



**University
of Victoria**

SPEED READING

UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

UVic remains near the top

The University of Victoria is in the number-two spot for Canadian comprehensive universities—after SFU—in this year's *Maclean's* university rankings. UVic scored particularly well on total research funding, medical science grants and the library. UVic has placed among the top four since the *Maclean's* rankings of comprehensive universities began in 1992. More: <http://bit.ly/6110B>

CHILDCARE

Private, for-profit childcare option off the table

The board of governors has set aside private childcare for the time being as a possible solution to the need for expanded childcare options for UVic faculty, students and staff. The administration will look for ways to improve current childcare facilities, seek to better integrate educational and research programs into the childcare operation, and continue to search for cost-effective ways to increase capacity. Story p.3

PREVENTING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Remembering the Montréal Massacre 20 years later

The annual National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women will take place at the university fountain Dec. 4 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. to honour the memories of the 14 women murdered at l'École Polytechnique on Dec. 6, 1989. UVic filmmaker Maureen Bradley speaks about her film *Reframing the Montréal Massacre* and her new Internet media project where you can contribute your memories. Story, p.5

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF ASTRONOMY

Theatre prof pens new play on Galileo

The International Year of Astronomy celebrates the 400th anniversary of Galileo's first telescopic observations. And for her part, Dr. Jennifer Wise (theatre) has written a play that puts Galileo's family life under the microscope, adding to our understanding of the great scientist's public life. Story, p.4



The illuminated letter "P" at the top of this page is from *The Art of Illuminating* (London: Day & Son, 1860) in UVic Special Collections. It contains 99 splendid plates exhibiting several hundred most beautifully executed examples of initial letters, alphabets, and borders from the 6th to the 16th century.



THE RING

DECEMBER 2009

*The University of Victoria's
community newspaper*

ring.uvic.ca



Student's research helps promote eco-friendly behaviour

Psychology grad student Reuven Sussman (centre) at the Hillside Centre food court where he conducted research showing that people who see others practising composting are more likely to do so themselves. Background: research assistant Matthew Stafford and psychology student Sonya Frey, who assisted with the study. See story page 8. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

80%

AMOUNT BY WHICH THE DEVELOPED WORLD MUST REDUCE ITS CARBON EMISSIONS BY 2050 ACCORDING TO "THE COPENHAGEN DIAGNOSIS"

New report sounds the alarm on climate change

BY VALERIE SHORE

Canada must commit to a stringent and binding agreement on climate change at the upcoming Copenhagen conference on climate change, says University of Victoria climatologist Dr. Andrew Weaver.

Weaver is one of 26 international authors of "The Copenhagen Diagnosis," a new report that updates climate change science since the 2007 assessment of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

The report was released on Nov. 24 by Australia's University of New South Wales in advance of the pivotal United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, Dec. 7-18.

Weaver PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

Weaver is the only Canadian contributor to the report and was the lead author for the sections on permafrost, sea ice and ice-shelves. He also worked extensively on the oceans and sea levels chapters.

"Most decision-makers are operating on the assumption that the latest information on climate science is the 2007 IPCC report, which is actually based on the science as we understood it in 2005," says Weaver. "An awful lot has changed since then."

"In a nutshell, we're in a lot worse shape than we thought," he says.

The report concludes that global climate change is occurring much faster than predicted and that global emissions must decline rapidly within the next five to 10 years for the world to avoid the worst impacts of climate change.

Among the report's observations: Global carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuels are around 40 per cent higher than in 1990.

The Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets are shrinking at an increasing rate.

Summer sea ice in the Arctic is retreating 40 per cent faster than previously projected.

Sea levels have risen 5 cm over the last 15 years—80 per cent higher than predicted.

To stabilize climate, concludes the report, global emissions of carbon dioxide and other long-lived greenhouse gases need to reach near zero well within this century.

"The Copenhagen conference represents the last chance for the world to keep the global temperature rise below 2°C—a number that most countries around the world have agreed to be the upper boundary of acceptable global warming—says Weaver, who is the Canada Research Chair in Climate Modelling and Analysis.

SEE COPENHAGEN P.6

NEPTUNE Canada goes live

After years of planning and development, the NEPTUNE Canada cabled ocean observatory—the largest and most advanced in the world—is ready to make its debut.

The public launch of live data from the depths of the Pacific Ocean takes place on Dec. 8 at 10 a.m. in the Bob Wright Centre auditorium B150. The campus community is invited to join the celebration either in person or via a live webcast at www.neptunecanada.ca.

Led by the University of Victoria, NEPTUNE Canada pioneers a new generation of ocean observation

systems that use innovative engineering, data communications and sensor technologies to gather continuous real-time data and images from the ocean.

Find out how land-based scientists from across Canada and around the world can conduct offshore and deep-sea experiments remotely, and how their discoveries will help us better understand ocean and climate change, marine ecosystems and resources, tectonic activity, and much more.

For more information about the event, call 250-472-5400.



Bremen Crawler explores Barkley Canyon. PHOTO: NEPTUNE CANADA

ringers

UVic engineering students have ranked second among the Canadian teams in the Pacific Northwest regional portion of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) International Collegiate Programming Contest—the oldest, largest, and most prestigious programming contest in the world. There were 13 Canadian and 64 US teams competing in the event. UVic’s top team, Vikes White, finished fourth, behind two teams from Stanford University and the winning team from UBC. The second UVic team finished twenty-second. More info: <http://icpc.baylor.edu/>.

David Jenkins (Pacific and Asian studies), Stephanie Lau (psychology) and Cory Lo (business) were among the four Canadian students invited to observe the Chinese Bridge Competition in Changsha, China, in August. No small event, the language competition for international students studying Mandarin is broadcast nationally and attracts an audience of millions. The three were sponsored and supported by the Confucius Institute, which promotes Chinese language and culture internationally.

