



**University
of Victoria**

SPEED READING

**COMBAT VIOLENCE
AGAINST WOMEN**

Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women—Dec. 3

The community gathers at the UVic fountain tomorrow, Dec. 3, from 11:20 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. to honour the 14 women who were murdered at l'École Polytechnique in 1989, and to witness the unveiling of a commemorative plaque outside the engineering wing. The Clothesline Project will display anonymously painted t-shirts as a visual depiction of the realities of violence against women.

TUNE-IN TO UVIC HISTORY

UVic historians featured on web videos

Canada's History magazine has posted several video interviews with UVic historians on their website. Among those featured are Drs. Penny Bryden, John Lutz and Lynne Marks, and doctoral students Megan Harvey and Sylvia Olson. The magazine plans to do more video interviews at other universities but chose to launch the series with UVic. More: <http://canadahistory.ca/Education/New-Research.aspx>

MACLEAN'S RANKINGS

UVic still number 2

Last month, UVic again placed high in the annual university rankings by *Maclean's* magazine. UVic retained the number-two spot for Canadian comprehensive universities and ranked particularly highly on faculty awards, medical science grants, and library acquisitions. More: <http://bit.ly/az2nAd>

RABBIT REMOVAL

Multiplying Subtracting like rabbits

UVic continues to implement its long-term rabbit management plan and has removed over 630 rabbits from the designated rabbit-free zones since trapping resumed Aug. 29. The Ministry of Environment has issued four permits to individuals who have been receiving the rabbits, which are transferred to the permit holders on the university grounds in groups of 30 to 50 rabbits at a time. While many rabbits still remain in the rabbit-free zones, UVic anticipates it will be able to move all of those rabbits into sanctuaries. More: uvic.ca/rabbits

CAMPUS WEATHER ADVISORY

Is the weather outside frightful?

If you're wondering if the weather has resulted in university closure, look for the Campus weather advisory icon on the "Current students, faculty and staff" web page for updates on campus conditions. As a general rule, if the BC Transit buses are running, the university is open. www.uvic.ca/current/campus/



DEC. 3—DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

See Speed Reading

THE RING

DECEMBER 2010

*The University of Victoria's
community newspaper*

ring.uvic.ca



Members of the LE, NONET Project (L-R): Jeff Reading, Centre for Aboriginal Health Research; Chris Lalonde, Psychology and LE, NONET co-principal investigator; Lianne Charlie (Indigenous Affairs), INAF and former LE, NONET student participant; Maxine Matilpi, Law; Trevor Good, INAF and former LE, NONET student participant.

PHOTO: GARY MCKINSTRY

100% LE, NONET a blueprint for Indigenous student success

BY PATTY PITTS

If UVic's First Peoples House represents the current focal point for Aboriginal programs and initiatives on campus, then the results of the LE, NONET Project—announced in the distinctive building on Nov. 10—represent the future.

The ground-breaking, four-year national research project conducted by UVic demonstrates that universities can take practical steps that significantly support the success and, ultimately, graduation rates of Indigenous students.

"What has been accomplished here is very, very important," said John Duncan, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and MP for Vancouver Island North, at the announcement. "You have provided creative and thoughtful ideas for supporting Indigenous students."

LE, NONET (pronounced le-non-git, and

meaning, in the language of the local Straits Salish people, "success after enduring many hardships") was funded by the Government of Canada through the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation.

It offered participating Aboriginal students culturally relevant supportive programming, community experiences, peer mentoring and financial assistance, and measured the impact on student retention and success.

The results demonstrate that students who receive this type of support are 100-per-cent more likely to stay in school. LE, NONET participants, on average, also stayed in university a year longer than Indigenous students who didn't participate in the program. Despite the short duration of the program, graduation rates increased by 20 per cent.

"The results are truly remarkable, especially given the short time span of the

project," said UVic President David Turpin. "These results provide a blueprint for how UVic and other universities across Canada can create the atmosphere that will attract Aboriginal students to post-secondary education and provide the opportunity to succeed."

Leading the project were UVic co-principal investigators Chris Lalonde and Sarah Hunt.

UVic history alumna and LE, NONET participant Kendra Underwood completed a community internship with the Saanich Adult Education Centre, where she is now director.

"It was truly life-altering, and I don't use those words lightly," said Underwood, adding that she's "loving every minute" of her new job. "I can't see myself doing anything else."

More info: <http://bit.ly/9o9zbN>

CANADA RESEARCH CHAIR

Helping computers, listeners and musicians get along better

BY PATTY PITTS

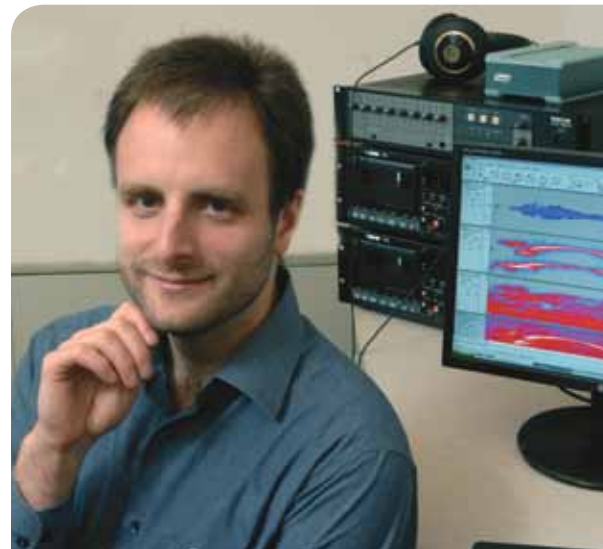
Computers can store thousands of tunes but can they sense when you want to shuffle from hip-hop to experimental jazz? Bringing computers to this next level is part of the research of University of Victoria's latest Canada Research Chair, computer scientist Dr. George Tzanetakis.

"We have access to all this multi-media data and, while computers can store it, they don't really understand it," says Tzanetakis. "In my research I will be designing algorithms—the means to solve a particular problem in a computer program—to

extract information from audio signals, especially music, and build tools to create more effective interactions between computers, listeners and musicians."

The latest chairs in this program, designed to attract the best talent from Canada and around the world, were announced last month. The program, now in its 10th year, helps Canada's universities achieve research excellence in natural sciences and engineering, health sciences, social sciences and humanities. UVic currently has 36 Canada Research Chairs.

SEE RESEARCH CHAIR P.2



Tzanetakis. PHOTO: DIANA NETHERCOTT

You feed the hungry, we'll waive your fines

With food bank use across Canada at its highest level since 1997, UVic's Food for Fines food drive is back this year—through Dec. 10—in time to make a “gift” of library and parking fines to help fill food bank shelves. UVic library users can drop off donations at the McPherson Library (Mearns Centre for Learning) and Curriculum Library (MacLaurin Building). For each non-perishable food item donated, they will have \$2 waived from library fines, up to a maximum of \$20. Food donations will be shared by the Mustard Seed and the UVic Students' Society Food Bank. Last year, UVic Libraries raised \$4,480.32 for the Mustard Seed and UVSS food bank through 1,097 donations of food and money. And campus parking scofflaws can assuage their conscience by bringing in their parking ticket and a food donation to Campus Security Services, thereby reducing parking ticket fines by \$5.

“It’s all about the people.”

