

## University of Victoria

## **SPEED** READING

MORE RING, MORE YOU

### New *Ring* website goes live

There's a new Ring website at the old location (ring.uvic.ca). We're posting extra content, additional photos and videos, and Ring Forum topics that you can weigh in on with your comments. We're also recruiting volunteer contributors from across campus to cover stories for The Ring and help us keep the site fresh and fascinating. Check out the new site, and follow us on Twitter, too: http:// *twitter.com/uvicring*. Story, p. 2

### UNIVERSITY FINANCES

### **Budget plan addresses** projected deficit

UVic's integrated budget planning process has resulted in a draft 2011/12 budget framework that includes provisions to eliminate a projected \$5.8-million deficit. It will be several months before the budget framework goes before the Board of Governors for approval. Story, p. 3

### **UNIVERSITIES AND** POLITICS

### Leadership contests present opportunity for post-secondary education

UVic President David Turpin, SFU President Andrew Petter and former BC Attorney General and author of the Campus 2002 report Geoff Plant penned a recent op-ed piece published in the Victoria Times Colonist and the Vancouver *Sun* urging BC political party leadership candidates to consider the essential role of post-secondary education and research in the future of our society. *Times Colonist* article: http://bit.ly/fk3QuP

### **LEGACY GALLERY**

### Student-curated exhibit creates community

Students of Dr. Carolyn Butler-Palmer (history in art) in partnership with the Cool-aid Community Health Clinic have created a new exhibit opening at the Legacy Gallery Jan. 24. "Connect the Blocks" involves gallery visitors creating a poem or drawing and posting it for display, thereby building bridges between people and showing how

## **STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW AND RENEWAL SPECIAL INSERT**



L-R: Lane and CanAssist Director Nigel Livingstone. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

### **ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY**

## New device allows everyone to rack 'em up

### **BY ANNE TOLSON**

When the University of Victoria's CanAssist team held its Christmas party at Peacocks Billiards in 2008, everyone had a great time shooting pool-everyone except Dan Spelt, who has cerebral palsy and is unable to hold a billiard cue.

"There was a competition, and I remember really wanting to play pool," says Spelt, a research assistant in CanAssist's software lab.

CanAssist develops and delivers innovative technologies and services to improve the quality of life for those with special needs.

That night at the billiards hall, Darcy

patients

because

the virus

Lane, CanAssist's manager of hardware, said that someday the team would create a device that would enable Dan to play pool.

"I thought he meant it would be nice to do," recalls Spelt. "I thought he was just making conversation."

But the idea for an automated billiards device that could be used by people with disabilities began to take shape a year later when Lane provided it as a design option for a third-year engineering class. A team of five co-op students rose to the challenge and created a wooden structure with an ingenious design.

A few months later, their concept was taken to the next level by a group of four German exchange students, who replaced the wooden frame with one made of aluminum and added dozens of parts designed to make the device fully automated. In the end, most of CanAssist's engineering team had a hand in the project, which was unveiled Dec. 23 in the billiards room at the University Club.

"We wanted to make a device that would allow Dan or anyone who can't hold a billiard cue to play pool just by moving their head or using their facial muscles," savs Lane.

"As a prototype, it's really amazingespecially considering the number of peo-

### **SEE CANASSIST P.8**

## UVic biomedical engineer "outsmarts" HIV

150

UNIQUE NEW ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGIES **DEVELOPED BY** CANASSIST

NUMBER OF

artistic exchanges can build community. More: *ring.uvic.ca* and click on Culture

### **EARTHQUAKE DRILL**

### Are you ready for the Great **BC Shakeout?**

On Jan. 26 at exactly 10 a.m. people all across the province will "drop, cover and hold on" for two minutes as part of the first BC-wide earthquake emergency drill. All faculty, staff and students are encouraged to take part. Info: http://ohs.uvic.ca/emergency\_ management/shakeout.php

### **BY SUZANNE SMITH**

New groundbreaking research by University of Victoria biomedical engineer Stephanie Willerth has significantly advanced the understanding of HIV and how to treat it. Experts estimate that 38 million people worldwide are currently infected with HIV, and 4.1 million more are diagnosed each year. In order to design effective longterm treatments, scientists need to learn more about how the virus mutates and develops resistance to medications. "The virus mutates at a very high rate, which is very problematic for HIV

eventually develops resistance to medications," explains Willerth, a faculty member in UVic's Department of Mechanical Engineering and the Division of Medical Sciences.

Willerth and her team studied approximately 15,000 different versions of the virus-something that has never been done before. This information has allowed them to locate the specific genes of the virus that provided resistance to the drugsknowledge that could help researchers develop more effective treatments for HIV.

"To study all of these different versions we have to replicate them millions of times, especially when it comes to complex viruses like HIV," explains Willerth. "Because this research method requires a large amount of genetic material and there are obvious risks of duplicating highly contagious viruses, scientists have avoided doing this.

"Our research was unique because of the method we used-we isolated the genetic material from HIV, so that it was no longer alive, before we replicated it. This same method can be applied to other difficult-to-treat viruses such as swine flu, Ebola, influenza or even staphylococcus."

After replicating the virus from a small sample obtained from a long-term HIV patient who had developed drug resistance to their treatment, Willerth and her team studied its genetic make-up using "next generation" DNA sequencing-a new method that allows researchers to study millions of molecules at a time.

Willerth's current research involves working with stem cells. She is attempting to turn stem cells into neural tissue that could someday be transplanted to fix spinal cord injuries.

"Down the road, people could benefit from this research because it could be used to replace diseased or damaged tissue. For example, if a person has a liver transplant-instead of having to wait for an organ donor, as a result of this research we could re-grow and transplant a liver for them made from their own cells."

Willerth conducted her HIV research as a post-doctoral fellow at the University of California, Berkeley. Her research findings are available at *http://bit.ly/hD7Ku0* and her UVic lab website is www.engr.uvic.ca/~willerth/SMWLab/WebContent/ index.shtml

Willerth. PHOTO: ROBIE LISCOME



### Get ready for the Great BC Shakeout earthquake drill Jan. 26 at 10 a.m.

Demonstrating the "drop, cover and hold on" procedure (L-R) are Risk Analyst Ben McAllister, Manager of Emergency Planning Daphne Donaldson, and Assistant Director of Campus Security Services Tom Downie. Visit the website at *http://ohs.uvic.ca* for more info. **PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES** 

**BY ROBIE LISCOMB, EDITOR** 

We're making some ambitious changes

here at The Ring, the most visible of

which is the launch of our new website

(please take a look at ring.uvic.ca

and let us know what you think). But

there's a lot more going on than just a

Ring, More You" as a way of attracting

your attention to (and focusing ours

We're using the catchphrase "More

Our mandate at The Ring is to

serve the university's internal com-

munications needs and to help build

a strong sense of community. We do

that by telling stories of the incredibly

talented people here and the amazing

tell these stories is one of the great

satisfactions of our work. Conversely,

one of our greatest frustrations is that

we're only able to cover (and print) a

small fraction of the exciting things

cover all the great stories, nor do we

have the space in our print editions

to publish them all. That's where the

While we can't print more pages, the

sky's the limit on our new website.

