



University
of Victoria

SPEED READING

NOBEL PRIZE FOR PHYSICS

UVic physicist on Nobel Prize team

Dr. Sébastien Fabbro, a research associate in the astronomy group in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, was a member of the Supernova Cosmology Project, whose leader was a co-winner of the 2011 Nobel Prize for Physics. The Nobel laureates and their teams studied several dozen exploding stars, called supernovae, and discovered (to their surprise) that the universe is expanding at an ever-accelerating rate. This acceleration is likely driven by a large-scale cosmic force called “dark energy,” the nature and existence of which is one of the greatest puzzles that have faced physics and astronomy in the past century. Fabbro will be attending the Nobel festivities in Stockholm in December.

FACULTY HONOURS

MacLeod wins top theatre prize

Department of Writing acting chair and noted playwright Joan MacLeod has won the \$100,000 Siminovitch Prize in Theatre, the largest theatre award in Canada. The award recognizes accomplishments in design, direction and playwriting in three-year cycles, with this year’s focus on playwriting. MacLeod’s plays include *The Shape Of A Girl*, *Homechild*, *Another Home Invasion* and *Amigo’s Blue Guitar*, among others, and she is the recipient of the Governor General’s Award for Drama and two Chalmers Canadian Play Awards. This is her second Siminovitch Prize nomination. <http://bit.ly/w1DHen>

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Deadline approaches for draft plan feedback

The time for submitting your thoughts on UVic’s *Draft Strategic Plan 2012* is soon coming to a close. You have until Nov. 14 to provide feedback and help shape the document, which will guide the future development of the university. More info and the draft plan document: <http://web.uvic.ca/strategicreview/>

UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

UVic gets great grades again

UVic retained second place among comprehensive universities in the 2011 *Maclean’s* ranking of Canadian universities. UVic was first in the proportion of its full-time professors who have won major awards and ranked second for its level of funding from federal medical and science granting agencies. UVic also scored well for its amount of total research dollars and the percentage of its budget dedicated to student scholarships and bursaries. UVic also scored well in the 2012 *Globe and Mail’s* “Canadian University Report” on undergraduate student satisfaction. UVic received an overall B+ from its students. More: <http://bit.ly/sPNOZ7>



FALL CONVOCATION pp. 6–12

THE RING

NOVEMBER 2011

The University of Victoria’s
community newspaper

ring.uvic.ca



Devin Tepleski and children of Bui in Ghana. PHOTO: DR ANN STAHL

CONVOCATION PROFILE

1,401

THE NUMBER
OF STUDENTS
RECEIVING
DEGREES AND
OTHER ACADEMIC
CREDENTIALS
AT UVIC’S FALL
CONVOCATION
2011

Anthropology grad follows passion for film, photography & helping others

BY ANNE MacLAURIN

Devin Tepleski, who will receive his BA at Fall Convocation, is making his mark on the world through documentary film and photography: two things he is very passionate about. He started taking classes in anthropology and visual arts at UVic after a year of backpacking from Berlin to Istanbul. He chose anthropology because, as he says, “I wanted to understand how the social world works, and how I fit into it.”

Through UVic’s Co-op program and International Exchange program, Tepleski was able to combine education and further travel. On a co-op term as an assistant

archaeologist with Parks Canada, Tepleski had the opportunity to work at Prince of Wales Fort near Churchill, MB, the northernmost stone fortress in the world, where beluga whales followed his boat as he crossed the Churchill River every day. On exchange, he moved to Denmark to study documentary filmmaking and qualitative methodology at the University of Copenhagen. Tepleski pursued visual anthropology classes at UVic and was invited to work as a documentarian and archaeologist in Ghana.

During his time in Ghana, Tepleski photographed and filmed many of the villagers being displaced by the hydroelectric

dam that is being constructed in the Banda area of Ghana. His “Sena” exhibit won the International Photography Award Amateur Portrait Photographer of the Year (2010) and has been profiled in *TIME Magazine* [<http://ti.me/dGB8eS>], and his short film “Mango Driftwood,” which follows a number of community members as they prepare for what may be their final harvest, is being screened in a session at the annual American Anthropological Association meetings in Montréal next month. Prints of the “Sena” exhibit are still available at Luz Gallery in Oak Bay or Bonni Benrubi

SEE TEPLESKI P.3

CANADA RESEARCH CHAIRS

Two new chairs boost UVic health research talent



Dr. Fraser Hof, a medicinal chemist at the University of Victoria, is hot on the trail of a molecule that when accidentally activated in men can lead to an aggressive form of prostate cancer. He’s looking for a way to neutralize it.

Hof is also one of UVic’s two new Canada Research Chairs, announced Oct. 12 by the federal government. The other new chair is Dr. Gautam Awatramani, a biomedical engineer who is seeking ways to combat degenerative eye disorders.

The Canada Research Chair program helps Canadian universities achieve research excellence in natural sciences and engineering, health sciences, social sciences and the humanities. UVic now has 36 filled Canada Research Chairs.

As the Canada Research Chair in Supramolecular and Medicinal Chemistry, Hof studies how molecules bind together. “We design molecules to see how they’re

structured and how they bond with each other in biological settings—lessons that have the potential to improve a wide range of medical treatments,” he says.

Recently, Hof and his team created compounds that interfere with a key protein molecule associated with prostate cancer. “There’s still a lot of work to do—probably eight to 10 years—before this discovery could become a drug for use on humans,” he says. “But it has promise.”

As the Canada Research Chair in Synaptic Physiology, Awatramani uses advanced technologies to understand how nerve cells within the retina of the eye communicate with each other.

“Thousands of Canadians and more than 1.5 million people worldwide suffer some form of irreversible vision loss associated with degenerative disorders of the retina,” he

SEE CRCS P.3

ringers

Lilia Zaharieva (child and youth care) has won the United Way of Greater Victoria Youth Now award for volunteer leadership due to her efforts to inspire youth and reduce the stigma associated with mental illness. “It’s an honour to recognize what these extraordinary people and organizations do in their communities,” BC’s Representative for Children and Youth Mary-Ellen Turpel Lafond said in a statement announcing the awards in October. Zaharieva is a committed youth leader with the Federation of BC Youth in Care Network who helped organize and run this year’s International Foster Care Organization’s (ICFO) Biennial World Conference Youth Program in Victoria. She is the founder of the group insideOUT, a support for youth who have a parent with a mental illness.



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ANTHROPOLOGY FIELD SCHOOL

Students uncover fossils in ‘Cradle of humankind’

BY ANNE MacLAURIN

It’s not every day that an undergrad can discover a 1.5-million-year-old human fossil; but that’s just what happened to UVic anthropology students Anne Tuominen and Elizabeth Hannah.

They were among a dozen anthropology undergraduate students who participated in a unique field school led by UVic Professor April Nowell (anthropology) and Dr. Colin Menter of the University of Johannesburg. They spent 14 days in July in South Africa in a region known as the “Cradle of Humankind” at a World Heritage Site called Drimolen.

For two weeks, the students worked alongside experts digging through the third-richest fossil site in South Africa, dating back 1.5 million years in hominin (early human) history. What makes the Drimolen site especially unique is the large number of infant hominin fossils. Experts believe the area was used as a sleeping site, so many of the discoveries are of very young children and infants.

“Fine screening techniques contribute to the rich discovery of neonate fossils at the site,” says Nowell. “The technique allows us to find even the smallest deciduous (baby) teeth.”

On the second day of the dig, Tuominen and Hannah made an unbelievable discovery.

“We found a tiny hominin ulna fossil, dating back 1.5 million years,” said Hannah, “It was nerve-wracking, exciting and unbelievable—we had no idea what it was until we had uncovered most of it, and we were very thankful that we hadn’t damaged it.”

“Finding such a fossil was an unbelievable experience and far more excitement than I was prepared for



Members of the anthropology field school. PHOTO: STEPHANIE BAKER

on the second day of excavation,” says Tuominen. “It was a really incredible way to start the field school.”

“The students’ discovery was the first fossil to be uncovered for that excavation season,” says Nowell. “It was a small piece of bone, likely from an infant—a great addition to the Drimolen collection.”

After 12 days of excavation work, journal entries and lectures, the students were ready for a two-day game drive through the Pilanesburg Game Reserve (<http://www.pilanesberg-game-reserve.co.za/>). Starting out as

the sun rose, Menter and Stephanie Baker (the field school’s TA and a zoologist) led the students through the game park pointing out giraffes, zebras, elephants, lions, hippos and other exotic animals.

The field school also visited the world-renowned Transvaal Museum, where many of the most important fossils in the world are stored, and the University of Witwatersrand, where they were introduced to the first australopithecine fossil ever found, the Taung Child, discovered in the 1920s. “I wanted the students in the field

school to have a variety of experiences,” says Nowell, “going beyond text books and learning first-hand about famous anthropological discoveries. The students were able to see fossils that 80 per cent of my colleagues have only ever seen in text books,” she adds.

Nowell hopes to continue exploring the hominin fossil site at Drimolen in July 2012 with another group of field school students. On Nov. 21, Nowell will hold an anthropology colloquium about field schools from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the MacLaurin Building, Mac D103.

United Way campaign rolling toward goal

On Sept. 16 the UVic United Way Bug Push organized by the Engineering Students’ Society brought in \$2,250 in pledges while student, staff and community teams kept the VW Bug in motion for 12 hours straight around Ring Road.

And on Nov. 2 dozens came out to the SUB to cheer on their favorite vice-president as they challenged the UWGV celebrity team in the UVic Plasma Car Races fundraiser.

Check out other events on the website at www.unitedway.ca. And don’t forget to empty your pockets for the campus coin drive. If you need a collection jar for your office please email dimackay@uvic.ca.

Thousands of great reads and

catchy tunes will be on offer for \$2 each at the UVic Libraries United Way Book and Record Sale, Nov. 29 to Dec. 2 in the SUB’s Michele Pujol Room. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., with extended hours to 8 p.m. on Wednesday.

Donate books and records for the sale Nov. 19 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Cinecenta entrance of the SUB, or until Nov. 23 at the McPherson Library. Last-minute donations will be accepted in the Michele Pujol Room from Nov. 24 to 27, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Jean MacGregor at jeanmac@uvic.ca or 250-472-4977.

On Nov. 15 in the University Centre Lobby, find unique, handmade gifts at the 11th annual Hearts & Hands

Craft Fair. Two baskets brimming with vendors’ handicrafts will be raffled off. Look for roving raffle ticket sellers in advance, or buy tickets at the fair. For information contact Helen Rezanowich at 250-721-7378.

With seven weeks left in the campaign, “It’s not too late to give to the United Way,” says UVic campaign chair Charles McQuade. “If you haven’t received a pledge package and wish to donate, please visit our website at www.unitedway.uvic.ca or contact campaign@uvic.ca.”

The UVic 2011 United Way campaign goal is \$290,000 and as of Oct. 27, the campaign had achieved 54 per cent of its target. Everyone who fills out a pledge form is eligible for fab-



United Way
OF GREATER VICTORIA

ulous draw prizes, including an iPad 2 and Canucks tickets.

Did you know the UVic United Way campaign has a Facebook page? Visit <http://www.facebook.com/uvicunitedway> or follow on Twitter at @UVicUnitedWay.