Co-op photo contest shows range of experiences

Every year, UVic co-op students are invited to submit photos of their work term experiences to the Co-op Photo Contest. More than 300 photos were collected this year and were

displayed at the 2009 Co-op Info Day event in early September. Hundreds of students voted on their favourite photos. Social Sciences Co-op student Victoria Francis and Biology Co-

op student Harpaul Padda tied for first place and each took home \$375. Hundreds of photo entries are currently being displayed in Co-op and Career program offices across cam-

pus so that current and prospective co-op students can appreciate their peers’ diverse co-op experiences. More winning co-op photos: <http://coop.uvic.ca/?page=photocontest>



Victoria Francis flies through the air with the greatest of ease on her co-op work term as a zipline adventure guide for Adrena Line Zipline Adventure Tours in Sooke. “In this photo I am demonstrating a move called the spaghetti man to guests on the launching deck as I zip over the old Victoria water pipeline.”



Harpaul Padda communes with the zucchini on his work term as a research assistant with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. “My crew and I collected zucchinis from the buffer rows of our experiment in our field plot. We dumped all of the collected zucchinis in the back of the truck. I ended up with the zucchinis as well.”

Search committee struck for V-P Academic and Provost

Prof. Jamie Cassels has indicated that he will end his second term as Vice-President Academic and Provost on Dec. 31, 2010. Following an administrative leave, he plans to return to his academic position in the Faculty of Law.

“Jamie has provided superb leadership as provost over the past nine years,” says UVic President David Turpin. “His hard work, intellectual rigour, standards, fairness and dedication have benefited the University of Victoria greatly and continue to do

so. I’m sure you share my gratitude for the academic leadership he has provided and look forward, as I do, to working with him over the final year of his term.”

A search committee has been struck to search for Cassels’ successor. The membership of the committee, the search procedures and the current position description for the Vice-President Academic and Provost are posted at <http://www.uvic.ca/universitysecretary/vpacsearch/index.php>.

University presidents to work on national strategy to increase post-secondary opportunities

University of Victoria President David Turpin is leading a national initiative that represents a first step toward universities and colleges working with governments and the private and non-profit sectors to develop a comprehensive, long-term national strategy to increase post-secondary educational opportunities for all Canadians, particularly those from low-income and Aboriginal backgrounds.

Turpin, together with representatives from the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation, convened a meeting in Toronto in mid-November of presidents and senior officials from 20 universities and colleges drawn from all regions of the country.

The gathering produced a signed document—presidents’ partnership on access and success in post-secondary education—that commits their institutions to immediate action to develop programs to prepare students from under-represented groups for post-secondary studies and better support them once they are enrolled, to measure the progress toward providing greater access, and to share lessons learned and success stories that can be applied to benefit Canadians across the country.

The meeting also initiated an unprecedented level of cooperation

between educational institutions and non-profit organizations to close the participation gaps in post-secondary education. A simultaneous meeting of major non-profit organizations led by Frances Lankin, CEO of United Way Toronto, has pledged in the coming months to identify opportunities for future partnerships and synergies with universities and colleges to remove social, cultural and economic barriers and get more Canadians into university or college.

Next steps in the process will include widening the circle of universities and colleges who have signed on to the presidents’ partnership, and convening a joint national meeting of educational and non-profit leaders.

Post-secondary participation rates across the country have been falling for the past decade, with those from low-income and Aboriginal populations particularly underrepresented at universities and colleges.

Universities committed to the presidents’ partnership as of the Nov. 12 gathering in Toronto were: Carleton, McGill, McMaster, Mt Allison, Queen’s, Ryerson, UBC, Manitoba, Ottawa, Regina, Saskatchewan, Toronto, Waterloo, Western Ontario, Winnipeg, Wilfrid Laurier, and York. Confederation, Humber and Seneca joined from the college sector.

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PDSA to be celebrated in Feb. 2010

In February, UVic President David Turpin will host an employee reception to celebrate the nominees and recipients of the 2009 President’s Distinguished Service Awards.

The annual program was first launched seven years ago by the president to applaud and pay tribute to the outstanding contributions made by UVic’s exceptional employees.

A list of the 2009 PDSA nominees and more details about the

PDSA special recognition event will be available on the PDSA website soon. The site also includes information about this annual program, the new individual award categories and previous years’ recipients.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to nominate colleagues for this year’s service awards.

More: <http://web.uvic.ca/hr/pdsa>

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Bob Reimer



Street smarts

UVic research helps drive community-based solutions to homelessness in Greater Victoria

BY KAT ESCHNER

A sleeping bag in a car, an unpadded perch on a cold piece of cement, a nylon shell at a local park—this is no place like home. Yet this is the reality for an estimated 1,500 men and women who live on the capital region’s streets.

Dr. Bernie Pauly, a registered nurse and community-based researcher at the University of Victoria, wants to help change that. She’s one of a core group of university researchers and community partners who are working together to reduce homelessness in Greater Victoria.

“Shelters and mats are short-term solutions and there is a desperate need for affordable housing,” says Pauly. “When you’re without a home it’s a constant struggle to meet the basic needs of food and shelter. It’s very hard on your physical, emotional

and mental health.”

For Pauly, homelessness is as much an ethical issue as it is a health and social issue. While doing her PhD at UVic, she began to question what it would take to maintain the health of people living on the streets, instead of treating preventable illnesses over and over again.

“I went from looking exclusively at access to health care services to looking at other things that impact health, like housing, food and income,” she says. “Homelessness is an extreme form of poverty that limits access to nutritious food and adequate sleep. It exposes people to chronic stress over and over, resulting in preventable health problems and even early death.

“I want to deal with the root causes of these problems, instead of managing them over and over.”

Pauly spends a lot of time in the community, asking what information

is needed, whether existing knowledge can help, and what new research might be useful.

“On the front lines, there isn’t always time to draw key insights from the most recent research or develop new questions,” she says. “As researchers, we can translate what is known and undertake new research that helps to fill the gaps and inform action.”

In one study, Pauly and fellow UVic researchers are working with community groups to communicate research on promising ways to alleviate homelessness, and to build capacity within the community for evaluating the effectiveness of these approaches.

“For some people, safe and affordable housing and an adequate income is the answer,” says Pauly. “But for others, housing alone does not address decades of poverty, trauma, mental illness or addiction. Pathways into and out of homelessness are complex

and varied.”

In a related study, Pauly co-leads a team of university and community-based researchers from the Victoria Cool Aid Society and the Community Social Planning Council of Greater Victoria to evaluate the effectiveness of transitional shelters in breaking the cycle of homelessness.

