IDEAFEST, MARCH 3–8

**Film production class makes for award-winning, reel-life learning**

*BY JOHN THRELFALL*

The tools writing professor Maureen Bradley uses with her students may not immediately leap to mind when most people think about research at the University of Victoria. But for Bradley, lights and cameras are very much the focus of the action when it comes to film production.

"Research is the creation of new knowledge," she says, "and literature, art and film are knowledge. Those images and stories explain to us who we are, and how we function as humans." Bradley has been teaching film-based courses at UVic since 2004, but her real success began with the creation of the writing department’s CFI Hi-Def Story Incubator Laboratory in 2009.

Thanks to nearly $350,000 in funding from the Canadian Foundation for Innovation, the UVic Knowledge Development Fund and UVic’s Office of Research Services, the Story Lab continues to have great success with their experiential “class as crew” model.

Their inaugural effort—“Presumption’s Wharf,” a light-hearted, 10-episode web series looking at the first-year student experience—won a 2010 Leo Award, presented annually to the best in BC’s film and television industry. Bradley and her writing students have since gone on to create three other short films, “Stuck,” How Secretes Bought the Farm and “Til Death” —the latter of which won a pair of awards at the Vancouver Short Film Festival in Nov. 2013 and will screen at the Victoria Film Festival in February.

With students taking on all the jobs of a film crew, from lighting and continuity to set decoration and film editing, Bradley has created hands-on courses that teach young people how film production really works. "If you think such a fantastic experience," she says, "they love being on set.

But while there's clearly talent aplenty among the 20-odd students who enrol in her class each year, Bradley sees the writing department as the key to their success. "Film is just a development of writing’s already well-known streams—fiction, poetry, creative non-fiction and drama," she says. "I don’t know anywhere else in the country where this is happening. There are students and faculty researchers, scholars and artists are eager to present their discoveries, insights, and creative projects to our on and off-campus communities," says Vice-President Research Howard Brunt.

"I encourage people to schedule in events throughout the IDEAFEST week. This festival really demonstrates that ideas are for all of us to question, debate and collectively use to benefit society."

A sampling of other ideas up for discussion during the festival include strategies to end homelessness, master classes in making music, impacts of learning in the workplace, democracy and tolerance, the controversies surrounding e-cigarettes and the latest on solar energy advances and challenges.

The full program of more than 50 events is forthcoming at bit.ly/idea-vid.

**World’s largest button blanket at the Diversity Research Symposium**

*February 2014*

The University of Victoria’s community newspaper

**CUVIC 2014**

Community-university conference seeks abstracts

This May, UVic will host CUVIC 2014, a three-day international conference on community-university engagement. Abstracts are due by Feb. 14. Faculty are invited to showcase some of UVic’s outstanding community collaborations, and volunteers are also being sought to support the conference. Celebrated humanitarian Stephen Lewis will kick off the conference May 20 with an evening presentation. Additional speakers include former provincial court judge and BC’s 28th Lieutenant-governor Steven Point, and UVic’s Hulka Chair in Ethnology and renowned ethnobotanist Dr. Nancy Turner. Call for proposals/abstracts: acvic@uvic.ca/cuvic2014

**Labour relations**

Faculty and librarians vote for unionization

In January, members of the UVic Faculty Association voted to certify as a labour union. The online vote, using the system offered by the university, had an 83-per-cent voter turnout and faculty decided 448 to 263 to unionize. As a result of the vote, the Faculty Association will be certified as a union under the BC Labour Relations Code. The administration and Faculty Association must now begin negotiation of the first collective agreement. Until the first collective agreement is in place the terms and conditions of the Framework Agreement will continue to apply.

**7 NOW PLAYING: THE UVIC WRITING PROGRAM**

**Festival topics run from timely to timeless**

How do young people use and respond to cyber-aggression? How can the diagnosis and treatment of concussions be improved? Why are our brains better than the smartest computers for certain kinds of tasks? And why do we respond to the music of one artist over another: is it the beauty of the melody, a special harmonic sound, or something else?