Cassels reflects on a decade as VPAC

BY PATTY PITTS

When Jamie Cassels looks out his office window, it's easy for him to see some of the more identifiable changes on campus since he became UVic's vice-president academic and provost nearly a decade ago. The new social sciences and math building rises up across Ring Road, and just beyond are the new Medical Sciences Building and First Peoples House. But Cassels, who is leaving his position at the end of this year, is quick to point out that the buildings serve to house the true strength of the institution.

“It's all about the people,” he responds when asked to name what stands out most during his tenure as VPAC. “It's the new opportunities that we've created for students, the talented faculty we've been able to attract to UVic, and the staff who provide such incredible support in every area.” And when asked what he'll miss the most, he returns to the same theme “It's the working relationships I've had with the team in the provost's office, with the president and other members of the senior executive, the deans and others across the university—that's what you remember most.”

He's also enjoyed seeing the university he first joined as a law faculty member in 1981 grow in national and international stature as recognition for its research and teaching strengths grows. “The light that's always been there has come out from under the bushel, and we've progressively upped our standards of excellence in both teaching and research. It's been a privilege to be along for the ride.”

Cassels' colleagues would argue he's been more than a passenger as UVic's climb recently landed it in the “global elite” as a *Globe and Mail* headline described the university's recent top-200 placing in the World University Rankings.

“Jamie Cassels has been a superb vice-president academic and provost for the University of Victoria,” says UVic President David Turpin. “So many of our accomplishments over the past 10 years are a direct result of his enthusiastic engagement.

“Jamie is recognized across Canada for his dedication to UVic and for his appreciation of the university as a community of scholars. In his work, he has always focused on students and faculty, on teaching, scholarship and learning, and he has

been unwavering in his commitment to quality and excellence. Year after year, in his annual reviews, I would receive admiring comments, praising Jamie for his principle-based approach and his fairness in decision-making. On a personal level, I have greatly enjoyed working together and I appreciate all his support and extraordinarily wise counsel.”

“I've had the great privilege of working with Jamie both in the provost's office and as colleagues around the executive table,” adds Vice-President External Relations Valerie Kuehne. “I have especially appreciated the thoughtful, balanced, and principled approach he has brought to his role. His style epitomizes UVic's collegial nature, even as he has led us through substantial growth in size, quality, breadth and depth over these 10 years. I have learned from watching and working with him, and I know that others would say the same.”

Like other Canadian universities, UVic has seen a significant increase in faculty retirements and growth over the past decade, and Cassels has overseen the recruitment of close to 60 per cent of UVic's current faculty members. “Universities are people places,” he says, “and one of the most significant changes is our success in recruiting a new generation of scholars to UVic.”

Those scholars and the university community will face challenges in the future, says Cassels. “We've grown so much in size and complexity with multiple stakeholders with diverse expectations of the university. Global changes affect us more than ever. One of the challenges over the next 10 years will be to reinforce and sharpen our focus on our twin missions of education and research, to demonstrate how they are mutually enriching and to develop an understanding of UVic's distinctive interpretation of that dual mission within the national and international context.”

Both education and research focus heavily in Cassels' own future. He'll use an upcoming study leave to produce new editions of two of his books on the law of remedies (“a ready-made way for me to get back into my field.”)

He also plans to continue his work on industrial and environmental hazards, including an update to his 1993 book *The Uncertain Promise of Law: Lessons*



Cassels. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES.

from Bhopal, about the environmental and human cost of the devastating 1984 explosion at a Union Carbide chemical plant in Bhopal, India, and its aftermath. This will likely include return visits to India to engage in follow-up field work relating to a number of recent developments.

Closer to home, Cassels plans to pursue some other passions, including triathlons, some extended boating trips up to Alaska and around Vancouver Island, and then a return to familiar place—the law classroom. The three-time winner of the faculty of law's master teacher award, recipient of the UVic Alumni Association Excellence in Teaching Award, 1999 winner of the Canadian Association of Law Teachers Award and recipient of the national 3M award (Canada's highest award for university teaching), Cassels says he's looking forward to his return to the role of a scholar.

“For someone with a passion for both teaching and research, being a faculty member is the best job in the world.”

Reception to honour Cassels

UVic President David Turpin invites all faculty and staff to a reception to acknowledge the contributions of Jamie Cassels as vice-president academic and provost, Tuesday, Dec. 14 at 4:30 p.m. in the University Club dining room. Please RSVP acceptances only to ceremony@uvic.ca by Thurs., Dec. 9 Dec.

Research chair

CONTINUED FROM P.1

As the Canada Research Chair in Computer Analysis of Audio and Music, Tzanetakis has been recognized as an exceptional emerging researcher and receives \$100,000 for five years to conduct his research. The tier-two chair position is renewable once.

Audio retrieval technology is already being used in commercial applications such as internet radio sites which “broadcast” only music pre-selected by subscribers. But Tzanetakis, a musician himself, wants to improve and expand on the technology's capability.

“Smart phones already have the ability to determine location and time. By tracking an individual's patterns of activity, a phone could also determine when you've left the gym, are studying on the bus and want to listen to a different kind of music,” says Tzanetakis.

Short a drummer for your combo? Tzanetakis is also developing a robotic percussionist that can improvise with human performers.

“Improved technology has the potential to completely transform the way we find and create music as well as improve the ability of computers to understand complex mixtures of sounds,” says Tzanetakis.

Three of UVic's existing Canada Research Chairs have recently been renewed for a second term. They are: Brad Anholt, tier-one Canada Research Chair in Experimental and Applied Community Ecology; Ben Koop, tier-one Canada Research Chair in Genomics and Molecular Biology; and Kim Venn, tier-two Canada Research Chair in Observational Astrophysics.

“The Canada Research Chair program allows us to attract and retain the best scholars in the world,” says Dr. Rachael Scarth, UVic's acting associate vice-president research for planning and operations. “Through Canada Research Chairs, we're building on our areas of national and international strength—such as information processing in this case—and our students get the opportunity to work with researchers who are leaders in their field.”

Buy your tree from the Vikes

The Vikes men's and women's cross country and track teams will mark their 13th year of selling locally grown Christmas trees at Centennial Stadium beginning Dec. 4.

All proceeds from the sale of the Cowichan Valley trees support the teams' student athletes.

The Vikes have Grand, Noble and Douglas fir trees for sale in a variety of sizes at a wide range of prices.

Look for the Christmas lights at the main entrance to Centennial Stadium, accessible from parking lot 4 off McGill Road.

The tree sales run through Dec. 20, Monday to Friday, 12 to 7 p.m.; Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

THE RING

Vol. 36 No. 11

The University of Victoria's community newspaper

ring.uvic.ca

Printed using vegetable-based inks on 100% post-consumer recycled paper, Forest Stewardship Council certified, process chlorine free, using 100% Green-E certified renewable carbon-neutral energy.

Next issue January 13

The Ring is published monthly except in August by UVic Communications.

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Printed in Canada by Nanaimo Daily News

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“Too Asian”? We must defend diversity at all costs

BY DR. SHELLY CHAN

Concerned members of several university campuses are condemning an attack on diversity from an article entitled “Too Asian?” published in *Maclean’s* magazine on Nov. 11.

