Course links students & community 5



www.uvic.ca/ring

Duke and children of the Cambodian village of Doun Teav with the bio-sand water filter that will help ensure they have safe drinking water.

Holiday in Cambodia

SUBHEAD: Safe drinking water for Cambodians

By Tara Sharpe

MARCH 2008

It drips all over your face on hikes through local rain forests. It's delivered to our homes and offices in heavy refillable bottles. And it flows on demand from thousands of taps here on Vancouver Island. We've got "water, water, everywhere" but there is often barely a drop worth drinking for people living in the rural communities of Siem Reap Province in Cambodia.

University of Victoria aquatic ecologist Dr. Asit Mazumder (biology) and research associate William Duke, MD, want to help change that. They were invited by the worldwide humanitarian organization Rotary International to participate in a community development project to improve water quality in Siem Reap in the province's capital city Siem Reap. Through interviews, water sampling and first-hand observation, they will now monitor the water quality in 1,000 households in and around the capital city.

Although the capital has become a popular tourist destination, its economic benefits definitely do not extend to everyone. The province of Siem Reap—with a 53-per-cent poverty rate and 84 per cent of the population living in rural areas—is one of the poorest in Cambodia, and availability of safe water is a major concern. Less than one-third of the population has access to drinkable water and only 6 per cent have access to a latrine or toilet.

Add to this the daily realities of inadequate nutrition, poor hygiene and low literacy rates, and the outlook is stark, particularly for those who are the most vulnerable: the mortality rate for children under the age of five in Cambodia is the

highest in southeast Asia at 120 of 1,000 live births.

University of Victoria

"For me, it is all about the children," Duke says. "It's the reason that I'm here at UVic doing this research." Before coming to Victoria, Duke worked with Doctors of the World in Chiapas, Mexico, where he became aware of the tragic toll paid by families who lack access to safe water.

In Cambodia, the lab technicians will measure the performance of bio-sand filters in each of the 1,000 households intended to transform red cloudy water taken from handdug wells and nearby river tributaries and remove deadly *E. coli* and other pathogens. The villagers are given assistance to set up and maintain the filters, and then regularly receive visits from the lab team to ensure the equipment is operating optimally. Equipment funds were provided

Torture victim to discuss civil liberties

A Canadian who became the focal point for human rights abuses in the aftermath of 9/11 is coming to campus this month as part of the President's Distinguished Lectures series.

When wireless-technology consultant Maher Arar was returning home to Canada from a family vacation in 2002, he was detained by US authorities and interrogated about alleged links to al-Qaeda. Twelve days later, he was chained, shackled and flown to Syria, where he was imprisoned, beaten, tortured and forced to make a false confession.

During his imprisonment, Arar's wife, Dr. Monia Mazigh, campaigned relentlessly on his behalf until he was returned to Canada in October 2003. On Sept. 18, 2006, a federal commission of inquiry cleared Arar of all terrorism allegations.

On March 11, Arar, Mazigh and Arar commission fact-finder, human rights law scholar and UBC President Stephen Toope will discuss the Arar case and the lessons that its holds for the future. The panel discussion, entitled "Civil Liberties and National Security," will be moderated by UVic Law Dean Andrew Petter.

This President's Distinguished Lecture will take place at 8 p.m. in the University Centre Farquhar Auditorium. Although this event is free of charge, seating is reserved, and tickets should be booked in advanced through the UVic Ticket Centre, 721-8480 or www.uvic.ca. For more



Consultations coming for UVic sustainability policy

The university has embarked on a process to create a new campus sustainability policy and action plan.

The process will include a review of current campus initiatives and best practices at other institutions, and an eight-month consultation period to identify ways in which UVic can take a leadership position in social, environmental and economic sustainability.

The policy will set the direction for

Campus Planning and Sustainability. "The policy will provide a way to prioritize our goals and give us a management system for establishing benchmarks, monitoring progress and regular reporting."

An advisory committee reporting to the campus planning committee will be seeking input into the new policy from staff, students, faculty and community members throughout the spring and fall of 2008. Check the sustainability website at http://web. uvic.ca/sustainability/ for upcoming opportunities to provide feedback. The policy will be presented to the Board of Governors for approval in early 2009.

Province.

Mazumder, Duke and their colleagues in Victoria and Cambodia have set up a water-testing laboratory

SEE STORY P.*

You spoke, we're listening Ring survey results

Thank you to all 717 students, faculty and staff members who participated in last month's Ring survey. Your responses, comments and suggestions will help us improve UVic's community newspaper.

You indicated high levels of interest in stories about environmental initiatives, research, community involvement, and opinion pieces. We're pleased you gave us high marks for quality writing and photography, credibility and fairness. And we heard that we could do more to foster a sense of community across campus, serve as a more useful information source and provide more diversity of content.

So watch for big changes in the coming months. We're working on a major redesign of The Ring to make it more lively, appealing and better organized, and we'll be making further improvements in our editorial content and adding interactive features to The Ring website. Congratulations to our six prize draw winners: Jill Ainsley (graduate student), Arden Little (bookstore staff), Dr. William McGhee (HSD Aboriginal counsellor), Alison Muller (undergraduate), Andrew Murray (English faculty member), and Dr. Andrew Truman (electrical and computer engineering faculty). Each received a \$50 Food Services dining card or gift certificate to the UVic Bookstore or Computer Store. the university's institutional commitment to sustainability and empower individuals, departments and faculties to take action. The plan will include a framework for identifying opportunities, establishing strategic priorities and developing resourcing strategies.

"We want to build on UVic's sustainability successes in teaching, research and operations," says Neil Connelly, director of the Office of See the Path to Sustainability insert in this issue of The Ring for more information, including preliminary results from the campus greenhouse gas emissions study.



Galaxy search yields new clues to origins of life

An international team led by a University of Victoria astronomer has discovered tantalizing new clues to the origins of life in the universe.

Dr. Sara Ellison, UVic graduate student Brian York, and researchers from British and Australian universities have discovered evidence that a galaxy 5.7 billion light years away from Earth contains the carbonbased molecules that could form the basic building blocks of life.

Ellison, who is the Canada Research Chair in Observational Cosmology, studies the chemical evolution of galaxies. Using powerful telescopes, she searches the far reaches of the universe and analyses the light from distant points of intense light (known as quasars) as it passes through galaxies on its way to Earth.

"Some of the light will interact with the gases in a galaxy," she explains. "When that happens, an

analysis of the light spectrum using chemistry of distant galaxies. spectrography tells us what elements and molecules are present.

"We're not actually observing the galaxy itself. Instead, we know it's there because of the spectroscopic fingerprint in the quasar's light. It's a bit like knowing that someone is in a room by seeing their shadow."

It's the distant galaxies that hold special interest for Ellison. "Light from these galaxies was transmitted millions or billions of years ago," she says. "As we look further and further away, it's like taking slices through the history of the universe."

In this study, the team's observations were made with a spectrograph at the Very Large Telescope in Chile. They were searching for patterns of light known as diffuse interstellar bands, or DIBs—the telltale spectrographic signature of complex carbon-based molecules.

Ellison wants to know if DIBs can be used as a tool for studying the

"DIBs are common in our own Milky Way galaxy and we figured that if other galaxies had similar quantities, they should be easy to detect," she says. "It turns out that the distant galaxies we studied are very poor in DIBs compared to the Milky Way."

She believes this may be because the distant galaxies aren't as evolved chemically, unlike the rich "chemical smorgasbord" in the Milky Way.

The team also found that the presence of DIBs seems to be linked to the amount of dust in a galaxy. This will help in future searches, says Ellison. One of the goals of this work is to determine when the ingredients for life first existed in the universe.

"Galaxies that are rich in heavy elements and dust seem to be good signposts for finding DIBs. Knowing this, we can target our searches to determine when these organic molecules were first abundant in

Aroundthering_

When pastries attack...