Some answers to these questions—along with dozens of others—will be presented at UVic’s annual IdeaFest, from March 3 to 8. Now in its third year, IdeaFest grew to attract thousands of participants from on and off campus in 2013. Although this year’s events are compressed into six days, nearly equal attendance is anticipated. IdeaFest events show off the wide variety of learning environments across campus. Event venues include UVic galleries, labs, recital halls, library vaults and forests. Prominent this year will be student research, ranging from a display of the remarkable e-magazines produced by undergraduate students from the Department of Writing, to graduate students describing their research in “The Three-Minute Thesis”—fast-paced, jargon-free presentation in front of judges Bob McDonald, the host of CBC’s Quark’s and Quarks, Dave Obee, editor-in-chief of the Times Colonist and Janet Rogers, Poet Laureate for the City of Victoria.

“Student and faculty researchers, scholars and artists are eager to present their discoveries, insights, and creative projects to our on and off-campus communities,” says Vice-President Research Howard Brunt.

“I encourage people to schedule in events throughout the IdeaFest week. This festival really demonstrates that ideas are for all of us to question, debate and collectively use to benefit society.”

A sampling of other ideas up for discussion during the festival include strategies to end homelessness, master classes in making music, impacts of learning in the workplace, democracy and tolerance, the controversies surrounding e-cigarettes and the latest on solar energy advances and challenges.

The full program of more than 50 events is formatted for easy online browsing on any device at uvic.ca/ideafest. A video about the event appears at bit.ly/idea-vid.
New model proposed for BC water management

BY LAURA BRANDES

The provincial government has committed to a new Water Sustainability Act, set to be released in 2014, and researchers at UVic’s POLIS Project on Ecological Governance say BC has the potential to become a standout example for sustainable freshwater management and protection.

Over the past few years, the provincial government has led significant discussions about water management and policy reforms. The new policy report from POLIS, A Blueprint for Watershed Governance in British Columbia, takes this discussion a step further by addressing the complex nature of the question. This could be a real opportunity for positive change, particularly if it becomes a focus of critical communities in watershed decision-making. It has the potential to enhance or even improve water usage, so minimum flows in rivers to keep fish alive and thriving, says the report’s co-author Oliver M. Brandes, co-director of POLIS.

The report proposes that water management decision-making be aligned with the ecological boundaries of watersheds—instead of political lines on a map—as the best way to achieve these ecological, social and economic outcomes in BC.

“The transformation in governance proposed in our blueprint will likely take a decade, at a minimum, but with these changes BC could have the potential to become an example for other global communities and sustainability,” says Brandes.

The POLIS report draws on leading examples of watershed governance from across Canada and around the globe, and applies them to the BC context.

“The blueprint sets out a strategic 10-year program and proposes nine recommendations to ensure success,” says co-author Dr. Jon O’Riordan, POLIS advisor and former deputy minister of BC’s Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management. “Recognizing the unique institutional, legal, cultural, and geographic challenges of BC, we propose a clear timeline for success, especially moving towards watershed governance to improve ecological resilience across the province.”

A copy of the report is available at poliswaterproject.org/blueprint.
BRADLEY—FROM P.1

exciting to see story and surface come writing first. "This is a unique situation where screenwriters in Canada here, she says. "This is a unique situation where help fill a gap locally and nationally. The department is uniquely situated to how to write with a budget in mind. "

interpretation. Students need to see screenplay and a play are not final forms of learning, " she explains. " A short films.