Written by Stephanie Findlay and Nicolas Köhler, the article claims that too many Asian students—Asian Canadians and international students from Asia—are attending several top universities in Canada, making these institutions too competitive and lacking in fun for white students. As “strivers and high achievers,” says the report, Asian students narrowly focus on studying and fail to participate in “social interaction.” As a result, “balkanization” and “segregation” typify life on Canadian campuses that are “too Asian.” In a cautionary tone, the writers say, “diversity has enriched these schools, but it has also put them at risk of being increasingly fractured along ethnic lines.”

Within a few hours of its online appearance, the *Maclean’s* article drew hundreds of comments on its website and the wider blogosphere. Bombarded by scathing criticisms, the magazine was forced to remove the article temporarily for re-editing, but the print version retains most of the original content. Student, faculty and community members have been organizing discussions and activities on campuses including the University of Toronto, the University

of Waterloo, and the University of British Columbia, and right here at UVic. At my last check, the Facebook campaign to “talk back” to the article has garnered over 400 members within just days of its launch.

Many participating in the discussions condemn the “Too Asian?” article as unmistakably racist and sadly reminiscent of the W5 “Campus Giveaway” in 1979, in which Chinese Canadians were represented as “foreign students” occupying the rightful places of “real” (white) Canadians at the universities—a controversy that sparked a fierce community-wide struggle for equality. Thirty-one years later, participants are sickened that Asian Canadians and Asians from Asia got lumped together once again. Non-Asian students, including many of my own, share the disappointment of their peers. They reject the absurd assumption of the writers that alcohol and partying define their educational lives, and that Asian students are natural rivals in their minds.

Many others poke fun at the indefensible oversimplification of “Asians” as “academically focused” and “self-segregating” in relation to “whites.” Even though university presidents have responded that their Asian students actively engage in extracurricular activities, thereby proving the theory of “segregation” groundless, some wonder why the writers still insist that the presidents, rather than they themselves, are “in a state of denial.” In a sardonic spirit, two students at McGill University named their

blog “Asians not studying” in response to the false stereotype that “Asians” cannot have fun.

These different voices have spoken in a powerful unity—diversity is the life of Canadian campuses. As Canadians, we have chosen to accept the challenges that come with differences. However, we fall short of confronting the enduring legacies of racism in our society. We have yet to learn how to approach differences without resorting to the fearful binary between “Asian” and “white,” and between “us” and “them.” Any attack on diversity as such is an attack on a common dream about education—that our universities should excel in many fields and embrace many Canadians new and old, First Nations peoples, as well as non-Canadians from any shore. The “Too Asian?” article is a sad indication of fear and ignorance about an imagined other. To keep forging ahead, we must defend diversity at all costs.

Dr. Shelly Chan is an assistant professor at the Department of Pacific and Asian Studies and a member of the Asian Canadian Working Group at UVic.

Editor’s note: Views expressed in this Viewpoint are the author’s and do not necessarily reflect those of The Ring or the University of Victoria. The online version of the Maclean’s article, which has been retitled “The enrollment controversy,” is available at <http://www2.macleans.ca/2010/11/10/too-asian/>

VIEWPOINT

The UVic Vikes experience is for everyone

BY DR. E. PAUL ZEHR

There is something about going to live games that I have always found very appealing. I think it is a kind of complex mixture of the sounds, sights and smells that all come together to provide an exciting multi-sensory experience. Years ago TSN had an operating slogan of “real life, real drama, real TV” to define their sports programming. Maybe that’s the piece that is so entrancing about watching sport and particularly watching live sporting events. It’s gratifying to know that if we want these experiences, if we want to see and feel the passion that is part of the magic of sport, we have a full menu of options to choose from literally right in our own backyard. I actually mean our work backyard and Vikes athletics right here at the UVic campus. These athletes play their games for the love of the game, and their efforts are even more honorable and worthy of support.

Recently, I took my two young daughters along with several other families from both of their schools to see Vikes women’s and men’s basketball action on a Friday night. The Vikes athletics experience is great value for money. It also represents a truly accessible and informal event that speaks to the intimacy of the experience. One of the parents in our group bumped into a friend who works with Vikes Athletics and suggested the girls come down after the game and get autographs from the players. We then purchased many of the Vikes “game day” shirts—which were only \$6—and the kids had them signed by the players. My children in particular commented on how much they enjoyed the entire experience. They were impressed with the level of skill of the Vikes women’s and men’s teams and felt very much a real part of the action.

During and after the games, I was reminded again of the power of sport and the power of support. The thrill of the live athletic event comes from the

interaction between the good and sporting play of the athletes and the response of the crowd. I have watched many professional and amateur games in many sports. I remember vividly key games I attended which were punctuated by emotional responses of the spectators—like the palpable tension, expectancy and joy found in the roaring crowd at Pacific Coliseum when Canada won short-track speed skating gold at the 2010 Olympics.

These events stand out in my memory because of the good play and the environment in which the play took place. I caught a bit of a sense of that here at UVic on that Friday night. I think we can do better, though, and can support the Vikes much more strongly. For those looking for a feel-good live entertainment experience right in our town, I encourage attendance at Vikes athletics events. They really are positive feedback experiences—the more support we give, the more the athletes feel the support, and the more we can all feed off each other.

In Canada especially, there is always a kind of uncomfortable pairing of our sensibilities and our support for amateur sport. Supporting the Vikes means more than just supporting athletics and amateur sport. It means supporting the environment we all share on and off campus at the University of Victoria. I take pride in the accomplishments of the Vikes and I hope the athletes also gain something from the academic and scholarly achievements of the faculty. While we don’t all play the games and we don’t all do the same things, we really are all on the same team.

Dr. E. Paul Zehr is a faculty member in the School of Exercise Science, Physical and Health Education, and director of the Centre for Biomedical Research.

Editor’s note: Views expressed in this Viewpoint are the author’s and do not necessarily reflect those of The Ring or the University of Victoria.

Public consultation begins for Queenswood property rezoning



The University of Victoria purchased the Queenswood property from the Sisters of St. Ann earlier this year. The six-hectare wooded parcel is located at Arbutus Road between Haro Road and Queenswood Drive and is within walking distance of the UVic campus. The university bought the property in anticipation of the need for additional academic and administrative space in the future.

UVic is now in the process of seeking public feedback prior to submitting a rezoning application to the District of Saanich. It is too early yet to say what the plans for the property will be over the long term, but its intended use will meet UVic’s main missions for teaching, research and community engagement.

The property is currently zoned for personal care. UVic will seek a more comprehensive zoning to include a range of academic and related uses.

A public open house was held Tuesday, Nov. 30, and approximately 100 people visited the drop-in information session. A second open house is planned for early in the new year. UVic is looking to submit a rezoning application in Spring 2011.

A dedicated website has been established to share information with the public, and can be accessed through the UVic webpage at www.uvic.ca/queenswood. Public input can also be submitted online.

ringers


The NEPTUNE Canada team has won a 2010 Heritage Award from the Alberni Valley Heritage Commission for its outreach activities in the Port Alberni community. The NEPTUNE Canada shore station in Port Alberni provides power to the ocean observatory’s 800-km cable network and manages data flow and two-way communications between the seafloor and UVic. Working closely with the Alberni Valley Museum and the Port Alberni Maritime Heritage Society, NEPTUNE Canada has over the last four years installed several educational displays to share the development of the world-leading observatory with community residents, schools and visitors. NEPTUNE Canada is managed by Ocean Networks Canada for a consortium led by UVic.

