University of Victoria

SPEED READING

CAMPUSS WILDLIFE

Osprey nesting on campus

CAMPUS HEALTH

Flu season has arrived

UVic Health Services is seeing an increasing number of students with flu-like symptoms, and it’s likely they have the H1N1 strain. Most of the cases have been mild. Those who are ill should visit www.health.uvic.ca to recognize flu symptoms, learn how to care for themselves and understand when it is appropriate to seek medical advice.

Story, page 3

CHILD CARE

Board continues deliberations on child care expansion

UVic’s Board of Governors has received a report on options for increasing access to child care and has requested further information and clarification.

Story, page 3

OLYMPIC TORCH DAY

Celebrate the arrival of the Olympic Torch in Victoria

The Olympic torch comes to Victoria on Oct. 30 and UVic is hosting a community celebration in parking lot 4 near Centennial Stadium from 4 to 5:30 p.m.

Enjoy a barbecue and refreshments and celebrate UVic’s tradition of recognition in athletics and health and wellness research and initiatives. The festivities will conclude in time to head downtown to the main torch ceremony on the lawn of the legislature.

NEW PROGRAM

Lecture launches program in social justice studies

This term, UVic has launched a new interdisciplinary minor and diploma exploring the ways in which scholars, researchers and students address and engage with issues surrounding social injustices and initiatives promoting social justice in the contemporary world.

To mark the occasion, Dr. Mary-Wynne Ashford, former UVic faculty member delivered a public lecture Oct. 1 entitled “Changing the World: What Works?” More ring.uvic.ca

UVic adds two new Canada Research Chairs

Two promising scholars in the fields of brain function and micro-engineering are the University of Victoria’s newest Canada Research Chairs.

Also renewed for a second term are three existing UVic Canada Research Chairs—in law, engineering and environmental economics.

The five chairs, funded by a total of $5.2 million, were among 181 chairs across Canada announced on Sept. 23 by Minister of State (Science and Technology) Gary Goodyear.

“The Canada Research Chairs program continues to help us attract and retain some of the brightest researchers in the world,” says Dr. Howard Brunot, UVic’s vice-president research. “The expertise of these talented individuals helps us build on our areas of strength and provides our students with the opportunity to work with researchers at the forefront of their disciplines.”

There are two types of Canada Research Chairs. Tier-1 chairs are “acknowledged by their peers as world leaders in their field” and receive $1.4 million over seven years.

Tier-2 chairs are “emerging researchers, acknowledged by their peers as having the potential to lead in their field.” They are awarded $500,000 in research funding over five years.

UVic’s two new tier-2 chairs are Dr. Clay Holroyd (psychology) and Dr. David Sinton (mechanical engineering).

Holroyd, the Canada Research Chair in Cognitive Neuroscience, is a psychologist who conducts brain research on how people detect and correct their errors and how they learn from the consequences of their actions. His research is advancing the study and treatment of addiction, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), schizophrenia and many other neuro-cognitive disorders.

“I’m especially interested in what goes wrong in the process of decision-making and learning for children with attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder,” says Holroyd. He and his research team are recording the electrical brain activity of ADHD children at play to gain a better understanding of the challenges faced by children with inattention problems.

Sinton, the Canada Research Chair in Integrated Microfluidics and Nanofluidics, describes the focus of his research as “plumbing, but not on the conventional scale.” He studies fluid flow in plumbing the width of a hair—and a thousand times smaller than that at the nanoscale.

SEE CANADA RESEARCH CHAIRS P.6

UNITED WAY

That’s a lot of change

BY TARA SHARPE

Those spare coins jangling around in your pocket or purse can quickly add up to a whole lot of positive change for someone in need in the Greater Victoria region. That’s the idea behind this year’s United Way coin drive fundraiser now in full swing across campus.

Jennie Nilsson, placement coordinator for UVic Co-operative Education Program and Career Services, is organizing the coin drive and single-handedly delivered coin jars to 120 departments across campus in mid-September.

“I’m really excited the United Way is so prominently visible in every department,” says Nilsson. “Some departments are even clamoring for some friendly competition.”

Nilsson will be posting details, once finalized, at www.unitedways. uvic.ca about how to kick off challenges between departments. Every coin collected will go to the United Way of Greater Victoria.

Nilsson delivered the jars over a three-day period, starting off first in high heels then switching to flat shoes. She admits that by the end of the first day, she “was in flip-flops.” Some feet aside, Nilsson’s enthusiasm is evident, and she emphasizes the response from numerous departments during her visits was also overwhelmingly positive.