create professional-quality 10-minute courses. "

good student films being made, but "But people are open when they "It's quite extraordinary for a stu-创投 Theatre, 808 Douglas Street). "Love & Danger" short film series previous Story Lab student films

have played at the Whistler Film Festival, the Vancouver Short Film Festival and the Victoria Film Festival. Current master's student Connor Gaston's short film, 'Til Death, had its world premiere at the Toronto Interna-
tional Film Festival in 2012. "Two Years screens at the Vic-
toria Film Festival as part of the "Love & Danger" short film series (9:45 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 11, at the Vic Theatre, 808 Douglas Street). "It's quite extraordinary for a stu-
dent film," says Bradley. "And it's really exciting seeing it screening at a local festival." Bradley will start shooting her film Two For Time locally in February. It's a transgressive romantic comedy produced by Story Lab partner Daniel Hogg and featuring 10 former and cur-
cent film students working on the set. Rare footage of New Zealand as delving into new territory: "Liv-
ing as a transgressive person is a man something most people know something about," she says, "But people are open when they laugh and might take in new ideas. I want to reach a broader audience with this one."

Writing department alumni Jennifer Roberts and Rebecca Wilson and Daniel Hogg took their latest short film Floodplain to the Cannes Film Festival in 2013. Floodplain recently won two awards at the Vancouver Short Film Festival, and was produced with support from the National Screen Institute and BravoFAST.

Bradley’s Faces of UFC. Re-
search video is also online at bit.ly/uceefilm

Online course shows how to put the brakes on climate change

PIE executive director Tom Ped-
ersen says human society is on track for perhaps four or more degrees of warming by the end of this century due to rising GHG emissions, well beyond the threshold seen as dangerous. However, he says, if urgent action is taken there is still time to prevent this happening—and the new Mitigation course explains how.

Dr. Pedersen says there is no single solution to global warming, but this course shows there is an array of actions that, if taken will transition society from fossil-fuel dependency to a low-carbon renewable energy future. Who should take this course? The relevant audience is wide, in-
deed global, in its scope: climate change knows no borders. Educa-
tors, policy-makers, members of the media and indeed anyone wanting a solid understanding of what works in climate change mitigation—and what doesn’t—will benefit from this course.

And stay tuned—the third and final course in the Climate Insights 101 series, Regional Impacts and Adaptation, is scheduled for release by PICS in spring 2014.

Online course available at bit.ly/pics-course2

New European Union centre announced

The University of Victoria is one of Canada’s leaders in European studies and is now home to one of two new European Union Centres of Excellence (EUCE) announced last month by the Delegation of the European Union to Canada.

There are only three other EUCEs in Canada and 37 worldwide. It is a prestigious designation and involves building further understanding and un-
derstanding of the EU and its policies in BC. The centre announcement includes a grant of $700,000 (equivalent to $445,000 CAD) to coordinate lectures, workshops, summer schools, student travel and research grants.

UFC public administration pro-
fessor and political scientist Dr. Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly is director of the new centre. “We are honoured with this very public recognition of UVic’s international reputation for excel-
ience in the area of European studies,” he says. “I am very proud to head the new centre and look forward to anticipating the many activities at UVic to help make EU policies better known in BC. Specifically, colleagues from five faculties will organize more than two dozen research, teaching and outreach activities over the next three years including high school events and professional summer schools.”

Two tangible examples of the types of support and activities of UVic’s new centre include direct funding for stu-
dent participation in UVic’s 2-witness field school program and a new workshop bringing together leading scholars and researchers on conten-
tious politics, to explore the local and global impacts of grassroots protest in Spain, Italy, Greece and Iceland.

The faculties of social sciences, hu-
mans and social development, hu-
manities, arts and social sciences.

Business are participating in this new centre. More info about the 1-witness field school: bit.ly/1-witness

Get the last word on climate change before it’s too late.

Lawyer & Notary Public

Ask about alternatives to costly litigation *
4195 Shelbourne Street

Robert Reimer, Q.C.

Real Estate - Purchase/Sale/Mortgage

Lawyer & Notary Public

4195 Shelbourne Street

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Recognizing outstanding employees
All faculty and staff are invited to attend the Provost’s Distinguished Service Awards presentation, Feb. 20 from 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. at the University Club. This event celebrates outstanding contributions of university employees to the betterment of the university and its community. Light refreshments will be served; RSVP at bit.ly/pdsawrap. A list of the 2013 PDSA nominees and more details about recognition event are available at uvic.ca/hr/dign/ home/recognition/pdsa.