A procession of musical monks, laden with the latest in medieval pieing technology, is coming towards you. The next thing you know you're in the stocks being threatened with a cream pie. No, it's not a bad dream but the UVic Engineering Students Society's annual "Pie Your Friend for Charity" event. From March 10–14, a donation of at least \$10 from an "accuser" will buy the services of the pie-bearing monks from the Order of Pi. Should the accused be found guilty of the charge he or she will receive a cream pie in the face. To be found innocent, the accused must donate \$5 more than the previous donation and lay charges against someone they know to be deserving of the justice of Pi. All funds raised go to the Queen Alexandra Hospital for Children and the Mustard Seed Food Bank. For more information or to book a pieing visit www.engr.uvic.ca/~pi or call 721-8822. Running across Africa: UVic undergrads and childhood friends Erin van Wiltenburg (English, physical education) and Reuben Jentin (anthropology, history in art) are going to run across Africa beginning April 4 to raise money for educational programs in Namibia, Zambia, and Tanzania—the three countries they will traverse. The duo will head uphill from the coastline and won't stop till they reach the Indian Ocean, running an average of one marathon each day during their fourmonth 4,200-km running odyssey. Their website www.see-them-run.com includes information about sponsorship and how to donate as well as blog-style entries about progress to date.

And cycling across Canada

Starting March 31, third-year physical education student Tyler Duncan will begin pedalling across the country. From Victoria to St John's, Duncan aims to talk to students, teachers, administrators and parents to help raise awareness about the need for quality daily physical education and daily physical activity in children's lives. The Get Smart Get Active tour also aims to raise \$100,000 for charities involved in the advocacy of physical activity and education. Fopr more info, to get involved or provide support, visit www.getsmartgetactive.com/.

And walking (virtually) around Vancouver Island

Team up with your colleagues and walk (virtually) around Vancouver Island. The Active U program will encourage employees to wear pedometers and log their daily steps (and other activities such as cycling and gardening) on a website featuring a map of Vancouver Island. Employees can participate as individuals or in teams to win great prizes. Come to the lunch-time kick-off March 26 from 12:15 to 1 p.m. at Centennial Stadium for fun, food, prizes and a ceremonial first walk. More information: 721-8450 or rchow@uvic.ca.

Caregiving across cultures

The Centre on Aging is seeking participants for a cross-cultural study about how children support their aging parents. The study will examine attitudes toward responsibility for parents and caregiving behaviours among Caucasian Canadians, Canadian Chinese living in Vancouver, and Chinese living in Hong Kong. Participants are needed who live south of Nanaimo and have a parent over 60 who lives locally and for whom the son or daughter provides at least three hours a week of support or care. More information: 472-4169 or loutcalt@uvic.ca.

Bright minds, bold ideas

If you've got a great idea, UVic's tech transfer office wants to hear from you. The Innovation and Development Corporation (IDC) is launching a new entrepreneurial competition for student visionaries and researchers across Vancouver Island. The Ideas Competition challenges faculty, staff and students at UVic, Camosun College, North Island College, Malaspina University-College, Royal Roads University and the Queen Alexandra Centre for Children's Health to formulate their ideas, engage with other entrepreneurs on Vancouver Island and compete for over \$18,000 in cash prizes while having lots of fun. More information: www.idcideas.ca.

Help others experience UVic

Want to share your enthusiasm about the university with high school students interested in coming to UVic? Consider being an "Experience UVic 2008" volunteer. This year's day-long introduction to campus is scheduled for May 24. Event organizers need volunteers to work at events within their various faculties or at the opening ceremony. Sought-after skills include accurate T-shirt tossing, the ability to lead a group of students and their parents to various faculty locations, giving tours and helping participants plan their day at a morning coffeehouse. One-hour training sessions will be offered during lunch hours or right after work in late March and early April. Watch next month's *Ring* for more details or contact April McNeil at mcneila@uvic.ca.

Health science deans gather at UVic

On February 6–7, Dr. Mary Ellen Purkis, dean of the Faculty of Human and Social Development, welcomed 25 deans from health and health sciences faculties across Canada, here for the annual meeting of the Canadian Association of Health Science Deans. The theme was interprofessional education, which is seen as a key strategy for sustainability in the public health care delivery system in light of a looming human resource crisis in health care. Drawing on partnerships between the faculties of human and social development, humanities, education and social sciences, the Island Medical Program and the Vancouver Island Health Authority, UVic has demonstrated strong provincial leadership in interprofessional education with initiatives such as the development of the annual UVic Health Care Team Challenge.



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Production Beth Doman

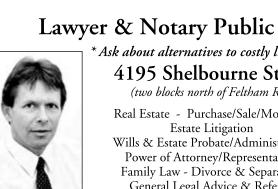
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The Ring reserves the right to select and edit all submissions. Story suggestions should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the copy deadline listed on this page.

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Bob Reimer

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

Web launch full page

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Cambodia continued from p.1

by Rotary International, while UVic provided the expertise and consultative time through the NSERC Research Chair on the Environmental Management of Drinking Water.

Mazumder heads the NSERC chair-established in 1999 and based at UVic-which conducts interdisciplinary studies on a wide range of issues related to drinking water, watershed management, fisheries and land-use activities.

Siem Reap project with an eye on the educational opportunities offered for graduate students from universities in both Cambodia and Canada," says Mazumder. "We also expect that the lab, as well as providing research opportunities, will at some point function more or less independently as a commercial lab providing water analy-

ses to businesses such as hotels within the region's burgeoning tourism industry. It is the only water-testing facility in the area right now, and the project partners want to make sure it can exist on its own while continuing to provide crucial water-purification support to the villages."

Project partners include the local "Capacity Building" Health Education Program, the Ministry of Rural Development of Cambodia, Angkor "UVic became involved in the Hospital for Children and National Institute of Public Health in Cambodia and the Institute of Technology of Cambodia.

Initial funding for the project will be exhausted by July 2008 and transition funding is already being sought to support the lab's continued operation and eventual expansion.

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At Monk Office, we are dedicated to the promotion of innovative business practices and products that minimize our impact on the environment. Our Victoria distribution centre is even a BOMA certified "Green Building."

PE

For five years, we've been official suppliers to UVic, helping departments purchase sustainable office products. Need help? Talk to Mike Wilson, our UVic Account Manager, and discover how we're as helpful to the environment as we are to our customers.



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

UVic African Partnership Network launched

Many UVic faculty and staff have relationships with African partners, but they have generally worked in isolation from one another. That is about to change with the creation of the African Partnerships Network at UVic, a forum that brings together faculty and staff with research and academic interests in African countries. The network will provide an opportunity for these scholars to create synergies and to develop new programs at UVic with an African focus.

The network steering committee, with representation from different academic areas, has begun work on some concrete areas for engagement, one of which is a speaker series on African themes, which commences this month.

On April 2, Justine Masika Bihamba, president of Synergie des femmes pour les victimes des violences sexuelle (SFVS), will speak on "Mining Women's Human Rights in the Democratic Republic

of the Congo, Africa: Engaging Civil Society in the Process of Upholding Women's Rights Globally." SFVS is a leading nongovernmental organization in the Congo that provides direct support to thousands of survivors of sexual violence. This free public talk will be held at 1 p.m. in the Michele Pujol Room of the Student Union Building.

And on April 28, from noon to 1:30 p.m. in Strong C116, Moussa Magassa, human rights educator at the UVic Equity and Human Rights Office, will speak on "Ubuntu, 'the human side of human being': Indigenous Conflict Resolution Approaches in African Context." Before immigrating to Canada, Magassa worked in the demilitarization field in post-Apartheid South Africa, specializing in conflict analysis/resolution, non-violence peace education and curriculum design.

a series of orientation sessions for students going on placements to

African countries or returning from Africa. All UVic students going on overseas placements receive some generic orientation and training. However, those on placements in African countries often face situations and challenges beyond what they have discussed during these orientation sessions. To meet their needs, Magassa will lead a series of orientation sessions specially designed for students going on placements to Africa.

The network is also planning a new course that examines development issues in the African context across a number of disciplines and interconnected themes.

The network steering committee is looking for African students interested in getting involved. If you are an international visa student or a citizen of an African country with permanent residence in Canada, or Other plans include offering a refugee student from Africa and are interested in joining the steering committee, contact the Office

Inmemoriam

Yousuf Ebrahim

Members of the Department of Biology are very much saddened by the passing of our good friend and colleague Yousuf Ebrahim. For many years, Yousuf was a senior laboratory instructor in biology and in this capacity he touched the lives of thousands of undergraduates enrolled in various courses involving marine invertebrates. Yousuf's effectiveness as an educator lay in his recognition of the importance of enthusiasm and humour in teaching, the importance of experiential learning and the educational value of the flora and fauna accessible within the intertidal zone of Vancouver Island.