We'll be posting fresh content as

often as we can (we're hoping that's

eventually going to mean every day

or two) and including a wide variety

current changes come in.

We just don't have the resources to

Being able to learn about and

and wonderful things that they do.

new website.

on) these changes.

going on here.

"More Ring"

### We're on Twitter

Want to be notified when major new content is posted to *The Ring's* website? Then follow the UVicRing Twitter feed:

http://twitter.com/uvicrina

### HRING Vol. 37 No. 1

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Director Bruce Kilpatrick, 250–721–7638, abk@uvic.ca

Managing editor Robie Liscomb, 250–721–7640, robie@uvic.ca

Production Beth Domar

Display ads Bonnie Light, 250-388-5321, ringads@uvic.ca

Calendar Mandy Crocker, 250-721-8587, ucom@uvic.ca

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## Can you see yourself in *The Ring?*

of material (articles, photos, videos, audio clips) that we can't squeeze into our monthly print edition.

### "More You"

We think of *The Ring* as UVic's community news source, but *our* news source is you, the members of the UVic community. We want to put more "you" in *The Ring*.

You may have noticed lately that a wider variety of voices has been represented in *The Ring*—content not produced by our regular staff contributors. These include opinion pieces, letters, first-person reports. We want to keep moving in this direction and are opening up *The Ring* to contributions from you—members of the UVic community. Not only do we want to hear your suggestions for stories to cover, we want your help in covering them, in words, sound, and pictures.

We are recruiting voluntary contributors from all areas of the university to work under the direction of the editor to help us communicate the important stories that we otherwise might miss. We're interested in anything that fits our mandate and is relevant and of interest to the general UVic community.

Click on the "Get involved" tab on our homepage to find out more about being a voluntary contributor. Then contact me (robie@uvic.ca or 250-721-7640) to discuss your ideas and how we might work together.

And keep visiting *ring.uvic.ca* to see what's fresh and new.

# Reviewing UVic's strategic plan

This issue of *The Ring* contains a special supplement, a discussion document intended to spark discussion around some of the major factors that will influence the development of a renewed strategic plan for the university. The discussion paper provides an update on the changing environment and provides context to guide the renewal of *A Vision for the Future: Building on Strength,* the current strategic plan that was approved by the Senate and Board of Governors in January 2007.

"Since 2007, efforts throughout the university have been directed at putting our strategies into practice and making UVic a university of choice for outstanding students, faculty and staff," says UVic President David Turpin. "It is now time to take stock, evaluate our progress, assess our changing environment and begin to think about what strategies and goals will guide the university into the future."

The discussion document outlines some of the changes in the external environment that affect the university. It also highlights challenges, opportunities, strategic issues and questions to consider during the review and renewal of the plan.

Individuals and groups are invited to share their thoughts with the planning and priorities committee by March 31, 2011. Feedback may be

**ADMIN APPOINTMENTS** 

### submitted via email to strategicplanreview@uvic.ca, via the website at *web. uvic.ca/strategicreview*, or by mail to Planning and Priorities Committee, c/o University Secretary's Office, Administrative Services Building A138, PO Box 1700 STN CSC, Victoria BC, V8W 2Y2.

A series of consultations scheduled for the winter and spring will provide additional opportunities for faculty, staff, students and community members to provide input. Consultation schedule details and updates on the renewal process will be available on the UVic website at web.uvic.ca/strategicreview. If your group is not currently scheduled to meet with members of the planning and priorities committee, you may contact the Office of the University Secretary by Feb. 15 to express your interest in meeting briefly with committee members on the afternoon of March 25. Please email usec2@uvic. ca or phone 250-721-8102. You'll be informed by the end of February whether or not a slot is available.

The planning and priorities committee will collect and review all the feedback during the summer and present a revised draft plan during the fall. The renewed strategic plan will be presented to Senate and the Board of Governors prior to UVic's 50th anniversary in 2012/13.

## New faces in new places

As of Jan. 1, there have been a few changes in the university's academic leadership lineup, the most prominent of which is the arrival of Dr. Reeta Tremblay as vice-president academic and provost. Biography: http://web.uvic.ca/ vpac/general/Tremblay.htm

In addition, five academic departments have new acting chairs, each serving until June 30, 2011.

Dr. Frank Van Vegel is acting chair of the Department of Chemistry.

Dr. Fayez Gebali is acting chair of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Dr. Henning Struchtrup is acting chair of the Department of Mechanical Engineering.

Dr. Michael Masson is acting chair of the Department of Psychology.

And Dr. Christine St. Peter is acting chair of the Department of Women's Studies.



Vice-President Academic and Provost Dr. Reeta Tremblay started Jan. 1



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Natasha Benn | 250-721-6001 | nbenn@uvic.ca





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## New director aims to take student health and wellness to a new level

### **BY SUZANNE SMITH**

There are big changes in the air for UVic's Health Services, thanks to a new position aimed at keeping students healthy. "Traditionally, the Jack Petersen Health Centre on campus has directed most of its efforts towards treating illness," explains Judy Burgess, UVic's new director of Health Services. "The purpose of my position is to enhance the clinic functions as well as broaden the clinic focus with more programs aimed at promoting health and wellness on campus."

Participating in the strategic planning process within the newly structured Division of Student Affairs will also be a key component of health service improvement.

Burgess completed her PhD at UVic in nursing and education and did her post-doctoral research in nursing at McMaster University. She also taught for seven years as an instructor in UVic's School of Nursing.

Her past work experience as the director of the James Bay Community Project for 15 years provided Burgess with an extensive background working with youth, young adults and families in community health. In this role, she helped to start the youth clinics in Victoria and supported the development of neighbourhood houses throughout the city.

Burgess' vision for her new position is strongly influenced by her background in community health and her strengths in networking and partnership building.

"There are lots of people and committees at UVic who work on student health," says Burgess. "My vision for this position is to facilitate people working together in ways that integrate health services on campus and make them more visible



and accessible. I've already started networking with several partners at UVic, including counseling and residence services, athletics, the School of Nursing and the Island Medical Program. My future plans include reaching out to other student services and faculties."