Dr. Chris Barnes, NEPTUNE Canada director and marine paleontologist, has been awarded the Brady Medal, the highest award of the Micropaleontological Society, for his pioneering studies in the field. This branch of paleontology studies microscopic fossils, which are important records of global environmental change on long time-scales. Barnes’ extensive research career has focused on understanding Early Paleozoic oceans, climate and life.

Frances Backhouse, master’s candidate in writing, has won the City of Victoria Butler Book Prize for *Children of the Klondike* (Whitecap Books). Drawing from letters, journals, contemporary accounts and memoirs, the book tells the stories of children from the discovery of gold in 1896 to the emergence of Dawson City as a post-gold-rush town in the early 20th century.

Dr. Kelli Stajuhar (nursing and Centre on Aging) and post-doctoral student **Laura Funk** recently received the Anselm Strauss Award, a prestigious research honor from the US National Council on Family Relations—a professional association for the multidisciplinary understanding of families. They were acknowledged for a cutting-edge article critiquing methods used in research on families. They claim that one downfall of basing research on interviews alone is that sometimes what people say and what they do are very different. They recommend addressing this by repeating interviews over a long period of time and combining them with observation.


Dr. David Strong (former UVic president and vice-chancellor) has been appointed chair of the Board of Canadian Science Publishing (CSP). A newly formed not-for-profit corporation operating as NRC Research Press, CSP publishes all the scientific journals previously under the purview of the National Research Council (NRC) of Canada. Strong has served as an associate editor on the editorial board of the *Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences*. NRC Research Press publishes 15 journals, with more than 2,000 manuscripts each year, in all scientific disciplines.



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Minimum Payout *		\$238	\$278	\$333	\$615	\$654	\$729
Total Payout to Age 100		\$178,376	\$163,487	\$150,132	\$135,914	\$130,125	\$122,133
Accelerated Payout:							
Income over 5 years.....			\$1,797			\$107,775	
Income over 10 years			\$965			\$115,831	
Income over 15 years			\$690			\$124,258	

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Dr. Jack Littlepage (Centre for Global Studies) was given the 2010 Lewis Perinbam Award by the World University Service of Canada (WUSC) in November. Named for a former executive director of WUSC and vice-president of the Canadian International Development Agency, the award recognizes grassroots achievements in improving life in developing countries and expanding awareness of those countries among the Canadian public. The citation describes Littlepage as having “worked tirelessly to establish sustainable marine aquaculture or mariculture industries in Brazil, countries in Africa and the Caribbean.”

Dr. Francis Lau (health information science) is the recipient of the 2010 Canadian Health Informatics Award for outstanding leadership in the field of health informatics. Lau’s work was recognized at a gala event in Toronto hosted by the Canadian Health Informatics Association and the Information Technology Association of Canada. Lau heads up the eHealth Observatory, a national research initiative, jointly funded by the Canadian Institutes for Health Research and Canada Infoway, to monitor the impact of health information system deployment and electronic records adoption in Canada. He holds the Applied Health Services and Policy Chair in eHealth. More info: <http://ehealth.uvic.ca/>

MBA student Amritpal Randhawa credits hearing a speech by Canada’s trade commissioner to Brazil for inspiring him to pursue a career in international business and helping him to win the 2010 BC Export Award for International Business Studies. Randhawa received the award for his leadership and excellence in international studies. He visited Brazil on a class assignment to examine market entry strategies for a local company considering expanding into Latin America. Randhawa also helped a local company develop an algorithm for rating green consumer products available for sale in the North American market, and a local automobile tool manufacturing company examine the potential for expansion in the Indian market.



(L-R) Grandmother Sandy Riddett, grandson Simon Riddett and cousin Benjamin Riddett delight in some reading time together at the UVic Bookstore. PHOTO: CHRISTINE MCLAREN

Every picture tells a story, and this one has a happy ending

Children and student families from the UVic Family Centre visited the bookstore recently to choose some new books. Thanks to a donation from the UVic Bookstore, the Family Centre has been able to update and expand their selection of children’s books. The Bookstore raised funds through their textbook buy-back, with students selecting the UVic unit to support. The Family Centre, the UVSS Food Bank and emergency student financial aid were their choices. Throughout the year and during the holiday season many units on campus support the Family Centre with food, clothing and gift hampers for student families in need. The UVic Family Centre, located in the student family housing complex, was initiated by the Faculty of Human and Social Development and serves student families on and off campus with programs, activities and community support.

Engineering teaching award winner

In last month’s coverage of this year’s faculty teaching award winners, The Ring unfortunately missed a second Faculty of Engineering Excellence in Teaching Award recipient, Dr. Daniel German. The Ring apologises for the omission.

Dr. Daniel German
*Department of Computer Science
Faculty of Engineering*
Since coming to UVic in 2001, Dr. Daniel German has been consistently rated very highly by his students. He demonstrates an exceptional and enduring passion for the teaching and learning process—a passion that has been acknowledged by both his students and colleagues. They describe him as gifted, exemplary, and a fine example of a UVic teacher-scholar. German has also been recognized for his work in finding new and effective methods for encouraging teamwork



German

in the classroom, without sacrificing course content. He served as a Learning and Teaching Center Scholar in 2006/07, and continues to make an immediate, positive contribution to society with his work.



Seymour. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES.

University Food Services keeps it local

BY MELANIE GROVES

Though the concept of food sustainability may be new to many people, Heather Seymour and her team at University Food Services have been “doing it local” as long as she can remember. “We’ve always had the attitude of ‘let’s buy local’ if at all possible,” Seymour says. “Now we’re just formalizing it in our supplier agreements, and students are showing more interest in where their food comes from.” Seymour has been with the university for 21 years, since starting as head chef in 1989. Now the coordinator of production and purchasing, she oversees food production for the 11 campus food outlets plus the university’s catering and food pick-up service. “We give local companies as much business as we can, and I believe we’re very connected to the community,” says Seymour. “Dealing locally gives me a better sense of where our food comes from, and we’re also reducing our carbon footprint by decreasing our transportation and delivery needs.” The percentage of locally sourced food available at campus food outlets now sits at around 46 per cent. Out of 24 food suppliers, 20 are from Vancouver Island or Vancouver. One hundred per cent of baked goods originate on the Island, from well-known sources including Bond Bond’s and Six Mile Bakery. Over half the vegetables are grown on the Island and supplied in season as is almost 40 per cent of the meat, including up to 1,200 chicken portions every day. Specialty cheeses come from the Comox Valley, while fair-trade coffee beans are roasted at Creekmore Coffee in Qualicum Beach. “Local businesses need to meet our stringent food safety standards and be able to sustain the volume of supply,” Seymour notes. “We’re also looking more closely at ethical production methods. Last year, for example, we switched to free-run eggs, which was

something the students asked for even though the cost is slightly higher.” In addition to the emphasis on local food supply, most food sold on campus is actually prepared here. “Virtually everything is made from scratch from ingredients that are fresh every day,” Seymour says. “If we can’t make something in-house, we go out and develop a partnership with local firms who can make it to our specs.” It’s clear on a whirlwind tour of the main Cadboro Commons production kitchen that Seymour, a self-described “food nerd,” is proud of her operation. In a walk-in fridge she points out recently arrived potatoes, carrots and onions from the Saanich Peninsula, and large bags of local vegetables for the 176 pounds of stir-fry dishes served daily. Pulling down an oversized binder from a bookshelf, Seymour thumbs through recipes she has developed. In fact, she and her head chefs have personally developed all the recipes for campus food outlets, including soups and salads. “It’s an exciting and creative job,” she says. “We log all the ingredients and test the recipes to ensure our food is nutritious and high quality. And we keep the prices close to cost because that’s what’s affordable for students.” Asked what foods the university can’t buy locally, Seymour responds with a laugh that “there aren’t a lot of lemon trees on the Island. Sometimes despite our best efforts there are reasons beyond our control that mean we can’t find a product locally.” As a member of the recently formed UVic Food Security Committee, Seymour is looking forward to spreading her passion for keeping it local while building connections with other campus and community groups with an interest in food sustainability. More info: Heather Seymour, University Food Services, at hseymour@uvic.ca.