Yousuf's overflowing energy motivated him to offer many public outreach courses through the Division of Continuing Studies and to organize countless field trips for students of all ages to the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre on the West Coast of Vancouver Island. For many, these field trips were a life-changing experience

In recent years, Yousuf initiated an international educational opportunity for undergraduates by organizing the international field school for studying tropical biodiversity and field ecology in Malaysia. This enterprise, in cooperation with faculty from the Universiti Sains Malaysia, allows UVic students to experience tropical ecosystems and Malaysian culture. In recognition of his many fine contributions to the University of Victoria, Yousuf was awarded a President's Distinguished Service Award in 2005.

Yousuf was a consummate educator and humanist, a gracious and highly personable gentleman. His exhaustive knowledge of marine invertebrates, combined with a wonderful sense of humour, imperturbable temperament and superb organizational skills, gave us an individual who will live long in the hearts of all who knew him

Contributed by Drs. Louise Page and Will Hintz, Department of Biology

Barbara Courtney Young

We are all saddened by the loss of Barbara Courtney Young who was one of the first graduates from the University of Victoria School of Nursing BSN program. Upon graduation from the Royal Jubilee Hospital School of Nursing she was determined to establish a nursing degree program at UVic. She spearheaded a successful coalition which resulted in the founding of the School of Nursing at the University of Victoria.

Barbara was employed as a program coordinator by the Division of Continuing Studies at UVic beginning in 1985. She worked on the delivery of distance education programs and professional development for health professionals.

After her marriage to Michael Young in 1993, she retired from the university and moved to White Rock.

Her father's (George Wallace Courtney) family were early settlers in Victoria, and Courtney Street was named after the family. Like her father, Barbara was a very active Rotarian and, in 1989, was the first woman to become a Rotarian on Vancouver Island. She was also involved as a member of the National Parole Board of Canada.

Barbara died in White Rock on January 30, after a brief illness. She was a passionate advocate for the School of Nursing and a compassionate, caring human being with a wonderful sense of humour. Barbara left a strong legacy for the School of Nursing and we will miss her very much.

Submitted by Dr. Anita Molzahn, School of Nursing

University of Victoria

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS TO THE MEMBERS OF CONVOCATION

The University of Victoria invites you to nominate candidates for the elections of the Chancellor of the University and four members of the Senate

Nomination papers must be received in the Office of the University Secretary, Room 410, Business and Economics Building, University of Victoria, P.O. Box 1700, STN CSC, Victoria, British Columbia, V8W 2Y2, by 4:30 p.m. (PDST), March 20, 2008 Nomination papers for candidates for the office of the Chancellor must be signed by no fewer than seven members of the Convocation; nomination papers for candidates to the Senate must be signed by no fewer than three members of the Convocation. In every case the nomination paper must also be signed by the candidate who shall indicate acceptance of the nomination in writing. Nomination forms are available online from web.uvic.ca/univsec/, or may be picked up at:

> The Office of the University Secretary Room 410, Business and Economics Building phone: (250) 721-8101 e-mail: usec@uvic.ca fax: (250) 721-6223

DEADLINE FOR FILING NOMINATION PAPERS 4:30 p.m. (PDST), Thursday, March 20, 2008

ELIGIBILITY

Election for the Chancellor: Under Section 19 of the University Act, the Chancellor shall be a member of the Board of Governors, and under Section 35, the

Chancellor shall be a member of the Senate. Under Section 23, the following persons are not eligible to be members of the Board and therefore could not assume the position of Chancellor: • members of the Parliament of Canada

- members of the Executive Council or of the Legislative Assembly
- a member of the public service in the ministry
- a member of the public service designated by the minister

Election for the Convocation Senators:

Persons eligible to stand for election to Senate shall be members of the Convocation who are not faculty members of the University. Persons eligible to make nominations and to vote shall be members of the Convocation.

TERM OF OFFICE THREE YEARS: January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2011.

VOTING

The election will take place between noon (PDST), May 20 and 4:30 p.m. (PDST), June 20, 2008.

Julia Eastman, University Secretary (Registrar) Office of the University Secretary Dated at Victoria, British Columbia February 22, 2008



Gaul (right) checks the blood pressure of kinesiology student Evan Thomas as he sweats for science. Looking on (centre) are lab instructors Mulligan and Taylor and their students.

Sweating it out

Research partnership helps Canada's elite athletes reach for gold

By Patty Pitts

When Canada's athletes work up a sweat for their country at the Beijing Olympics in August, their ability to replenish the essential nutrients and minerals they lose in the process could influence their chances of ending up on the medal podium.

A collaboration between UVic and the Victoria-based Canadian Sport Centre Pacific (CSCP) may help improve their odds.

Nutrients and minerals known as electrolytes keep the body functioning normally. Examples are sodium, calcium and potassium. Proper electrolyte balance is vital for optimal muscle coordination, heart and nerve function and mental concentration.

To maintain this balance, weekend warriors often turn to sports drinks such as Gatorade or Powerade. But can these candy-coloured beverages meet the electrolyte replenishment needs of elite athletes who endure several high-intensity workouts a day?

The only way to judge the efprocedures require expensive equipment. UVic kinesiology grad Wendy Pethick, a physiologist and lab manager at CSCP, needed to find a more affordable way to replicate those procedures.

sulted in a solution. Taylor developed

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a sweat analysis procedure suitable for CSCP's existing equipment. And chemistry undergraduate student Tim Giesbrecht added fine-tuning. "Electrolyte imbalance causes cell

dysfunction, and that diminishes athletic performance," says UVic kinesiology professor Kathy Gaul. "Sodium plays a big role in muscle contraction and organ function. Sports drinks only address mid-level sodium loss. Athletes with high-level sodium loss end up drinking more fluid than sodium which actually depletes their reserves further."

Kinesiology lab coordinator Greg Mulligan and Taylor saw a unique opportunity to engage undergraduates from two disciplines in an innovative laboratory experience. While senior kinesiology students exercised on cycle ergometers as part of their research into how the body regulates its temperature, chemistry students collected their sweat.

After removing sweat-soaked gauze pads from athletes' forearms, the chemistry students put the pads into tubes, spun out the sweat and stored the contents. The samples were either analysed immediately fectiveness of sports drinks on or refrigerated. The students were individual athletes is to analyse then able to study whether storage their sweat. But existing testing over time influences the chemical make-up of the sweat. Initial results indicate it doesn't.

The kinesiology students, in turn, added a visit to a chemistry lab as part of their studies. They observed as chemistry students used A visit by Pethick to UVic chem- an ion chromatography instrument istry lab instructor Nichole Taylor re- to quantify the electrolytes in the sweat.

"It's important for students in their third and fourth year to see how their work can be applied in the real world," says Gaul.

The new sweat analysis procedures give CSCP the ability to develop individualized electrolyte replacement programs for each athlete.

Students from both courses were enthusiastic about the glimpse into each other's disciplines.

"They liked being in another lab, seeing how their chemistry is relevant elsewhere on campus and learning proper methods for sampling," says Taylor. "By offering the course in this way, we help students see the entire process and hear from other students about what happens in the body to produce sweat and the biological function of these electrolytes."

An added benefit is the confidence the students gain from explaining their area of study to those without the same expertise.

"It's one thing to answer a question on an exam," adds Taylor. "It's another to be able to explain your science to another individual. I want my students to be comfortable communicating what they're learning to other people.'

The project has itself become the subject of research. Mary Glen, a kinesiology honours student, is evaluating the effectiveness of having the chemistry and kinesiology students experience each other's course work.

Viewpoint

Letter from the Solomon Islands

By Emily Kydd, third-year UVic Pacific to travel to the country. I met with and Asian Studies student

My two-week experience in the heat of Honiara—the capital of the Solomon Islands, east of Papua New Guinea was indisputably the highlight of my internship with the Pacific Islands AIDS Foundation (PIAF).

I am an undergraduate student with an academic focus on the Pacific Islands, and this was my first time living and working in the Pacific. I was in the Cook Islands from late August 2007 until the end of January 2008 as a project officer for PIAF in Rarotonga, Cook Islands.

UVic's Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives (CAPI) organized the placement through its long-term partnership with PIAF, and financial support came from the Canadian International Development Agency's Students for Development program which offers internship opportunities in the developing world.