Celebrating local leaders
The 10th anniversary of Victoria’s Leadership Awards (VLA) will be celebrated Wednesday, Feb. 26 at the Crystal Gardens. This is honour outstanding local heroes every year whose contributions inspire us all to work collaboratively in bringing positive change to our communities. UVic is one of three founding partners of the awards program. The 2014 VLA reception begins at 4:30 p.m., with award presentations, hors d’oeuvres and beverages from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Cost per seat is $55. Event Information at leadershippvic.ca

Gear up to Graduate program launched
Students who are graduating this June can find everything they need to transition to the workplace during Gear up to Graduate, which launched Feb. 1 at uvic.ca/coopandcareer/grad. Co-op and Career is offering workshops, one-on-one career development support, resources, job postings and more.

Transgender history symposium on the horizon
With the assistance of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council and the University of Victoria Libraries, the Moving Trans* History Forward Symposium invites scholars, activists, archivists, and all interested people to share and participate in discussions about the history of trans* research and activism. The symposium takes place at UVic March 21-23, 2014 and will feature panel discussions, keynote speakers, exhibitions, and workshops focused on the acquisition, preservation, and access of trans* history and archival materials. Learn more and register at transgenderhistoryuvic.ca/symposium

BY JOHN THRELFALL
It’s said that many hands make for light work, but it was more a case of many hands making the art work when it came to the creation and raising of the world’s largest button blanket. Witnessed by a standing-room-only crowd at First Peoples House, the Big Button Blanket received its inaugural performance during the opening ceremonies of the Provost’s Diversity Research Forum on January 29.

Created in collaboration with Tahltan Nation artist Peter Morin and History in Art professor Carolyn Butler Palmer, as well as their students and local Indigenous button blanket makers over the Fall 2013 semester, the six-metre by six-metre, 4,000-button blanket is now the central feature of the exhibit Adasla: The Movement of Hands at UVic’s Legacy Art Gallery Downtown. More than just the chance to earn the world’s record from Guinness (confirmation currently pending), the big Button Blanket offers an opportunity to start new conversations about Indigenous art forms and the traditions surrounding them.

“I want people to understand and think differently about button blankets,” says Morin. “This is an art form that has been practiced for more than 150 years over a large geographic region. They are just as beautiful and significant as totem poles—and, in fact, I wanted to make a button blanket the size of a totem pole so people can see them better. It’s an invitation to see this art form differently.”

Morin, now with the Visual Arts faculty at Manitoba’s Brandon University, will return to UVic on February 22 for a public performance with Governor General’s Award-winning Anishinaabe artist Rebecca Belmore. Button blankets are used as teaching tools—youngest artists get told to study how it was made, what it was made with, who made it, the importance and significance of its relation to the larger community—so our collaboration will be about acknowledging the blanket as a metaphor for Indigenous knowledge practices”, explains Morin.

Belmore, who held the inaugural Audain Professorship in Contempo- rary Art Practice of the Pacific West with the Department of Visual Arts in 2010, has long been a mentor to Morin. “Her art has fundamentally changed how I see the world,” he says. “A lot of my practice is about the places where Indigenous and western knowledge intersect or collide, so it’s exciting we can work together on this.”

For both Morin and Butler Palmer, the exhibit Adasla—a Tahltan word referring to the act of creation—hinges on the lack of recognition and feeding button blankets. “It’s a textile art form, and that’s often associated with women, and textile arts have been suppressed in their recognition in art history, as has Indigenous art forms,” explains Butler Palmer. “Even if they are recognized, they’re often configured more as craft than art. So we’re challenging both the absence and suppositions of button blankets as an art.”

Ultimately, Morin sees the Big Button Blanket as an opportunity to further the understanding, and understanding of, Indigenous learning.

