriendly communities as it rolls out a



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 stock up at budget-stretching prices. Need help? Talk to Mike, our *super* UVic Account Manager.



Contact Mike at 414-3355 Visit us on-line at www.monk.ca

The Ring October 2007 Page 5

Monk

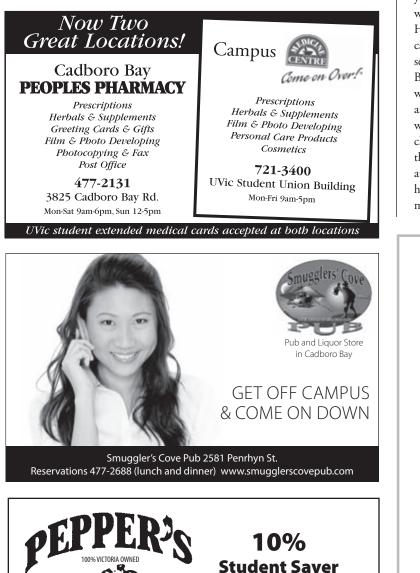


Teamwork for a healthy outcome

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, educational psychology and health information science participated along with health care practitioners from VIHA (Vancouver Island Health Authority).

CadboroBayMerchants

AT THE FOOT OF SINCLAIR HILL



Board welcomes new members, chair

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 threeyear term and elected as vice-chair for one year.



Bateman

Andrew 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.

Murray Farmer is president of Farmer Industries Group Inc., vicepresident of Accent Inns and Beckton 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 several not-for-profit and arts sector organizations, including Ryerson University, St. Joseph's Health Centre Foundation and the Toronto Community Foundation. He holds a BA and MA in economics from the University of Alberta.



Protti

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council:

Mr. Murray Farmer, chair Ms. Trudi Brown Mr. Peter Ciceri, alumni representative Mr. Eric Donald, alumni representative Mr. John deC. Evans Dr. Robert Giroux Mr. Raymond Protti, vice-chair

Elected by faculty and staff:

Dr. Peter Driessen Dr. Peter Liddell Ms. Sarah Webb

Elected by student association:

Mr. Andrew Bateman Ms. Penny Beames

Ex officio:

Dr. Ronald Lou-Poy, Chancellor Dr. David Turpin, President and Vice-Chancellor





Mon-Fri 8 a.m. - 9 p.m. Saturday 8 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. Sunday 9 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.



Discount now available every day

Peppers • 3829 Cadboro Bay Road • Victoria BC • 477-6513



full service gas pumps at self-serve prices fast, friendly attention for all your car repair needs

Village Service • 3845 Cadboro Bay Road • Victoria BC • (250) 477-5523

gift cards have arrived

Easy to get. Great to give. Any denomination. Never expires.

The easiest way to enjoy the UVic Bookstore.



Page 6 The Ring October 2007

Calendarhighlights

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

At the galleries

www.maltwood.uvic.ca 721-6562

The Hold of Our Hands: Art from the Robin and Sylvia Skelton Collection. To Nov. 15. Maltwood Art Museum & Gallery. University Centre.

A Book Arts Mosaic and Millennium in a Box. Oct. 6 to Jan. 20. Book art installation by the Canadian Bookbinders and Book Artists Guild. McPherson Library Gallery.

At the theatres

www.phoenixtheatres.ca 721-8000

The Ugly Duchess October 11–20. By Janet Munsil, performed by Paul Terry. Margaret Maultasch, medieval monarch of Tyrol, was the ugliest woman in history, a monstrously desirable political bride and the perfect scapegoat for the Black Death.