Early findings suggest that transitional shelters have important benefits, partly because the level of care helps people deal with multiple health concerns. Transitional shelters also provide support during the often difficult search for more permanent housing, especially in cities like Victoria where affordable housing is in short supply.

Pauly says her research is propelled by one overarching belief — “that everyone deserves a home and that as a community we all have a role to play in making that happen.”

Pauly. PHOTO: HÉLÈNE CYR

Board sets aside private for-profit childcare option

Private childcare has been set aside for the time being as a solution to the challenge of facilitating childcare options for UVic faculty, students and staff.

The university’s board of governors passed a motion at its Nov. 24 meeting to defer consideration of private sector childcare as an option at this time. The board did not mandate an alternative approach, and confirmed that the issue of childcare at the university should be dealt with by the administration in the context of the normal priority and budget setting processes.

While acknowledging that childcare is “an enormously challenging issue,” board chair Ray Protti made it clear that it’s up to UVic’s ad-

ministration to determine how the issue is addressed in the future.

“Although the board has not mandated a major investment or process, we will continue to move forward on childcare,” says Vice-President Academic and Provost Jamie Cassels. “We recognize the importance of the issue and will continue to explore ways to address it.”

Cassels says that the administration will look for ways to improve facilities at the current childcare



sites, including a new roof and playground; seek opportunities to better integrate related educational and research programs into the childcare operation; and continue to search for cost-effective ways to increase capacity.

In addition to parents’ fees, the university currently allocates more than \$500,000 per year to support on-campus childcare. Vice-President Finance and Operations Gayle Gorrill advised the board that while there was “not a lot of incremental funds”

to invest in expanded childcare, “we are going to investigate opportunities both on- and off-campus to expand and enhance our childcare options.”

Among some of the options that might be considered are partnerships with nearby neighbourhood childcare facilities, in-home childcare within Family Student Housing and other models of community childcare delivery.

“We welcome input and suggestions and will be discussing possible childcare options with stakeholders over the next several months,” says Gorrill.

UVic Childcare Services currently has 154 spaces in a variety of programs. But like other universities, demand for childcare outstrips availability and as of August there were about 180 children on the waiting list. UVic currently ranks in the top third in a survey of 22 Canadian universities in the per-capita provision of childcare.

At its earlier meeting in September, the board requested UVic’s administration to conduct due diligence on the private childcare company Kids & Co as a way of meeting the additional needs.

In its report to the board, the administration acknowledged widespread opposition to for-profit childcare from childcare organizations and UVic employee groups. The report also indicated that while more childcare spaces are needed, committing resources to any expansion has to be considered in light of UVic’s other commitments and strategic priorities.

ringers

Dr. Andre Kushniruk (health information science) has been selected as a 2009 Fellow of the American College of Medical Informatics. The fellowship is awarded to recognized leaders in the field of health informatics who have contributed substantially in the areas of research, education and practice. Only a few Canadians have been awarded this prestigious fellowship over the last 25 years.


As an international medical graduate arriving in Canada in 1980, **Dr. Oscar Casiro** had his first contact with the Canadian medical community through the Medical Council of Canada (MCC). Now, almost 30 years later, he has been named its new president. Casiro, regional associate dean, Vancouver Island, and head of the Division of Medical Sciences at UVic, was inducted as the new MCC president in October. The MCC develops and implements tools and strategies to evaluate physicians’ competence and maintains the national registry of physicians in Canada.

At the Vikes Honour Roll Luncheon in November, a record 60 UVic Vikes student-athletes were recognized for their academic achievement and status as Academic All-Canadians.

Remy Mock, second-year member of the Vikes swim team and science major, received the Provost Award for Excellence for the returning student with the highest academic average. Also in November women’s basketball player **Kayla Dykstra** received the CIS Top Eight Academic all-Canadian award. UVic’s first recipient of the award, Dykstra was one of eight CIS athletes selected from among the country’s 2,256 CIS Academic all-Canadians. List of all Vikes Honour Roll recipients: <http://bit.ly/53kg8a>

The Vikes women’s cross-country team won this year’s Canada West conference title in November and placed fourth overall nationally. It’s their 18th Canada West banner. Coach **Brent Fougner** was named Coach of the Year for the fifth time and **Lauren Beaulieu** received the conference’s student-athlete award in recognition of her commitment to athletics, academics and community.


UVic writing student **Yasuko Thanh** is the winner of the 2009 Journey Prize, Canada’s most significant monetary award given to an emerging writer for a short story or excerpt from a fiction work-in-progress. She won the \$10,000 award for *Floating like the Dead*, a fictional account of the D’Arcy Island leper colony. “The first time I heard about it, I almost didn’t believe it,” recalls Thanh. “So I went to look it up in the BC history books I had on my bookshelf, and it wasn’t even mentioned. This is the part that really got me going. How could this have happened, how could these people have lived and died, under those circumstances, and there not even be a sanitized version?” Thanh is spending part of her award proceeds on a girl’s scholarship in Africa, a library in a box and literacy training for two women through Plan Canada.



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Total Payout to Age 100		\$201,321	\$181,179	\$163,509	\$145,162	\$137,820	\$127,945
Accelerated Payout:		Income over 5 years\$1,821 Income over 10 years \$991 Income over 15 years \$717			Total 5 year payout\$109,238 Total 10 year payout.....\$118,890 Total 15 year payout.....\$129,060		

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The Ring December 2009 Page 3

Theatre department looks to the stars for International Year of Astronomy

BY ADRIENNE HOLIERHOEK

Galileo proposed that, “All truths are easy to understand once they are discovered; the point is to discover them.” Dr. Jennifer Wise, theatre historian, playwright and professor in the Department of Theatre, has discovered some pretty unsettling truths about the famous Renaissance physicist, mathematician, philosopher and astronomer—unsettling enough to inspire her to write a new play, *The Moons of Jupiter*.

Last year, in anticipation of the International Year of Astronomy, a global celebration of the 400th anniversary of Galileo’s first telescopic observations, Dr. Sara Ellison (physics and astronomy) approached the theatre department about making a contribution to this special event. Wise took up the challenge.