“We are changed when we come into contact with Indigenous knowledge,” he says. “In some communities, the buttons on one side represent the present and the stitching on the other refers to the past—grief or death, loss or ancestors. But in the Legacy Gallery, the blanket is purposely hung so you can see both sides, you can experience it as an art piece, but you’re also automatically participating in the Indig- enous knowledge practice—whether you know that or not.”

Peter Morin and Rebecca Belmore will perform at 2 p.m. Saturday, February 22, at UVic’s Legacy Art Gallery Downtown, 630 Yates Street. Adasla: The Movement of Hands continues to April 25 at Legacy Downtown.

DO GOOD, FEEL GOOD
Students learn first-hand how helping others changes lives—theirs included
BY KIM WESTAD
At the end of the Fall semester, Lara Lauzon’s office looked like that of many a hard-working professor—jammed bookshelves, thank-you cards on the window sill and final exams stacked in piles. And then there were the boxes of food.

These are not so typical, but the tins of soup, jars of peanut butter, crackers and other non-perishables are evidence of students having taken the lesson of “giving back”—a key component in a unique course taught by Lauzon—to heart.

All the food was donated by Lau- zon’s students during December’s final exams—destined for the University of Victoria’s Food Bank. There, from a small room tucked in the basement of the SBC, students in need can count on finding the basics to feed themselves. This holiday giving is in addition to the Community Legacy volunteer projects students did as part of course work in EPHE 142, “Personal Health, Wellness and Potential,” a first-year course in the School of Exercise Science, Physical Education and Health, where Lauzon is a professor.

The course features an element that is a bit out of the comfort zone for many students, but often ends up a life-changer—they must volunteer in the community. The projects must be done in groups—so that students learn to work co-operatively with others, often strangers—who then go out to do good and make a difference.

“Volunteering makes you see the world and fellow humans in a more compassionate way,” says Lauzon, who plans to do further research on the impact the volunteer projects have on the students and the community.

“We do this research because of how helping others, we start living with a little more gratitude and that is a terrific lesson for everyone.”

The project acts as a catalyst for so- cial and community connection, says Lauzon, who has taught the course for 15 years and has seen its popular- ity grow dramatically. A class of 130 usually has dozens more students on the waitlist.

Full story: bit.ly/Lauzon

Photo: UVic Photo Services

UVic at the WSS Food Bank, with student volunteer Laura Lauzon.

PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

Lauzon at the WSS Food Bank, with student volunteer Laura Lauzon.
Bringing Indigenous knowledge to counselling

BY KIM WESTAD

Lindsay Delaronde's plans are as big as they come: she wants to take what she's learning in Canada's first Indigenous master's degree program around the world.

The 29-year-old woman from the Mohawk Nation in Quebec is one of 14 students taking part in the University of Victoria program—the first in the country to offer a master's degree in Indigenous communities counselling, leading to provincial and national certification.

The UVic-led and developed program provides coursework consistent with national counsellor education guidelines and certification requirements for professional counsellors, but is grounded in Indigenous approaches to the world. It will include courses in spirituality and healing, counselling across generations, and instruction on the importance of ceremony, language and communal healing.

Delaronde said she wanted to work with Indigenous communities with Indigenous ways of knowing. She also sees taking that knowledge to people anywhere.

"It is ancient knowledge that influences not only Indigenous people but people around the world," Delaronde explains. "The more knowledge counsellors have of others, the more we can help people of all diversities."

Education professor Anne Williams co-chaired the initial advisory committee that led to the program, along with Dr. Lorna Williams. For years, Williams, the Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Knowledge and Learning, had heard about and seen certified counsellors arrive in Indigenous communities without knowing how to work effectively and respectfully with Aboriginal clients. Williams wanted to change that.

After extensive consultation with faculty, mental health professionals and Indigenous community members, the master's program was developed. It is delivered by the Department of Educational Psychology and Leadership Studies, in partnership with Indigenous Education.