Although Nilsson isn’t stirring them in her office, full jars can be returned to her at the co-op and career office near the UVic Bookstore to be shipped off for banking. Nilsson is also willing to slip on her flip-flops again and pick up jars. She can be contacted at jnilsson@uvic.ca or 250-721-6582. The coin drive wraps up in mid-December.

The UVic United Way campaign kicked off this year with the annual BBQ on Sept. 21. Other events are set to raise the temperature even hotter on the iconic United Way thermometers on campus and across the city. United Way of Greater Victoria hopes to raise $6.35 million this year.

“We have been hearing a lot about tough economic times in the last year or so,” says Norah McRae, executive director of UVic Co-operative Education Program and Career Services, and this year’s campaign committee chair. “This means times are even tighter for those in need. Every pledge form, coin and dollar can truly make a huge difference.”

For as little as $120 a year ($5 per pay-cheque), a job coach can be provided to help a person dealing with mental illness and looking for work.

SEE UNITED WAY P.8

OCTOBER 2009

The University of Victoria’s community newspaper

ring.uvic.ca
BY PATTY PITTS

The flu season is here—and it’s likely H1N1 according to the provincial health authorities monitoring the situation in the province. UVic Health Services is seeing an increasing number of students coming to its clinic with flu-like symptoms, and the BC Centre for Disease Control estimates 98 to 99 per cent of all flu cases are H1N1.

“Students are all ill,” says Dr. Doug Csima, president of ACE, provided to ACE. “The dedicated service that Giles has in conodont micropaleontology at the Simulation of the European Union (SPECQUE) in August in Germany. He hopes to organize a delegation to represent UVic in the future. “It’s my goal to help people see the university through the eyes of the community.”

More info: elodie@uvic.ca, 250-419-3857 and www.specque.eu

Doug Csima, president and CEO of ACE, provided to ACE.

The Ring, Fall 2009

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What do you see when you look up at the night sky? The Milky Way, our own galaxy, is a swirl of gas and stars. Andromeda, more than 2.5 million light years from our Milky Way, is the closest large galaxy visible to the naked eye. You are likely to see it this month from the sky’s northern hemisphere; it is usually best spotted in October and November and resembles a blurry star.

The UVic researchers are members of the Pan-Andromeda Archeological Survey (PAndAS), which has been studying Andromeda from the Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope at the top of Mauna Kea, Hawaii. PAndAS has now charted a panoramic image of the galaxy’s unexplored outskirts.

“Th is study—notably accomplished by Julio Navarro, Fellow of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research and a co-author of the pan-Andromeda study,” said UVic’s Dr. Kimberly Venn, UVic’s Canada Research Chair in observational astrophysics, adds, “This is big science, vast space and near-unimaginable stretches of time. Although we talk about the comparability of our work with the imaginary excavation of Andromeda—an evolution that is a short galactic snack, even one ‘bite’ would encompass about one million light years from our Milky Way. The team’s findings were published in the International Year of Astronomy.”

The motion specifically requested further due diligence regarding Kids & Co.; an analysis of the need and demand for child care at UVic; a set of questions of principle for the board, including whether it is appropriate for the university to provide child care, and if so, whether it is appropriate to subsidize child care at all and what levels, to identify any opportunity costs and, depending on the board’s answers to these questions, consider what options are possible and what form of multi-stakeholder consultation might be appropriate. Regardless of the outcome of the discussions, the university will continue to provide child care at the current levels.

FURTHER INFORMATION:
The Sept. 29 Board of Governors agenda, with link to the child care expansion report: www.uvic.ca/university-secretary/governors/meetings/2009ju110/child-care.html

Call for Proposals
Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation, BC/Yukon Region 2009 Breast Cancer Research Postgraduate Fellowship Competition

All qualified candidates are invited to apply for funding to study breast health and breast cancer through the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation, BC/Yukon Region Fellowship Program. This program is intended for qualified health care professionals, or recent graduates to begin their careers as investigators in breast cancer research. The 2009/2010 fellowship awards are generously supported by Nite of Hope, a volunteer-led event.

There are two awards available, totalling $80,000 each. Deadline for applications is November 16, 2009.

For more information, please contact Hans Stahl, Manager of Grant Allocations at 1.800.560.6171 ext 239 or hstahl@cbcf.org.
Grads travel to France to experience the Middle Ages

BY STEPHANIE JURY

From June 1-14, Bryan Solly, Ryan Hunt and I—all 2009 UVic Medieval studies grads—were privileged with the opportunity to travel to Montpellier, France, to study three different medieval manuscripts. The trip was the capstone to our undergraduate degrees. Our two weeks were spent attending lectures at the Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier III and researching our manuscripts at the Bibliothèque Universitaire de Médecine.