Friday, October 5

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

Lansdowne Lecture 7:30 p.m. Retailing Structural Violence: Media Accounts of Racialized Gender Violence. Dr. Yasmin Jiwani, Concordia Univ. Human & Social Development A240. 721-7378

Tuesday, October 9

President's Distinguished Lecture 8 p.m. Rights and Wrongs: 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 CI18. 721-7316

Thursday, October 11

Lansdowne Lecture I p.m. A Return to Form? Literary Criticism and Literary Art. Prof. Derek Attridge, Univ. of York. Clearihue A127. 721-6331

Friday, October 12

Orion Lecture 12:30 p.m. The Scenic Artist 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 guitar students MacLaurin B125. 721-7904

Lansdowne Lecture 7 p.m. On Knowing Works of Art. Prof. Derek Attridge, Univ. of York. Strong C118. 721-6331

Monday, October 15

Lansdowne Lecture 1 p.m. George Eliot's Middlemarch: Serialization, the Author's "Gift," and the Literary Marketplace. Prof. Linda Hughes,

Texas Christian Univ. Engineering/ Computer Science 116. 721-6331

Wednesday, October 17

Lansdowne Lecture 7 p.m. Transatlantic Cables: U.S. Transmissions to the British Literary Canon. Prof. Linda Hughes, Texas Christian Univ. Human & Social Development A240 721-6331

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. 721-7378

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. 721-6695

Friday, October 26

Music 12:30 p.m. Fridaymusic. School of Music students in a program for various instruments. MacLaurin B125. **721-8480**

Friday, November 2

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

Volunteer mace bearers needed for Convocation

Victoria mace has been carried at Convocation by senior members of faculty as they retire. Retirements are becoming rarer, 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 symbolizes 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 president 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 as-

sembled and ready to begin. Orientation to the role of mace bearer and rehearsal opportunities are available prior to

Traditionally the University of 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 472-5668.

the online calendar (www.uvic.ca/events). For information call 721-7636.	
Publication Date	Copy Deadline
Thursday, November 1	

Thursday, December 6 Wednesday, November 28

University of Victoria

Public Lecture

John Albert Hall Lecture Series

Sponsored by the Anglican Diocese of British Columbia and the Centre for Studies in Religion and Society at the University of Victoria

Sarah Coakley

University of Cambridge

Flesh and Blood: The Eucharist, Desire and Gender

"In Persona Christi": Who, or Where, is Christ? LECTURE 1 Wednesday, October 10

Sacrifice Revisited: Blood and Gender LECTURE 2 Thursday, October 11

CAMPUS DENTA

State of the art dentistry on the UVic campus, in the Student Union Building (SUB).

Offering the most comprehensive and up-to-date dental services available to faculty, staff and students at UVic.



Gift Re-told: Spirals of Grace LECTURE 3 Monday, October 15

Real Presence, Real Absence: The Body Broken LECTURE 4 Tuesday, October 16

All lectures 7:30 p.m. in the Human and Social Development Building, Room A240

Sarah Coakley is Norris-Hulse Professor of Divinity at the University of Cambridge. An Anglican priest, feminist theologian and philosopher of religion, Coakley's works include Pain and Its Transformations: The Interface of Biology and Culture (2007); Powers and Submissions: Philosophy, Spirituality and Gender (2002); Religion and the Body (1997); and God, Sexuality and the Self: An Essay "On the Trinity," the first in a forthcoming four-volume series on systematic theology.

"(Coakley's work) should be welcomed...for its sensitive placing of feminist concerns at the heart of constructive Christian theology" - Rachel Muers, Sage Publications Online

> Free and open to the public. Seating is limited. Visit our online events calendar at www.uvic.ca/events

Persons with a disability requiring accommodation for these lectures should call 472-4947 at least 48 hours in advance. For more information on this lecture phone 721-6325.

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

For immediate dental care call: (250) 380-1888

The Ring October 2007 Page 7

Ringers

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 Gardner, an MSc candidate working with Dr. Stephen Johnston (earth and ocean sciences), has received a monetary award from Vancouverbased Geoscience BC, an industry-led organization that provides funding for projects with a potential benefit for mineral or oil and gas exploration. Gardner's research is focused on orogens, or mountain-building processes. Gardner 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, \$250,000/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 Decembrie 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. Alisdair Boraston (biochemistry and biology) who has built an international reputation in the study of carbohydrate-protein interactions. Boraston is the Canada Research Chair in Molecular Interactions and has published more than 40 papers since 2000. Basic research in his field is vital to understanding how we might manipulate biological processes to our benefit.