During my five-month experience, I travelled to the Solomon Islands in early December 2007 to conduct research for PIAF's major regional mapping project. The project will result in a comprehensive inventory and database of HIV/AIDS services for each Pacific country and will be available for service providers and HIV-positive people in order to locate services in their area and illustrate where there are gaps in these services.

It was an immense honour to be asked to go to the Solomon Islands as the first PIAF representative ever

ministry representatives and officers from non-governmental organizations including World Vision and UNICEF, and I also met with the Permanent Secretary of Health for the Solomon Islands Dr. George Manimu, as well as the undersecretary of health improvement.

It was during these latter two meetings especially that I felt like I had achieved the goals of my trip in spreading the word of PIAF, increasing governmental knowledge about HIV in the Pacific and advocating the issues for which PIAF stands.

I approached Dr. Manimu before his presentation on World AIDS day in Honiara. This was, in hindsight, a pretty bold move for a foreigner, a woman and a stranger-especially when I asked for his email and an hour of his time later in the week. Finding him surprisingly friendly, I met with him for over an hour talking about PIAF, HIV, the mapping project, the Pacific, international HIV responses and issues that need to be addressed in the Solomon Islands

My time in the Solomon Islands and at PIAF has forged my commitment and respect for the region in a way that my classroom studies never could, and has cemented my desire to return.

Since 2003, PIAF has hosted eight students through the CAPI internship program, helping them gain first-hand exposure and development work experience in the region.

For more information on the CAPI internships and Kydd's experience, visit www.capi.uvic.ca/opportunities.



Kydd (R) and Pacific Islands AIDS Foundation founder and CEO Maire Bopp Allport in Rarotonga, Cook Islands

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The Ring March 2008 Page 5



Boraston

Canada Research Chairs

Thinking small in a big way

Boraston and his team recently

New drugs? New biofuels? First we have to understand the basic molecular science.

By Melanie Tromp

Holder of UVic's Canada Research Chair in Molecular Interactions, biochemist Alisdair Boraston is primarily concerned with the smaller things in life.

"Pretty much every biological process on the planet involves molecular interactions," says Boraston, a professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology and an international leader in the study of how carbohydrates interact with proteins

One branch of Boraston's research is investigating how these interactions are involved in bacterial illnesses. An understanding of how carbohydrates are "recognized" by proteins is central to designing new drugs and treatments for disease. Boraston and his team are concentrating on the Streptococcus pneumoniae bacterium, a superbug responsible for pneumonia, bacterial meningitis, ear infections and other diseases.

A superbug is a drug-resistant bacterium. The Strep. pneumoniae bacterium is one of the world's leading causes of death from infectious disease, particularly in children and the elderly. "When you get a drug-resistant strain of Strep. pneumoniae, what do you do about it?" asks Boraston. "We need some alternate ways to treat these infections."

A recent breakthrough in his research may lead to such a treatment one that can prevent the spread of the bacterium in the body without the use of typical antibiotics.

verified that Strep. pneumoniae uses a specialized protein that targets the cells responsible for creating a soap-like protective coating in human lungs. This film keeps the lungs inflated and doubles as their numberone guard against attacking bacteria and other microbes.

"The next step is to figure out how to inhibit the action of the protein so that it can slow down or altogether prevent the germ from targeting these vital cells," says Boraston.

Such a breakthrough would be the first step in developing a drug treatment that would give the body's immune system more time to fight the infection—an approach similar to current methods of treating the flu.

Boraston was recently named a Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research Scholar to continue his investigations into how Strep. pneumoniae proteins interact with lung cells.

Despite the 90 forms of this bacterium out there, public concern has recently been focused on a specific strain of Strep. pneumoniae called 19A, which is resistant to all known pediatric antibiotics and is not covered by current childhood vaccinations.

Because there is a known link flu virus, a flu outbreak or pandemic level," he says. could create a resurgence of this bacterium in the wider community. "If there are drug-resistant strains within that spread, we're in trouble," savs Boraston

Childhood vaccinations cover the seven most risky strains of Strep. pneumoniae, a medical practice that has caused the incidence of those types

to decline. "But what about the other 83, or maybe more?" he asks.

"I am 100-per-cent behind vaccine research and making it better. But we also have to get prepared for issues like disease replacement, antibiotic resistance and things like flu pandemics. This bug is constantly fighting back against us."

About one-third of Boraston's time is spent in a completely different arena-investigating complex carbohydrates in plants, including cellulose-the most abundant biopolymer in the world.

When plant cells die or are eaten by animals, enzymes produced by microbes break down the complex sugars found in plant cell walls. The smaller sugar fragments are then used as an energy source by the microbe.

"This process is extremely important to the planet's carbon cycle, and it also has promise when harnessed for the production of biofuels from cellulose," says Boraston. He and his team are trying to understand how microbial enzymes recognize the sugars in plant cell walls.

While it's very fundamental research at this stage, what Boraston finds out may one day be used to improve the processes involved in making biofuels. "It's exciting to look at between Strep. pneumoniae and the alternative fuels at such a fundamental

> Boraston's work is funded by the Canadian Institutes for Health Research, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, the Canada Foundation for Innovation and the British Columbia Knowledge Development Fund.



methods.

Global citizenship—world democracy or imperialism in disguise?

guished Professorship-the highest

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can bestow on a member of faculty. To date, ten faculty members have

been named Distinguished Profes-

sors. This lecture series offers the

community the opportunity to hear and meet these outstanding faculty

Global citizenship, one of the most important yet perplexing movements of our time, will be the topic as Dr. James Tully (political science) delivers a Distinguished Professors Lecture, "On Global Citizenship," March 13 at 7:30 p.m. in Strong

Some see global citizenship as a members. new form of network democracy that will transform 21st-century politics. Others say it is the continuation of Western imperialism by new means where co-opted nongovernmental organizations have replaced the missionaries of earlier imperialism. Still others contend it is nothing new and can be understood in the familiar categories of state-centred citizenship and internationalism

In his lecture, Tully will sort out the conflicting interpretations of global citizenship and discuss new trends in practice and academic

In 2003, Tully was awarded a University of Victoria Distin



By Christine McLaren

Starting this September, the School of Public Administration will implement a minor in public administration, providing the opportunity for undergraduates in other departments to learn about public sector management. It will be the only undergraduate university credit program in BC with a public management and non-profit focus and will provide oncampus students with an opportunity to learn through distributed (online)

Students taking the minor in public administration will enhance their skills and knowledge about government and how bureaucracies function, make connections in their major area of study and understand how that knowledge can be applied in future public sector employment.

Given the current demographic trends, the minor is good news for government and non-profit sectors. It is estimated that 40 per cent of the public service can retire by 2011.

"Making linkages and exposing more students to the potential careers within government is a win-win situation," says Brant Popp, director general for Western Economic Diversification Canada and currently a federal government executive in residence in the School of Public Administration. "I believe this credential will be viewed positively by any government employer," says Popp, who is also an alumnus of the school.

The school currently boasts many graduates who have gone on to highprofile positions in the federal and public service, including many assistant deputy and deputy ministers, CEOs and business leaders

"The intent of the minor is to give students a range of public and nonprofit sector management skills and knowledge," says Evert Lindquist, director of the school. "Students who plan careers in the public sector will find that this minor could make them more competitive in the job market after graduation," says Lindquist.

The school is also an important connection to the Deputy Minister University Champion Program, designed to support public administration education and research so that the Public Service of Canada has connections to leading ideas and theories, a new generation of public administration scholars and new employees well-educated in modern pub lic management. Currently, Oryssia Lennie, deputy minister of Western Economic Diversification Canada is the deputy minister champion for UVic under this program.

Through funding from the Ministry of Advanced Education and the Office of Indigenous Affairs at UVic, the School of Public Administration and the National Centre for First Nations Governance have developed and delivered two pilot courses that will be part of a proposed Certificate in First Nations Governance, Administration and Management. The new university credit certificate will include courses that address the knowledge and managerial skills that administrators in First Nations governments and organizations require to deliver services to First Nations communities.

For more information visit http:// publicadmin.uvic.ca.



Law for All even you, Jack Sparrow

By Thomas Winterhoff

It's not every day that teenagers get to bring a pirate to justice, but a group of Greater Victoria high school students did exactly that last month. Fictional rapscallion Captain Jack Sparrow (of Pirates of the Caribbean fame) was tried in an historic courtroom as part of an innovative outreach and mentoring program developed by law students at the University of Victoria.