50 YEARS of great moments.

50th Anniversary Office: 250.853.3606 | www.uvic.ca/anniversary

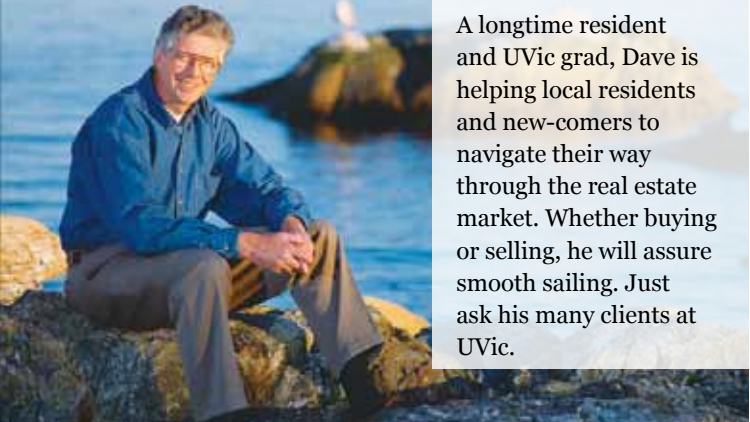


University
of Victoria

What is your Great UVic Moment?

The University of Victoria is preparing for its 50th anniversary starting in September 2012 and wants you to be a part of the excitement. We would like to hear about your experience of a Great Moment at UVic. Perhaps it was an outstanding academic achievement, a cultural or athletic highlight, an outstanding event or a favourite personal memory about UVic. Accompanying photos are welcome.

To submit your Great Moment, visit www.uvic.ca/anniversary and click on the “Great Moments” tab.



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Beijing area resident Xiao Mai and her mother express their delight to UVic President David Turpin and CanAssist director Nigel Livingston over the new technology presented to them from CanAssist. Also looking on is Angel Zhang, far left, the translator for the UVic delegation. PHOTO: ELSA YAN

CanAssist a big hit in Beijing

At a special event in October at the Canadian embassy in Beijing, hosted by Canadian Ambassador to China David Mulroney, a UVic delegation presented Xiao Mai, a young girl with cerebral palsy, an iPod Whiz adapter developed by CanAssist that lets her control her iPod music player from a single switch, an adaptive joystick and a new computer.

At Beijing and Hong Kong events last month, the UVic delegation met with Chinese representatives to dis-

cuss the potential for partnerships involving CanAssist. The delegation also visited Shanghai, where UVic President David Turpin spoke at a gala evening held to celebrate the 60th anniversary of East China Normal University. He used the occasion to mark the 30th anniversary of UVic's partnership with ECNU and to announce new visiting scholar awards to strengthen research collaborations between the two institutions, and two scholarships to assist ECNU students to attend UVic.

CRCS CONTINUED FROM P.1

says. "Before we can find ways to restore retinal function in these cases, we have to understand how visual information is processed in healthy eyes."

Awatraman, currently an assistant professor at Dalhousie University in Nova Scotia, will join UVic in January 2012.

Two of UVic's existing Canada Research Chairs have also been renewed for a second term—microbiologist Caroline Cameron (Molecular Pathogenesis) and education scholar Lorna Williams (Indigenous Knowledge and Learning).



Awatraman. PHOTO: DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

TEPLESKI CONTINUED FROM P.1

Gallery in New York. All proceeds after costs go to Friends of Bui, a non-profit that raises awareness and funds for the villages affected by Bui Hydroelectric Dam in Ghana.

"The first people I would like to thank are my parents and grandparents, who have been really supportive, not only helping out financially when I was eating nothing but rice and lentils, but in every other way imaginable," says Tepleski.

Tepleski grew up in Selkirk, MB, and Cowichan Bay, BC, and has made Victoria home for the past seven years. He hopes to keep doing documentary

film work and freelancing, but would love something more long-term in one of his bases: Victoria, Vancouver or New York. He recently did some work as a community consultant for the Fort McKay First Nation about the future expansion of oil sands development in their traditional territories. According to Tepleski the project was "right up my alley" and he hopes to do similar future projects. This month he will graduate with a BA degree in anthropology from the Faculty of Social Sciences.

Visit Tepleski's website at www.devintepleski.com/

President Turpin announces priorities for 2011/12

In October, President David Turpin used the first University Senate meeting of the academic year to report to senators the key priorities he presented to the Board of Governors for the 2011/12 year. He underscored the Senate's leadership role in maintaining UVic's support for excellence in education, research and service to the community and to the university's commitment to providing its students with an excellent educational experience.

Strategic Plan review and renewal

Part of the presentation focused on the new Draft Strategic Plan, which is now available for review and feedback following a review process of the 2007 plan. Although UVic's mission and goals have not changed, "what has changed is how we achieve these goals," said Turpin. He said that this reflects the changing demographics, increased competition and the economic climate that UVic faces over the next three to five years.

Turpin expressed appreciation for the high level of engagement from the planning and priorities committee, the campus community and the broader community during the plan review process and asked Senate members to review the draft to ensure it reflects their priorities for the university. Feedback will be accepted until Nov. 14. The new strategic plan is expected to be presented to the Senate and Board for approval in early 2012.

Integrated planning process and budget planning

The goals and objectives of the Draft Strategic Plan will be implemented through the integrated planning process, led by Vice-President Academic and Provost Reeta Tremblay, which in turn informs the budget planning process. UVic achieved a balanced budget in 2011/12 and Turpin says planning is under way for the 2012/13 fiscal year. UVic will once again strive to deliver a balanced budget that reflects a resource-constrained environment.

Student recruitment and retention and internationalization

UVic has surpassed its record enrolment of last fall—topping 20,000 students—and Turpin spoke of the need to engage those students who come from out of town (over 70 per cent) and to "build a home" for them on campus. This will result in an "engaged campus" and in an expansion of residence capacity. Due to an increased emphasis on internationalization—a priority in the Draft Strategic Plan—more of our students will come from abroad. This priority aligns with the provincial government's recent announcement to increase international enrolment at BC's schools and institutions.

Internationalization also encompasses research collaborations, student and faculty exchanges, and study

and work abroad opportunities, all of which will provide opportunities for UVic to showcase its initiatives abroad. Reflecting the increased emphasis on internationalization, the university is restructuring the international affairs office and is currently searching for an associate vice-president international.

50th anniversary

Planning for next year's 50th anniversary celebrations is well under way. At a pre-launch event in September, the anniversary website was unveiled with historical content and information about how people and units on campus can get engaged in the upcoming celebration. Senate members were encouraged to submit their stand-out memories from the past five decades via the "Great Moments in UVic History" link on the website for possible inclusion on the website during the celebratory period of Sept. 2012 to June 2013.

Centre for Athletics, Recreation and Special Abilities

UVic has delayed its application to Saanich Council for height and parking variances for the university's proposed new Centre for Athletics, Recreation and Special Abilities (CARSA) for six months. The break will allow the university to take the time for additional consultation on the project with the community and the municipality.

CARSA will provide community-accessible athletic, recreational, research and classroom space and technology development and community engagement space for CanAssist—UVic's internationally-leading organization that develops and delivers technologies, programs and services to improve the quality of life for those living with disabilities. CARSA also includes a proposed parkade to provide additional parking capacity to support the centre and other campus activities.

Increased external relations activity

Increasing UVic's profile in Ottawa, Vancouver and the broader external community is a significant priority in the coming year. The need for support from both the federal and provincial governments for research initiatives and to maintain the over-all quality of post-secondary education is paramount, Turpin said, adding that the post-secondary sector is watching "with concern" how the provincial government will respond to a \$2.5-billion revenue shortfall as a result of the rejection of the HST.

Securing major science infrastructure (operating) funds for Ocean Networks Canada, which operates both NEPTUNE Canada ocean network and the VENUS coastal network, remains a priority. Turpin added that NEPTUNE being named one of the universe's 10 most "epic" projects by *Popular Science* magazine this year helps raise the profile of the world's largest and most advanced cabled ocean network even further.

ringers

UVic athletes and coaches were among those who contributed to Canada's performance at the Pan American Games in Guadalajara, Mexico in October. Vikes swimmer **Richard Weinberger** won Canada a gold medal in the men's open water 10-km swim in a photo finish. Weinberger aims to qualify for the 2012 London Summer Olympics at a qualifying event next June. Vikes rower **Kai Langerfeld** won two silver medals at the Games—one as part of Canada's men's four crew and a second medal as part of the men's eight. The UVic sophomore only started rowing two years ago. Vikes men's basketball coach **Craig Beaucamp** assisted Canada's men's head coach Dave Smart and assistant coach Dave DeAveiro. UVic Vikes women's basketball assistant coach **Dani Sinclair** worked with national women's team head coach Allison McNeill. On the last day of the Games, UVic Vike **Nathan Hirayama** won a gold medal as part of Canada's national rugby sevens team when the squad downed the Argentina Pumas 21-19. Hirayama's successful convert on the semi-final against the US squad earned Canada a berth in the gold-medal winning game.

This fall three of Canada's top postdoctoral fellows have chosen UVic as their academic home for the next two years. **Dr. Wokje Abrahamse** (psychology), **Dr. Nikolaus Gantner** (geography), and **Dr. Laura Estill** (English) are three recipients of the prestigious Banting Fellowships, a federal program designed to build world-class research capacity by recruiting top-tier postdoctoral researchers at an internationally competitive level of funding. The two-year fellowships, worth \$70,000 per year, are open to both Canadian and international researchers who have recently completed a PhD, PhD-equivalent or health professional degree.

A team of UVic students captured third place among all Canadian teams participating in the IEEE 24-hour coding competition in October. Eleven UVic students from computer science, software engineering and electrical engineering, comprising four teams, competed in the worldwide online challenge, which involved 4,000 IEEE student members competing to solve a set of programming problems using C, C++, Java, or other programming languages. The top UVic team, IslandVikingCoders, completed ten problems. The other UVic teams all completed six problems. More: <http://bit.ly/c3jHyG>



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Funding to help UVic-Genome BC Proteomics Centre

Dr. Christoph Borchers (left), director of the UVic-Genome BC Proteomics Centre, shows off one of two new mass spectrometers to John Duncan, MP for Vancouver Island North and Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development. The minister visited the proteomics centre on Oct. 12 to announce \$663,000 in funding from the federal Western Diversification Program to purchase the two instruments. Mass spectrometers are powerful instruments that can identify a protein or part of a protein by its molecular weight. These two will be used to detect biomarkers—molecules that indicate the presence of disease such as cancer. The centre has the highest concentration of mass spectrometers at any Canadian university and one of the highest in North America.

Opera premiere enhanced by UVic WWI archives

BY SUSAN HENDERSON

An inspired collaboration between Pacific Opera Victoria and the University of Victoria Libraries has resulted in the creation of exhibits and displays that draw us into “The World of *Mary’s Wedding*.” The opera *Mary’s Wedding* about to make its world premiere by Pacific Opera Victoria on Nov. 10, is based on one of Canada’s best loved plays written by Stephen Massicotte. The story shifts from the Canadian prairies to the battlefields of Europe.

The World of *Mary’s Wedding*: Reminiscences of World War I from the University of Victoria Archives and Special Collections exhibits and displays may be viewed: at the Maltwood Gallery at the McPherson Library Oct. 22 to Nov. 17; in the Archives & Special Collections Reading Room at the McPherson Library, Oct. 24 to Dec. 16; at the Gallery at the MAC, upper space (McPherson Playhouse) Nov. 8 through 20; and on a dedicated website at <http://worldofmaryswedding.library.uvic.ca>.