Researching the possibilities, she noted that there was a scarcity of great plays on astronomical themes. The best-known play on the subject, Bertolt Brecht’s *Life of Galileo*, was historically inaccurate in its representation of Galileo’s family members, particularly in its depiction of his daughters. Says Wise, “Galileo’s life is riddled with troubling questions—questions that cut to the very heart of his reputation as a scientist and a man.”

Galileo, working with descriptions of the telescope invented by Hans Lippershey, developed the telescope to reach 30x magnification and, in 1609, used it to investigate the planets and stars. One of his most important discoveries was that the planet Jupiter revolved while its

satellite moons orbited around it. His findings supported—contrary to the Vatican’s interpretation of scripture at the time—the existing concept that Earth was not the centre of the universe and that it orbited around the sun. For this he was tried at the Inquisition, deemed “vehemently suspect of heresy,” and forced to recant to maintain his relationship with the church.

Wise found the dichotomy between the myth of the great scientist and the truth of his life and family fascinating. Known as the father of modern science, Galileo was also the father of three illegitimate children, Virginia, Livia and Vincenzo. Though he retained custody of them all, he chose not to marry their mother, a commoner below Galileo’s social standing and aspirations. He sent his daughters to live the entirety of their lives in a convent when they were only 12 and 13 years old, while enabling his son to enjoy all the privileges of liberty and a university education. Wise was inspired by the work of science writer Dava Sobel, who translated Virginia’s 124 surviving letters to her father. It is through these letters that scholars, and Wise, have attempted to fill in the details of Galileo’s personal life.

In her play *The Moons of Jupiter*, Wise portrays the family dynamics between Galileo and his children, while focusing on the lives of his two daughters in seclusion in the San Matteo Convent in Florence. Beginning with a comet that traverses the night sky in 1618, the play spans the years of Galileo’s altercations with Rome and his supposed imprison-



Collaborators in *The Moons of Jupiter*: (L-R) Azalea Micketti (who plays a nun), Blackstone, Hesser, Ellison and Wise. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

ment there.

“The members of his family revolve around Galileo like planets in a solar system, and it is through their stories that we can begin to understand this philosopher and astronomer’s entire life, not just his science,” says Wise. “I discovered, through the process of allowing these marginalized historical figures to speak, that Galileo’s family drama provides a surprisingly powerful tool for understanding his public life.”

In November, Dr. Sarah Blackstone, dean of the Faculty of Fine

Arts, directed a three-week workshop process of this new play with students in the Department of Theatre, culminating in its first staged reading Nov. 25–28.

“As a collaborative project involving the playwright, director and students, we all learned a great deal in the process of making the script come alive,” says Blackstone. “The challenge has been to preserve Dr. Wise’s fascinating story while helping the author make necessary changes so that the play will work on the stage. For me, it was

very nice to be able to set aside my administrative tasks for a time and engage in the creative process again.” Ellison has maintained her involvement in the project, acting as the science advisor to the play.

According to Jim Hesser, director of the National Research Council’s Astrophysical Dominion Observatory and the Canadian chair for the International Year of Astronomy, *The Moons of Jupiter* is the only new full-length play created in Canada in honour of the International Year of Astronomy.

Law co-op student reaches out to those less fortunate

BY WILL JOHNSON

As a legal advocate for the Victoria-based non-profit legal advocacy organization Together Against Poverty Society (TAPS), UVic law student Melanie Hudson was given the opportunity to have a direct impact on the lives of those around her. Though she was already involved in the community through her volunteer work with a number of organizations, it was her co-operative education work term with Chamber of Commerce member TAPS that made her feel like she was really making a difference.

“The things I was seeing were breaking my heart,” says Hudson, who experienced poverty as a child and

has devoted her life to helping others. “At TAPS I didn’t feel like I was just applying a band-aid, I felt like we were finding real solutions.”

Hudson worked primarily on the Income Assistance Advocacy Project, where she provided legal advice to people from all walks of life, including young single parents, the homeless, seniors, immigrants and people with disabilities. It gave her a chance to put her law knowledge into practice in a tangible way, something that TAPS Coordinator Tricia Roche appreciated.

“Melanie is a very compassionate person,” she says. “Working with TAPS gave her the opportunity to blend that strength with what she was learning in law school.” Many of TAPS’ projects have waiting



Hudson. PHOTO: WILL JOHNSON

lists, as they sometimes they find themselves short-staffed and unable to assist everyone who approaches

them. With co-op students to help bear the workload, Roche explains, they are able to help significantly more people.

“Hiring a co-op student also allows TAPS to expose young people to poverty-law issues and the needs and capacities of some of the most vulnerable people in our communities. I know that the people Melanie assisted are in a better situation because of her work,” says Roche. “Plus, co-op students like Melanie return to the classroom with a deeper understanding of the experiences of people in poverty, including their gifts and their struggles.”

Hudson has moved on to another co-operative work term, but she still carries many of her memories from TAPS with her. One case that left a

profound impression on her was helping a refugee from Rwanda. “I helped a woman who was quite traumatized because she lived in Rwanda during the genocide. She had post-traumatic stress disorder and agoraphobia,” says Hudson, who went out of her way to help this woman.

“I had to gather all of the information she needed to apply for income assistance. This woman had absolutely no resources and no income. She was so grateful during the whole process and very appreciative of everything I had done. Clients like her remind me of how important this type of work is to the community. People don’t have to face issues on their own—there are people out there who care and who want to help.”

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Filmmaker Maureen Bradley & Reframing the Montréal Massacre

INTERVIEW BY TARA SHARPE

Q: This month is the 20th anniversary of Dec. 6, 1989—when 14 women were systematically murdered by a gunman at l'École Polytechnique in Montréal. What can you tell us about what this date means to you, and about your 1995 video project Reframing the Montréal Massacre, which explores how media shaped the reality of what you call “the most brutal mass murder in Canadian history”?

At that time, I had just finished my undergraduate studies at Concordia University in Montréal, and had been asking myself am I feminist or am I a humanist? Then there it was, writ large: I was at the university right down the hill, and it happened so close, only a few blocks away. I was involved with the women's group at Concordia, and we would get death threats, even after the event every year on Dec. 6. It shook my world to the core at such a formative age.

Reframing the Montréal Massacre was my master's thesis project, begun less than two years after the massacre.