A pilot program saw 19 students graduate with master's degrees in 2011 and 2012. Delaronde is part of a new group that began classes in late January. The three-year program takes place on weekdays, so students don't necessarily have to leave home full-time.

Classes take place mostly in First Peoples House on campus, with field work done in the community as well. A 400-hour practicum is also part of the comprehensive program.

On the first day of classes, the 14 students and Roger John, the academic advisor for the program, sat in a circle around several drums, stones and artifacts.

John, a member of the St'iwm'la Nation, asked students to bring whatever they would like from their homes to share with others. While the majority of students are Indigenous, they are from different Nations, so there's a wide range of practices they learn from each other.

Those differences add another dimension to the program, said Delaronde, whose Mohawk name Katiskatsikiste means "Lasting Flower."

"I have a lot of similarities with people here but also a lot of differences. We can all learn from those." John said the impact of colonialism is felt in the Indigenous community, including poverty and post-traumatic stress disorder. There is also great strength, he said, and counselling psychology is one of the best ways to access those strengths.

Delaronde says combining the positives of both the Indigenous and western worlds is an alliance that can extend to many areas.

"I think there is a resurgence of unity, where people are coming together to recognize that we have a huge amount of knowledge when we work together," she said. "To have it supported in an educational institution and have it then translate into the community—I'm really glad to be a part of that happening."

"The more knowledge counsellors have of others, the more we can help people of all diversities."

—LINDSY DELARONDE

Shared stories shape extraordinary experiences

BY KAITLYN ROSENBERG

When The Ring asked me to cover this year’s Provost’s Diversity Research Forum, I accepted on the condition I could profile the event from the perspective of a student questioning the role of diversity in Canada.

As a middle-class Caucasian female in the last semester of an undergraduate degree, diversity had become a buzzword thrown around in textbooks. Was I actually diverse? And more importantly, did I live in a diverse space where I could practice social responsibility?

Now in its seventh year, the theme of the 2014 diversity forum was Critical Conversations: Arts, Allies and Activism. Like the word diversity, I knew the standard definition of those terms, but I wanted more.

The opening reception was held in First Peoples House. After four years on campus, that was my first time inside. As the ceremonial hall filled with guests, I realized the conference would be a series of first experiences.

Guests were told to hang up their coats and shoes as we’d all just people. UVic Vice-President Academic and Provost Reeta Tremblay spoke about the university constructing “a space for the role of diversity.” Examining ourselves was the first step.

It was difficult to pick just one stand out moment from the night to focus on. The dance of the big button blanket was truly a community occasion, though. Three first nations singers shared their songs as the audience hoped the world’s biggest blanket to the rafters.

And with a shared responsibility to keep the blanket from touching the ground, Peter Morin, the project lead, asked participants to be brave enough to grab the blanket and feel its weight—knowing the blanket was too heavy for most to hold aloft on their own, and too wild a force for one person to control.

While this moment was remarkable, and visually stunning, I was also moved by the sound of thousands of buttons gently jingling against the blanket. It sounded like water churning over rocks.

Denise Chong’s keynote address was a candid conversation touching on multiculturalism, her time working for Pierre Trudeau and her writing career. She asked us all to consider that our first ally is our self—and we need to have a responsibility to choose our own identity.

I felt picking my own identity would be difficult. Instead, I reflected on how I feel was that of the presentations at the reception, all but one, was moved by a female. I wondered if this thought added to my identity, and moreso, shaped my view of diversity? I think yes, but the conference emphasized the importance of not rushing into assessments.

The next day, I attend From the Heart: How Arts, Allies and Activism All Converged in One Unconventional Theatrical Production. Will Weigler and Kristal Cook led a discussion on their reconciliation theatre project aimed at a settler audience.

Through participatory action research, the theatre medium allowed actors and audience members to witness and experience stories of reconciliation. Weigler and Cook discussed art as a means of investigation. I learned that respect for a story must exist before sharing with others and I was overwhelmed with the level of communication our session demonstrated. I know now that diversity hinges on engagement.