A month before we left for France, we each received a research question related to the manuscript we were to receive. My question, for example, was to investigate the purpose of the Jerusalem map in manuscript H142. I was to discover the physical features of this historical anthology to discover why the map was included.

Bryan and Ryan both had to discover the uses of their manuscripts through physical features as well. Bryan worked on a text containing philosophical texts, and Ryan studied a book of law.

The trip to France presented each of us with a variety of “firsts.” For one thing, none of us had ever been to Europe, the very place which we had studied for at least four years. We had the opportunity to do some additional travelling to the surrounding countryside (such as Paris, Avignon, Nîmes, and Carcassonne) in order to see first-hand the objects of our studies. The most important “first,” in my opinion, was the research we were able to conduct while at the Bibliothèque Universitaire de Médecine. It was our first chance to work with an entire manuscript. Each of us had taken at least one class at UVic pertaining to Medieval manuscripts. In those classes we were able to access the small collection of manuscript fragments that our library has. To be able to actually hold and study an entire manuscript was something we would not have had the opportunity to do had it not been for the Medieval Studies Program’s initiative to create ties with the library and university in Montpellier.

You can learn so much more by having a whole book, rather than one page, to work with. In my case, I was able to determine the contents surrounding the map, which helped lead me to the conclusion that the map was intended to visually explain the surrounding historical works on Jerusalem. Had I only been able to look at the map, which the library sent me digitally, I might not have been able to arrive at this same conclusion. I would also have missed out on the wonderful opportunity to experience a different culture, learn from different professors, and put to use the skills I have accumulated over four years of study at UVic.

The trip to Montpellier was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for all of us. For me, it reinforced my decision to continue studying the Middle Ages. It gave me a greater appreciation for what I have already learned and a desire to delve into areas of history I had never considered before. I think I can speak on behalf of all of us and say that this trip has given us the drive to continue along an academic path revolving around the discovery of Medieval history.

NEPTUNE

First views from the deep

A curious rattail fish, or grenadier, supervises the installation of a seismometer more than 2.6 km below the ocean surface at TOP 832, the deepest of five NEPTUNE Canada node sites off the west coast of Vancouver Island.

Over the summer, the NEPTUNE Canada team and its principal contractor, Alcatel-Lucent submarine networks, were hard at work installing the infrastructure and instruments on the 800-km loop that forms the world’s largest and most advanced cable ocean observatory. They successfully deployed instruments at four of the five node sites; those at the volcanic Endeavour Ridge site, 100 km off the West Coast, will be installed in 2010.

“It’s been an incredibly challenging process,” says NEPTUNE Canada director Dr. Chris Barnes. “As we all expected, quite a few problems arose. But, overall, things have gone well. We’ve taken the time to appreciate the amazing dedication and supreme effort made by so many to bring this nearly to completion. Remember, this has never been done before on this scale, anywhere.”

Led by the University of Victoria, NEPTUNE Canada pioneered a new generation of ocean observation systems that—using power and the Internet—provide continuous, long-term monitoring of ocean processes and events as they happen. For more images from NEPTUNE Canada visit the installation blog at www.neptunecanada.ca.

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Celebrating Library Month with UVic Libraries, Bookstore

October is Canadian Library Month and the UVic Libraries (with help from the Campus Bookstore) are celebrating with an exhibition of award-winning book design, a book launch and a reception and reading to honour recent UVic authors.

On Oct. 22 Michael Prince, Lansdowne Pro- fessor of Social Policy in the Faculty of Human and Social Development, launches his new book, Absent Citizens: Disability Politics and Policy in Canada (Univ. of Toronto Press). The book describes how disability exists in the shadows of public awareness and at the periphery of policy making. People with disabilities are, in many respects, missing from the theories and practices of social rights, political participation, employment and civic membership. Absent Citizens also considers social activism and civic engagements by people with disabilities and dis- ability community organizations to ameliorate the marginalization of an often overlooked seg- ment of the Canadian population. Prince will give a free public talk, followed by refreshments, Oct. 22 from 4-6 p.m. in the staff lounge of the McPherson Library.

Meanwhile, through Nov. 14, the 32 winners of the Alcuin Society Awards for Excellence in Book Design in Canada are on exhibit in the Archives and Special Collections reading room. In February, these books compete in the an- nual Stiftung Buchkunst competition, the largest book design competition in the world. In Leipzig, Germany, Award winners include BC publishers, authors and artists, including Frances Hunter, Daphne Marlett, PK Page, Paul Headrick, and UVic’s Jan Zwicky. The Alcuin Society, of Vancou- ver, promotes a wider appreciation of books and reading and supports excellence in book design and production.