Another key priority for Burgess is getting input from students about the services they need and implementing programs to match them. For instance, Burgess explains that "we know mental health is a very big issue on campus, not unlike other Canadian universities, and that we need to develop an integrated mental health model. This could include reducing student stress and improving their coping skills, identifying first symptoms and offering early intervention, and making it easier for students to get treatment."

Some of the other areas she hopes Health Services will expand upon include communicable illness, sexual health, sport health, injury prevention and wellness care.

A typical day for Burgess involves managing the daily operation of the campus clinic, which serves approximately 100 students daily and provides emergency first aid, general medical care, minor surgery, health education and access to psychiatry, sports medicine, physiotherapy and other community-based specialists. This bustling clinic includes a team of five physicians working each day, four nurses, three psychiatrists and several support staff. Burgess. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

Burgess is also responsible for overseeing staffing, budgets, programs, campus health issues and strategic planning for student health services. Some key initiatives that Burgess is working on include recruiting a health information officer (a new position aimed at developing clinic capacity in electronic medical records), initiating client surveys to better understand the needs of students on campus, developing the clinic as a site for student practicum placements and enhancing networks to improve campus health and wellness.

Burgess looks forward to meeting and working with more members of the UVic community and can be reached at 250-721-8820 or jburgess@ uvic.ca.

## Draft budget plan addresses projected deficit

### **BY PATTY PITTS**

While it's several months before UVic's draft 2011/12 budget framework goes before the university's Board of Governors for approval, UVic's integrated budget planning process is well under way.

A draft budget has been completed which outlines cost increases totaling \$8.3 million and projected additional revenue of only \$2.5 million. The incremental revenue is primarily the result of a planned 2-per-cent tuition increase since no increase to the university's provincial operating grant parture, a budget plan was identified to eliminate the deficit.

Due to increased enrolment projections, \$900,000 in withheld enrolment funds will be released to partially cover the shortfall. As well, the university has \$2 million in unallocated funding that was held back in 2009/10 in anticipation of budget shortfalls in future years. Utilizing these funds reduces the deficit to \$2.9 million. This remaining deficit will be offset through a 1.5-per-cent cut in budgets across the institution.

The projected \$8.3 million in cost pressures reflect anticipated in-

In the fall, the combined pension plan's board of trustees advised members (regular continuing faculty, management exempt staff, and PEA members) that to maintain pension benefits, increased contributions (from both members and the university) would be required. Alternatively, modification of future plan benefits would be necessary.

Plan members will be invited by the trustees to information sessions on Jan. 18 and 19 to learn more about the long-term sustainability of the plan and to participate in a survey to seek member feedback that will guide the trustees and the university on how to respond.

"If, upon receiving member feedback, the decision is to increase contributions to maintain the long-term sustainability of their plan, the draft 2011/12 university budget will cover the university's anticipated share," says UVic Associate Vice-President Financial Planning and Operations Kristi Simpson. "No further budget adjustments for the added contribution levels for the combined pension plan will be needed."

## ringers

Hamar Foster (law) was appointed Queen's counsel Nov. 26. A UVic law professor since 1978, Foster teaches courses ranging from property law to the historical foundations of Aboriginal title and government and is author of more than 50 scholarly publications on the legal history of British Columbia and Canada.The Queen's counsel designation is an honour conferred on members of the legal profession to recognize exceptional merit and contribution.

Dr. Lenora Marcellus (nursing) and members of Vancouver Island's Safe Babies Program have been awarded the 2010 Rotman Award for Pediatric Home Care Innovation. The program provides education and support for foster families caring for infants with prenatal substance exposure and is the result of years of partnership between the Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA), Ministry of Children and Family Development and the Foster Parents Support Services Society. The \$100,000 award will be used to further expand the program across BC and roll out a new training curriculum.

Three UVic alumnae were among Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful Women announced in November in Toronto. They are: **Tracy Redies** (BA economics); **Tamara Vrooman** (BA history, MA history); and **Bev Van Ruyven** (BA anthropology, UVic Board of Governors member and alumni representative).

### Martlet writer Karolina Karas

was selected by *The Globe and Mail* editorial board as the winner of The Globe Student Newspaper Challenge for her article "Reason for Gender Gap in Universities Debated" in the Nov. 10 issue of the *Martlet. http://www.martlet.ca/ martlet/article/reason-gender-gapuniversities-debated/* 

### Dr. Norma Mickelson, emeritus

professor and former UVic chancellor, has published an autobiography. *Herstory: A Canadian Journey* (AwareNow Publishing) is a memoir that traces her life from the early years growing up in Victoria, through the Great Depression and World War 2 to her family life and career successes. It's available in the UVic Bookstore.

is anticipated. The net result is a projected \$5.8-million budget deficit for 2011/12.

Through the integrated planning process, involving all vice-presidents and associate vice-presidents and led by Vice-President Academic and Provost Jamie Cassels prior to his decreased costs caused by salary raises generated through faculty and staff progressing through their ranks/ ranges, inflationary costs, necessary allocations in academic and critical areas, and an anticipated increase in employer contributions to the UVic combined pension plan.

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### **RETIREMENT INCOME OPTIONS**

### **JANUARY 2011**

Monthly Income Based on \$100,000

#### REGISTERED RETIREMENT INCOME FUND (RRIF)

	AGE	55	60	65	71	75	80	
Minimum Payout *		\$238	\$278	\$333	\$615	\$654	\$729	
Total Payout to Age 1	00 :	\$186,311	\$169,644	\$154,816	\$139,174	\$132,849	\$124,201	
Accelerated Payout:	Income over 5 years\$1,805 Income over 10 years\$975 Income over 15 years\$700			Total 5 year payout\$108,306 Total 10 year payout\$116,939 Total 15 year payout\$125,992				

\* Based on best current GIC of 3.20%. Returns will vary depending on investment vehicle

LIFE ANNUITIES									
	AGE	55	60	65	71	75	80		
Male									
payments cease at death 10 years guaranteed		\$530 \$520	\$586 \$568	\$668 \$630	\$813 \$722	\$913 \$791	\$1,134 \$907		
Female									
payments cease at death 10 years guaranteed		\$494 \$490	\$540 \$532	\$602 \$587	\$707 \$672	\$810 \$741	\$998 \$857		
Joint Life: 10 yrs guaranteed		\$456	\$488	\$534	\$611	\$675	\$785		
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### The Ring January 2011 Page 3

# around the ring

### New website puts proof in the pudding

Looking for "proof" that UVic is a leading comprehensive university? A new website launching this month may provide the examples you need. The Proof Points website is a central web-based resource that illustrates how UVic distinguishes itself in the following strategic areas: inspiring teaching, innovative research, real-life learning, diverse and welcoming community, mobilizing knowledge, community engagement and sustainability. An initiative of UVic Communications, the site will be accessible from the main A-Z web directory. A call for content submissions will be sent out three times a year to university communications officers, and volunteer submissions are welcome anytime. For more information and submission guidelines, please contact proofpts@uvic.ca. http:// communications.uvic.ca/proofpoints