The Law For All (LFA) initiative is designed to educate local teens and new immigrants who are interested studying law but-due in part to family or economic circumstances-may not have been encouraged to pursue that goal. The student-run program also wants to see more students from underrepresented cultural or ethnic communities attend UVic Law. Since the faculty is already deeply committed to its equity and diversity policies, the school's admissions office has wholeheartedly supported the LFA project.

man is a key organizer for the group and has participated in a number of school visits over the past few years to talk about the legal profession. Together with 2007 graduate and LFA founder Salima Samnani, she wanted the students to realize that UVic Law was open to anyone willing to work hard to get there, regardless of any perceived obstacles.

"The goal initially was to provide support for students who wanted to apply to law school but didn't even know where to begin," explains Rahman. "Even getting them at the undergrad level is maybe too late for some of these kids, because they've already closed themselves off to the idea of attending law school."

LFA wants to change all that. This year, the added attraction of a mock trial engaged the students' imaginations and made the free program particularly memorable.

"They loved it. One girl definitely wants to go to law school," Rahman says. "This was a way for her to figure out what law is all about.'

teens met members of the local legal community, took a tour of the downtown courthouse and learned how a trial is conducted. The highlight of the week was arguing Jack Sparrow's thievery case before a real provincial judge in the Maritime Museum of B.C.'s Victorian-era courtroom. The Honourable Judge Evan Blake and UVic Law Professor Hamar Foster explained the legal principles involved and took the time to answer all of the participants' questions.

The mock pirate trial was designed to show how the law works, but the judge and the organizers also made sure the students enjoyed the experience. Although they were a little nervous during their opening arguments, they soon settled down to cross-examine witnesses, introduce evidence-and have a lot of fun.

Rahman is confident that the LFA mentoring program will continue next year. The most important aspect of the program for her was seeing the students' passion for learning new skills and listening to them talk



PHOTO: in RING APPD folder [Use #6] CREDIT: Tara Sharpe

Garden in the sky: (L-R) UVic's Facilities Management gardener Peter Roberts and grounds worker John Johnston are keeping the green roof green atop the new Social Sciences and Mathematics Building. The building was open for occupancy in late February (although the green roof is not publicly accessible) and its green roof is the second on campus. It consists of two roofs and several patio gardens boasting sumac and maple trees, strawberries and roses, and lawns of native meadow mix—all of which help to insulate the building and capture moisture and rain. Other eco-aspects include using grey water for watering the greenery. More information about the building and its occupants is available at www.uvic.ca/buildings/cab.html.

Partnership fights online child exploitation

UVic's International Institute for Child Rights and Development (IICRD)-based at the Centre for Global Studies—is overseeing a new international collaboration that fights online child exploitation.

As more developing countries gain access to the Internet, the availability of online child pornography and abuse of children also expands. Approximately 20 per cent of all Internet pornography involves children, and law enforcement agencies are hard-pressed to combat online child exploitation with more than four million sites depicting child abuse images and links to child sex tourism and child trafficking offences.

The Child Protection Partnership (CPP) brings together the institute, the RCMP, UNICEF and Microsoft. It combines the partners' leadership in child rights protection, law enforcement, international

development and software to combat online child exploitation in developing countries. The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) has committed \$2.6 million to fund it.

boundaries," says Suzanne Williams, IICRD deputy and legal director. "Through this partnership, law enforcement and supporting sectors in developing countries will have better tools to mount an effective fight against this criminal activity, share in the latest knowledge gained from around the world, and become part of a multi-stakeholder collaboration that protects the rights and dignity of vulnerable children."

Over the next three years, IICRD will also serve as the partnership's executing agency. It will support the CPP through the institute's culturally grounded, child and human rights education expertise, and by

leveraging its child rights knowledge base and worldwide network .

Microsoft's Child Exploitation Tracking System (CETS) is a case management software tool for law enforcement that facilitates close "Online child exploitation has no collaboration across police agencies by linking agents and computer databases, as well as analyzing the shared data. CPP countries will be able to use it for free. To date, Microsoft has invested \$9 million to in CETS, and the tool has assisted in arresting perpetrators of online child exploitation, including a 2006 case where 27 people in four countries ran a sophisticated chat room where children were abused.

CPP will assist policy-makers at all levels to further human rights and respect for the rule of law, as well as increase access to services and legal protection for children and their families.

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Shifting the Health Paradigm: Can You Learn from Traditional Oriental Concepts of Health and Wellness?

Tuesday, March 18: 7 to 9 pm. Fee: \$43 plus GST

It is difficult to shift our thinking of health from a reductionist, disease-focused angle to a more holistic, nurturing and patient-oriented paradigm; however, it is not only possible but also highly desirable. This discussion will touch on some age-old approaches to health, updated with modern science, and elaborate on the reasons why they can and should be integrated into modern health care. Dr. Christopher Lam, MD, integrates Chinese medical acupuncture with Western medicine in his family practice. He is a clinical assistant professor with the Department of Family Practice, UBC.

Ringers

UVic Law students Sonia Kainth and Sara Sharp won the regional final of the 2008 American Bar Association Client Counselling Competition in February. Participants from seven North American law schools were judged on their ability to interview and appropriately advise "clients" in simulated human rights and civil liberties cases. Kainth and Sharp qualified for the North American final scheduled for March 8–9 in New York, where a dozen teams will vie for spots at the International Client Counselling Competition (ICCC) in Bangalore, India. The students were coached by Steven Perks, assistant clinical director of UVic's Law Centre, and Marli Rusen, a partner with the law firm Heenan Blaikie. Students from the UVic Department of **Theatre** played the roles of the clients.

In January, **38 BCom students** returned victorious from Western Canada's largest business school competition, known as JDC West. Thanks to a creative practice strategy and coaching from mentors and alumni, the UVic Business marketing and debate teams placed second and third out of a field of 450 competitors from nine schools. Teams had three hours to analyze a business case, present their findings and respond to questions. The team also scored big on the social responsibility side by raising over \$5,000 for charity. Students volunteered at the Victoria Habitat for Humanity Sidney Build site and participated in the annual "Chilling for Charity." This national Polar Bear dip, which involves business students from across Canada, was held in November this year. About 20 members of the UVic JDC team dashed into the frigid waters of Cadboro Bay. All funds support the Victoria Habitat for Humanity.

Congratulations to UVic student Geoff de Ruiter and partner Steve Helle from UNBC, who recently took first place and a \$5,000 prize in the BC Hydro PowerSmart Innovation Challenge. The competition encourages staff, students and faculty in post-secondary institutions to "contribute innovative solutions and ideas toward advancing energy efficiency and building a conservation culture." Their submission, chosen out of a total of 40 province-wide, tackled the question of howUNBC could reduce its energy consumption by more than 20 per cent." Their plan recommends a detailed energy audit of the campus, efficiency upgrades (e.g. automating lights), plus insulation and ventilation retrofits in campus residences. In a solution uniquely suited to UNBC's northern environment, they also propose snow storage technology as a means of achieving energy savings of 7 per cent. More information: http://bchydro/innovationchallenge.

Alumni Shelagh Plunkett (writing, women's studies '95) and Harold Rhenisch (writing '80) are winners in this year's CBC Literary Awards. Plunkett topped the creative non-fiction division category with her story "In a Garden," about her childhood in Guvana. Her work been published in the *Globe and Mail*, the Vancouver Sun the Victoria Times Colonist, Geist, Yesl and Boulevard, Rhenisch won second prize for his poem "Catching a Snare Drum at the Fraser's Mouth." Jurors praised it for evoking "the long journey from First Nations traditional life, through the heartbreak of colonization and enforced modernization, to the colourful pluralism of contemporary urban Vancouver." Last summer, his book The Wolves at Evelyn -- A Journey Through a Dark Century won the George Ryga Award for Social Awareness in BC Writing and Publishing. He has twice won the *Malahat Review* Long Poem Prize. Their winning writing will be aired on CBC Radio and published in Air Canada's En Route magazine.