It’s a wonderful opportunity to examine first-hand the materials from the libraries’ collections that chronicle the First World War. The exhibit is in three parts: Private Remembering (letters, diaries, personal photographs, scrapbooks), Collective Remembering (the military artifacts of war), and the Art of Remembering (war art, drama, poetry and music).

PEER HELPING PROGRAM

Creating connections for 25 years

BY KAYLA PEPPER

This year, UVic’s Peer Helping Program is celebrating its 25th year of transforming lives. Both within the program and through campus outreach initiatives, volunteer peer helpers create safe spaces for their peers to share their experiences and seek support. But most importantly, the program is about making connections.

On Oct. 6, the Peer Helping Program attracted an estimated 400 students to the UVic Fountain. With snacks—donated by Food Services and Corporate Relations—to attract passersby, peer helpers promoted their services and the many benefits of becoming a volunteer.

“It’s a willingness to learn about others, learn about themselves and contribute to the campus community, that makes a good peer helper,” says Staff Coordinator Emma Mason.

For the 2011/12 school year there are 51 peer helpers. Wes Paylor, a fourth-year psychology student and first-year peer helper is eager to help others with their academic or emotional issues. “It’s a way to connect with people on a deeper level, rather

than the surface connections we have at school,” says Paylor.

The program’s Student Coordinator Joseph Savidge, agrees and adds that he “wanted a chance to branch out and work with [his] peers.”

Savidge coordinates the student volunteers. In addition to their office hours in either the SUB B005 or in their McPherson Library Learning Commons office, volunteers sit on various committees and host weekly social events such as the Thursday Coffee House and Morning Munch in Clearihue. Savidge also works closely with the two staff coordinators: Emma Mason and June Saracuse.

“A few students I’ve known have come through the program and it turned their whole UVic life around,” says Mason.

This program offers emotional and academic support, information and referrals to students who are more likely to speak with other students than to seek professional help. Peer helpers benefit too. Volunteering has helped many of them build a positive community at UVic.

“It’s transformative for people who

SOUTHAM LECTURE IN JOURNALISM AND NONFICTION

Greetings from Absurdistan

BY JOHN THRELFALL

Last year, an inspiring talk about the power of stories drew a standing ovation; this year, a passionate diatribe about Afghanistan saw people walking out. Such is the constantly shifting nature of the Department of Writing’s Harvey S. Southam Lecture in Journalism and Nonfiction, a position that always reflects the person who holds it.

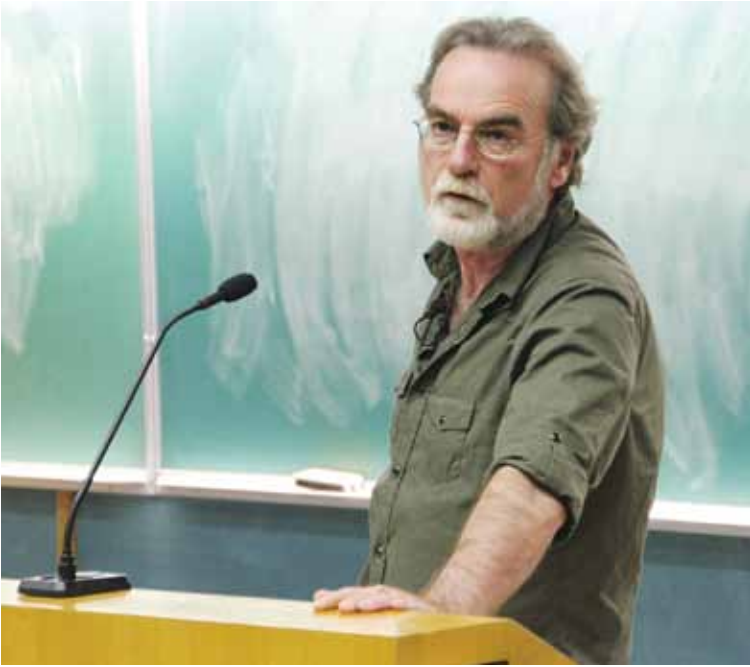
While past Southam speakers (Richard Wagamese, Jodi Patterson, Sandra Martin, Charles J. Campbell) all engaged their audiences, none has enraged them quite like this year’s lecturer, Terry Glavin. Given Glavin’s topic, however, and the controversial nature of his latest book, *Come From The Shadows: The Long and Lonely Struggle for Peace in Afghanistan* (Douglas & McIntyre), it’s no surprise he ruffled a few feathers.

“This book is going to sting,” Glavin stated bluntly at his UVic reading on Oct. 19. “It’s not what I want to hear; it’s not what my friends want to hear. You’re not going to like what it has to say.”

The author of six books, Glavin has been a reporter and columnist for a number of media outlets and has won the Lieutenant-Governor’s Award for Literary Excellence in BC. (Indeed, former Lieutenant Governor Iona Campagnolo was among the hundred or so people in attendance at Glavin’s lecture.) But it was the reality gap between his experiences in Afghanistan and the jarringly different media coverage that was the evening’s focus. “Those are the stories I’ve always been drawn to,” Glavin told the audience, “the stories where a vast gulf exists between an imaginary country and a country that exists in the real world.”

By way of illustration, he offered this simile for the standard Canadian media approach of having a handful of embedded reporters on assignment over the past decade and how it has shaped our view of Afghanistan: “It’s like having a couple of reporters ride around in the back of a police car in the worst part of Detroit for a decade, and that’s all you know about the United States.”

Given his repeated overseas visits and the research that went into his latest book, as well as his role as co-



Terry Glavin speaks to the crowd at his Oct. 19 UVic lecture. PHOTO: JOHN THRELFALL

founder of the Canada-Afghanistan Solidarity Committee, Glavin’s seemingly encyclopedic knowledge of Afghanistan often went over the audience’s head—or was the source of their ire. (“This is a pack of lies,” shouted one man. “You’re just toeing the CIA line!”)

“In Afghanistan, teaching a six-year-old girl to write her own name is a revolutionary act.”

But Glavin freely admitted to being “a partisan in this struggle,” noting that, like the majority of Afghans, he supports an extended troop mission to aid in the rebuilding effort, the push towards a more secular society, a greater concern for women’s rights and an increase in education for all. “In Afghanistan, teaching a six-year-old girl to write her own name is a revolutionary act.” And, of course, he decries the hard-right Taliban minority that continues to influence our general perception of the country.

“The course of events over there has been as shaped by our views on Afghanistan as by all the money and bullets we’ve sent over.”

While he is an intelligent and compelling speaker, Glavin’s obvious passion often resulted in a somewhat disjointed delivery; over the course of 90 minutes, he talked not only about Afghanistan but also about his own evolution as a journalist, George Orwell’s media legacy, recent changes to the NDP’s political stance and the current Occupy Wall Street movement (“something may be dying, but something is also being born”). Another point of controversy was Glavin’s reluctance to answer certain audience questions, some of which he dismissed out of hand.

Ultimately, however, his message was clear: get informed, formulate your own opinions, and don’t rely on one media outlet to tell you the whole story—not because it’s a conspiracy, but because they are restricted by financial limitations, political persuasion and lack of general interest.

“People are tired of the symbolic, the play-acting . . . they want change, they want the real,” Glavin said in conclusion. “Check your head, do what you can and you’ll sleep the sleep of the just.”



Peer Helper Amy Gordichuk describes the program to potential volunteer. PHOTO: WES PAYLOR

its experiential learning capacity and help other campus services offer similar opportunities. Peer Helping already works closely with UVic Health Services, Student Transition Services and the English Language Centre to provide such opportunities.

Mason also hopes to build connections among student leaders across

various programs on campus. But regardless of what future decades may bring, UVic Peer Helping will continue to send ripples of positive change into the campus community.

As Mason describes, “Our hope is that the program, in lots of different ways, reduces isolation on campus and increases connection and community.”

Krokers address ‘Exits to the Posthuman Future’

BY SARAH MOSELLE

“I am multiple and sometimes we are one.” This was the vision of the future that Dr. Arthur Kroker and his partner Marilouise Kroker described in their surreal presentation on Oct. 26 as part of the *OFFLABEL* festival. The lecture, entitled “Exits to the Posthuman Future,” was a cerebral prediction of what human nature will look like in the impending hi-tech age of digital ubiquity.

Arthur Kroker, Canada Research Chair in Technology, Culture and Theory in UVic’s Department of Political Science, is an internationally recognized futurist and cyber-philosopher. He leads UVic’s Pacific Centre for Technology and Culture.

Posthumanism is an intellectual movement that has been gaining traction in recent years. The term can refer both to the evolution of human nature in response to rapid technological advancement, and also to a branch of critical theory that seeks to deconstruct and subsequently re-write present understandings of the human condition.

The Krokers addressed both aspects by providing their own understanding of what lies at the core of humanity and how this core is implicitly linked with technology. As they see it, humans are distinguished by our complex brains—or, as they put it, the “minds that we possess which

sometimes possess us.” Technology was born out of the power of the human brain, and yet it is technology that threatens to render the brain obsolete. The only way to maintain relevance in the digital age is to cultivate the “Offlabel Brain.”

“Offlabel” traditionally refers to a medical practice in which physicians prescribe drugs for a purpose other than that which the pharmaceutical regulating authority of a given jurisdiction approves. The Krokers did not refer specifically to this practice, but rather to the ethos behind it: a type of lateral thinking that connects seemingly disparate phenomena and finds or manufactures linkages between them. Thus, in their view, the human brain will no longer be characterized by its isolation from others, but rather by its capacity to connect.

After providing their reinterpretation of what it means to be “Off-label,” they launched into the titular “exits” into the posthuman future, which comprised the majority of the presentation. These “exits” were offered as a series of five narratives, each embodying a different aspect of what the “posthuman future” may look like.

The first “exit,” and the one that seemed especially resonant with the large audience, was the story of Krista and Tatiana Hogan, conjoined twins who were born in Vancouver in 2006. They are joined at the cranium in

such a way that they share a thalamic bridge. This allows the sensory input of one girl to cross the brain into the other a mere nanosecond later.

This is the kind of connectivity the Krokers envision will characterize the posthuman future. As the Krokers explained with some trepidation in the third “exit,” recent research into “mirror neurons” has revealed a previously unimagined capacity for interpersonal human empathy.

Building off of this idea, Arthur Kroker relayed the final “exit”—a personal anecdote that occurred recently, in which he was able to simultaneously watch over the internet—via livestreaming—the intensely intimate activities of a Libyan activist and footage from a NASA space exploration in which all the details of earth were eradicated and all that remained was a blue orb gradually diminishing in the background.

This final “exit” highlighted the fundamental juxtaposition that lies at the heart of the posthuman future: the dialectic of macro and micro. On the one hand, technological advancements make the world infinitely wider—too large to be comprehended by any one person. Yet at the same time, the internet allows someone, in this case Arthur Kroker, to know a man living half a world away in Libya in the midst of a revolution. When this Libyan revolutionary died as a result of his participation, Kroker grieved as if

UVIC AND OFF LABEL

In October, Victorians were treated to the weeklong *OFF LABEL* festival, bringing together an international group of artists and intellectuals to explore health, spirituality and the effects of technology in a digitally mediated world.

Produced by the Zurich-based Digital Art Weeks, *OFF LABEL* was co-hosted by Open Space Arts Society, the UVic’s Centre for Studies in Religion and Society (CSRS) and Department of Visual Arts among others. As part of the festival, CSRS hosted two public lectures.

On Oct. 26, Dr. Arthur and Marilouise Kroker of UVic’s Pacific Centre for Technology and Culture spoke on “Exits to the Posthuman Future,” and on Nov. 2 Doug Jarvis, CSRS artist-in-residence fellow, spoke on “Imaginary Friends.”