### **Year of Science**

The BC government has declared the 2010/11 school year as the Year of Science in BC. The goal is to inspire young people to explore exciting local career opportunities in science. As part of this initiative, the province has provided a grant to UVic to support earth science and society program events at UVic and throughout BC. It will involve a series of professional development workshops for teachers, as well as K-12 classroom visits. "The Year of Science is a tremendous opportunity for research-intensive universities such as UVic to engage our young people in the broad spectrum of science including the natural, physical and social sciences," says Howard Brunt, UVic's vice-president research. More: www. yearofsciencebc.ca

## 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

## Purchase of rare manuscript facsimile enhances study of Islamic art

**BY ROBIE LISCOMB** 

For UVic students learning about the

history of Islamic painting, it's the

chased a very high-quality facsimile of

one of the most important surviving

illustrated manuscripts from the high

period of Arab manuscript painting in the 12th and 13th centuries: the Maga-

mat of al-Hariri, copied and illustrated

by Yahya al-Wasiti. The original is in

teaching," says Islamic art historian

Dr. Marcus Milwright (history in art).

"When we teach manuscript painting,

one of the frustrations is that we can't

"This is a tremendous resource for

the Bibliothèque Nationale.

The university has recently pur-

next-best thing to a trip to Paris.



take people to see the originals. With this facsimile, you can do almost everything you can do with the original manuscript."

Being able to examine the facsimile offers many advantages to studying the document online. "The images and details available online are quite limited, and you can't see all the pages," says fourth-year student Natalie Gilson, a member of Milwright's Islamic painting class, which examined the facsimile last term.

"The manuscript includes more than 100 illustrations, and the facsimile allows us to see the text pages not available online and to examine the important relationships between the images and the text," explains Milwright.

Milwright and student Natalie Gilson examine facsimile manuscript. Photo: Robie Liscomb

The Maqamat of al-Hariri is one of the masterpieces of Arabic secular literature. The book reveals much about medieval Iraq, reflecting the cultural and ethnic diversity of the country during that period. It contains 50 stories about a merchant and a rogue called Abu Zayd, whose elaborate speeches are one of the literary high points of the book. The stories are set around the Islamic world, and the illustrations depict a range of settings: city scenes, mosques, boats, caravansarais, villages, governors' residences, and merchants' houses.

The manuscript, copied and illustrated by al-Wasiti in 1237, is generally regarded as the finest of all the illustrated manuscripts of the Maqamat, and the most inventive Medieval Arabic secular manuscript.

The book was purchased using funds from the Dean Halliwell Library Enrichment Fund and the Owen Padmore Memorial Fund, established by the family of Owen Padmore in memory of the history in art student, who was fascinated by Islamic visual culture. Since 2002 the fund has helped purchase over 120 books on Islamic art, architecture and archaeology.

The McPherson library has been collecting Islamic art books since the 1970s, and with the significant contribution of the Padmore Fund, it houses one of the most important collections in this field of study in Canada.

## Sustainability action teams get moving

### **BY MELANIE GROVES**

Interested in greening our campus from the ground up? Join the campus Sustainability Action Team (SAT) pilot program starting this month.

Staff and faculty in six campus buildings will be encouraged to team up in offices and labs to work together to conserve energy, reduce waste and promote sustainable transportation choices.

Flowing out of the Sustainability Action Plan for Campus Operations (2009–2014), the initiative is being coordinated by the Office of Campus Planning and Sustainability and Facilities Management with support from BC Hydro's Power Smart program.

"The teams will play a key role in the implementation of UVic's sustainability goals by engaging the campus community directly in efforts to reduce UVic's environmental footprint," says Rita Fromholt, sustainability co-ordinator. "Our hope is to support behaviour change in the workplace, foster individual and team creativity, exchange ideas, recognize and reward successes and have fun."

Staff will be encouraged to use sustainable practices such as shutting off computers and other electronic equipment when not in use, turning off lights in empty rooms, using the campus recycling system and trying alternative transportation modes such as cycling and transit to get to work.

"Small steps can have a big impact if we all do them together," says Fromholt.

A kick-off luncheon will take place on Jan. 25 with Vice-President Finance and Operations Gayle Gorrill and representatives from Power Smart.

The six buildings involved in the pilot program (Business & Economics, Engineering & Computer Science, Fraser, Human & Social Development, McPherson Library and MacLaurin) will compete against each other to see which can achieve the biggest sustainability improvements between Feb. 1 and April 30. Award winners will be acknowledged at the Connect U staff conference in June. More information: ritaf@uvic.ca; www.uvic.ca/ sustainability

## New chair will help UVic students succeed in East Asia

Students at UVic will be better prepared to do business in East Asia thanks to a generous gift of \$1 million from Stephen Jarislowsky, founder and CEO of the Montréalbased investment company, Jarislowsky Fraser Ltd.

Jarislowsky is an advocate for better corporate governance and shareholder rights and supports the pursuit of excellence. He is a generous benefactor to many universities and cultural and charitable organizations.

The gift, with matching funds provided by the Centre for Asia Pacific Initiatives (CAPI), will endow the Jarislowsky CAPI East Asia (Japan) Chair housed in the Peter B. Gustavson School of Business and CAPI.

The chair holder will teach in

"In some cultures, showing the soles of your shoes is seen as disrespectful and could close the door on a business opportunity," says Dr. Ali Dastmalchian, dean of UVic's Gustavson School of Business. "Thanks to Mr. Jarislowsky's gift, we can give students a better understanding of the cultural nuances appropriate to business practices in East Asian countries."

"This chair provides an opportunity for CAPI research to be expanded to include the cultural diversity of East Asian countries, enhancing our understanding of the region, especially in a business context," says Dr. Andrew Harding, CAPI director.

CAPI was established in 1987 as an important element of UVic's plan to expand and strengthen its links with universities and other

from now until Feb. 25. Information and nomination forms: *www.cufa. bc.ca/awards*  the Master of Global Business program and help ensure that students graduate with a thorough knowledge, understanding and appreciation of Asian cultures and give students the skills they need to work and perform effectively in these cultures. institutions in the Asia-Pacific region, especially with China, Japan, Southeast Asia, Korea, and the island states of Oceania.

An international search will be conducted to identify a qualified individual to fill the position.