Four UVic experts are advising the newly launched Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC)—a non-profit national organization created to focus attention on mental health issues and improve the lives of people living with mental illness. Dr. Benedikt Fischer (sociology) and Dr. Lorna Williams (education and linguistics) are members of the MHCC Science Advisory Committee. Dr. Jennifer White (child and youth care) is a member of the First Nations, Inuit and Metis Advisory Committee and **Cindy Player** (human rights) is a member of the Mental Health and the Law Advisory Committee

Judy Burgess (nursing) recently received the National Health Sciences Students' Association 2008 Interprofessional Education Mentorship Award, given to a champion and advocate of collaborative education. A sessional instructor in the School of Nursing and education coordinator for the Interprofessional Network of British Columbia, Burgess has been instrumental in bringing students together to develop interprofessional health education at various levels. In partnership with the UVic Health Sciences Students' Association, Burgess coordinates the annual UVic Health Care Team Challenge, which demonstrates opportunities for collaborative teamwork within the client-centered primary health care system.

Heather Kirkham, undergraduate programs manager in the School of Public Administration, received the 2007 Friend/Associate of the Justice Institute of BC Award in February. The school supplies six administration courses in support of the Justice Institute's bachelor of fire and safety studies program. In acknowledging Heather's award, the president of the Justice Institute commented that her serices "are very highly regarded and have a lasting, positive impact on the success of our programs."

Dr. Bernie Pauly (nursing) has been named to the leadership council of the newly formed Greater Victoria Commission to End Homelessness. Pauly's extensive work on homelessness and access to health care includes contributions as a board member of the Victoria Cool Aid Society. The commission is comprised of a leadership council, funders table and co-ordinating committee and aims to house 1,500 homeless in Greater Victoria over the next five years.

Dr. Michael J. Prince, Lansdowne Professor of Social Policy, has received a President's Award from the Canadian Association for Community Living, a Canadawide association working for the benefit of persons of all ages who have an intellectual disability. Prince was recognized for "his exceptional contribution to

Transitions: New Beginnings

Tuesdays, April 15 and 22: 7 to 9 pm (two sessions). Fee: \$45 plus GST Transitions in life can be a potentially rich time which presents us with opportunities for practical, personal and spiritual growth. Learn creative and self-reflective activities that can aid you in your search for a new sense of purpose and meaning. Activities included are relevant reading material, writing, personal discovery through art making and redefining passion for living. Come away with a renewed direction and a deeper understanding of who you are, and what you value most at this time. Su Russell, MEd, is a registered clinical counsellor who draws on her personal life experiences and the collective experiences of her clients for the facilitation and content of this workshop.

University of Victoria To register, call 472-4747 or visit Division of Continuing Studies

www.continuingstudies.uvic.ca/



Athletics and recreation facilities under review

UVic's athletics and recreation facilities could soon be undergoing an upgrade.

Some of the athletics and recreation facilities are over 40 years old and no longer meet the needs of those who use them. Classrooms and teaching labs in the McKinnon Building are overcrowded, and research laboratory space is limited.

Students, faculty and staff at UVic have historically had some of the highest participation in recreation activities at universities across Canada, and while this is good in terms of community wellness, it puts a strain on recreation facilities. As UVic works to achieve its strategic goal of being a university of choice for outstanding students, faculty and staff, its amenities, including our athletics and recreation facilities, need to meet the expectations of our campus community.

In June 2006 the Department of Athletics and Recreation and School of Exercise Science, Health and Physical Education embarked on a comprehensive facility assessment study of all on-campus athletic, recreation and physical education facilities. The study sought to examine the internal needs of the two departments—for varsity sports, student and university community recreation, and teaching and research.

The study team was chaired by Kristi Simpson (budget and capital planning) and included Dr. Lara Lauzon (physical education), Dino Valeri (facilities management) and Clint Hamilton (athletics and recreation). The university retained the consultation services of Yates, Thorn & Associates, Moore Paterson Architects and G.P. Rollo & Associates. The procedure included student surveys and on-campus interviews

and meetings. It also engaged and consulted the many community charity, sport and school organizations that currently use the university facilities, along with the neighbouring community groups.

"By and large, our students use

these facilities and services more than other Canadian universities," says Hamilton. "Providing better quality and capacity of facilities will further contribute to the student experience and play a key role in attracting and retaining students, faculty and staff. In addition, with more capacity, we will be in a position to respond to community demand better than we currently do."

Currently, local sport organizations, community and charity groups use the UVic facilities as much as 200 hours each week.

The consultants' report suggests an assortment of possibilities—from simply maintaining the buildings, to building a major addition to the McKinnon Building so that most of the services are under one roof, to constructing a new building. A new building could include a pool, varsity gym with spectator seating, fitness centre and weight room. The building could also provide expanded academic space for teaching and research focussing on physical and health education and wellness. It could also house CanAssist, a UVic non-profit organization that builds individualized technology for persons with disabilities. The costs associated with the various scenarios would range from \$10 million to simply maintain the buildings, to \$90 million to construct a new building.

Athletics and recreation; the School of Exercise Science, Health and Physical Education; facilities management; and CanAssist are reviewing scenarios and developing a sustainable business and operational plan for the facilities. In addition, the university will be consulting with students.

The university is also exploring potential sources of revenue-including government funding, private donors, revenue from additional programs due to increased capacity, student fees and institutional funding.

UVic's on-campus facilities in-

clude the McKinnon Building (built 1974), Ian H. Stewart Complex (built mid1960s and acquired in 1992), Centennial Stadium (built 1967), Wallace Field, a water-based artificial field hockey pitch (nearing completion), full-size artificial turf playing field (opened 2006), and Velox field (acquired 2004). In addition there is a disc golf course (on the Cedar Hill Corner Property) and a sailing compound located at Gyro Park in Cadboro Bay. The Vikes varsity rowing teams share the boathouse at Elk Lake as their training base and the swim teams train at Saanich Commonwealth Place. However, the proposed scenarios only cover the redevelopment of the on-campus facilities.

Figures for the year ended June 2007 show that were nearly 600,000 visits to the Ian H. Stewart Complex (ISC), including 265,000 visits to the ISC Weight Centre and 17,000 visits to the ISC pool; 250,000 visits to the McKinnon Building, including 27,000 visits to the McKinnon pool. In addition, nearly 7,000 students participated in the Vikes intramural programs in 12 sports across 59 leagues, and more than 2,000 UVic students were active members of the 26 Vikes sport clubs. During that same time period there were 3,100 participants in over 60 instructional recreation courses and informal recreation (drop-in) experiences for 20,000 visitors a year. In addition, nearly half a million dollars was invested in student employment in recreation.

"It is clear that significant financial investment is needed to maintain our current facilities," says Hamilton. "With this in mind, we have the opportunity to apply this investment to facilities that will better meet our athletic, recreational and community requirements."

A recommendation regarding the various scenarios will be presented to the Board of Governors in the fall.



Wade and Sander

Collaborating in word and action:

Departments of Writing and Theatre present the FIND Studio Series

By Adrienne Holierhoek

Fourth-year writing and second-year theatre student Andrew Wade often finds himself caught in two different worlds. But the Festival of Innovative and New Drama (FIND) Studio Series is one place where he can bring his two worlds together.

The Studio Series is a collaborative, cross-department event that presents eight new plays written by students in the Department of Writing and directed and performed by students in the Department of Theatre. This works out perfectly for Andrew and makes it the ideal venue for his play William Vs. The World.

Started in 2003 by theatre department Chair Brian Richmond, the Studio Series emphasizes the importance of the developmental and collaborative process of writing and creating theatre. Plays are submitted by writing students in the fall and juried by Karen Lee-Pickett, a sessional instructor in drama in the department. Each playwright is paired with a director to go through the process of auditioning and casting their play.

Andrew's play was directed by Jane Sanden as part of her fourthyear directing class. The process of Miller. the playwright and director working together is unique. "As a director, it's a rare experience to have the writer present, actually accessible to answer your questions. You can't ask Chekhov

"It's incredibly useful to see directors and actors work their way through your script, getting to the core of your characters-especially when they find aspects of your characters you didn't realize they had," reflects Wade.

For both, it turns rehearsals into practical learning environments. "Every rehearsal teaches the process of editing; listening to where the actors stumble on their lines and where the transitions leave dead air onstage, those are the spots that need revising," comments Wade.

"The studio plays start in a raw form, and it is very exciting to watch it all come together," says Sanden.