The attack went right to the heart of privilege. And the film demonstrates that the media unintentionally staged a second attack, especially with the subtle choices made by editors and

producers. It was a very centralized news system then [without the Internet's open platform of public discussion now], and there was a gender bias, no doubt about it. There were choices about use of front-page photos, about who provides comment about the attack and who doesn't, and even portrayals of the gunman as a victim.

It was a very challenging piece. So far I have produced 40 or more films and this production was really the hardest one.

When I watch the film now, I can feel my anger flying out. Twenty years later, I'm older and I think it's different now. The classroom I was in then was quite different from the classes today. A savvy public no longer takes what it sees in the news as fact.

Q: What would you say to university students today, some of whom were toddlers or not even born in 1989?

I would ask them not to forget that, less than a generation ago, women were killed just for going to university.

It was a different world. But women are still experiencing gender-based violence. So where do we go from here? The way we raise our children is critical, but I think it is still just beginning. There is so much to do.

Q: What can you tell us about your new multi-authored cyber-media project?

Momento Mori is the inverse of the media coverage 20 years ago: it's an open forum and new online memorial project calling for constructive two-minute answers to the question, “How do you remember the Montréal Massacre?”

I'm the project originator and UVic MFA student Scott Amos (writing) is the website creator. We're launching it on Dec. 6, and we invite submissions in any language. There will be a French version of the website too.

I'd like to come back to it every December and, hopefully with some additional funding, keep reconvening for a decade.

Q: How can readers get a copy of the original 27-minute video?

They can visit the Momento Mori website www.montreal-massacre.ca and view the video on Vimeo.



Maureen Bradley is an award-winning filmmaker, writer, media artist and instructor in UVic's Department of Writing.

The annual National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women will take place at the UVic fountain on Friday, Dec. 4 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. to honour the 14 women's memories and to call for continued hope for change and positive action on violence against women.

Living with a mentally ill parent

Students create unique support program for teens

BY MELANIE TROMP HOOVER

Two UVic students are putting the power of shared experience to work next term with an innovative pilot program aimed at youth in the greater Victoria community.

Undergraduate students Lilia Zaharieva and Rachel Winter will be working with the BC Schizophrenia Society (BCSS) in January to create and co-facilitate a psycho-educational support group for teenagers living with parents who suffer from mental illness.

“I think this program is really exciting because it will empower the youth involved to become a major part of their own healing process,” says Winter, who is currently completing her third-year practicum for her child and youth care degree with the BCSS.

Both students had been looking to get involved with the BCSS, but it wasn't until BCSS Executive Director Hazel Meredith handed Zaharieva a copy of Michelle D. Sherman's book, *I'm Not Alone* that she knew where she fit in as a volunteer with the organization.

“It happened so organically—I had a look through the book and it said everything that I could have wanted to hear as a child growing up with a mentally ill parent,” says Zaharieva, a third-year English and philosophy student. “As soon as I finished this book I knew I wanted to share the ideas in it with a larger community.”

Zaharieva began research for a program proposal and discovered that somewhere between 20 and 25 per cent of all teenagers live in homes with a family member who has a mental illness.



Winter and Zaharieva. PHOTO: ROBIE LISCOMB

She also read that this particular age group of youth is at high risk for developing mental illness themselves due to both genetics and usually unstable home environments.

“Right now there's no direct support for this group of teenagers in Victoria or even on Vancouver Island,” says Zaharieva. “In fact, there are barely any resources of this type available in Canada.

“My main goal is to raise awareness, because people don't talk directly about how mental

illness affects youth and yet it's so common—it blows me away what a difference the concept of shared experience makes.”

With the author's permission, Zaharieva and Winter repurposed the topics covered in Sherman's book into eight weeks of supportive, pro-active curriculum that will culminate in a group rock climbing session.

“We'll be covering topics that explore feelings, self-care strategies, safety plans and communication strategies,” explains Winter.

The pilot program will be run out of the BCSS office and is open to all youth living with parents who have mental health issues—although the material covered focuses on coping tools common to families affected by schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and chronic depression.

“This group will give five to eight youths a safe space to process their thoughts in an environment that is about them rather than their parents,” says Winter. “It will help these teens break the stigma around mental illness by learning how to educate their friends and others about their experience.

“Many are already little parents themselves, so this program is also a chance for these youth to have fun and just be their age.”

January's pilot program received a \$1,200 grant from the Queen Alexandra Foundation for Children's youth-initiative committee and a tremendous amount of support from high school counsellors in the Greater Victoria area.

For more information or to get involved, contact the BC Schizophrenia Society: 250-384-4225 or exedir.bcscs@shaw.ca

around the ring

UVic grad leads RUCBC

Robin Ciceri has been appointed president of the Research Universities' Council of British Columbia. Ciceri has had a long and distinguished career in the BC government, where she held leadership positions in intergovernmental relations, labour relations and post-secondary education and served as deputy minister of the Ministry of Human Resources, the Ministry of Small Business and Revenue and the Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development. She holds a bachelor's degree in history, a professional certificate in secondary education and a master's of public administration degree—all from UVic.

Nominate your favourite academic

The Confederation of University Faculty Associations of BC has announced the addition of a new category—the Early In Career Award—to their annual Distinguished Academics Awards. Nominations for the Early in Career Award, Academic of the Year Award, and the Paz Buttedahl Career Achievement Award are open from now until Feb. 5. Information and nomination forms: www.cufa.bc.ca/awards

Compost your paper cups

UVic's campus composting system now accepts all paper-based cups, even if they don't say “compostable” on them. Just remember to dump out any excess coffee or tea first. And the lids can go into any recycling bin that accepts bottles, cans and plastics. The results will be a lot of paper removed from our landfill stream. Centralized compost bins are located outside SUB, the fountain and the quad, and many offices are taking part in the Office Compost Program. Info: <http://web.uvic.ca/sustainability/>

Let UVic Libraries erase your library fines

Until Dec. 11, for each non-perishable food item donated, library users will have \$2 waived in library fines, up to a maximum of \$20. Food items will be distributed to the Mustard Seed and the UVSS Food Bank. Most-needed food items include: rice, pasta, baby food, juice boxes, dried peas and beans, and canned fish. Last year, over 400 library users paid in food totaling \$4,053. The goal for 2009: \$4,500. Donations can be made at: McPherson Library Loan Desk, Music & Media Loan Desk (McPherson/Mearns), Curriculum Library (MacLaurin)

Let Campus Security Services ease your parking blues

Campus Security Services (CSEC) is spreading some extra holiday cheer by hosting the other annual food-for-fines initiative at UVic. This month, CSEC will reduce your parking ticket fine by \$5 for a donation of a non-perishable food item. Last year, more than six boxes of food were donated to the Mustard Seed and UVic Family Centre. Bring your parking tickets and food donations to the Campus Security Building near the bookstore, now through Dec. 24, Mon.–Thurs. 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Fri., 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



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UVic 2009 United Way campaign in the final stretch

BY TARA SHARPE

Finding great deals is a holiday theme this month, and the UVic Commerce Students' Society (CSS) knows how to recognize a clever business opportunity for raising money for charity.