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# LIFE'S A BALL

There's more going on at Victoria's Ogden Point breakwater than meets the eye

Mucciarelli, exploring an Ogden Point reef ball draped in marine life, including a large sunflower sea star. PHOTO: SCOTT STEVENSON

### **BY PEIGI McGILLIVRAY**

For most Victoria residents, the city's iconic Ogden Point breakwater is a place to take a stroll, enjoy the spectacular scenery and perhaps see a seal or passing pod of killer whales.

But there's a lot more going on there, although most of us can't see it.

Below the waterline, the breakwater's enormous granite blocks are a beacon for a remarkable variety of sea life. That's why Ogden Point is such a popular destination for scuba divers. And that's why it's the site of a unique research project led by Valerie Mucciarelli, a UVic graduate student in environmental studies.

Subtidal rocky reef habitats are a vital but disappearing component of healthy marine communities. To study how marine life develops on reefs in the Pacific Northwest, Mucciarelli arranged in 2009 for 92 dome-shaped "reef balls" to be deposited on the that acts as a reef by providing a hard surface for sea life to grow on. Each one-metre, 136-kg ball at Ogden Point is designed with Swiss-cheese-like holes to entice marine plants and

seafloor just east of the breakwater.

A reef ball is an artificial structure

animals looking for a new home. "Reef balls allow us to monitor the development of shallow-water ecosystems in a very strategic way," says Mucciarelli. "We can put them in the water at various depths and distances from each other and watch different species discover and colonize them."

Prior to the project, Mucciarelli had never worked in the marine environment, had no experience with scuba diving, and little knowledge of marine life on the BC coast. That quickly changed.

"It's been tremendously exciting learning to dive, discovering the underwater world and watching a new habitat come alive," she says. In fact, the speed of colonization was astonishing. Four days after the first reef balls were deployed, Mucciarelli dove down to check them out. "I was expecting to see bare concrete but, to my surprise, marine life had already begun to cover them. We saw shrimp and snails galore."

After a week, green and brown algae had started to grow. In three weeks, fish and crabs had moved in. After four weeks, other critters had arrived, including sea stars, sea cucumbers and nudibranchs (sea slugs).

But the big explosion of life happened in spring 2010 when bright red algae blanketed the reef balls and bull kelp took root. Since then, Mucciarelli has documented the development of a vibrant new marine ecosystem that includes snails, hermit and helmet crabs, lingcod and rockfish, sea slugs, sculpins and chitons.

"We even saw an octopus and found evidence that it had used the reef balls to hide while it ate its catch." Mucciarelli is especially interested in how factors such as current, light, depth, distance from the breakwater and distance from other reefs can affect biodiversity in shallow coastal waters.

"Connecting the dots between what's happening in shallow waters and what's going on deep in the ocean is very important," says Mucciarelli. "It will help us protect the tremendous biodiversity that exists here in BC. Although my project will last only two years, the reef balls will remain in place, providing tremendous scope for continued research in the future."

The Ogden Point reef balls were designed by the Reef Ball Foundation, a non-profit, environmental organization working to rehabilitate marine reefs around the world. To see images of the reef balls and sea life on and around them: *http://bit.ly/gqFUZv* 

# around the ring

### CORE presents awardwinning education documentaries

In conjunction with the opening of the new Centre for Outreach Education (CORE), the Faculty of Education will present two award-wining films. "Library of the Early Mind: A Grown-up Look at the Art of Children's Literature" will be screened on Jan. 20. This documentary explores the significance of children's literature in modern culture. Over 40 authors, illustrators and publishers were interviewed for the documentary. On Jan. 21, "Including Samuel" will be shown. Shot and produced over four years, the film chronicles the efforts of photojournalist Dan Habib and his family to include his son Samuel, diagnosed with cerebral palsy, in every facet of their lives. Admission is free, but a donation of a gently used book will be appreciated. Both films will be shown from 7–9 p.m. in the David Lam Auditorium, MacLaurin Building. More: www.educ.uvic.ca/ and www.includingsamuel.com

### UVSS events highlight experiences of differently abled

The UVSS is sponsoring three events next week under the theme of "Our Different Journeys" to highlight the experiences of differently abled students and encourage an inclusive and aware campus community. ■ Jan. 17, 12–3 p.m., University Fountain, "The Ride of Your Life." Participate in a wheelchair relay; no teams necessary. 
Jan. 19, 6–7:30 p.m., Hickman 105, "There's No Such Word As Can't." Alvin Law challenges his audiences to think outside the box as he's had to, having lived his entire life without arms. Tickets at the UVSS Info Booth and Residence Life Office for \$3 each. 
Jan. 21, 3:30 p.m., SUB, Michel Pujol Room, "Our Different Journeys." Challenge your perception of disability at this discussion of how disability has influenced and affected the lives of UVic students. Free.

### CENTRE FOR OUTREACH EDUCATION

## CORE support for special education needs

### **BY CRYSTAL BERGERON**

While most of us were snuggled up opening gifts in front of the fire this holiday season, the Faculty of Education was the lucky recipient of working with children in the community as a registered psychologist," says Roberts. "I see children every day who struggle to get the support they need in today's public schools. With largerthan-ideal class sizes, cuts to special education, and sweeping changes to the delivery of services offered by children's agencies, many children are falling between the cracks." **InclusionWorks!**—helping young adults with developmental disabilities to make the transition from high school into the work world;

Tools for Success—a tutoring program



perhaps one of the greatest gifts of all: the opportunity to give back to the community.

With a generous bequest from an anonymous donor, the faculty will launch the Centre for Outreach Education (CORE) on Wednesday, Jan. 19, in its new home in the MacLaurin building.

CORE is a multidisciplinary centre dedicated to enhancing the education of children and youth from our local communities, many whose needs are, unfortunately, not being met through schools and current government programs.

The driving force behind the centre is Dr. Jillian Roberts, associate dean administration and associate professor of special education, who leads a faculty steering committee of 17 dedicated to implementing the vision for CORE.

"My passion for CORE comes from

The centre will offer a variety of services free of charge to children and youth who need them the most. Faculty members from the departments of curriculum and instruction, educational psychology and leadership studies, and the School of Exercise Science, Health and Physical Education will provide their expertise along with graduate and undergraduate students specializing in teacher education, recreation and health education and kinesiology.

CORE's inaugural programs will include:

**CORE Club**—an after-school program that teams local schoolchildren with education faculty members and student teachers for reading and homework assistance; for children living with epilepsy, run in partnership with the Victoria Epilepsy and Parkinson's Centre;

**CORE Fun**—an after-school program that provides a variety of extracurricular activities—drama, artwork, yoga, music, nature presentations—to children on a rotating basis.