And on Oct. 27, UVic Libraries and the UVic Bookstore invite everyone to a reception to honour UVic authors from 7:30–9:30 p.m. in the Bookstore. The evening will feature readings by four authors chosen from the 144 submitted works from 2007 and 2008: Lorna Jackson (writ- ing), Dost Dost (mechanical engineering), Ian Stewart, QC (sport) and Patrick Grant (English). The Legacy Awards welcome a new presenting sponsor this year, Uniglobe Geo Travel, and they’ll be hosted by a X Vancouver Island weatherman and community relations manager Bruce Williams.
in memoriam

Dr. Thom Hess passed away on Aug. 27 after a three-year battle with cancer. He is survived by his partner, Rob Taylor. Thom joined the Department of Linguistics in the late 1960s and retired in 2000. He was a gentleman, an outstanding teacher and a generous soul who shared unstintingly his time and his extensive First Nations language materials with students, colleagues and members of the First Nations communities. Many of us owe him so much. Thom is remembered fondly by students (and their children and grandchildren) of the Native Indian Language Program in which he played a pivotal role in the 1970s.

His teaching methods provided a template for First Nations language lessons developed throughout the area over the decades. He developed a highly popular, pioneering course on writing systems of the world. Thom was honoured as an outstanding instructor in 2000 with the Faculty of Humanities Excellence in Teaching Award. He will be missed. At Thom’s request there will be no service. In lieu of flowers a contribution to the BC Cancer Agency or a local charity will be appreciated.

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Submitted by Dr. Thomas Hukari, professor emeritus, Department of Linguistics

Doctor Nash

Steve Nash addresses Convocation after receiving an honorary doctor of laws degree from UVic on Sept. 18. While playing for the National Basketball Association’s Phoenix Suns, Nash was named the league’s most valuable player in 2005 and 2006. He Steve Nash Foundation works to increase access to critical needs, health and education resources for undererved children in Arizona, Panaguy, northern Uganda and BC. A video of the ceremony is available on the web at http://www.uvic.ca/visitors/... PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

First Peoples House opens its doors

BY MELANIE GROVES

First Peoples House, one of the university’s most distinctive capital projects, welcomed its first occupants in early August, including the staff of the Office of Indigenous Affairs and Aboriginal counsellor’s office.

The house creates an academic and cultural centre for Indigenous students as well as a welcoming space on campus for the broader community.

“The house provides an important central gathering space and a place to connect on a regular basis with the elders,” says Fran Hunt Jinnouchi, director of the Office of Indigenous Affairs. “Although our Indigenous students, staff and faculty are from different nations across the country, we all now have a sense of home, of place and of a stronger connection to the local communities.”

Designed by Alfred Waugh Architect of Vancouver in the Coast Salish style, First Peoples House includes academic, administrative and ceremonial spaces. Boasting a green roof, storm retention pond and natural light and ventilation, the building is expected to achieve gold-level certification with the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating Standards program.

Landscaping with native trees and vegetation has already transformed the former construction site into attractive green space with pathways. Completed on time and on budget, the $7-million project was managed by Knappett Projects Inc.

The First Peoples House Advisory Council, co-chaired by Hunt Jinnouchi and Robina Thomas (social work) will provide guidance and advice on the mission, purposes and priorities of the house, and develop principles for its use and programming.

“Indigenous faculty are excited that the house offers us a cultural and spiritual space where we can profile the outstanding work that Indigenous students are engaged with,” says Thomas.

“There is a sense of optimism as students have started coming through the doors into this bright and inviting space,” adds Hunt Jinnouchi. A date for the formal opening of First Peoples House will be announced later. For more information, contact the Office of Indigenous Affairs at 250-855-3601.

Research has biomedical and energy applications.

“We need small-scale plumbing to do repeated tests with small amounts of sample to diagnose disease, for instance,” says Sinton, who is currently on study leave at Cornell University in New York. “Such devices have the potential to accelerate research and drug development, improve health-care delivery and distribute advanced medical technologies in developing regions.”

The three chair renewals—all tier-1 chairs—are Dr. Sadik Dost (mechanical engineering), Dr. Cornelis van Kooten, the Canada Research Chair in Semiconductors Crystal Growth, and Dr. Jeremy Webber, the Canada Research Chair in Environmental Studies and Climate Change, is widely recognized as a leader in devising effective economic measures for analyzing various aspects of the environment. His research focuses on the capture and storage of carbon dioxide in the environment, the economic costs of using wind power and the effects of a strong economy on North American forestry production. Webber, the Canada Research Chair in Law and Society, is a well-renowned scholar in the areas of constitutional theory, cultural diversity, nationalism and Indigenous rights. His research explores the structure of democratic governance and how it relates to the challenges and opportunities of a diverse society.