More on the *OFF LABEL* festival: www.openspace.ca/node/1661

he’d known the man in a tangible way.

According to the Krokers, human nature will become more fragmented, but we will also become more interconnected, as technology continues to unify us in unpredictable ways. This trend will continue until we are all in some respects like Krista and Tatiana: conjoined beings, sharing our thoughts and sensory experiences with someone we will never see face to face.

Sarah Moselle is a fourth-year religious studies major

around the ring

UVic leads BC particle accelerator project

UVic is leading a consortium of 13 universities to design and build a next-generation linear accelerator at TRIUMF, Canada’s national laboratory for particle and nuclear physics. On Nov. 1, ground was broken on the \$62.9-million Advanced Rare Isotope Laboratory (ARIEL) that will be used to demonstrate new ways to solve medical isotope shortages, keep BC and Canada leading in particle and nuclear physics and create 160 permanent jobs. The BC government is providing \$30.7 million for the project. ARIEL is to be operational in 2015. More: <http://bit.ly/sznYBm>

What are you doing for IdeaFest?

As you may have heard this fall, the Office of the Vice-President Research (OVPR) will be coordinating and promoting IdeaFest 2012 from March 5–9 of next year. The intention behind this project is to celebrate UVic’s research strengths and creative endeavors across every faculty, especially as they relate to interdisciplinarity and impact on society. For this reason, the event will include a combination of activities planned at the unit level and a number of signature events hosted by the OVPR. Each unit on campus—every department, school, research centre and faculty—is invited to propose an event for inclusion in this festival. Please contact Ashley at vpresec@uvic.ca for details and a copy of the proposal form.

Celebrate international education

UVic’s first celebration of International Education Week will take place Nov. 14 to 19. Learn about UVic’s international opportunities, hear stories of international experiences and meet our experts—faculty, students and staff. From interactive workshops to speakers, open houses to information sessions, International Education Week will offer activities for people of all cultures and backgrounds. Highlights include: Centre for Global Studies Symposium, Nov. 14, from noon to 2:30 p.m. in First Peoples House Ceremonial Hall; For Our Daughters’ Speaking Tour, Nov. 18, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in DSB C116; and the African Eloquent Youth Celebration, Nov. 19, from 6 to 9 p.m. in David Lam Auditorium (MAC A144). More information: www.uvic.ca/iew, oiainv@uvic.ca or 250-472-4754.

Get your flu shot

Seasonal flu shots are available at Health Services, located in the Jack Petersen Health Centre. Call 250-721-8492 to book an appointment with a nurse. The cost is \$20, cash only. Please bring your medical card. Flu shots will also be available at drop-in clinics Nov. 15, McPherson Library 1st floor, 10 a.m.–1 p.m. and Nov. 16, South Tower Residence board room/ground floor, 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. Entrance off parking lot #5.

Awards honour four UVic legacies



Finch



MacGillivray



Smith



Antoniou

BY MIKE MCNENEY

Chief Justice of BC Lance Finch will be among four members of the university community to be honoured this month at the annual UVic Legacy Awards.

Finch will be recognized alongside Dr. Gary MacGillivray (mathematics and statistics), Vikes Soccer supporter George Smith, and Dr. Andreas Antoniou, professor emeritus in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

An estimated crowd of 500 university supporters will gather at the Victoria Conference Centre on the evening of Nov. 22 for the awards celebration.

HON. LANCE FINCH, recipient of the Legacy Award for Alumni, enrolled at Victoria College in 1955. He was a contributor to *The Lansdowne Era: Victoria College, 1946–1963*, where he credited principal Harry Hickman, among others, with helping him emerge “with a better understanding of myself and an appreciation that there were more important goals in life than the pursuit of fun and games.”

After completing his degree at UBC, Finch entered the law school there. “I

am sure that without the assistance of the (Victoria College) faculty who came to my aid at the time of need, I might well have dropped out of school altogether.”

Finch was a member of the Vikings basketball team that won the 1958 Canadian Junior Men’s Championship.

The Legacy Award for Teaching will be presented to **DR. GARY MACGILLIVRAY**, MSc ’86. His philosophy on teaching mathematics continues to evolve, but he says there’s one constant key to helping students navigate the challenges of mathematics: it comes down to being willing to “embrace your inner nerd.” That means he’s not afraid to show his passion, excitement and enthusiasm for university-level math.

Since he joined the Department of Mathematics and Statistics in 1992, MacGillivray’s approach to teaching has inspired and encouraged hundreds of students, many of them in challenging first-year math courses.

His unique techniques—including daily in-class writing exercises—have been proven to increase levels of student participation during lectures and to increase the likelihood of students successfully completing courses.

MacGillivray compares teaching to coaching: “I think the key is to create a supportive, fun atmosphere in which everyone is valued and accepted, to provide sound information leading to technical improvement, and to have a solid training plan.”

GEORGE SMITH, who will receive the Vikes Legacy Award for Sport, worked in Purchasing Services, starting in 1972 and becoming manager in 1984 until his retirement 16 years later.

Beyond his regular duties, Smith was the trainer for the Vikings men’s soccer team, working with the late coach Wally Milligan. Smith went on to manage the team under head coach Brian Hughes and he was a part of UVic’s first CIAU National Championship in 1975.

After games, the Smith and his wife often hosted the Vikings in the unofficial “clubhouse” they created in the basement of their home.

Smith held numerous positions on the Vancouver Island Soccer League’s board of directors for 10 years and in the mid-1980s, helped to bring World Cup and Olympic qualifying men’s soccer games to Victoria. In 2001, he was granted a Lifetime Membership in the BC Soccer Association.

CONVOCATION 2011

Congratulations, graduates!



The University of Victoria will award 1,246 degrees, 60 diplomas, 14 professional specialization certificates and 81 certificates to 1,401 students at Fall Convocation in four ceremonies Nov. 9 and 10. At the 10 a.m. ceremony on Nov. 10, the first cohort of 30 students will receive the Certificate in Aboriginal Language Revitalization. All four ceremonies will be webcast live at www.uvic.ca/convocation and each ceremony will also be available in a video-on-demand format on this website for eight weeks thereafter.

A trio of honorary degrees

Fall Convocation ceremonies will include three honorary degree presentations. The university’s highest award—based on exceptional achievements in scholarship, research, teaching, the creative arts or public service—will be bestowed upon an internet architect, a computer science pioneer and a leading advocate for arts in education.

Their Convocation addresses will be available online at <http://bit.ly/v51Uaa> as soon as possible after the respective ceremonies.



Bjerring

Dr. Andrew Bjerring
Honorary Doctor of Science
10 a.m., Nov. 10

Combining scientific and technological knowledge, Dr. Andrew Bjerring has been a key factor in Canada taking its place in the international realm of “big science.” Bjerring, the founding president of CANARIE (Canada’s Advanced Research and Innovation Network), is largely responsible for building the country’s internet support for advanced research and education.

In 15 years at the helm of the network, Bjerring advocated for the growth, development and funding of CANARIE as an essential resource.

CANARIE has had an impact on UVic’s participation and leadership in high-energy physics, astronomy, climate science and ocean research. The vast amounts of data generated by these projects could not have been supported and shared without the high-bandwidth capabilities of the CANARIE network.

Post-retirement, Bjerring continues to lend his expertise and experience to a number of prominent boards and councils. He is a founding director Ocean Networks Canada, the agency created by UVic to manage and develop the NEPTUNE Canada and VENUS ocean observatories.



Gotlieb

Dr. Calvin C. “Kelly” Gotlieb
Honorary Doctor of Engineering
2:30 p.m., Nov. 10

Known as the “Father of Computing in Canada,” Dr. Kelly Gotlieb joined the faculty of the University of Toronto in 1945 to develop the area of study now known as computer science. He taught the first graduate computer science course and, two years later, in 1952, co-founded the first computer centre in the country.

Gotlieb began his work when well-established file systems, data structures, databases, and computing methods, algorithms and processes were yet to be developed. Co-authoring *High-Speed Data Processing*, he introduced basic computer terminology such as “loop” and “in-line.”

When the UofT acquired the first electronic computer in Canada, Gotlieb led the decision to select the “FERUT” system, a parallel machine with parallel stores, which he astutely considered state-of-the-art compared to the first computer, the UNIVAC, used by the US Census Bureau.

Later in his career, he became the founding chair of the UofT’s Department of Computer Science, which at the time was the home to the only computer science doctoral program in Canada. Among other recognition, Gotlieb is a member of the Canadian Information Productivity Awards Hall of Fame with such luminaries as Alexander Graham Bell.



Tupman

Dennis Tupman
Honorary Doctor of Laws
10 a.m., Nov. 9

Dennis Tupman is regarded as Canada’s greatest ambassador and advocate for music education.

Born in Victoria, he attended the Provincial Normal School (for student teachers) before going to the University of British Columbia for his bachelor and master of education degrees. He taught music, English and math in Kitimat from 1957–71 before becoming district principal for the performing arts at the Vancouver School Board.

Tupman has been a role model for teachers, administrators and communities through his defense of the value of arts in the community. His advocacy led him, at various times, to be president of the BC Music Educators Association, the Canadian Music Educators Association, and the BC Choral Federation. He has adjudicated numerous music festivals throughout the province.

His past honours include the Governor General’s Award for Lifetime Arts Leadership, a crowning achievement on a career that was defined by his belief in all of the arts—not only music—as integral to a well-rounded education.

In retirement, Tupman continues to be a regular contributor to *Canadian Music Educator* magazine, and he plays alto saxophone his hometown “100 Mile House Community Band.”



Dahle in the labour and delivery ward of Mengo Hospital in Kampala, Uganda

Opportunity keeps knocking for new grad

BY CHRISTINE McLAREN

Even before Lara Dahle graduated, prospective employers approached her, asking to be notified upon her graduation. This might not be so surprising for this exceptional student, but it is the norm for many students in her program.

She is graduating with a bachelor of science in health information science. The program, offered in the School of Health Information Science, is the study of computer and telecommunications technology applied towards the collection of health care data, the processing of information and how it can support effective health care decision-making by professionals.

“This is one of the few degrees that transitions very smoothly into the workforce with opportunities for an outstanding job right out of school,” says Dahle, who chose the co-op degree option, completing her final term working with Telehealth in the Northwest Territories. She transitioned into full-time employment heading up a territory-wide project on electronic medical records. “I was fortunate to have such a highly responsible and challenging experience so quickly upon graduation.”

This Comox Valley native and sports enthusiast has been a doula, coroner, paramedic, fire fighter, victim’s services worker and Africa volunteer. Choosing UVic for its impressive facilities, she quickly immersed into campus life and volunteered as a peer helper, a tour guide, and worked tirelessly towards the ultimately unsuccessful establishment of a student-led health clinic. “Of all the activities I participated in at UVic, peer helping, hands-down

was the most fulfilling,” she says. Taking leadership seriously, Dahle committed to a number of initiatives early in her education. She was a four-term president of the Health Sciences Students Association (HSSA) and during her tenure she organized student-led conferences, lectures and forums.

She worked with Dr. Judy Burgess (nursing) on the UVic Health Care Team Challenge, which demonstrated the effectiveness of inter-professional collaboration, helping to shed a light on the value of health informatics professionals to the health care field.

Dahle says of her work with Burgess, currently director of UVic Health Services, “Judy goes out of her way to open doors for people, and I really appreciated her support.”