Kelly Bradley, mother of nine-yearold daughter Leigha, is thrilled her daughter will be able to participate in the centre's programs. "It's very hard for my husband and me to find appropriate and supported extra-curricular activities for our daughter to attend," she says. "To be able to leave Leigha in capable hands and not have to worry that she isn't appropriately supported means everything to us. It allows us a breather from parenting such a highneeds child as well as provides much needed academic support. It really does 'take a village to raise a child' and

Roberts helps student Theresa Smith in CORE's after-school tutoring program. PHOTO: CRYSTAL BERGERON

we're so thankful for this amazing gift of support."

Dean of Education Dr. Ted Riecken is thankful for the opportunity to connect the university, the faculty and families in such a positive way. "I believe the donor whose bequest has funded CORE would be extremely pleased. Connecting like this is part of the shared mandate of schools and universities, and we are fortunate to have additional resources to allow us to launch such an initiative. CORE will be an important part of our ongoing fundraising efforts so we can ensure continuation of its programs and activities."

For more information on the programs and services CORE will provide, contact Kristina Copestake at 250-721-7862 or kcopesta@uvic.ca.

## **Q&A: Jessica Tara, UVic 2010 United Way**

### **BY TARA SHARPE**

Every year, the annual UVic United Way campaign is administered behind the scenes by a UVic co-op student under the direction of the campaign committee chairs. It is a busy yet gratifying role—responsible for everything from coordinating the mail-out of pledge forms and helping to deliver daily draw prizes to updating the campaign webpages and attending every fund-raising event on campus.

The UVic co-op student for the 2010 campaign, Jessica Tara, is in her last year of a double major in psychology and anthropology with a background in visual art. *The Ring* sat down with her in December when the campaign was starting to wrap up.

### » Tell us a little about yourself and what prompted you to apply for this particular position. How much did you know about United Way before you started working for the campaign?

What drew me to this co-op position was that it ultimately benefits a local non-profit organization, which in turn supports a large number of community resources here in Victoria. I volunteered for several years with a local agency that was partially funded by United Way, so I had some understanding of United Way's ability to support programs spanning multiple agencies. On the other hand, I never realized just how much effort went into organizing a workplace fundraising campaign, let alone a city-wide campaign with a goal of \$6.2 million.



Jessica Tara, UVic United Way co-op student. PHOTO: TARA SHARPE

### » How do you think the web can be used to reach out to the campus community, particularly students and others who do not receive the payroll pledge forms?

New this year is a Facebook page, Twitter account and Tumblr blog. I think Facebook has the most potential to reach out to students, especially with respect to United Way events. Student event organizers made their own Facebook events this semester, which got the word out to their own social networks and further contributed to a great turnout. Twitter and Tumblr are both great ways to broadcast information to community members and businesses beyond campus.

### » In your opinion, what might entice even more UVic students to get involved in the annual campaign?

After working with the student groups who organized fundraising events, I would say the best way to get more students engaged in the campaign is to get more student groups involved in hosting events. They tell some friends, who tell a few other students, and suddenly everyone you know is going.

### » What are some of the most memorable moments of the campaign for you?

I really appreciated students' willingness to brave the cold when they volunteered for the Dunk Tank, and the team spirit displayed by employees when they competed in the PlasmaCar Race. The engineering students who annually fix up and deck out the VW Bug impress me too.



## UVic delegation to India a success

### **BY ROBIE LISCOMB**

From Nov. 9–19, a delegation from UVic visited India to attend meetings organized by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC), strengthen the existing partnership with the Society for Participatory Research (PRIA) and explore potential partnerships with leading Indian universities in areas of UVic's strengths.

of UVics strengths. The AUCC mission included 15 Canadian university presidents, who met with leaders in government, business, civil society and Indian universities. India is facing a massive

demand for post-secondary education. The delegation heard

from India's minister of human resource development, who predicted that India will need 800 new universities and 45,000 new colleges in the next decade to meet the aspirations of the 550 million Indians under the age of 20.

During the trip, Dean of Law Donna Greschner signed memoranda of understanding to develop faculty and student exchanges, research collaborations, seminars and possible joint graduate programs with two leading Indian law schools: the National Academy of Legal Studies and Research (NAL-SAR) in Hyderabad, and West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences (WB-NUJS) in Kolkata. Student exchanges with these law schools is expected to commence in January 2012.

The UVic delegation also laid the groundwork for possible partnerships with three other leading Indian post-secondary institutions: the University of Calcutta, Jindal Global Law School and University, and the Indian Institute of Management—Calcutta. "India is a country with great potential for student and faculty exchanges and research collaborations in a wide variety of areas of UVic strength," says Dr. Jim Anglin, Director of the Office of International Affairs. "Already there is keen interest from UVic's departments of political science, economics, physics and astronomy, and history, and from the faculties of law, science and business."

India will need 800 new universities and 45,000 new colleges in the next decade to meet the aspirations of the 550 million Indians under the age of 20.

Members of the UVic delegation met with the new Canadian High Commissioner to India on several occasions and strengthened existing ties with senior officials in the trade and education sections of the High Commission.

The visit also helped

to strengthen UVic's three-year partnership with PRIA through a range of meetings on research and educational collaborations and the convening of a round table on community-engaged research and professional education for social development, attended by experts from government, business and the NGO sector. The roundtable resulted in agreement that economic development alone is not enough to address problems of human deprivation in developing countries, and that professional education for social development is essential.

In addition to Greschner, the UVic delegation included Dean of Graduate Studies Dr. Aaron Devor, Acting Director of the School of Public Administration Dr. Herman Bakvis, University Secretary Julia Eastman, and Director of the Office of International Affairs Dr. Jim Anglin. UVic President David Turpin joined the group in India after participating in November Convocation ceremonies in Victoria.

## in memoriam

**Dr. Elias Cheboud** (1959–2010) was a remarkable colleague and friend who died very suddenly on Dec. 12 while working outside Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, doing what he loved: working for peace alongside colleagues from around the globe. A memorial service for colleagues, alumni, family and friends took place

## **UVic Emergency Alerts**

Have you registered your mobile phone to receive emergency messages?

www.uvic.ca/alerts





Occupational Health, Safety & Environment on Dec. 20 at the Interfaith Chapel.

Elias received a UVic Bachelor of Social Work degree in 1996, an MSW from UBC and a UVic PhD in education in 2001. He taught at UVic, at Dalhousie University, in the United Arab Emirates and at Addis Ababa School of Social Work and Department of Gender Studies, and with the Institute for Peace and Security Studies.

He influenced many fortunate students and staff in the schools of social work and far beyond with his efforts in peace building and linking UVic with his beloved Ethiopia.

Elias was a faculty member at the United Nations University for Peace in Addis Ababa at the time of his death. He is survived by his two sons and their mother, his brother, and family and friends in Canada as well as his mother, his sisters and extended family in Ethiopia.