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FIRST-PERSON

Ariff, in burlesque costume, at the library. PHOTO: JOCELYN BEYAK

I was a “human book”

BY NADIA ARIFF

Editor’s note: Nadia Ariff is UVic’s waste reduction coordinator. On Oct. 27 and 28, she was a volunteer “human book” in the Human Library event coordinated by the UVic Libraries and the Equity and Human Rights Office. She made herself available to be “borrowed” by others for conversations about her topic, “When East Meets West.”

At first I was a little apprehensive about this project. What is a “human book” and how would I add to this project? How egotistical is it to just talk about yourself and hope that people find you interesting? What if they don’t find you interesting? Well, I am happy to report that this was actually a very gratifying experience—one that I’d highly recommend to anyone.

At first my intentions for signing up to be a “book” were very work oriented: I wanted to spread the word about recycling on campus. After our training session I realized that this could actually be a growth experience for me, so I decided to be a little bit more open and honest about myself instead of just making it all business.

My book title wasn’t very creative; “When East Meets West” was the final moniker. I chose this title because I believe that I am the perfect product of

colonialism and globalization. My mother is an Irish Catholic, born and raised in Dublin, and my father is a Malaysian Muslim, born and raised in a small town in Malaysia. I grew up in Kuala Lumpur and spent my schooling and university years in Dublin. I am the quintessential Malaysian-Irish hybrid (if there is one). Also in my spare time I am a tattooed burlesque dancer. This probably would take some people by surprise. With this varied background, I was curious to see what questions would be asked of me.

Turn the page to day one. I wasn’t really sure what to expect. In the training session, we were told to prepare ourselves for personal and possibly offensive questions—how daunting! But I thought, with the Polyamory Lass next to me, I didn’t think I’d have to worry: if she can handle it, so can I. The first day was spent getting to know the other “books”; a lady who survived several hurricanes, another who battles narcolepsy on a daily basis, what fascinating stories! I was drawn in.

Cue to day two, where the interest in the Human Book Project escalated. I had four “readers” that day: one was curious about my interest in burlesque, two were interested in my background in the Islamic faith and one was interested in my Irish heritage. I was surprised at how curious people were about my life, and I too became curious about them. We had some great conversations, I learned a lot about

myself and also about my “readers” in general.

I was fascinated with the questions people asked and the intention behind them, especially the ones surrounding religion. Religion is such a touchy subject for some; I was relieved to have some open-minded “readers” in this regard. Most of the questions I was asked were centred around the Islamic faith, what it was like growing up in it and was it really as misogynistic as it was being portrayed. I answered the best I could, tip-toeing around certain topics and making sure I was always remaining true to myself. I am by no means an expert on the matter, but it was nice to see how respectful everyone was about my opinions and I tried my best to reciprocate that respect.

A healthy curiosity about each other and being respectful of each other’s opinions was really the key to this experience. After all the lovely and varied conversations, it was comforting to know that even in this day and age where information is at our fingertips, there really is nothing like the face-to-face human experience.

And for any *Ring* readers who want to learn more about recycling or making their campus happening a zero-waste event, visit <http://web.uvic.ca/sustainability/WasteRecyclingComposting.htm> or “borrow” me for a conversation by calling local 3160.

Perfect pitch

BY TARA SHARPE

Do you know who the “Lullaby Lady” is?

For nearly four decades, UVic Child Care Services volunteer Pat Carfra has been sharing her musical magic with children at the campus day care services. This service to the community began when Carfra’s son joined a co-operative pre-school: Carfra offered to sing to the children, and when the pre-school teacher moved to UVic’s day care, she invited Carfra to continue her visits there.

“The children and staff alike have been engaged and entertained by Pat’s music, puppetry and story telling,” says Jack Lalonde, manager of UVic Child Care Services. “The children always look forward to the day when Pat comes. Her cheerful and gentle manner draws children to her and she warmly welcomes them all.”

Carfra worked as a public health nurse before her own two children were born. When her son and daughter were in their early teens, she began recording. Inspired by a Canadian musicologist who referred to the “tragedy” of parents not singing to their children, she began to visit pre- and post-natal groups to explore who wasn’t singing and to encourage them with easy songs. “I couldn’t visualize a world where parents weren’t singing to their kids,” she says, and her first tape—produced when albums were double-sided cassettes—was a teaching one. “It was a lovely, natural progression,” says Carfra. The double-sided format also allowed Carfra to produce all three tapes with one side for sleepy lullabies and another for “bouncy” play songs. If you ask Carfra’s favourite song for kids, the



Carfra and daycare class. PHOTO: TARA SHARPE

answers come without a moment’s hesitation: “Snake Baked a Hoe Cake” ... “Wheels on the Bus” ... “Meatballs and Spaghetti” ... “The Dinosaur Song...” Her three award-winning albums are: *Lullabies and Laughter; Songs for Sleepy Heads and Out of Beds; Babes, Beasts and Birds*. You can’t help but wonder if Carfra dreams in rhyme.

But her tone is also measured and thoughtful, a careful metronome for the serious play of child education. She knows music is crucial for the teaching curriculum. “When we don’t sing, we really cut off part of our humanity,” says Carfra. And she’s

convinced there are very few people who are truly tone deaf. “We are born and built to sing. We carry that instrument around with us everywhere.”

Carfra herself was born in Montréal and her musical father played the mandolin and clarinet. She remembers him leading family singalongs en route to ski trips in the Laurentians. One brother, now in India, is a musician. Her sister sings and her other brother plays the banjo.

If you’re happy and you know it, clap your hands? The applause likely won’t ever stop for UVic’s very own Lullaby Lady.

ringers

Dániel Péter Biró (music) recently won the Giga-Hertz-Award for electronic music—one of the most prestigious composition awards in Europe. Bestowed by the Centre for Arts and Music in Karlsruhe, Germany, and the Experimental Studio in Freiburg, the award honours composers working in the areas of electronic and acousmatic music for a particular composition. “Ancient Jewish and Christian chant traditions were an inspiration for this piece, as was the Qur’an recitation of Indonesian reciter Hajjah Maria Ulfah,” says Biró. Listen to an interview with Biró and his music at <http://finearts.uvic.ca/music/download/>

Third-year law students **Brian Bird** and **Daniel Oleksiuk** were named as finalists in the 2010 Institute for Research on Public Policy (IRPP) Constitutional Affairs Essay Competition in October. The annual competition fosters debate on constitutional issues in Canada. Law students from 11 universities across the country submitted entries this year. Bird placed second in the competition for an essay examining the evolution of Aboriginal rights in the Canadian constitutional tradition, comparing provisions of the Constitution Act of 1982 and the British North America Act of 1867. Oleksiuk’s essay argued that age-based cut-offs for minors’ constitutional rights are usually arbitrary, often fail to account for the capabilities of minors, and disempower and disillusion capable young people.