The CSS is hosting a Dec. 4 garage sale from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Michèle Pujol room at UVic's Student Union Building, featuring inexpensively priced "recycled" garage sale goodies but also new items, thanks to retail donations by local stores.

Mikaila Almond, UVic undergraduate student (business) and co-director of charity for CSS, thinks it's "a perfect time of year to host a garage sale. Students are clearing out their dorm rooms before heading home for the holidays, and many of us need to find cheap Christmas gifts. Everything not sold is going back to

the community too, so it's presents for everybody."

"It's really important to give back to the community," says Kimberley Stephenson, also a UVic business undergrad and the other CSS co-director of charity, who helped collect the garage sale donations in advance of the sale. "The CSS is a professional development union as well, and strives to provide opportunity for the leaders of tomorrow."

For those who want to eat before they shop, the 2010 UVic JDC West team is holding a bake sale and cake walk on the same site. (In recognition of the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women gathering occurring on Dec. 4—see article on page 5—the team will suspend the cake walk between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.)

The CSS is donating all money

raised to the United Way of Greater Victoria.

As of press-time, \$252,392 has been raised toward the \$275,000 goal for the UVic 2009 United Way campaign.

The CSS is an independent, student-run organization dedicated to creating unique opportunities for its members as well as the local business community. The 2010 JDC West Business Competition is the largest academic case competition in Western Canada, and the 2010 UVic JDC West team will be taking part in the Jan. 15–17 competition.

Last month, UVic business students also splashed out for charity with the Nov. 3 "Chillin' for Charity" event. The 2010 JDC West team organized the United Way dunk tank fundraising event.

More UVic United Way information: <http://unitedway.uvic.ca>



(L-R) CSS co-directors of charity Almond and Stephenson get their hands on some of the early haul prior to the Dec. 4 garage sale. PHOTO: TARA SHARPE

Knowledge Infrastructure Program up and running

The University of Victoria is benefiting from a stimulus package jointly funded by the federal and provincial governments to support infrastructure enhancement at Canadian post-secondary institutions.

UVic will receive nearly \$42.5 million in project funding through the Canada-British Columbia Knowledge Infrastructure Program (KIP) to renovate six buildings averaging 40 years of age. The project will extend the useful lives of the buildings while improving safety, increasing energy efficiency and reducing maintenance requirements.

The work, scheduled for completion by March 2011, includes seismic upgrades, safety improvements (e.g. sprinklers and fire alarms), mechanical upgrades to water and heating systems and electrical improvements.

Seismic upgrades and interior renovations are currently under way in Cornett B wing.

Work on the Elliott Building will begin in January 2010, with exterior seismic foundations, reinforcing and concrete. The construction

manager is currently setting up site trailers and carrying out exterior seismic drilling.

The final phases of asbestos abatement work in the MacLaurin Building will be completed over the December holiday period. Construction will begin in January, including seismic reinforcing work to the basement foundation and first floor of A wing.

Consultants are currently finalizing work packages for life safety upgrades and sprinkler systems for University Centre, Cunningham and Clearihue. The first tenders for these projects are anticipated early in the new year.

"We urge members of the university community to use caution in construction areas," said Facilities Management Executive Director Tom Smith. "We are working to minimize the impact on staff and students, and would like to thank everyone for their patience while the university completes these significant upgrades."

KIP updates: <http://communications.uvic.ca/uvicinfo/announcement.php?id=178>

COPENHAGEN CONTINUED FROM P.1


He says the developed world must commit to reducing carbon emissions by 80 per cent by 2050 and 50 per cent globally. A third of those reductions are needed by 2020.

"The Canadian government says it is committed to keeping global temperature increases to below 2°C, but it can't say that without a stringent bind-

ing agreement," says Weaver. "Canada needs to take a progressive role and show international leadership. We have to start turning the corner now. The urgency can't be overstated."

The full text of "The Copenhagen Diagnosis" report is available online at www.copenhagendiagnosis.com.

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University of Victoria
Centre for Studies in Religion & Society

John Albert Hall Lectures

The John Albert Hall Lectures are sponsored by the Anglican Diocese of British Columbia and the Centre for Studies in Religion and Society at the University of Victoria.



Tales from Sinai
Janet Soskice, Cambridge University
January 7, 11, 12, 13, 2010 | 7:30 p.m.
Social Sciences and Math Building, Room A120

Lecture 1 Thursday, January 7
Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. Lewis and the Sinai Gold Rush: How Two Scottish Sisters Made a Priceless Discovery

Lecture 2 Monday, January 11
The Engaging and Slightly Terrifying World of Text Scholarship, or What Agnes and Margaret Did Next

Lecture 3 Tuesday, January 12
Naming God at Sinai, or Is the God of Classical Christianity a Monster?

Lecture 4 Wednesday, January 13
Climbing Mountains and Following God: From Spirituality to Ethics



Janet Soskice grew up in British Columbia and has lived for many years in England where she is Professor of Philosophical Theology at Cambridge University. She writes for *The Times* and *The Times Literary Supplement* and is a frequent contributor to radio and television. Professor Soskice is the author of numerous books on women, language and metaphor in religion. Her most recent work is *Sisters of Sinai: How Two Lady Adventurers Discovered the Lost Gospels* (Knopf, summer 2009).

Persons with a disability requiring accommodation for these lectures should call 250-472-4947 at least 48 hours in advance. For more information visit www.csr.uvic.ca or phone 250-721-6325.