His close colleagues and friends around the world will do our best to continue the UVic-Ethiopia work of peace building and community development.

For more information see articles in *The Ring* at *http://ring.uvic.ca/01jul13/* page18.html and http://ring.uvic.ca/10jan/bridges.html and in the Globe and Mail at http://bit.ly/gchh4P.

Submitted by Professor Barb Whittington (social work)

## 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 Now Here's the Deal: WAC Bennett's Political Cartoons. Until Jan. 23. This exhibit features 33 political cartoons from former BC Premier Bennett's private collection. Roy Peterson, Len Norris, Sid Barron and other well known Canadian cartoonists are represented. Legacy Art Gallery and Café, 630 Yates St. 250-721-8299

**Exhibit** Architecture and Power. Until Feb. 6. An exhibition on the legislative buildings in 14 Canadian capitals. Legacy Art Gallery and Café located at 630 Yates Street. 250-721-8298

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 13

■ Lecture/Seminar 4 p.m. Corporate Social Responsibility: Preserving Neoliberal Capitalism or Prefiguring Alternatives. Dr. James Rowe, UVic. Clearihue C112. 250-853-3931

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 14

**Music** 12:30 p.m. *Fridaymusic*. School of Music students in a program for various instruments. MacLaurin B125. 250-721-8634

**Geography Colloquium** 2:45 p.m. Effects of Global and Local Change on the Strait of Georgia. Dr. Sophie Johannessen, UVic. Social Sciences & Math B215. 250-721-7327

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 15

**Other** 9 a.m. *Life Drawing Sessions*. Also Jan. 22, 29 and Feb. 5. Three-hour life drawing sessions using live models. All skill levels are welcome. Visual Arts A150. \$5. 250-721-8011

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19

Studies in Religion & Society Lecture 4 p.m. "It's the Spirit That Makes the Person": Spiritual Practice and Political Agency in Contemporary Coast Salish Society. Andrée Boisselle, UVic. Engineering/Computing Science Bldg., Rm. 116. 250-721-6325

■ **Open house** 8 p.m. *Astronomy Open House*. Telescope tours on Wednesdays, 8-10 p.m. Tours run (weather permitting) through to April 20th. *http://astrowww.phys.uvic.ca/ events/* Wright Centre 5th floor observatory. 250-721-7700

**Lecture/Seminar** 8 p.m. *Visiting Artist Series Presents Maria Brendel*. Brendel is an art historian who has worked as an art critic, author and lecturer in Berlin. Visual Arts A162. 250-721-8011

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 20

■ Lecture/Seminar 7:30 p.m. *Rights* of *Passage: Sidewalks and the Regulation of Public Flow.* Nicholas Blomley, Simon Fraser Univ. Legacy Art Gallery and Café. 630 Yates St. 250-721-8299

■ Adaskin Lecture 7:30 p.m. Please Send Pictures Women Getting Impatient: The Circulation of Contemporary Canadian Art in the 1940s and 50s. Dr. Anne Whitelaw, Concordia Univ. Her research focuses on cultural institutions in Canada and popular discourses of art history in Canada and the US. Strong C118. 250-721-7942

WEEK

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26

• **Other** 10 a.m. *Great British Columbia Shakeout*. A province-wide earthquake drill will take place at exactly 10 a.m. The purpose of the two-minute drill is to increase awareness about correct earthquake response procedures: Drop, Cover and Hold On. Visit the UVic website at *http://ohs.uvic.ca/* under "What's new" for information illustrating the correct way to drop, cover and hold on. UVic Centre. 250-721-6355

Studies for Religion & Society Lecture 4 p.m. War is Over: Late Modernist Conceptions of Hope Preceding and During WWII. Leif Baradoy, UVic. Social Sciences & Math A104. 250-721-6325

**Lecture/Seminar** 7:30 p.m. *The Long Exception: An Interpretation of the New Deal Legacy from FDR to Obama.* Dr. Nick Salvatore, Cornell Univ., author of numerous books on race, politics and religion in the US. Wright Centre A104. 250-721-7382

**Lecture/Seminar** 7:30 p.m. Victoria Natural History Society Presentation: Birder's Night: Murrelets on Kodiak Island, Alaska. Fraser 159.

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 27

■ Lecture/Seminar 7:30 p.m. *The Nabataean and Roman Civilian Communities at Hawara, Ancient Humayma in Jordan.* Prof. Barbara Reeves, Queen's Univ. Strong Bldg., C122. 250-721-8514

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 28

Music 12:30 p.m. *Fridaymusic*. School of Music brass students. MacLaurin B125. 250-721-8634

**Geography Colloquium** 2:45 p.m. *The Economics of Climate*. Dr. Cornelis van Kooten, UVic. Social Sciences & Math B215. 250-721-7327

### MONDAY, JANUARY 31

**Lecture/Seminar** 7:30 p.m. Victoria Natural History Society Presentation: Marine Night: Changing Community Composition and Seasonality: Zooplankton Responses to a Shifting Ocean Climate. Dave Mackas. Fraser 159

### **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1**

■ Cafe Scientifique 6:30 p.m. What Happens to Your Brain After Stroke? Insights from Brain Imaging Studies. Dr. Craig Brown, UVic. Hosted by: The Centre for Biomedical Research. Strathcona Hotel, 919 Douglas St., Maple Rm. 250-472-4067

■ Lecture/Seminar 7:30 p.m. Vifor Pharma Distinguished Lecture Series: Why Science Matters. Dr. Brian Greene, physicist, string theorist and author of *The Elegant* Universe. Wright Centre, Flury Hall. Free, but order tickets via the UVic Centre Box Office at www.auditorium.uvic.ca/tickets 250-472-4210

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Studies in Religion & Society Lecture 4 p.m. Authenticity and Religious Belief. Avigail Eisenberg, UVic. Social Sciences & Math A104. 250-721-6325

### **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4**

**Music** 12:30 p.m. *Fridaymusic*. Featuring School of Music keyboard students. MacLaurin B125. 250-721-8634

### **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6**

■ Music 10 a.m. Inside Opera with Robert Holliston. An in-depth presentation and discussion of Pacific Opera Victoria's production of La Bohème. Space is limited and reservations required: 250-382-1641 or email: rsvp@pov.bc.ca MacLaurin B125. 250-382-1641

### **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7**

■ Lecture/Seminar 5:30 p.m. *The OceanGybe Expedition*. UVic engineering grads, Bryson Robertson, Hugh Patterson and Ryan Robertson have sailed around the world documenting the polluted state of our oceans and isolated beaches due to plastic and other detritus. Wright Centre A104. 250-472-4210

### **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8**

**Lecture/Seminar** 7:30 p.m. Victoria Natural History Society Presentation: Natural History Night: Wolves: Icons of the Wilderness. Rick Page. Fraser 159.