Featured in the 2008 FIND Studio Series at Phoenix Theatre, February 28 to March 1, were: Cuffed by James R. Stewart directed by Jennifer-Lee Gunson; The Photograph by Susie Primrose directed by Jennifer-Lee Gunson; The Curse of Macbeth by Margaret Dryden directed by Sabrina Miller; Show and Tell by Alison Ross directed by Jackie Bennett; Find Drama by Christopher Kattner directed by Jackie Bennett, Shah Mat by Sam Young directed by Jane Sanden; William Vs. The World by Andrew Wade directed by Jane Sanden; and When I'm Awfully Low by Kathleen Black directed by Sabrina

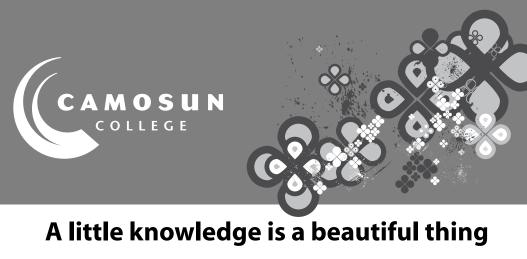
Reflecting the focus on the process, these eight plays are presented as staged readings rather than full productions, with minimal set and costuming, further enhancing the what he meant by a certain line!" says words of these talented young playwrights.



Navigate the Ever-changing Market

A longtime resident and UVic grad, Dave is helping local residents and new-comers to navigate their way through the Real Estate market. Whether buying or selling, he will assure smooth sailing. Just ask his many clients at UVic.

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Watch for Camosun's Spring/Summer **Continuing Education calendar March 15**

Email cecalendar@camosun.bc.ca if you'd like to be mailed a personal copy.

camosun.ca/ce

At the galleries www.maltwood.uvic.ca 721-6562

Living with Land Mines. To March 28. Canada's Leading Portrait Photographer V. Tony Hauser presents the shocking reality of war into an artistic context through 16 life-size portraits of Cambodian children who have suffered the consequences of land mines, accompanied by statements about each child. McPherson Library Gallery.

Where Art is Born: Artists in Their Studios. To March 31. Robert Amos. Studio portraits of 33 southern Vancouver Island artists suppleented by original artwork, mostly drawn from the university's collection. Maltwood Art Museum and Gallery. University Centre B115. 721-6313

Borderlands: Liminal Treatments of the Heart and Mind. To May 11. Work from artists Ken Flett, Charles Malinsky and Brad Pasutti who focus on the human condition with shifting treatments of space, time and memory. Legacy Gallery and Café, 630 Yates St.

Saturday, March 8

CanAssist 10 a.m. CanAssist/Safeway We Care Day. CanAssist will be working with Safeway to build

At the theatres www.phoenixtheatres.ca 721-8000

The Incredible Case of Senor Morton. March 13-22. Written and directed by Martin Zapata. Performed in English. This comic romp combines elements of classic film noir and clowning.

awareness and to fundraise for CanAssist programs. Safeway (Fort and Foul Bay Rd.) 721-7300

Monday, March 10

Open house 3-7 p.m. Enterprise Data Centre Project Open House Information Session. Michèle Pujol Room, Student Union Bldg. 472-5433

Lansdowne Lecture 3:30 p.m. Oral Traditions Around the World, Ancient to Modern. Prof. John Miles Foley, Univ. of Missouri. Clearihue A311. 721-8514

Sessions in Spirituality 3:30 p.m. Cosmology, Evolution, Psychology, the Crucifixion and the Spirituality of Hope. The Rev. Harold Munn, Church of St. John the Divine. Interfaith Chapel. 721-8338

Tuesday, March 11

Lansdowne Lecture 3:30 p.m. Meth ods of Approaching Oral Traditions. Prof. John Miles Foley, Univ. of Missouri. Clearihue A207. 721-

President's Distinguished Lecture 8 p.m. Civil Liberties and National Security. Panel discussion with Maher Arar, Monia Mazigh and Stephen Toope, moderated by Andrew Petter. Univ. Centre 721-8480

Wednesday, March 12

Studies in Religion & Society Lecture 4:30 p.m. First Contacts, Second Thoughts: Myth Understanding on the Northwest Coast. John Lutz, UVic. Strong C118. 721-6695

Thursday, March 13

Distinguished Professor Lecture 7:30 p.m. On Global Citizenship. Dr. James Tully, UVic. Strong C103. 721-7013

Lecture 7:30 p.m. Pathways of the Mind: Oral Tradition and Internet Technology. Dr. John Miles Foley, Univ. of Missouri. Clearihue A207 721-8514

Friday, March 14

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

Monday, March 17

Sessions in Spirituality 3:30 p.m. The Hope and Struggle of a Muslim Against Religious Extremism. Mohammad Younas Mirza, UVic. Interfaith Chapel. 721-8338

Lansdowne Lecture 4 p.m. Renaissance Education for the 21st Century. Dr. Ed Jernigan, Univ. of Waterloo. Strong C116. 721-7354

Tuesday, March 18

Community Based Research with Aboriginal Communities Luncheon Series 12 p.m. Caneuel (Working Together) 'Hii shuck iis tsa walk' (Everything is One). RSVP to ocbr@uvic.ca, Commons Block, Arbutus/Queenswood Rm. 472-4171

Music 12:30 p.m. Fridaymusic.

School of Music percussion stu-

dents. MacLaurin B125. 721-7904

Music 8 p.m. University of Victoria

Wind Symphony. Dr. Gerald King,

conductor. Univ. Centre Farquhar

Community Based Research with

Aboriginal Communities Luncheon

Series 12 p.m. Caneuel (Working

Together) NONG SILA. RSVP to

ocbr@uvic.ca, Commons Block, Ar-

butus/Queenswood Rm. 472-4171

Lecture 1 p.m. Mining Women's

Human Rights in the Democratic

Republic of the Congo, Africa:

Engaging Civil Society in the Proc-

ess of Upholding Women's Rights

Globally. Justine Masika Bihamba,

president of Synergie des femmes

pour les victimes des violences sex-

uelle. Michèle Pujol Room, Student

Music 8 p.m. Lansdowne guest lec-

ture recital. Helmut Lachenmann.

Union Bldg. 472-4644

MacLaurin B125. 721-7904

Auditorium. \$13-\$11. 721-7904

Tuesday, April 1

Wednesday, April 2

Lansdowne Lecture 3 p.m. The Design Process for Problem Solving. Dr. Ed Jernigan, Univ. of Waterloo. Clearihue D134. 721-7354

Wednesday, March 19

BC Institute for Co-operative Stud ies Lecture 1 p.m. Working with Nomadic Women in Mongolia. Vanessa Hammond, First Ownership Coop. MacLaurin D115. 721-8751

Tuesday, March 25

Lansdowne Lecture 7:30 p.m. The Military Aspect of Imperialism: Occupations Now and in History. Prof. Roger Owen, Harvard Univ. Strong C103. 721-7381

Wednesday, March 26

Other 12:15-1 p.m. Active U pedometer program launch. Centennial Stadium. 721-8450

Friday, March 28

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, April 3	Wednesday, March 26
Thursday, May 1	Wednesday, April 23
Thursday, June 2	Friday, May 23



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change the way we see things. Van Veggel is a professor in the University of Victoria's chemistry department and an international leader in the design and study of new photonic, or light-emitting, materials. We use photonic materials every day in devices such as computers, cellphones and printers and in devices such as laser pointers.

"In general, chemistry is very hidden, so people often don't see how pervasive it is in our lives. From shampoos to medicine to cars, chemistry is everywhere," says van Veggel, who has been the Canada Research Chair in Supramolecular Photonic Materials since 2002. The chair was recently renewed for a second term.

Supramolecular refers to the interactions between different molecules, in contrast to the interactions within a single molecule

"For example, DNA is a supramolecular structure because it is made up of two molecules combined in one helix," says van Veggel, whose research lab houses state-of-the-art instruments and computer equipment used to analyse photonic materials.

"LEDs convert electricity into light, and that's what we sometimes use in electronic displays," he says. Right now, displays on devices such

Lighting the way

Research on light-emitting materials promise advances in computing, medicine

By Jessica Gillies

Frank van Veggel's work may not be visible to the naked eye, but it could

In the coming years, van Veggel plans to expand his research into light-emitting diodes (LEDs) and optical amplifiers, which increase the intensity of optical signals.

as flat-screen TVs and cellphones use materials that are very stable but expensive to produce. Van Veggel's research aims to create less expensive polymers.