An international congress in honour of **Dr. Hari Srivastava** (professor emeritus, mathematics and statistics) was held in August at Mount Uludağ under the auspices of Uludağ University in Bursa, Turkey, and attended by more than 100 mathematical, physical and statistical scientists from some 35 countries. Also in August, a one-day symposium on some topics of Srivastava’s current research interests was held in Sofia, Bulgaria, organized in conjunction with the International Symposium on Geometric Function Theory and Applications. Both events celebrated Srivastava’s 70th birth anniversary.

Dr. Erin McGuire (anthropology) is proud of her **33 award-winning first-year anthropology students**, who won awards in this year’s Public Anthropology Community Action Project. The competition involved over 4,000 students from 21 schools across North America. “I’m really glad that there was a way in which my students could engage in active learning through writing and discussion centred around a current ethical issue,” says McGuire. According to the project founder, “Prof. McGuire is to be commended for how she takes classroom knowledge and applies it to real-world challenges, thereby encouraging students to be responsible global citizens.” Read the winning students’essays: <http://www.publicanthropology.org/CAW/10-Fall/PAA-2EM3UVic.htm>



University Club executive Chef Mark Davie and General Manager Dan Angus. PHOTO: ROBIE LISCOMB

UNIVERSITY CLUB OF VICTORIA

A not-very-well-kept campus secret

Tucked away in the forest near the headwaters of Bowker Creek, between the Phoenix and the Fraser buildings, is a surprisingly affordable and cozy dining room, a unique venue for meetings and celebrations of all kinds, and a favourite lunch and dinner location.

The University Club of Victoria, a low, cedar-clad West Coast building nestled in a peaceful natural setting, has been serving the campus community since 1982. Its membership, including faculty, staff and alumni, currently stands at about 1,350 and growing.

One reason for the growth is that the first year of club membership is free to faculty, staff and new grads who have not previously been members (a \$180 value).

Along with the Finnerty Gardens, the University Club is a campus hotbed

of matrimonial celebration, handling more than 70 weddings and 50 anniversaries a year.

And this time of the year the special member events come thick and fast at the club. Go whole hog on Dec. 10 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Holiday Season Pig Roast. At press time, there was still space for the traditional Christmas buffet luncheon on Dec. 9, from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

On Dec. 11, the children's Christmas party will feature a magician, gifts, treats, food and fun. And that evening at 6 p.m. is the holiday season dinner and dance.

Further information about these and other special events, the weekly UClub newsletter, and menu and meeting room info are all on the University Club website. <http://club.uvic.ca/>



"Happy 40th Anniversary ELC!" photo content category winner PHOTO: FUNG HI CHAU, HONG KONG

40TH ANNIVERSARY

English Language Centre makes history

BY KYLA JARDIN

There is one phrase that the 2,500 students who attended programs at UVic's English Language Centre (ELC) in 2010 will never forget: "Happy Anniversary!"

This 40-year milestone makes UVic's ELC—which is part of the Division of Continuing Studies—one of the oldest English language schools in Canada. It first offered English programs to French-Canadian bursary students in 1970, soon followed by specialized programs for Japanese university groups. Forty years later, the ELC still receives over 100 French Canadian and 500 Japanese students a year, along with students from 30 other countries around the world.

"We really wanted to make this year special for everyone at the ELC," says Christina Gambrell, ELC marketing manager. "Students, teachers,

alumni, community partners—we wanted them to feel celebrated, because they've all played a huge role in our success." Scholarships, contests, student parties and an Anniversary Open House in October have all been part of this year's festivities.

To date, six ELC students have received 40th Anniversary Scholarships for achieving the highest grades in the ELC's University Admission Preparation program. These \$500 prizes are for students going on to undergraduate and graduate degree programs at UVic; the final scholarship recipients will be announced in early December.

And then there have been the parties. "In a typical year, ELC staff plans about 575 socio-cultural activities for our students, so this year it was a treat to be planning events that were for us too," says Don Mellings, socio-cultural coordinator for short-term programs. Food, fun and friendship were key

ingredients for the two largest anniversary events: a summer student barbecue in August for 600, followed by the ELC's first Open House, at its home in the Continuing Studies Building in October. Open House guests enjoyed the cultural classroom displays where students from 10 countries were doing everything from playing traditional instruments to giving language lessons.

The ELC has plenty to celebrate going into 2011: record-breaking student numbers, a leading role in hosting international visitors to major education and recruitment conferences scheduled in Vancouver, and another anniversary milestone as the ELC's award-winning homestay program celebrates 25 years of placing international students with local families.

Kyla Jardin is international marketing coordinator at the English Language Centre.

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Change the future UVic United Way campaign approaches finish line

BY TARA SHARPE

It was a race to the finish for the "Tour de SUB" mini-car race on Nov. 30, and now the UVic 2010 United Way campaign is racing through its last month of fundraising just in time to add United Way donations to holiday shopping lists.

The Tour de SUB was the third annual PlasmaCar Race for the United Way campaign, and the one-hour competition was fierce as campus teams raced the ride-on toys in the Student Union Building. The 16th annual UVic Libraries Book Sale catered to bibliophiles everywhere from Nov.

30 to Dec. 2. Last month, the UVic Commerce Students' Society strutted their catwalk stuff at a charity fashion show downtown. A number of other events have also supported the campaign since it began on Sept. 21.

As of press-time, \$229,696 has been raised toward the \$280,000 goal, with 76 new donors for a total of 480 donors so far.

All employees who donate using a pledge form are eligible to win prizes, with the daily draw taking place through Dec. 17. Goodies include luxurious resort hotel accommodations, gift certificates to local restaurants, Salmon Kings tickets, kayak rentals

and more. Grand prize is a pair of tickets to a Vancouver Canucks game Feb. 19 (courtesy of UVic Alumni Relations), round-trip airfare between Victoria and Vancouver (courtesy of Helijet), and a one-night stay in Vancouver (courtesy of Hotel Le Soleil). More details on prizes and sponsors both on and off campus: <http://www.unitedway.uvic.ca/events/prizes.php>

Visit the campaign website www.unitedway.uvic.ca for new info and social media posts.

Final campus campaign results will be shared in the January issue of *The Ring*.

CAMPUS PHARMACY

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Education students (L-R) Harrington, Conrod and Chan gather around one of the MacLaurin Christmas trees. PHOTO: CRYSTAL BERGERON.

Trees for charities spread holiday spirit

What do Christmas, crayons and construction have in common?

They're all part of the first annual MacLaurin Festival of Trees on display in the MacLaurin Building until Dec. 15.

Teacher education students Krista Conrod, Kayla Chan and Devon Harrington came up with the idea to bring holiday cheer into the 32-year-old building, which is currently undergoing seismic upgrading and renovations.