Dahle received numerous awards and scholarships including the national \$12,500 Millennium Excellence Award, supporting talented Canadians who demonstrate leadership, community contributions and the ability to motivate others. With this award she went on to volunteer in a Ugandan hospital working with pregnant mothers and HIV patients.

In 2008 she received the COACH (Canada’s Health Informatics Association) Founding President’s Award, for the Canadian student considered most likely to make a major contribution to the advancement of information technology in the Canadian health care system.

Always looking for ways to engage, Dahle has worked hard to bring awareness to the many attributes of a program that is in demand, has opportunities for substantial salaries and where graduates are in short supply.



Grad student explores the mysteries of the deep sea

BY SHANNON McCALLUM

When you ask Katleen ‘Kat’ Robert, a scuba diving enthusiast, what brought her to UVic to pursue her MSc degree, she says it was the irresistible pull of the ocean and the chance to study marine biology up close and personal. Little did she know that her diving experience at UVic would involve an all-day 2,100-metre trip to the bottom of the Pacific Ocean.

Robert has made history by becoming the first graduate student anywhere in the world to have completed a degree using the University of Victoria’s Ocean Networks Canada (ONC) Observatory as a primary research tool. ONC includes the NEPTUNE Canada ocean network and the VENUS coastal network.

Her deep-sea dive occurred when she joined a US-led expedition that used the submersible Alvin to install a time-lapse camera on the seafloor at one of the NEPTUNE observatory sites.

“When I arrived at UVic in January 2009, NEPTUNE was still a skeleton of fibre-optic cables,” says Robert. “The opportunity to be part of the cruises that helped bring NEPTUNE online was one of the highlights of my time here.”

She studied the ecological processes occurring in deep-sea habitats and the locomotory and burrowing behaviour of bottom-feeding organisms in response to daily, tidal and seasonal cycles.

To capture these processes and behaviours, Robert pioneered the use of remote-controlled video cameras from NEPTUNE and VENUS by developing new image acquisition and analysis protocols to match the rhythms of the organisms.

However, the wealth of data col-



Katleen Robert, on a NEPTUNE Canada cruise

lected presented another challenge.

“Traditionally, image analysis was a qualitative process involving watching video footage and counting animals or descriptions,” she explains. “I wanted to develop a more efficient, quantitative method.”

Developing these new protocols required that Kat learn sophisticated modeling techniques, fractal analysis and advanced statistical methods.

Her supervisor, Dr. Kim Juniper, says she was more than up to the task. “Kat would decide to learn these incredibly difficult quantitative methods in order to do what she needed, and within a week she would present her first modeling results to me.”

Juniper attributes Robert’s success not only to her academic ability but also to her level of commitment. “When internet connectivity issues prevented other team members from remotely controlling one of the VENUS

cameras, Kat took it upon herself to camp out in the lab for a week and woke up every couple of hours to connect to the camera for a photo.”

The calibre and potential impact of Kat’s research is hinted at by her being first author or co-author on six journal articles that have been accepted or submitted for publication. She has also received several awards while at UVic, including NSERC and Québec government MSc scholarships and the Bob Wright Graduate Scholarship.

Kat recently began her PhD at Southampton University in the UK. She plans to continue along a similar line of research in the North Atlantic, using similar techniques to compare ecosystem processes over much wider spatial areas.

“The deep-sea ecosystems are one of the largest biomes on the planet, yet in many ways they are still a mystery,” she says. “And that’s what interests me.”

This entrepreneur loves to dance

BY DIANNE GEORGE

James McAra, this year’s Gustavson School of Business Bachelor of Commerce Program silver medalist, likes a challenge. “I heard about this medal when I was in first year,” says McAra. “I like having something to aim for so decided that I was going to try to win it.”

The medal is given each year to the BCom student with the highest GPA. McAra considers himself lucky and says he’s a fairly good student if he pays attention in class and follows the readings. It was more than luck that helped him earn an A+ or 8.38 out of 9 GPA, which put him at the top of the dean’s list. It was an attitude that allowed him to see possibilities everywhere. One of the highlights of his BCom experience was the entrepreneurship specialization.

“I look around and see business opportunities everywhere, and I wanted to have the tools to make them work.” McAra has started two businesses, one successful and the other not. He and a fellow classmate have another venture under way; however, he’s staying quiet on the topic until they’re further along.

McAra has given himself a deadline of September 2012 to launch the new enterprise, as that’s when he starts his new position with PricewaterhouseCoopers. He completed two co-op work terms with this Vancouver-based firm and really enjoyed the company. He plans to obtain a



James McAra, centre, and sister Betsy, right, vacationing with their parents on a beach in Rio.

chartered accountant’s designation and has registered with the CA School of Business. Once again, he is looking for a challenge.

“Becoming a CA is hard work, but it’s a rewarding career and can take you anywhere.” He’s following a time-honoured path. His father is a CA, and McAra was mentored by Bill Anderson, CA, a retired KPMG Partner, and member of the Gustavson School of Business board of advisers. He also knows that the school’s namesake, Peter B. Gustavson, is a CA and a very successful entrepreneur, and McAra hopes to follow in his footsteps.

McAra arrived at UVic from Scotland where he spent two years at a boarding school. Prior to that he lived in Brazil with his family where he and his sister Betsy, now a third-year student in the BCom program, return as

often as possible. The business school was recommended to him, but he says it was the beauty of the campus that sealed the deal. “I heard it was warm, and once I saw the aerial photo that was it—it was hard not to fall in love with the place.”

While at UVic, he balanced academics with sports and participated in several activities including sailing. However, it was during his third year that he joined the UVic Ballroom Dance Club and found a real passion for dance, spending nearly 40 hours a week learning salsa and ballroom. “Now I’m a dancing addict! It’s a challenge, and I am by no means a natural, but it’s a lot of fun and a great social activity.”

“The BCom program was a fantastic experience, which I will sorely miss, but I’m looking forward to the new challenges ahead.”



Daniel McCombe begins his international career at Mazda’s European headquarters in Germany

Grad a master of global business

BY DIANNE GEORGE

Daniel McCombe’s family and friends are looking forward to seeing him collect his Master of Global Business degree at UVic’s November convocation ceremony. He has been away for a year living his dream and working in Germany.

McCombe is part of the first graduating class of MGB students—a new one-year master’s level degree—that sees students in the Sardul S. Gill Graduate School at the Gustavson School of Business study international business management and leadership at three campuses around the world. They begin at UVic, then move on to the National Sun Yat-Sen University in Taiwan and finish at the Johannes Kepler University in Austria. Upon completion of his courses and an internship in Germany, McCombe landed a job with Mazda Motor Europe.

“An international career is what I wanted when I started the MGB,” says McCombe. As a veteran of an exchange term in Portugal and an international co-op work term in Germany, McCombe says living on the road was not a new experience.

“I was already in the mindset of staying abroad,” he says. “It’s a really challenging yet exciting time to be in trade finance, particularly in Germany,” says McCombe who’s an analyst in network development and finance. He and nine other members of the team negotiate between \$1.5 billion and \$2 billion Euros a year in financing with numerous global banking institutes on behalf of Mazda’s more than 2,500 European dealerships that are located across the continent from northern Russia to southern Spain.

“We’re a bit like a commercial bank—we help our dealers purchase wholesale inventory with better financing rates than they can get on their own. There’s also lots of travel,” says McCombe who found himself in Romania, Ireland, Belgium and the Netherlands all within the first month on the job. It’s routine for him to be away from his desk building networks and alliances anywhere in the region.

McCombe credits both his BCom degree and subsequent MGB

degree with giving him the ability to work in groups. “It’s one thing to motivate yourself, but learning how to motivate others, is something else. There is a lot of trust involved.” He also has a lot of praise for John Oldale, associate director of the MGB program who was tasked with anticipating and solving the challenges associated with running a new program. “John was always there for me,” says McCombe.

“I also found a wonderful mentor in Ernst Balla, director of leadership development with Voestalpine AG. We were completing a consulting project for the company and Ernst would always encourage us to reflect on the collaboration process. He knew getting the mix of Canadian, Taiwanese and Austrian students working together as a cohesive team was the real challenge. We’re still in touch.”

McCombe has lots of advice for other UVic grads thinking about the MGB program, or looking for a job outside Canada. He decided he would not place any geographic restrictions on his future for five years following the completion of his last term in Austria, and it’s a strategy he recommends to others. He thinks being in Europe was a key to launching his career with Mazda’s European headquarters.

“By physically being in Europe I overcame 80 per cent of the challenge of job seeking abroad and had all my energy to focus on the 20 per cent that really mattered: making a great first impression through face-to-face networking.”

He’s also finding his status as a Canadian and native English speaker a bonus, both at work and at home. It hasn’t hurt his “celebrity” either. A recent post on an online forum for expats to help him find a place to live netted him a TV gig. His ad was spotted by the casting director for House Hunters International who has decided to follow McCombe’s apartment hunting trials. Filming wrapped up at the end of October and will air on HGTV in the new year.

Look for more of McCombe’s thoughts on living and working in Germany on his blog at danielmc-combe.blogspot.com.

Honouring this year’s top teachers

At Convocation, the University of Victoria celebrates the accomplishments of our students and the great promise that they bring as they enter on a new stage of their careers.

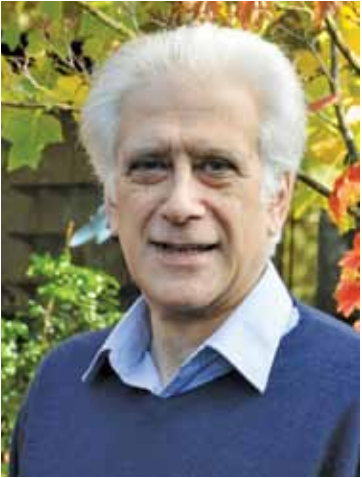
It is also an occasion when we recognize the outstanding talent, dedication and creativity of the faculty members and other teaching staff who provide such a high quality of education to our students.

“We are extremely proud of the recipients of this year’s awards for excellence in teaching,” says Vice-President Academic and Provost Reeta Tremblay. “On behalf of the university, I would like to offer our gratitude and congratulations to these inspiring teachers who contribute so much to the lives of their students and to the value of a UVic education.”

This year’s recipients are profiled below. See page 5 of this issue of *The Ring* for information about this year’s recipient of the Harry Hickman Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching, Dr. Gary MacGillivray of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

Dr. Panajotis Agathoklis

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Faculty of Engineering



Since 1983, when Dr. Panajotis Agathoklis started teaching at the University of Victoria, he has taught a wide variety of courses in the areas of control theory, multidimensional digital filtering and video processing at both the undergraduate and the graduate levels. In his teaching, he places great emphasis upon the connection between theory and applications and he consistently succeeds in creating an interesting and motivating learning environment for his students. Agathoklis inspires and challenges his students to explore how mathematics can be used in engineering practice and he encourages them to pursue and develop their own ideas and to evaluate them critically. With his enthusiastic approach to the subject matter in his courses, and his dedication to teaching, he has inspired many hundreds of students.

Dr. Laurence Coogan

School of Earth and Ocean Sciences
Faculty of Science



Dr. Laurence Coogan’s aim is to help students “think like a scientist.” Rather than cramming large amounts of material into their brains for regurgitation, Coogan engages students by placing key concepts in the context of the “big-picture.” An accomplished researcher, Coogan believes that learning to think like a scientist is best achieved by doing scientific research. He encourages undergraduate students to undertake honours and research-based directed studies projects. Coogan has found that students learn more, and work harder, during such self-driven projects than in any classroom environment. He is an excellent example of a complete academic who has successfully integrated the core teaching and research missions of the university.