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

calendar highlights

Events free unless otherwise indicated.
For a complete list of events, visit the online calendar at www.uvic.ca/events

at the galleries

uvac.uvic.ca
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■ **Artists' demonstration**

1 p.m. *The Legacy Gallery's Christmas Artist-in-Residence Series.* See some of Victoria's local artists at work. Come for lunch and browse the gift shop for unique Christmas gifts of handmade local art and crafts. Selina Jorgensen, silk screen artist, Dec. 5; Laureen Bolland, kelp basket weaver, Dec. 12; Gera Scott Chandler, polymer clay artist, Dec. 19; Jessica White, jewelry artist every Sat. until Dec. 18 from 1–3 pm. Legacy Art Gallery and Cafe 630 Yates St. 250-721-8480

■ **Exhibit** *Inside Chinatown.* Paintings by Robert Amos. Until Jan. 17. Twenty original paintings of the fascinating interiors of Victoria's Chinatown. Legacy Art Gallery and Café. 630 Yates St. 250-721-8298

■ **Exhibit** *Travels and Treasures.* Until Jan. 29. Two views on foreign travel: Divine Inspirations focuses on artist Katharine Maltwood and her travels to Egypt and Japan in the early 20th century. Treasures of the Turcomans features jewelry, textiles and carpets made by nomadic women in Iran and Baluchistan (northern India/Pakistan) during the 1930-40s. UVic Centre B115. 250-721-8298



Yen Wo Society building, from the exhibition "Inside Chinatown" by Robert Amos

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3

■ **Music** 10:30 a.m. *African Percussion Concert.* The 30-member percussion ensemble from MUS 208 African Hand Drumming. MacLaurin B125. 721-7904

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

■ **United Way Garage Sale** 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. SUB Pujol Rm. malmond@uvic.ca

■ **Other** 11:30 a.m. *National Day to End Violence Against Women 20th Anniversary.* Music and Speakers. UVic fountain by Mearns Centre Library.

■ **Music** 12:30 p.m. *Fridaymusic.* School of Music students in a program for various instruments. MacLaurin B125. Admission by donation. 250-721-7904

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

■ **Other** 10 a.m. *Life Drawing Sessions with Model.* And Dec. 12. All skill levels welcome. Visual Arts A150. \$5. 250-721-8011

■ **Music** 1 p.m. *Tuba Christmas.* Eugene Dowling, conductor. Market Square (560 Johnson St.). Proceeds to benefit the Times Colonist Christmas Fund. 250-721-7904

■ **Music** 8 p.m. *University of Victoria Chorus and Orchestra—Masterworks from*

the Chorus Literature. János Sándor, conductor; Susan Young, chorus director; Susan Young, soprano; Benjamin Butterfield, tenor; Jonathan Goldman, bandoneón. Tickets \$5-\$16 UVic Centre Farquhar Auditorium. 250-721-8480

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

■ **Music** 2:30 p.m. *University of Victoria Philomela Women's Choir.* Ana Alvarez, conductor. St. Aidan's United Church. (3703 St. Aidan's St.) \$10-\$12. 250-721-7904

■ **Music** 2:30 p.m. *Tuba Christmas Reprise Recital.* Eugene Dowling, conductor. MacLaurin B125. Admission by donation 250-721-7904

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8

■ **Cafe Scientifique Seminar** 6:30 p.m. *From Brain To Brawn: New Insight Into Strengthening After Stroke.* Dr. E. Paul Zehr, UVic. Strathcona Hotel, 919 Douglas St., Maple Room. 250-472-4067

■ **Lecture/Seminar** 7:30 p.m. *Wildlife in an Arctic Bird Sanctuary.* Shona Lawson. Learn about how some of the sanctuaries' wildlife deals with the high energy demands of reproduction. Strong C103. Victoria Natural History Society. 250-388-7158

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10

■ **Other** 7p.m. *Holiday Art Auction.* An evening of art, music and excitement. UVic Visual Arts Bldg. 250-721-8011.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7

■ **John Albert Hall Lecture** 7:30 p.m. *Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. Lewis and the Sinai Gold Rush: How Two Scottish Sisters Made a Priceless Discovery.* Janet Soskice, Univ. of Cambridge. 250-721-6325

LARGE HADRON COLLIDER

“Around the ring” near Geneva

Deep underground near Geneva, Switzerland, the world's biggest science experiment powered into action again on Nov. 20 with the first full circulation of proton beams making a circuit around the Large Hadron Collider (LHC).

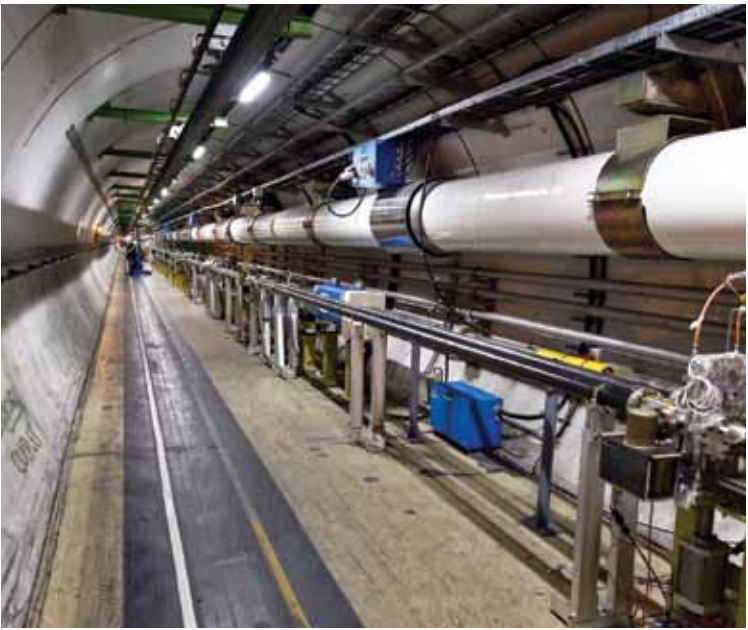
The subterranean action wasn't only taking place in Europe in the 27-km circular tunnel buried 100 metres underground; it's been full speed ahead at the University of Victoria since the early 1990s.