"Last year our cohort decorated a tree at the Empress," says Conrod. "This year we wanted more education students to have the opportunity to participate in such a joyous and amazing event, so we decided to hold our own festival."

"The enthusiasm is amazing," notes Education Dean Ted Riecken. "Over 120 students and one staff member have been involved in decorating beautifully themed trees as well as fundraising for their individually chosen charities through bake sales, bottle drives and children's art sales."

"Next year we have even bigger plans!" exclaims Chan. "We're hoping it will become an annual event," adds Harrington. "Perhaps some sort of a challenge to other buildings and faculties on campus?"

Admirers can vote for their favourite tree in MacLaurin A258. Each vote costs \$1 with proceeds going to the winning tree's charity.

Help honour UVic's outstanding researchers

February 1 is the nomination deadline for the Craigdarroch Research Awards and it's your opportunity to submit for recognition those individuals and teams who have been most instrumental in original, productive, entrepreneurial and ground-breaking research or creative activity at the University of Victoria.

The award categories are: the Craigdarroch Gold Medal for Career Achievement; the Craigdarroch Silver Medal for Excellence in Research; and the Craigdarroch Awards for Societal Contribution, Excellence in Communicating Research, Excellence in Artistic Expression, and Excellence in Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

Eligibility criteria and nomination information: www.uvic.ca/research/learnabout/awards/craigdarroch/index.php or contact Awards Facilitator Marilyn Florence at 5408 or mkf@uvic.ca

FPH wins with wood

UVic's First Peoples House recently received an international award recognizing its Western red cedar architectural design as one of the best in the world. "UVic is very proud to have been part of this project," says Tom Smith, UVic's executive director of facilities management. "The architect's use of Western red cedar supports our goal of achieving LEED gold-level certification. The building also demonstrates effective use of the provincial wood-first policy that requires all new public facilities to include BC wood in their construction wherever possible." Architect Alfred Waugh designed First Peoples House with input from First Nations leaders as well as Indigenous faculty, staff and students. More information about UVic's First Peoples House: web.uvic.ca/fphouse/

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
250-721-6562

■ **Exhibit** *The Art of the Book '08*. Until Jan. 5. A travelling exhibition of 78 works by 70 book artists from Canada, the United States and Japan. Maltwood Prints and Drawings Gallery at the McPherson Library. Mearns Centre/McPherson Library. 250-721-6562

■ **Exhibit** *Architecture and Power*. Until Feb. 6. Commission de la capitale nationale du Québec, in cooperation with the British Columbia Provincial Capital Commission and the University of Victoria Art Collections, presents an exhibition on the legislative buildings in 14 Canadian capitals. Legacy Art Gallery and Café, 630 Yates Street. 250-721-8298.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

■ **Book Sale** 9 a.m. *UVic Libraries United Way Book Sale*. Discover thousands of great reads and rare finds at UVic Libraries United Way book sale. A silent auction of collectible books, maps and rarities runs the duration of the sale. SUB, Michelle Pujol Rm. \$2. 250-472-4977

■ **Music** 10:30 a.m. *African Percussion Concert*. The 30-member percussion ensemble from MUS 208 African Hand Drumming performs a repertoire of rhythms on djembe, balafon and dundun. MacLaurin B125. 250-721-7904

■ **Music** 8 p.m. *String Chamber Music*. Featuring string ensembles from the studios of the Lafayette String Quartet and Yariv Aloni. Admission by donation. MacLaurin B125. 250-721-7904

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3

■ **Ceremony** 11:30 a.m. *National Day of Remembrance and Action for Violence Against Women*. All are invited to gather outside the McPherson Library to mark the National Day of Remembrance and Action for Violence Against Women. The event will include music, speakers and recognition of the new plaque on the ECS Building, which is a memorial for the 14 women who were killed at École Polytechnique on Dec. 6, 1989. Mearns Centre/McPherson Library. 250-415-3236

■ **Music** 12:30 p.m. *Fridaymusic*. UVic Chamber Singers, Brian Wismath, director. A mosaic of works from around the globe focusing on traditional repertoire from Scandinavia. MacLaurin B125. Admission by donation. 250-721-7904

■ **Lecture/Seminar** 1 p.m. *Health Determinants, Intervention and the Importance of a Life Course Approach in Addressing Profound Disparities in First Nations, Inuit, and Metis Health and Wellbeing*. Dr. Jeff Reading, UVic. Social Dimensions of Health and Life Span Psychology Speaker Series. McKinnon 155. 250-721-8204

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

■ **Other** 9 a.m. *Life Drawing Sessions*. Three-hour life drawing sessions using live models. All skill levels are welcome. Visual Arts A150. \$5. 250-721-8011

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 05

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

■ **Lecture/Seminar** 3 p.m. *Neural Control of Movement—Basic Science to Clinical Rehabilitation*. Dr. Sandra Hundza, UVic. School of Exercise Science, Physical & Health Education's Research Seminar Series. McKinnon 155. 250-721-8387

■ **Music** 8 p.m. *UVic Chamber Singers*. Brian Wismath, director. Välkommen Jul! (Welcome Christmas) with the chamber singers as they present a tapestry of choral gems to celebrate the winter season. MacLaurin B125. \$11.50. 250-721-7904

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7

■ **Café Scientifique Lecture** 6:30 p.m. *The Ties that Bind: Human Interactions in Research, Protein Interactions in Cancer*. Fraser Hof, UVic. Hosted by the Centre for Biomedical Research. Strathcona Hotel, 919 Douglas St., Maple Rm. 250-472-4067

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8

■ **Other** 8 p.m. *Astronomy Open House*. The Astronomy Open House telescope tour is on Wednesdays, 8–10 p.m. Tours run until Dec. 15 this year and will start up again Jan. 5 to April 20. Wright Centre, 5th floor Observatory. Info: 250-721-7700 and <http://astrowww.phys.uvic.ca/events/>

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14

■ **Lecture/Seminar** 7:30 p.m. *Victoria Natural History Society: The Influence of Wildfire and Mountain Pine Beetles on Stand Dynamics in Southern Kootenay National Park, British Columbia*. Robert Gray and Rick Kubian. Sponsored by the Dept. of Biology. Fraser 159.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29

■ **Lecture/Seminar** 4:30 p.m. *Speaker's Club at the Learning and Teaching Centre*. Come practice your talk, seminar, defense or conference presentation in a safe and friendly environment. Hickman Bldg. 128. 250-472-5543

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11

■ **Webinar** 11:30 a.m. And Jan. 13. *BCom Webinar*. Live and interactive overview of the program structure, requirements and application details. To access and register for the presentation you must RSVP by emailing bssclerk@uvic.ca the day before the presentation to receive login instructions and a password. 250-472-4728

■ **Café Scientifique Lecture** 6:30 p.m. *A Walk on the Dark Side—Dark Energy and the Mystery of the Accelerating Universe*. Dr. Chris Pritchett, UVic. Hosted by the Centre for Biomedical Research. Strathcona Hotel, 919 Douglas St., Maple Rm. 250-472-4067

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12

■ **Centre for Studies in Religion and Society Lecture** 4 p.m. *The Resolve to Disbelieve: Tracing a Genealogy of Skepticism in Canadian Protestantism*. Rebekka King, CSRS Visiting Research Fellow, Univ. of Toronto. Social Sciences & Math A104. 250-721-6325

Happy Holidays!

from all the staff at the Bookstore

Psst: you can still catch our Winter Holiday Sale if you're reading this on Dec 2!