Jason Corless

Department of Computer Science
Faculty of Engineering

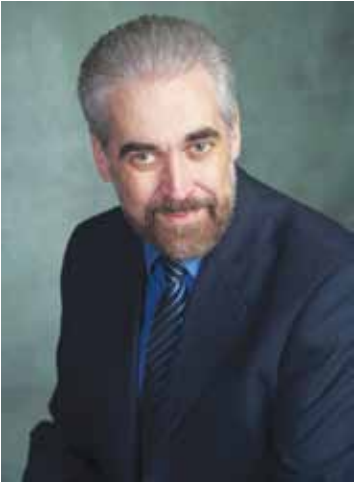


In his seven years as a senior instructor at UVic, Jason Corless has taught thousands of students in computer science courses ranging from large first-year programming courses to intimate upper-level classes. His student evaluations are consistently strong and positive. In the classroom, Corless is known for an amusing yet passionate delivery style. He encourages students to use their minds actively during class, often demonstrating

concepts by quickly coding examples “live” and on the spot. Students commend him for providing context for course material by sharing anecdotes from his own workplace experiences. Corless invites students to explore the world of computer science that lies beyond the classroom.

Dr. Ran Donaldson

Department of Anthropology
Faculty of Social Sciences



Dr. Ran Donaldson, sessional lecturer since 2001 and a full-time family doctor, is the 2011 recipient of the Gillian Sherwin Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching among sessional lecturers and lab instructors. Donaldson teaches human osteology (the study of bones). Between 2007 and 2009, students gave him evaluations that averaged 99.5 per cent. His award nominators noted his knack for making dense terminology and intricate details interesting and accessible, along with his good sense of humour. An alumnus wrote: “(He) is a one-of-a-kind teacher, doctor, mentor and human being. It is educators of this calibre that stand-out in a student’s mind for a lifetime.”

Dr. Catherine Etmanski

Department of Educational Psychology
and Leadership Studies
Faculty of Education



Dr. Catherine Etmanski is described by her student nominators as a “committed, knowledgeable, ... kind and gener-

ous” instructor who creates amazing learning opportunities for students and takes time to ensure that all students receive the educational support that they need. She uses technology to continue contact with students and to facilitate contact between students so that learning extends beyond the boundaries of the class periods. She helped create discussions on diversity and community-based research (CBR) which further engage her students and garner their respect for her scholarship; scholarship which is, in turn, evident in the content of her courses. Through her modeling of great teaching and scholarship, she builds capacity within her students to engage in CBR and to become thoughtful, inclusive, yet critical members of the academic community.

Dr. Allyson Hadwin

Department of Educational Psychology
and Leadership Studies
Faculty of Education



Dr. Allyson Hadwin informs what and how she teaches with the cutting edge research about learning that she and her graduate students have produced. ED-D 101 Learning Strategies for University Success, which Hadwin designed, implemented and has taught for the last five years, has made a meaningful contribution to the retention of students at UVic. As a result of Hadwin’s educational leadership, the teaching in universities both nationally and internationally has improved through a better understanding of how students can contribute to the effectiveness of their learning. “Allyson was a totally awesome teacher who really, really cared about us and how we did in her course and other courses,” says one of her students. “She really helped me to figure things out and take responsibility for my learning.”

Janet Love

Department of Psychology
Faculty of Social Sciences
Graduate Student

Janet Love’s strong teaching skills are fuelled by a compassionate spirit. An absolute treasure as a TA, she is organ-



ized, efficient and, above all, willing to take initiative and make decisions. Furthermore, her sense of humour and sense of fun make it noticeably easier for students to engage with the challenges and hard work that the course material presents. Love is not afraid to capitalize on teachable moments and boldly incorporates examples from her own experience into her teaching which creates an atmosphere where students feel safe to express their concerns and questions. Few others revere their duty as educators more than she. She is always prepared, is an exceptional listener, and fosters and active, enthusiastic, and supportive learning environment.

Mia Maki

Peter B. Gustavson School of Business



Mia Maki’s mission is to demystify entrepreneurship and provide students with a pathway to entrepreneurial success. She is dedicated to taking their understanding of accounting and finance to a much higher and integrated level and assisting students in their venture financing. She also organizes the annual UVic Pitch and Business Plan competitions and other events to give students practical experience in planning and launching a new venture. She brings several years of teaching, facilitating and business industry experience to share with her students. Students say she’s an engaging teacher, and she gauges her success by their passion for entrepreneurship, their industry experience and their deep interest in active and experiential learning.

Feature continued on facing page

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Dr. Warren Magnusson

Department of Political Science
Faculty of Social Science



Dr. Warren Magnusson is an outstanding instructor, a terrific mentor and supportive supervisor. He delivers a wealth of experience and wisdom accumulated over the years. The many students he has taught, in the Department of Political Science and the Interdisciplinary Program in Cultural, Social and Political Thought, have expressed their strong appreciation of his teaching. Magnusson has made a truly exceptional contribution by mentoring and supervising nearly 150 graduate students. He takes all the time necessary to guide each and every one of them, thereby catering to their individual needs. Furthermore, the mentoring doesn't end when students leave the program; he assists them in every possible way to succeed even years after they have left Victoria.

Dr. Andrea McKenzie

Department of History
Faculty of Humanities



Dr. Andrea McKenzie has established a reputation as an extraordinarily talented, innovative and popular teacher. The care with which she prepares her courses, the number of new courses she has created, her dynamism in the classroom and the exceptionally positive response of students are all amply demonstrated in course materials, student course evaluations, individual testimonials and peer reviews. McKenzie is a scholar in the humanist tradition. She encourages critical thinking that is applicable to all walks of life. She is also passionately committed to promoting learning as an end in itself. If the test of an educator is not just to enable students to learn but also to inspire desire for further learning, than McKenzie is definitely a model professor.

Dr. Sylvia Pantaleo

Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Faculty of Education



Dr. Sylvia Pantaleo, a master teacher of teachers, enlivens her teaching in the language arts with authentic examples, research findings and practical activities that support education students in understanding the challenges of teaching and the joys of student learning. Her teaching and teaching methodology is influenced both by her experience of teaching in elementary and middle schools and her research on children's literacy. She demonstrates a strong commitment to, and enthusiasm for, the area in which she teaches and a deep knowledge base in that area. In addition, students identify her organization, willingness to engage with students outside of class, and her very positive persona as part of her teaching excellence.

Tara Thomson

Department of English
Faculty of Humanities, Graduate Student



What distinguishes Tara Thomson is that she shines in the crucial classrooms of first-year courses, where the university sometimes struggles to engage, nurture and equip its core constituency at the beginning of their academic careers. Teaching is truly a labour of love for Thomson. Her dedication takes the form not just of attentiveness to student needs, but also, and especially, in the areas of clarity and organization. She evokes participation from even the most soft-spoken of students, encouraging their opinions and making it clear that all responses carry equal weight in discussions. First-year university is a stressful experience for most students, but with the help of faculty like her, the experience becomes more memorable, fun and desirable.

Brynn Dooley

Department of Chemistry
Faculty of Science, Graduate Student

Brynn Dooley has contributed to the teaching enterprise in chemistry for several years in a number of different capacities—as a laboratory demonstrator, a tutorial leader and as part of a pilot project aimed at developing peer-led team teaching in an advanced chemistry class. As one second-year laboratory student describes: “She takes every question seriously, treats everyone as an intelligent individual and connects with the students on a personal as well as a scholastic level.” Dooley is rigorous in her attention to detail, unceasingly dedicated to the students she teaches and thinks about pedagogy at a remarkably advanced level. Her top priority is always the positive educational experience of her students, and she doesn't hesitate to dedicate time and energy outside of the classroom to accomplish her goals.

We build on the strength and diversity of our people—students, faculty, staff and alumni—to strengthen our position among the best universities in Canada, recognized for excellence in teaching, learning, research, artistic creativity, professional practice and service to the community.

FROM UVIC'S MISSION STATEMENT

Law grad reaches back in time for safety of children and families

BY TARA SHARPE

UVic law graduate Nancy Sandy, LL.M., looks back to her childhood memories of the *Secwepemc* world for inspiration in finding and revitalizing *St'xwelcemic* laws, values and customs. One memory of her mother, who passed away in 2003, resonates just as strongly as the echoes from any majestic landscape.

A member of the *Secwepemc* Nation and former chief, Sandy is a long-time advocate of Aboriginal rights and title issues, and lives and acts on her *Secwepemc* customs and values as a mother and grandmother herself. Sandy says her mother understood what discrimination was “long before it was a common thing to talk about.”

“My mother would go into town to set up accounts in any store, and when she went to the restaurants in town, she'd demand service. I have had service declined to me before, but she said her money was as good as anyone else's. To her, the word ‘can't’ just wasn't in her dictionary.”

“My research has led me to work

on the land with many First Nations, and this is affirmation that I am on the right path to help strengthen and decolonize the *St'xwelcemic* of the *Secwepemc* Nation.”

Sandy lives in the village of *T'exelc*, east of Williams Lake, where she was raised with her large family in a strong matriarchal home.

Sandy's thesis speaks to *Stxwelcemic* laws, practices and customs that kept children safe in the past—well before contact and the trauma of residential schools. Trauma is nothing new in her family, but neither is tenacity and courage.

In December 2005, her son suffered a horrific head injury in a hunting accident. Sandy launched her consulting company Sugar Cane Sandy's Consulting Ltd. while helping him recover.

Although the injury would normally have been a death sentence, her son told her he'd be “home by August 1,” and in July 2006, they were back in *T'exelc*. With one arm partially paralyzed, he can now swim a lap in under one minute.

This is partly what she is alluding

to when she talks about “acting on customs and values” as a matriarch: she is willing to drop everything for family and community. But why she applied to graduate school relates in part to her son's recovery. “My son showed me that miracles can happen. So I decided to achieve my dream.”

Why she applied to UVic—situated on the territory of the Coast and Straits Salish people—was primarily due to the presence in the faculty at the time of Dr. John Borrows, a member of the Chippewas of the Nawash First Nation in Ontario, and a world-renowned Indigenous legal scholar.

She completed the requirements for her master of law degree in less than two years under Borrows' supervision, nearly 20 years after being called to the Bar in 1989 after graduating from UBC in 1987. “That just goes to show, with determination you can do these things!”

Even with family, community, business and academic commitments, Sandy makes sure to make time for herself: she is a level-1 aromatherapist



Nancy Sandy near Telegraph Creek, on the territory of the Tahltan people, while working with Northwest Inter-Nation Family and Community Services. PHOTO: PAT SQUIRES, JULY 2011

and level-2 reiki practitioner; enjoys traditional activities such as berry picking, hunting, preserving meat and making traditional medicines; and appreciates all forms of music. (For a humorous anecdote about the role of music in her life, plus more details

about Sandy, visit the longer version of this article at <http://bit.ly/uJovHk>.)

Sandy's future plans are to publish her thesis. “And the Elders are saying, go get your PhD and write a book.”

So that is exactly what she intends to do.

More grad profiles on the web

Visit *The Ring's* website (ring.uvic.ca) for these additional profiles of amazing UVic graduates.