Polymers, such as plastics, are large organic molecules formed by combining many smaller molecules in a regular pattern.

"Polymers are attractive because they are relatively cheap and easy to make," says van Veggel. "But blue light in an inexpensive, polymer-based LED is still a challenge because some materials decompose to the point where they don't produce blue light anymore. We want to make new materials that are stable and give blue imaging. We've already shown that it can be done."

Optical amplifiers are used in telecommunications to boost signals, and they have the potential to create smaller, cheaper and faster devices.

"Right now, the chips in computers run on electricity, and data are stored through the use of electricity. But, in principle, we can do all our computing with photons, with light,

and that's potentially a lot faster than anything we have at the moment."

Van Veggel is particularly interested in the health applications of blue LEDs using newly designed photonic materials, including new piolabels, which can be used to detect diseases such as cancer. Biolabels are markers used by biologists to look at how cells interact with each other in living organisms.

For example, when there are suspected cancer cells that are more than three millimetres deep in the skin, visible light can't penetrate that far. But infrared light can.

"The idea is to make a nanoparticle—a particle with a dimension of one billionth of a metre-that has the desired optical properties, and attach it to an antibody that is specific to the cancer cells we're looking for," says van Veggel. "When we inject the biolabel we'll get light from a certain part of the tissue, and that tells us there are cancer cells there. It's as non-invasive as possible.

Van Veggel's research is funded by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, the Canada Foundation for Innovation, the BC





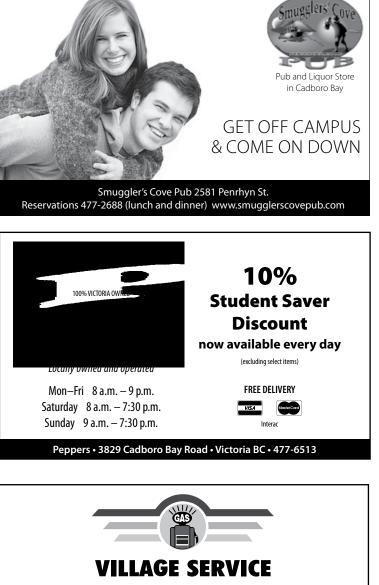


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Ottawa invests \$1 million in UVic research, tech transfer

Science research and technology transfer at the University of Victoria got a shot in the arm on Feb. 20 with a \$1.04-million grant from Western Economic Diversification Canada.

The funding, announced on campus by Minister of Western Economic Diversification Rona Ambrose, will go to four projects that are purchasing or upgrading scientific equipment and a fifth project that is expanding services to the advanced technology sector on Vancouver Island.

"We are delighted that Western Economic Diversification Canada has invested in these projects," says UVic President David Turpin. "The equipment and facilities being funded are supporting world-class research that will be of direct benefit to Canadians in fields as diverse as coastal management, drug development, alternative energy and information processing."

The projects are:

Upgrade of nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer. NMR spectrometers are used by researchers to describe the structure of molecules they study or make. The Department of Chemistry's current 300-megahertz NMR spectrometer is an essential piece of equipment that supports research with potential applications in areas as broad as drug development, alternative energy sources, advanced waste treatment and new information processing and storage technologies.

The new funding will replace the spectrometer's console. "It will not only improve the quality of the results," says UVic chemist Lisa Rosenberg, " but will hugely expand the repertoire of experiments we can perform on our samples using this instrument."

Raman microscope. Raman microscopes provide images of the chemical and structural composition of a wide range of materials. The new microscope will be used by UVic chemists and engineers to identify and develop advanced nanotechnology materials such as nanoscale microprocessors, which could be used in new generations of chips for computers. Nanoscale is 500,000 times smaller than a pinhead, encompassing the diameter of a DNA molecule.

UVic physicists such as Andrew Jirasek will also use the microscope to obtain chemical maps of irradiated biological tissues to better understand

in UVic's Department of Physics uses a beam of electrons to construct new structures or circuitry patterns as small as 50 to a few hundred atoms wide. This technology allows researchers to build micro-structures, such as new electronic and magnetic devices, with components smaller than the width of a human hair.

"With this system, we'll be able to build devices 100 times smaller than what was previously possible on Vancouver Island," says UVic physicist and department chair Mike Roney. "The level of research activity and commercial opportunities in these nanoscale technologies is increasing nationwide. We're excited that Vancouver Island will have the tools to more fully engage in these new enterprises."

VENUS monitoring system for undersea slope stability. This project will design, build and deploy an 8-km extension to the Strait of Georgia leg of the VENUS cabled subsea observatory. The extension will support instruments to study the slope dynamics of the Fraser River delta-critical information for adjacent coastal communities, utilities and facilities such as the container/coal port and the Tsawassen ferry terminal.

Partners in this \$651,100 project include Natural Resources Canada, the Weir-Jones Group, Environment Canada, the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, the universities of Oxford (UK) and Colorado (US) and TE-LUS. Led by UVic, VENUS is the world's most advanced cabled ocean observatory, providing live data from the seafloor. For more information visit www.venus.uvic.ca.

Vancouver Island Technology Park. UVic's Vancouver Island Technology Park (VITP) accelerates the transfer of technology from research labs to the marketplace. Its conference centre (previously known as the business centre) is a focal point for Vancouver Island's high-tech sector to meet and share ideas. This funding will expand the conference centre and further assist VITP's ability to nurture small to medium-sized technology firms. The funding will also be used for a security upgrade, marketing materials and an economic impact study covering the 2007 fiscal year.

Western Economic Diversificaon Canada is a federal department



A DAY IN THE LIFE OF VICKIE THOMAS may see her starting work at 6 a.m. or finishing up at midnight. Thomas is in her eighth year as a print operator for Printing Services. During the busiest times-before the start of the fall and winter semesters-the printing machines run 18 hours a day.

Although there are few women in this field, Thomas, who studied applied communications at Camosun College, began running an offset printing press at age 18 and worked in a commercial printing firm the next year. At UVic, she and other operators rotate job stations running the Digimaster, a high speed digital copier that can print 6,000 blackand-white copies per hour; a digital colour copier for full-colour copies; an offset printing press, which is cheaper for high volume printing and can print two colours at the

same time; a scanner, which converts hard copy to digital files; a collator; a folding machine; a guillotine cutter and a shrink wrapper.

"Everyone tries to make it sound like their job is the most urgent," she laughs. "Now we are hearing terms like 'urgent rush' and 'absolute rush'-it's hard to tell which job is more important.

"It can be a hard job with lots of standing and lifting. I'm tired at the end of the day when it's been very busy and noisy. I keep in good shape, though, and use custom-made hearing protection," she says. "I wore a pedometer for a while and did 10,000 steps, no problem! It feels good when you have completed a quality job and met an 'urgent absolute rush' request."

The industry has changed drastically over the past 20 years, with advancing technology as well as

environmental consciousness. "It's not like it used to be, where all the garbage went into one big, mucky barrel," she says. Paper and plastic are recycled, spent ink is sent away for recycling and photographic chemicals are treated as hazardous waste.

Thomas is the mother of two sons, the elder of whom just finished his history degree at UBC and moved home pending law school. "It's invigorating living with a grown-up son," she says. "He's an extravagant cook. We never have just a bagel!"

Thomas enjoys taking photographs, and several of her photos hang on the front wall of the office. She is also taking courses for a business administration certificate through the CUPE 951 professional development fund to expand her job skills at the university.



Artist's rendering of new Enterprise Data Centre

radiation damage in patients undergoing radiation therapy for cancer. Electron beam lithography (EBL)

system. The EBL system to be installed

that works in partnership with the provinces, industry associations and communities to encourage diversification of the Western economy.

EDC building

Construction of UVic's new Enterprise Data Centre building will begin in May 2008. The facility will meet the university's growing requirements for computing capacity and server storage. The target completion date is December 2008. The building

site is north of McKenzie Avenue, between the Technology Enterprise Facility parking lot/community garden and T Hut. Access to the Enterprise Data Centre will be via McKenzie Avenue.

An open house information ses-

sion about the project will take place Monday March 10, 3-7 p.m. in the Michèle Pujol Room of the Student Union Building. For more information, contact Neil Connelly, director of campus planning and sustainability, at 472-5433 or nconn@uvic.ca.



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