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around the ring

New enrolment record

UVic's enrolment (measured as of Nov. 1) was the highest in its history. The total undergraduate and graduate headcount was 19,905 (16,863 undergraduates and 3,042 graduates). The full-time equivalent numbers are 14,719 undergraduate and 2,642 graduate students. Earlier this year, UVic President David Turpin told Senate that a focus this year will be on support for programs that enhance the retention of these students and on increasing opportunities for students from diverse backgrounds. www.inst.uvic.ca/

UVic research data transfer = 132 million books

During the first half of 2010, UVic research data traffic over the CANARIE Network totaled 132 terabytes, equivalent to 132 million books or a bookshelf stretching from the UVic campus to the Saskatchewan border. This data volume places UVic among the top five users of Canada's Advanced Research and Innovation Network, which supports UVic's leadership in the TRIUMF, NEPTUNE Canada, high-energy physics and scientific grid computing projects. www.canarie.ca/

Fresh website delivers career development resources

UVic students and alumni looking for career development support have a new one-stop resource: the new Co-op and Career website. Visitors can use the site to view and apply for jobs, receive career coaching, learn about the co-op program and access more than 150 career-based learning resources on everything from writing a strong résumé to assessing competency development. The new site also provides comprehensive support to employers, faculty and staff. www.uvic.ca/coopandcareer

New faces in student services

Student Services is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Judith (Judy) Burgess as director of Health Services and Dr. Rita Knodel as manager of Counselling Services. Both are committed to advancing the university's health and wellness goals for the student community through innovative clinical services, proactive health outreach programs and collaborating with faculty on educational opportunities for students within their operations. Burgess started her new role on Oct. 4 and Knodel on Nov. 1. They welcome feedback or ideas on the future role of Health Services and Counselling Services at UVic.



day in the life

BY SUZANNE SMITH

Lisa Church feels incredibly fortunate to have an employer that supports her passion for building community spirit, both inside and outside Ring Road. Through her role as UVic's food retail outlets coordinator, Church devised an ingenious plan that both reduces waste and provides much-needed funds to local kids.

Thanks to Church's initiative, UVic's food services staff now separate all the paper, plastic, glass and food from customer trays and save the bottles for recycling.

Every month Church selects a local school or sports team from her list who are given the opportunity to pick up the bottles three times a week, take them to a bottle depot, and turn them into cash.

"Since the program first started in 2008 it's expanded to include 20 schools," says Church. "I'm really proud of University Food Services for making the decision to give this money to

future generations instead of keeping the money for themselves."

Apart from her efforts aimed at helping those outside Ring Road, Church also spends a lot of time building community inside the university. She is responsible for the staffing and daily operation of food services in all seven of UVic's food outlets.

"I like to connect with every outlet on a daily basis, to get input from staff and customers, get a grasp of the challenges, and stay up to date with supervisors," says Church. "I've learned to keep my ears open because my staff have great ideas. I also know from personal experience how good it feels when you come up with an idea and your boss lets you run with it."

Despite her dedication to her job, Church also manages to maintain balance in her life. She describes herself as a wife, mother of two and friend to many. "Material things don't matter to me—what really matters is my family." She says it's sometimes hard to find the time, but she makes it a priority

to stay involved with her kids' sports, which includes volunteering for Juan de Fuca hockey.

Church is also very grateful that since she started at UVic in 2007 her husband has been able to retire from the navy and spend more time at home with their family.

You'd think that with such a busy life, Church wouldn't have any energy left for additional projects, but that couldn't be farther from the truth. Her latest idea involves stirring up the Christmas spirit on campus with Santa and his horse-drawn carriage (see below for more info).

Finally, for those of you who remember the Christmas light display on Tattersall Drive that was locally known as Candy Cane Lane, Church and her family have resurrected this tradition on Flicker Lane in the western communities. Not surprising really, for an inspirational woman like Church, who is always finding ways to bring people together in the spirit of community.

Church. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

Santa's coming

Santa Claus, Sinterklaas, St. Nicholas—a "right jolly old elf." Long before Clement Clarke Moore wrote his popular Christmas poem, the tradition of secret gift giving brought festive cheer in winter months. At UVic on Friday, Dec. 10, the gift giving won't be so secret. UVic Food Services is organizing a visit by "Santa" himself, who will hand out complimentary hot chocolate and cookies from noon till 3 p.m. outside the BiblioCafé. Santa will arrive along Ring Road by horse-drawn carriage from the direction of the UVic Bookstore shortly before noon. (The sleigh and reindeer are resting up for busy skies ahead.) Everyone is invited, both on and off campus.

in memoriam

Former Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia David See-Chai Lam—one of the University of Victoria's greatest friends and an outstanding citizen of both British Columbia and Canada—died on Nov. 22 at the age of 87.

Several of British Columbia's institutions and communities benefited from his philanthropy, including the University of Victoria. The David and Dorothy Lam Endowment helped fund the Centre for Asia Pacific Initiatives, the Institute for Dispute Resolution, the Centre on Aging and the David Lam Professor of Law and Public Policy.

In recognition, UVic named one of its most popular lecture halls the David Lam Auditorium. Following the 1994 Commonwealth Games, the portion of the athletes' village located off Finnerty Road was named the David and Dorothy Lam Family Student Housing Complex. The loop road that winds through the development was named Lam Circle.

In recognition of their philanthropy and public service, the university presented David and Dorothy Lam with Honorary Doctor of Laws degrees in 1995.

The university expresses its sincere condolences to members of the Lam family. The university flag was lowered on Tuesday, Nov. 23 in Lam's honour.

around the ring

Want to recognize a distinguished faculty member?

The Confederation of University Faculty Associations of BC (CUFA BC) is accepting nominations for 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. 25. Information and nomination forms: www.cufa.bc.ca/awards

New CD from School of Music

Evenings in Vienna—Beethoven for Guitar and Friends features serenades and bagatelles by Beethoven, transcribed for flute, strings and guitar and performed by School of Music faculty Ann Elliott-Goldschmid (violin), Joanna Hood (viola), Alexander Dunn (guitar) and Lanny Pollet (flute). The CD is on sale at the School of Music office. All proceeds go to the Richard Ely Scholarship for music undergrads who demonstrate performance excellence and whose principal instrument is the horn. <http://finearts.uvic.ca/music/recordings/>

Sharing weather data

British Columbians will have a better understanding of how climate change affects their community, thanks to a new agreement to share weather data among a number of agencies, including the Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium (PCIC) at UVic. The agreement standardizes the way weather data are collected, stored, shared and analyzed by all the agencies. "We're very pleased to play a key role in this agreement," says Dr. Francis Zwiers, president and CEO of PCIC. "The agreement sets the gold standard, nationally and internationally, for the sharing and exchange of data to the mutual benefit of all parties." PCIC promotes collaborative research on the physical impacts of climate change on Pacific North America.

Undergrad research review published

The inaugural issue of *The Arbutus Review* has been published. The online annual peer-reviewed journal publishes research papers submitted by UVic undergrads. This issue includes articles on older women and running culture, the single transferrable vote, and Chinese peasant paintings from the Cultural Revolution, among others. <http://journals.uvic.ca/index.php/arbutus>



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