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Studies in Religion & Society Lecture 4 p.m. Singing for Change: Flugschriften and Folksongs in the German Reformation. Adam Hough, UVic. Social Sciences & Math A104. 250-721-6325







# On campus, around the world — UVic alumni make a difference worth celebrating. Alumni Week 2011 features more than a dozen events and a special grand prize vacation package.

### Details at **alumni.uvic.ca**



## UCentre changes move Maltwood, open Welcome Centre

### **BY PATTY PITTS**

Changes to University Centre in the coming year will improve services to students and shift the research, instruction and exhibition role played by the Maltwood Art Museum and Gallery to the Legacy Gallery in downtown Victoria.

A new UVic Welcome Centre will move into the first floor of the University Centre to provide a first point of contact on campus for students and prospective students, visitors and members of the UVic community looking for information about the university.

"We're very excited about having our Welcome Centre in such a highvisibility location in the centre of campus," says centre manager Bruno Rocca. "This will make it easier for students and visitors to find us, and for staff to create a welcoming, serviceoriented atmosphere."

The Maltwood's move to an expanded Legacy Gallery on Yates Street will improve students' and researchers' access to UVic's art collection for teaching and research purposes, provide more exhibition space and give UVic an even higher presence and level of engagement downtown.

The Maltwood closure allows UVic to open its new Welcome Centre, expand University Centre food services for the campus population and those attending Farquhar Auditorium performances, and provide space for other student and support services. Recognition of UVic's founders and supporters will also be incorporated into the area."

Moving the Maltwood's role downtown will make the Legacy Gallery, established as part of the Michael Williams' bequest, a closer part of the university's academic mission. Renovations to the downtown heritage building, which will take place in the spring, include a seminar room for students and researchers.

"We will be able to display even more art from all of the UVic art collections," says Joy Davis, interim director of the gallery. "We look forward to establishing an exciting exhibition schedule at Legacy that builds on the success the gallery has experienced as a part of Victoria's downtown arts scene over the past three years."

The Maltwood has been closed since the fall as part of the ongoing campus Knowledge Infrastructure Program renovations. The Legacy Gallery will continue its current exhibitions and will then install a showing of pieces from the Williams collection until renovations begin in the early spring. The gallery hopes to reopen by late spring.

The Maltwood Prints and Drawings Gallery in the McPherson Library will continue to showcase pieces from the Maltwood Collection on campus.

The Welcome Centre is scheduled to open in time for the start of September classes. The timeline for the completion of the food services renovations is still under development.



BY MELANIE TROMP HOOVER

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF KATHLEEN WIRTANEN is about to change, if only just a little bit, this spring.

Wirtanen has accepted the newly minted position of Summer Camps and Community Coordinator, a fresh portfolio within the Department of Athletics and Recreation that takes the skills she has employed for three and a half years as a Recreation Programmer and applies them towards programming in the community.

"My main objective, whatever my job title might be, is to give students, staff and faculty and the greater community opportunities to lead healthy and active lifestyles," explains Wirtanen.

Opportunities like Active U, an on-campus collaboration between Human Resources, the Department of Occupational Health, Safety and Environment and the Department of Athletics and Recreation that facilitates a better relationship between UVic staff and faculty and their walking shoes.

Each year campus members are invited to start walking/jogging/ cycling on a daily basis, tracking their progress using a pedometer that converts activity into virtual footsteps between Victoria and San Francisco on the program website.

"In terms of sheer numbers, we've seen 851 unique Active U participants in the last three years," says Wirtanen, who has been the recreation programmer in charge of this initiative since 2008.

Despite the ongoing success of Active U, Wirtanen's best moments on the job have come from presenting at Experience UVic and New Student Orientation: two annual day-long events that give prospective and new students a crash course in all things UVic.

For Wirtanen, this means wowing new students with Vikes Recreation's broad array of programs and services, including martial arts and belly dancing and boot camp classes—options that most first-year students aren't used to seeing on their high school campuses.

"We're always trying to find new and innovative programs to offer and it's a key part of our work, making the first contact with new students," explains Wirtanen. "We try and communicate the idea that once you

are here on campus we are all Vikes. A Vike is a member of this campus community."

For Wirtanen, the line between career and life is a bit blurry.

"People who knew me 10 years ago would not be at all surprised to see me where I am now," laughs Wirtanen, who both coaches basketball in a U15 night league and officiates on a regular basis at all playing levels. She plays ball herself once a week in a local women's league.

Wirtanen moved back to Victoria from Vancouver in 2007 after receiving a degree in human kinetics with a specialization in sports and leisure management from the University of British Columbia.

"It's strange. I now work in the building next to my old high school," jokes Wirtanen, whose office in the Ian Stewart Complex is just steps away from Mount Douglas High School.

Despite such close proximity to her past, Wirtanen is beginning 2011 with a healthy dose of change: she starts the year as a newlywed (married just three months ago in October) and with a new playbook in hand as she learns the ropes of Vikes camp coordination this spring.

## cadboro bay merchants



Pub and Liquor Store in Cadboro Bay

### CANASSIST CONTINUED FROM P.1

ple involved, the degree of complexity of the project and the relatively short amount of time we had to work on it."

The device is attached to a power chair and features a camera, a video monitor, pan-and-tilt control and a laser-guided cue. It allows users to play billiards by pressing one or two switches with their head, or by activating a switch that responds to the movement of the facial muscles—such as raising an eyebrow or tightening



ity and passion within CanAssist that allows us to produce empowering technology."

Lane says he hopes to get more

from the sidelines. He says using the device requires a lot of precision and provides a great physical and mental challenge.

"It's a bit like playing a video game," says Spelt. "It's fun and it really makes me work."

The billiards device is one of more than 150 unique technologies developed by CanAssist. The group has provided direct assistance to many hundreds of clients in the Victoria area, across Canada and internationally.



### GET OFF CAMPUS & COME ON DOWN

Smuggler's Cove Pub 2581 Penrhyn St. Reservations 477-2688 (lunch and dinner) www.smugglerscovepub.com the jaw. UV

"To our knowledge, no one in the world has produced anything like this device," says CanAssist Director Dr. Nigel Livingston. "It perfectly demonstrates the incredible ingenuUVic engineering students involved in fine-tuning the prototype in the months to come.

Meanwhile, Spelt now has the opportunity to participate in a game he thought he would always just watch More info: *www.canassist.ca* 

Video of the device in action: http://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=mEII6hTsgXk