Psychology grad follows her dual passions

Nichole Williams knew at 15 years old she wanted to study psychology and make a difference in the lives of people

suffering from dependence issues. Her honours thesis on homelessness and alcohol dependence explored how policy measures can be used to help Victoria's most vulnerable populations. Combined with her other passion—competitive boxing—she will be unstoppable. Williams hopes one day to make it to the National Boxing League. Currently, she trains four to five days a week and is in a women's amateur boxing league.

Grad uses theatre to help others quit smoking

Applied theatre grad student Lauren Jerke will receive her master's degree at Fall Convocation. She spent 18 months working with the Vancouver Island Health Authority's (VIHA) smoking cessation and reduction group at Victoria's Eric Martin Pavilion and researching the relationship between smoking and mental illness. Jerke and members of the group developed their

findings into an original play, *Mixed Messages*. The play was performed four times to a total of 160 people, and drew an impressive response, resulting in a spike of calls to the smoking cessation program.

PhD Proud: School of Nursing's first doctoral grads

Ann Syme and Kara Schick Makaroff convocate together this November with PhDs from the School of Nursing's

relatively new doctoral program, launched in 2006. Syme's dissertation, “Organizing Transitions in Palliative Care: Inside/Outside Cancer Systems,” explores the question, “how does a person who is a cancer patient find their way to being a dying person?” Schick Makaroff's dissertation investigates the concept of the unsayable and how it may be helpful in exploring individuals' stories of living with chronic kidney disease (CKD).

Daniel Kilpatrick, Vikes men's soccer goalkeeper, recently became the winningest goalkeeper in Canada West play with 25 wins. He set the mark in an Oct. 23 win over Lethbridge at Centennial Stadium. "This is really an honour for me that I wasn't expecting," Kilpatrick says. "But I want to share it with all the players that have been a part of it. Soccer is a team sport and I do what I can, but everyone who has played in front of me has made it possible." Earlier this season, Kilpatrick also became the Canada West all-time shutouts leader, adding to the total with his 20th career clean-sheet.

The Moons of Jupiter, a play by theatre historian and Department of Theatre professor **Jennifer Wise**, received honorable mention as a finalist in this year's Herman Voaden National Playwriting Competition. She wrote the play after being approached by **Dr. Sara Ellison** (physics and astronomy) about making a contribution to the International Year of Astronomy—a global celebration of the 400th anniversary of Galileo's first telescopic observations. *The Moons of Jupiter* looks at the family dynamics between Galileo and his children. The biennial nation-wide open competition—named for Herman Voaden, a Canadian playwright, director, theatrical innovator and lifelong champion of Canadian culture—is one of the country's most important awards for playwriting.

CONVOCATION 2011

Degree took grad across Canada's three oceans

BY KAYLA PEPPER

Ian Wrohan's university experience strayed from the classroom environment and extended to the northern extremes of the Canadian Arctic. This September, Wrohan completed his master's in Earth and ocean sciences and will convocate this month.

While completing an environmental technology program at Camosun College, Wrohan participated in two co-op placements, the latter of which sparked his scientific interest in algae and inspired him to come to UVic to continue his education.

At UVic, Wrohan pursued his interests in ocean chemistry after his professor and master's supervisor, Dr. Daniela Varela, got involved in Canada's Three Oceans (C3O) program as part of the International Polar Year Initiative. At the time, Wrohan was working as a lab technician for Varela and seized the opportunity to pursue his master's by participating in Fisheries and Oceans Canada 3CO field studies.

"I can't give enough credit to my supervisor. She's a fantastic person to work for and work with," says Wrohan.

For two two-month periods during the summers of 2007 and 2008, Wrohan, Varela and a team of scientists ventured into the three oceans of Canada: the Pacific, the Atlantic and the Arctic.

During his first summer, he took an icebreaker from Dartmouth, NS, up to the mid-point on the Arctic Coast



Wrohan and polar bears

and into the Canada Basin above Alaska. Then in 2008, he departed from Victoria doing the same trip from the West Coast.

"The idea was to produce a snapshot of Canada's ocean conditions during those summers. It's so hard to get up there that there isn't a lot of data. It was an excellent opportunity to provide an oceanographic baseline of that data," he explains.

His and Varela's focus was on phytoplankton in those waters. The used the data to publish multiple papers and collaborate with other groups.

Around the time of his master's defense date, Wrohan received a call from an environmental firm in Vancouver notifying him of a job. He packed everything up and within in a couple days of completing school was working for Rescan Environmental

Services Ltd. where he is pursuing his interest in oceanography.

"It's funny, because a lot of the work they [Rescan Environmental Services Ltd.] do involves environmental assessment equipment that I learned a lot about during my master's work. I can't stress enough the importance of doing field work. Those are the things employers really look for."

What stands out for Wrohan among his experiences up north are the natural landscape and the bonds formed with his colleagues. "It's not a wasteland at all; there's glaciers and around August everything blooms. It was beautiful in a way I never thought it could be."

Networking and teambuilding was accelerated by working with a small group of people in a close environment for up to 16 hours a day. "There's

nowhere else you can go; you're on a ship," he laughs.

He also adds that he learned to collaborate with other people in a professional setting, even if not everyone always agreed.

"I think more people, especially Canadians, should take a trip up there because it's a part of where we live and not a lot of people appreciate that—not a lot of people get to see it. Everyone knows it's an environment which is changing really quickly, so see it while you can."

Wrohan sends this message to current UVic students: "Enjoy it while you're doing it, because, believe it or not, you'll miss it when you're done. You've made a wise choice going to UVic, so cherish the professional and the personal relationships you forge there."

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Work term in China leads to full-time career

BY JOY POLIQUIN

While many soon-to-be graduates are preparing to dive into job search mode, Jason Zapantis can rest easy. The mechanical engineering graduate has been employed by Victoria's Silian Sapphire for four years, and is happily settled into his role as process engineer.

Zapantis has always been motivated—as a student in Camosun's mechanical engineering bridge program, he knew that he wanted to explore career options in the high-tech industry. He approached Silian Sapphire (then called Honeywell Specialty Materials) to see if he could complete a co-op work term with the company, which supplies sapphire substrates for use in the production of LED lighting. After a successful work term, Zapantis transferred to UVic, but stayed connected to Silian.

"When I came to UVic and entered the Engineering Co-op Program, I knew that I wanted to continue working with Silian," he says. "The company

had just been acquired by China's Silian Instrumentation Group, which was opening a pilot manufacturing plant in Chongqing. I was asked to move to China to help oversee the plant operations, which was an incredible learning experience."

Zapantis spent 16 months in Chongqing, a non-westernized region of 40 million people where English was rarely spoken. As the only staff member who was not yet a university graduate, he adapted quickly, helping Chinese staff set up the plant and begin production. He did such a good job that he began working part-time for Silian after his return to Canada, returning to China dozens of times and completing his co-op requirements along the way. In fact, he delayed his graduation date in order to extend one of his work terms and gain even more experience.

"I've had a unique journey, since I completed all of my co-op work terms with one company. But over the course of my degree, Silian Sapphire has grown so much, and with it, I've seen



Zapantis. PHOTO: JOY POLIQUIN

increased opportunity. I've become an expert in an expanding industry, and I've found a career that has such promise."

His advice to students just starting out: "Find your own path—approach employers that haven't posted co-op positions and ask if they've considered a co-op student. You might be able to develop your own role, which could lead to experience in unexpected areas."

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Grad brings formidable intellect to understand society’s most vulnerable

BY PAMELA SPALDING

Sinead Charbonneau didn’t imagine herself attending UVic when she attended Esquimalt High School. Now, as the first of her family to graduate from university, she recalls that UVic “didn’t really exist for me” when she was growing up.

During her final year of high school, spent with her extended Métis family in Medicine Hat, AB, she was introduced to the work of filmmaker and UVic women’s studies professor, Christine Welsh, who inspired Charbonneau to apply.

After being one of 100 high school students from across Canada to receive a prestigious Millennium Scholarship Award in 2006, Charbonneau headed to UVic to pursue women’s studies. In her early weeks she remembers being surprised by the existence of the UVic Women’s Centre and the Indigenous Studies program.

“Seeing Indigenous people in positions of authority within the university was really exciting because I could see myself in the people who teach at university.”

The relationships she built with other Indigenous people on campus, and her exposure to Indigenous scholarship (Charbonneau holds a minor in Indigenous studies) helped her to “to understand and articulate the experience of being a white, Métis person at university.”

She found women’s studies both academically rigorous and emotionally challenging. “Women’s studies is not an armchair program. Because it is about women’s lived experiences, students’ lives can become the fodder of the classroom, which can lead to challenging moments. But it also allows students to take feminism outside of themselves and learn in a way that is politically relevant and materially useful.”

An outstanding student, Charbonneau found time throughout her degree to work and volunteer. She was the outreach and communications coordinator at the UVic Women’s Center for two years, co-editor of Thirdspace magazine, and a board member for both PEERS Victoria Resource Society and the Vancouver Island Human Rights Coalition. She worked passionately to bring resources and knowledge from the university out into the community—particularly in



Charbonneau. PHOTO: ALI BOSWORTH

support of direct action with underfunded community organizations.

In her final year, Charbonneau was distinguished with an Undergraduate Research Award for exceptional undergrads. She conducted a discourse analysis of news coverage of the violent death of her high-school friend Ariana May Simpson. Charbonneau documented her research in an essay submitted to the Canadian Women’s Studies Association’s (CWSA) national undergraduate essay competition this year. In awarding her first prize, the CWSA said “Charbonneau...succinctly combines a difficult, personal narrative of loss with a formidable intellectual critique of the social dimensions of Simpson’s murder...and her essay ought to be required reading for anyone making home in today’s ‘Canada.’”

Currently, Charbonneau is working with Dr. Susan Strega (social work) on research into sex workers and their families. In the future, she envisions graduate school and working in the area of Métis rights and title, and urban Aboriginal issues.

Charbonneau’s time at UVic has been transformative. She experienced “so many opportunities that I wouldn’t have had, had I not gone to university. Having the time to read and think and write has always been a great joy...it’s a position of great privilege. It’s the only time you have to read, and it is recognized as an important social role.” Her family who are “tremendously proud” of her achievements are looking forward to witnessing both her graduation ceremony and her participation at the Aboriginal students recognition event at the First People’s House.

calendar highlights

at the galleries
uvac.uvic.ca
250-721-6562

■ **Exhibit** *The World of Mary’s Wedding: Reminiscences of World War I from UVic Archives and Special Collections.* Until Nov. 17. Maltwood Prints and Drawings Gallery at the McPherson Library, lower level. 250-381-7618

■ **Exhibit** *In Her Own Words: Works and Writings.* By Emily Carr, Katharine Maltwood and Myfanwy Pavelic. Until Nov. 26. Legacy Art Gallery and Café. 630 Yates St. 250-721-8289

■ **Exhibit** *Kuluta and the Professor: The Friendship of Henry Hunt and Peter Smart.* Until Nov. 26. Legacy Art Gallery and Café. 630 Yates St. 250-721-8289

■ **Exhibit** *The Emergence of Architectural Modernism II: UVic and the Regional Aesthetic in the Late 1950s and 60s.* Nov. 30 until late Feb. Legacy Art Gallery and Café. 630 Yates St. 250-381-7645

at the theatres
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■ **Theatre** *Rookery Nook.* Nov. 3–19. By Ben Travers. Directed by Bindon Kinghorn. Fast paced and full of witty repartee, this stylish 1920s British farce is comparable to the comedies of Traver’s contemporary, Noel Coward. Phoenix Theatre Box Office \$16–24. 250-721-8000