Robin Skelton is a looming presence for Malahat editors Barton and Batchelor

Malahat Review continued from p.1

inspired countless UVic students who went on to successful writing careers, including Marilyn Bowering, Rhonda Batchelor, Theresa Kishkan, David Day, Harold Rhenisch and Neile Graham. When he died in 1997, Skelton left a legacy of cultural excitement still relevant today.

"For me, being the Malahat's editor is a homecoming, as I was Robin's student more than 20 years ago," says John Barton, a poet and former editor of Ottawa's poetry journal, Arc. "I think Malahat still fulfills Robin's original goal to publish the best of the country's writing alongside the best from elsewhere."

ton tribute, contains new writing by the late poet and poetry, articles, memoirs, stories and reviews by 40 writers from five countries.

During its October celebrations to mark Skelton's achievements, the journal is hosting a series of events including a launch party for the issue, a talk by writer Robert Bringhurst, readings by seven celebrated BC poets, and a puppet, spokenword, and video extravaganza. For details visit www.malahatreview.ca. UVic is raising funds to set up an annual scholarship in Robin and Sylvia Skelton's memory that will be given to a Faculty of Fine Arts student. To donate, contact Karen Walker at 721-6305 or kmwalker@ uvic.ca.



A DAY IN THE LIFE OF DEXTER GRETCHEN may see him driving any of three trucks on campus, picking up cardboard and paper for recycling, transporting furniture or making a delivery for UVic Printing Services. He has been a utility truck driver in facilities management for the past 13 years, and worked for five years before that on the janitorial staff.

Dexter is one of six drivers who are kept busy all year. "My run is the whole campus," he says. "I like the variety. You never know what's coming at you-moving a heavy surplus freezer that is too big for the elevator or coming face to face with a rat in a garbage bin. We'll take care of it: we're not the cause, we're the cure."

The best thing about his job is the diversity of people he meets. "I go to school every day and get paid for it—and I get a wealth of knowledge." An avid amateur astronomer, Dexter says, "If I have an astronomy question, I'll go ask David Balam [physics and astronomy]."

He likes meeting and encouraging students. "You see a person coming right out of Grade 12 starting university, it takes them four years to do their BA and you see how they mature," he explains. "If they stay for their MA, when mortarboard time comes along, they've been here maybe eight years. You can say 'Well done' to them. It's satisfying to see them succeed. Then they fly the coop and you don't see them any more."

Born in Victoria and raised in Swan River, Manitoba, Dexter grew up in the country. He lives on top of Dexter Gretchen

the Malahat within walking distance of Spectacle Lake-"my swimming pool" he calls it. Depending on the weather, he takes out his telescope and scans the skies. His uncle bought him a small telescope when Dexter was about nine years old. "The first time I looked at the moon and saw the craters, I was hooked," he says. Now he does astronomical photography and has photographs of comets, polar star trails and the aurora borealis on the web [see http://www. meade4m.com/cgi-bin/gallery4M. cgi?type=16].

He is also an advanced scuba diver, loves to travel and has a greenhouse. "I feel very fortunate to work at UVic for what it offers: a park-like atmosphere and the people you get to meet. You can't beat it."

Campus map comes to your phone

Finding your way around campus just got a little 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 map to visitors' cell phones. Users can view the campus map via a cell phone web browser, or download the map as an interactive application.



The idea for the CellMap project came to Hilton as a student, when he needed directions 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 cofounder, Nonie Dalton, is also a UVic alumnus. To try out CellMap, visit www. cellmap.ca and follow the download instructions. Although CellMap is free to download, data charges from your wireless service provider may apply.

The 40th-anniversary issue (#160, Fall 2007), which is a Skel-

"This pilot is a win-win situation for us and for UVic," CellMap cofounder Aaron Hilton says. "While students have access to a great new campus way-finding tool, the feedback we're getting is also helping us finetune and improve our service. We look forward to making CellMap the best way to navigate around campus."

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.



Page 8 The Ring October 2007