The UVic-ATLAS team is responsible for designing and building several crucial components of the ATLAS-Canada detector—the massive “camera” in the LHC for collecting data from the debris of proton collisions, which will help particle physicists explore the origins of mass and probe

the possible existence of new space dimensions.

UVic physics professor Dr. Michel Lefebvre, founding spokesperson of the ATLAS-Canada project currently led by UVic adjunct professor Dr. Rob McPherson, greatly benefited from early work by UVic physics colleagues Drs. Alan Astbury and Richard Keeler. The UVic-ATLAS team now includes Drs. Justin Albert, Robert Kowalewski and Randall Sobie as well as more than 25 students, associates, technicians, computer experts, engineers and scientists.

The team will turn its attention—and that of the ATLAS-Canada detector—to data streaming from the LHC over the next months and decade. Ongoing updates are posted at <http://press.web.cern.ch>.



Large Hadron Collider (LHC). IMAGE COURTESY CERN

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University of Victoria



“The scholarship I received has given me the financial peace of mind that I will graduate debt-free without having to work during the school year. It is a wonderful gift I hope to be able to give back to the community later in my life.”

'Tis the season to compost

Student's research helps promote eco-friendly behaviour

BY AMBER MCMILLAN

While you're out completing your holiday shopping this year, you could also be setting an example that encourages others to practise eco-friendly behaviour.

Recent research by Uvic psychology graduate student Reuven Sussman proves that setting a good example works. Sussman's research has shown that people in restaurants or shopping mall food courts are far more likely to compost when they see others around them doing the same. A bonus result is that, partly due to Sussman's study, management at Mayfair Shopping Centre—one location of his experiment—are looking into changing and improving their waste-management procedures.

On Nov. 26, Sussman successfully defended his master's thesis—Effectiveness of Prompts and Models on Food Composting by Restaurant Patrons—completed under the supervision of leading environmental psychologist Dr. Robert Gifford with funding from the Sara Spencer Foundation and composting facilities donated by reFUSE, a local commercial composting facility.

Sussman's research began in Uvic's Vertigo Nightclub in the SUB building, where he observed people for one week, using a sign over a bin providing composting directions to customers. Later, he improved the sign

and introduced extra tabletop signs with general messages for a second week and the percentage of people who followed the sign directions and composted increased 13–21 per cent.

On the third week, Sussman introduced a behavioral model, someone who sat near the compost as a visual demonstrator and visibly composted material. Then finally, on the fourth week, he added two models who interacted with each other, asked each other questions about the composting and then composted their waste. This final phase of the experiment proved the most successful, increasing the percentage of people who composted from 24-43 per cent of all customers.

For his master's thesis project, Sussman drew from his original experiment, conducting his research over a single day in each of three community locations: the Beacon Drive In patio, Mayfair Shopping Centre food court, and the Hillside Centre food court. The results showed that in all three locations people were more likely to compost when they saw others doing it.

"As it turns out, seeing others behave pro-environmentally in front of you makes it more likely that you will do so as well," says Sussman. "So remember, when you practise environmentally friendly behaviour in public, you're creating a double benefit: you're doing your part and also encouraging others by example to follow your lead."

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Agueh. PHOTO: ROBIE LISCOMB

BY AMBER MCMILLAN

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF Kade Agueh is about secretarial work, but it's not just that—Agueh gets real satisfaction out of putting out small fires in the lives of all of the students, faculty, and various other people who find themselves at her desk. Agueh says, "I'm able to solve problems. Even if I just help one person in a day, I'm happy. I've been a student myself, and I know what it's like to be lost, to be searching for information or answers about things."

Through Uvic Secretarial Services placements, Agueh has worked in offices across campus, including the Learning and Teaching Centre, Uvic Communications, and Accounting Services. She is also a key organizer for many community projects and is the mother of two small children.

When Agueh's not juggling telephone and e-mail inquiries, firing off media releases or patiently guiding distraught students, she spends her time organizing presentations and pageants to educate young people around Victoria about

Africa, dismantling stereotypes and illustrating the wonders of the vast continent.

In October, Agueh put together the "African Eloquent Pageant" which encouraged self-esteem and confidence in youth, promoting diverse cultures and creating opportunities for young people. The pageant consisted of speakers, performances, and a talent show contest. Building on its success, Agueh plans to tour middle schools throughout Victoria in the new year sponsoring and promoting awareness of other cultures, particularly those in Africa.

Agueh was born in Liberia, but the family moved to Cote D'Ivoire following the civil war, then later settled in Ghana where she began her studies. Agueh soon transferred to UBC on the World University Service of Canada Sponsorship, where she completed a bachelor's degree in linguistics.

Looking to the future, Agueh plans to pursue a master's degree in education. "I love kids. I'd like to work with kids who have speech

disabilities, and draw on my degree in linguistics."

Even though her life is packed with a busy schedule, Agueh is able to find time to devote to some of her hobbies, including walking the local beaches and reading—she just finished *My Life: The Early Years* by Bill Clinton.

January 2010 is when Agueh plans to jumpstart her project to educate young students about Africa. "I'm really open to ideas and people who are interested in helping me on this project," she says, and hopes anyone who wants to get involved will email her at hardyagu@uvic.ca.

The Day in the Life series features the diversity of Uvic employees who, often working behind the scenes, contribute so much to university life. To suggest someone to profile, please contact Robie Liscomb, editor of *The Ring* (250-721-7640 or robie@uvic.ca).

Add your voice to The Anything Project

If you could do anything, what would you do?

"Stop time." "Bake a cake for the world." "Make everybody see how connected we all are."

Those are some of the many curious, serious, funny, humbling and endearing responses to that question posed by The Anything Project, a growing online global community created by Uvic Marketing and Student Recruitment, who invite everyone to add their voice to the mix.

Spearheaded by Uvic's advertising agency of record, Kaldor, the project began in an effort to capture the Uvic spirit by shooting video of students, faculty and staff answering the question on a sunny day in September. The video is being used in Uvic's high school recruitment



campaign and has grown into a website that enables anyone in the world to respond to the question and see others' responses.

As of Nov. 30, The Anything Project website has had 10,797

visits from 71 countries, and 336 people have submitted their personal dreams and aspirations for the future in words, pictures and videos.

Go to <http://anythingproject.uvic.ca> and be inspired.

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