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

■ **Lecture/Seminar** 2:30 p.m. *Securing Our Water Future.* Robert Sandford, author and Forum for Leadership on Water co-chair. MacLaurin D110. 250-721-6388

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14

■ **Other** 12 p.m. *International Education Week: Centre for Global Studies Symposium.* Learn about CFGS projects, and hear from leading international experts working at UVic and throughout the world. First People’s House, Ceremonial Hall. 250-472-4754

■ **Other** 2:30 p.m. *International Education Week: Centre for Global Studies Open House.* Interact with the presenters, share ideas on international topics and research, and learn about the world beyond our borders. Sedgewick C Wing. 250-472-4754

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

■ **Music** 10:30 a.m. *Electronic Music with C.E.C. & MISTIC.* Co-presented by the Canadian Electroacoustic Community and UVic’s MISTIC (Music Intelligence and Sound Technology Interdisciplinary Collective) this one-day festival of electroacoustic and electronic music will feature afternoon seminars and evening concerts at the School of Music. Info: <http://uvic.ca/mistic>. Various rooms in the MacLaurin Bldg. 250-721-8634

■ **Other** 10 a.m. *Flu Shot Clinic.* And Nov.16. UVic Health Nurses will be onsite with seasonal flu shots. Bring medical card. Everyone welcome. Mearns Centre/McPherson Library, first floor. \$20. 250-721-8490

■ **Lecture/Seminar** 11 a.m. *International Education Week: Knowing How To Learn From Others.* Mary Wendt will be presenting an interactive workshop on being in an international educational setting. Strong C113. 250-472-4754

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

■ **Other** 10 a.m. *Q’ente Textile Fair.* And Nov. 17. Support the Q’ente Textile Revitalization Society and the Mosqoy Sacred Valley Youth Fund. Social Science & Math Bldg. Environmental Studies Common Rm. www.facebook.com/mosqoy and www.facebook.com/qentesociety

■ **Lecture/Seminar** 3:30 p.m. *International Education Week: UVic in Africa: Culture, People and Research.* In this multimedia presentation, Dr. Honore France (UVic) will highlight his experience working as a teacher and researcher in Ethiopia. Hickman Bldg. 110. 250-472-4754

■ **Studies in Religion & Society Lecture** 4:30 p.m. *Uncle Ham Wants You! Propaganda and Counter-propaganda in the Evolution Wars.* Thomas Aehtner (Oxford). Strong Bldg. C118. 250-721-6325

■ **Lecture/Seminar** 8 p.m. *Visiting Artist program presents Colette Urban.* Visual Arts A162. 250-721-8011.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17

■ **Orion Lecture Series** 1 p.m. *What the Hell Are We Doing Here?* Dr. Ted Little (Concordia Univ.) Phoenix Theatre. Seating limited. 250-721-7991

■ **CCCBE Speaker Series** 4 p.m. *Occupy Victoria: Seeing Like a City.* This Centre for Cooperative and Community Based Economy speaker series presentation is by Prof. Warren Magnusson (UVic). MacLaurin A144. 250-472-4539

■ **CAVI Lecture** 7:30 p.m. *Epigraphic Consciousness in the Age of Augustus.* Dr. Gregory D. Rowe (UVic). Engineering Comp Science Bldg. 104. 250-721-8514

Events free unless otherwise indicated.

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

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18

■ **Knowledge Mobilization Lecture Series** 12 p.m. *Let’s Face It Program for Autistic Children* with Dr. Jim Tanaka (UVic) and *WITS Antibullying program for Children* with Dr. Bonnie Leadbeater (UVic). Mearns Centre/McPherson Library 210.

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

■ **Lecture/Seminar** 2:30 p.m. *International Education Week: For Our Daughters Speaking Tour.* Strong C116. 250-472-4754

■ **Lecture/Seminar** 3 p.m. *Developmental Relations Between Executive Function and Theory of Mind.* Dr. Ulrich Mueller (UVic). Cornet Bldg. A228.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19

■ **Music** 8 p.m. *UVic Jazz Orchestra.* Patrick Boyle, director. MacLaurin B125. \$15/\$10. 250-721-8634

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

■ **Cafe Scientifique Lecture** 6:30 p.m. *Growing and Guiding New Neurons in the Healthy and Injured Brain.* Dr. Leigh Anne Swayne. Strathcona Hotel, 919 Douglas St. Maple Rm. 250-472-4067

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

■ **Studies in Religion and Society Lecture** 4:30 p.m. *So Nigh to Glory is Our Dust: Religion and Disability in the Mid-19th-Century Novel.* Kylee-Anne Hingston (UVic). Strong C118. 250-721-6325

■ **Lecture/Seminar** 8 p.m. *Visiting Artist program presents Hadley+Maxwell.* Hadley+Maxwell have been collaborating and working in a variety of media including video, installation, and sound. Visual Arts A162. 250-721-8011

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24

■ **Lecture/Seminar** 7:30 p.m. *The City Talks Presents: Eugene van Erven. “Community Art and the City: A European View.”* Info: www.TheCityTalks.ca. Legacy Art Gallery. 630 Yates St.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25

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

■ **Lecture/Seminar** 3 p.m. *Cognition and Brain Sciences Seminars.* Speakers: Michael Masson and Daniel Bub (UVic). Cornett A228.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

■ **Other 9 a.m.** *United Way Book & Record Sale.* Also Nov. 30 and Dec.1. SUB Michele Pujol Rm. 250-472-4977

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day in the life

Schwandt at the Clearihue organ. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

BY ROBIE LISCOMB

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF Professor Emeritus Erich Schwandt (music)—if it happens to be a UVic Convocation day—involves playing the huge Clearihue organ in the University Centre Farquhar Auditorium. For the past 30 years, Schwandt has provided the music for UVic Convocation ceremonies during which tens of thousands of grads have crossed the stage.

“It’s a lot of fun, and it’s an easy thing to do,” says the retired music professor. “I get to play whatever music I please,” which often includes a processional piece by French composer and pianist Cécile Chaminade

and works by J.S. Bach and others.

Perched at the keyboard high above the stage, Schwandt may have attended more UVic Convocations than any other person. “It means a lot to the families to see their child get their degree,” he says, and he has proudly seen many of his own students receive their degrees.

“I’ve also heard speeches of all kinds from honorary degree recipients through the years.” And he recalls particularly enjoying the remarks by eco-forester Merv Wilkinson (Nov. 2005) and Canadian author Carol Shields (June 2001).

Schwandt received his academic degrees from Stanford University and taught at Stanford and East-

man School of Music before joining UVic’s School of Music in 1975. He performed harpsichord and organ recitals throughout North America and reconstructed the lost “Gloria” of Erik Satie’s *Messe des pauvres* for its world premiere at the University of Victoria in 1997. He retired in 2001.

Schwandt was instrumental (pun intended) in UVic’s acquisition of the Clearihue organ in the late 1970s. “I saw an ad with a very vague description of an organ for sale in Québec for \$20,000,” he recalls.

“I went to Québec to investigate. And it was in a church where it had been subject to extreme fluctuations in temperature and had suffered damage so that it was barely playable.

Local organ builder Hugo Spilker went and examined it, took it apart, arranged for transport and modified it mechanically for installation in the new UVic auditorium.”

The organ was purchased and donated to UVic by Dr. Joyce Clearihue as a memorial to her parents Joseph and Irene Clearihue. Joseph Clearihue served as UVic’s first chancellor. The French classic organ was built in 1966 by Georges Mayer of Sarre-Union, France, for the parish of St. Mathias, Québec.

“I like it very much,” says Schwandt, who will once again be providing sweet strains of organ music as UVic celebrates another Fall Convocation this month.

PhD grad contributes to ATLAS particle detector

BY MELANIE TROMP HOOVER

Lorraine Courneyea, who graduates this month with her PhD in high-energy physics, just completed the kind of program that every particle-physicist-in-the-making dreams of.

Nestled between snowy Alps and delicious cheeses, Courneyea was set to spend one year of her program on the ground in Geneva working with data from the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), the world’s largest particle accelerator, during the lead-up to and launch of what was supposed to be a series of record-breaking particle collisions—the highest energy collisions ever produced—in fall 2008.

This international placement—part of the package for PhD students

working with UVic’s ATLAS (particle detector experiment) group—shifted slightly in scope from analysis to a lengthy prep session for Courneyea when the LHC was halted due to a serious electrical fault that caused a rupture in the equipment, setting the collection of data at these energies back by months.

But it was this extra year of ground-work that made Courneyea an expert and eventual team leader in her contribution to the ATLAS experiment: she ended up chairing an international team working to ensure the electronics for the liquid argon calorimeters—key components of the detector—were properly calibrated.

When all systems were finally ready to go in March 2010, she and her team

were well prepared. “You couldn’t move, the ATLAS control room was so packed,” she recalls.

Courneyea eventually became a shift leader in this room, coordinating each of the procedures necessary for the ATLAS experiment to signal that it was ready for collisions.

“There is, in fact, a big red button behind a glass panel in case of an emergency stop,” she laughs. “But the idea that everyone is in lab coats is a total myth.”

The LHC was built at the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) to test physics predictions by more than 10,000 scientists and engineers, including Courneyea’s UVic supervisors Dr. Richard Keeler and Dr. Robert McPherson (physics and astronomy).



Courtneyea in the ATLAS particle detector pit at CERN in Geneva

The Toronto native credits both supervisors and a great group of fellow Canadian graduate students and post-doctoral fellows for making her Geneva experience the highlight of her career so far.

“The LHC is the biggest science project of all time; who could pos-

sibly pass up the opportunity to work at CERN?”

With this huge project and a PhD behind her, Courneyea is now looking at her options outside of academia, particularly as they relate to science policy work for the federal government.

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Bob Reimer

around the ring

Chinese scholars visit Fine Arts

Six representatives of China’s Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts (GAFA) visited the Faculty of Fine Arts on Oct. 5. In addition to a campus tour, a luncheon with representatives from UVic’s Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives and Office of International Affairs, and a lecture by GAFA scholar Wu Yangbo, there was also an exchange of gifts and the signing of a memorandum of understanding to pursue future student and faculty exchanges. “I am very hopeful that we can forge a strong relationship with GAFA that will provide our students with the opportunity to study in China, and our faculty the chance to learn about Chinese art practices from visiting students and faculty,” said Dr. Sarah Blackstone, dean of Fine Arts. GAFA is one of the top eight fine arts schools in China.

Nominations open for Distinguished Academic Awards

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 until Feb. 9. The awards will be presented at a gala dinner April 11, 2012. Information and nomination forms: www.cufa.bc.ca/awards

UVic to host national men’s soccer championship

UVic will host the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) men’s soccer championships in Centennial Stadium and adjoining fields on Nov. 10 to 13. Eight teams from across the country will compete in the men’s national championships representing Atlantic, Québec, Ontario and Canada West conferences. The UVic Vikes, winners of the Canada West conference, have a bye to the nationals as the championship host.

Clock ticking on Victoria Leadership Awards nominations

This is your last chance to nominate a campus community hero for a 2012 Victoria Leadership Award. Nominations close on Nov. 30 for the annual Victoria Leadership Awards (VLA) program. UVic is a founding partner of the VLAs. The University of Victoria Community Leadership Awards (up to two per year) acknowledge outstanding leadership in linking the university and the community for greater public benefit. Contact the UVic awards facilitator Nancy Pye who is available at 250-472-5408 or nancypye@uvic.ca to answer any questions about nominating a UVic community member. More: <http://bit.ly/vvDR2B>