The research explores the structure of democratic governance and how it relates to the challenges and opportunities of a diverse society.
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Success

"Financial support for students trying to achieve higher education is a gift that can change a student's life. As a recipient I know how wonderful this gift can be."

at the galleries
uvac.uvic.ca
250-721-9562

Exhibit Acrobats and Shadows: Exploring the Worlds of Judi Foster
Legacy Art Gallery Café. 600 Yates St. 250-721-8286

Exhibitکیفر: Painting
Artist: Until Nov. 29. An exhibition honouring one of our country's most beloved icons and celebrating the launch of Katherine Galloway's biog-
graphy of Norman. Legacy Art Gallery and Café. 630 Yates St. 250-721-8286

at the theatre
www.phoenixtheatres.ca

The Josephine Over Oct. 15–24. By UVic grad Meg Iken and produced by Theatre BOMBUS. Twenty-five-year
old Samantha travels home for the first time ever, only to find that things are not as they
were. Written and directed by University of Victoria student majoring in computer science. Thanks to
many bright futures. Just ask Nadine Sykora, a fourth
year student majoring in computer science. Thanks to
an estate-established bursary, Nadine has the means to
pursue her passion.

Your generosity will help ensure that future generations of
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Success

"Financial support for students trying to achieve higher education is a gift that can change a student's life. As a recipient I know how wonderful this gift can be."

on the calendar
uvic.ca/events

For a complete list of events, visit the online calendar at www.uvic.ca/events

Events free unless otherwise indicated.
“Sort it out” during pilot recycling study

Have you ever wondered what happens to that bottled water container after you toss it in your office bin? A recent study of the campus waste and recycling collection system found that there are few options in administrative and academic buildings for recycling materials other than paper and refundable beverage containers. In fact, estimates suggest that UVic sends to the landfill approximately 8,000 tonnes of material a year that could be composted or recycled. The Sustainability Action Plan: Campus Operations 2009–2014 calls for the university to divert 75 per cent of this waste from the landfill by 2012.

Enter Nadia Ariff, the new waste reduction coordinator, whose first task since taking up her position with facilities management in August has been coordinating the launch of a pilot study to evaluate the level of engagement of faculty, staff and students in a recycling sorting-at-source program. The pilot study is being conducted by TRI-Technology Resource Inc. and facilities management in five campus buildings through late November.

"Sorting out our own recycling is one of the easiest but most important ways to reduce the amount of material destined for the landfill," says Ariff. "If this pilot program is successful, there may be an opportunity to expand it campus-wide in the future."

Staff, students and faculty in the participating pilot study buildings (Strong, MacLaurin D wing, Cleantide 2nd Floor A wing, Continuing Studies and the SUB) are being asked to take a few minutes each week to sort their recycling into the upgraded recycling bins that were installed in late September. Acceptable recycling materials include mixed paper, glass/plastic/metal, and refundable beverage containers.

Preliminary results from the study are expected to be available early in the new year.

Questions or suggestions: 250-853-3160 or nariff@uvic.ca. More information: http://web.uvic.ca/sustainability/WasteRecyclingComposting.htm

Charles joined the OCBR team in June 2009 and says she’s found her footing. She is also “very passionate about all the different streams of higher learning” that OCBR is involved in, including campus sustainability initiatives and community mapping projects.

Charlie was born and raised in the Cowichan Tribes (Kwahutuzn Nation), BC’s largest First Nations community. She also has ancestral ties to the local Songhees/Lekwungen peoples and the Skatin Nation.

Charlie attended UVic as an undergraduate history student before joining the OCBR and was involved in the Native Student Union while taking classes full-time for two years. She quickly discovered she was “missing out on the strongest time” with her son especially during his grade-school years, and she is now working toward her undergraduate goals at a more measured pace.

After 25 years of playing soccer, Charlie certainly knows how to pace herself. She became involved in high school at Cowichan Senior Secondary and the Native Soccer League with the Victoria T-Birds, then the Lower Island Women’s Soccer Association, and is now playing for the Victoria Scotties Diva’s women’s league. Her son is an enthusiastic soccer player too.

“My son also talked me into music lessons,” says Charlie. “I followed my son’s lead and now I play the guitar. I’ve always been a ‘wait and see’ kind of girl, but motherhood has got me to some great places.”

UVic Emergency Alerts

Have you registered your mobile phone to receive emergency messages?

www.uvic.ca/alerts