I left the conference with a renewed identity—perhaps not greatly different from before, but more carefully defined. I am a settler Canadian. I am a female concerned with gender equality. I am a writer who has the ability to share stories. Like this one.

2014 PROVOST’S DIVERSITY RESEARCH FORUM — A STUDENT PERSPECTIVE

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Co-op students of the year announced

BY JOY POLIQUIN

They may study disparate subjects, but Connor Bildfell, Angus Rittenburg and Ross Prager have something in common: they’ve all been named UVic Co-op Student of the Year by their respective co-op programs.

Connor Bildfell (BCom 2013) is the 2013 Co-op Student of the Year for the Peter B. Gustavson School of Business Co-op and Career Centre. He completed three work terms over the course of his degree, including two as a staff accountant at KPMG LLP, and one as special events and activities coordinator at Corvallis Parks and Recreation in Oregon.

While working at KPMG, Connor was recognized for his exceptional work ethic and team-building initiative. He spent his spare time volunteering for the Immigrant Services Society of BC, where he used his Mandarin to support recently immigrated Chinese families. Throughout his degree, this straight-A student was recognized with more than 12 UVic and external scholarships and awards and made an incredibly positive impression on his peers, colleagues, employers and Co-op and Career staff. Connor is currently enrolled at the UBC Faculty of Law.

Angus Rittenburg (mechanical engineering) is the Co-op Student of the Year for the Engineering Computer Science and Mathematics/Statistics Co-op Program. Eager to embark on a wide range of workplace experiences, Angus has completed six work terms with five separate engineering organizations, where he worked on electric bikes (EKin Technologies in Vancouver, BC), low cost cars for Africa (Mobius Motors in Nairobi, Kenya), rockets (Spirit of Innovation, Canada), electric car batteries (Tesla Motors in Palo Alto, California), and large scale robots (JetArt in Vancouver, BC).

Angus has selected work terms that allow him to contribute to positive change, whether that’s developing cleaner power methods, increasing socio-economic growth or helping deliver a baby. His work experience has led him to focus on a future in healthcare, where he can combine his interests in the clinical, interpersonal and research-related aspects of the discipline.

Finally, Ross spent last summer as a paramedic with the BC Ambulance Service (BCAS) working in both rural and metro centers. He brought patience and humour to the position that saw him do everything from answering emergency calls in Vancouver’s east side to helping deliver a baby. His work experience has led him to focus on a future in healthcare, where he can combine his interests in the clinical, interpersonal and research-related aspects of the discipline.
**TUESDAY, FEB. 11**

- Cafe Scientific Lecture, 8:30 p.m. Ocean Pollution in Canada – A Whole of a Tale. Dr. Peter Ross (Vancouver Aquarium/UVic). This talk will lead the discussion. Reserve seats at 250-721-7040.

- Victoria Natural History Society Lecture, 7:30 p.m. The Dead Keep Speaking. Program Zooligist at the BC Conservation Data Centre. Trapez. 250-479-6662.

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 12**

- Other, 10 a.m. Mindfulness Meditation. And 19/6 March 3 Chapel. Register 250-721-8187.

**SUNDAY, FEB. 16**

- Music, 2 p.m. Symphony presents: Chenyi Zhang/ Mozart/ Tali Kaler, conductor. UVic Centre Fanfare Auditorium. Tickets 515-555, 250-721-6410.

**TUESDAY, FEB. 18**


- Lecture/Seminar, 3 p.m. What Controls Atmospheric CO2 Levels on Long-Term Scale? Dr. Lawrence Coogan (UVic). Wright Centre A003. 250-721-8801.

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 19**


**THURSDAY, FEB. 20**

- Studies in Religion & Society Lecture, 4:30 p.m. Religious Laws: Do We Need “You Shall”? Robert Gibbs, Director of the Juneau Humanities Institute, Prof of Philosophy, Univ of Toronto. Strong C122. 250-721-6415.

**FRIDAY, FEB. 21**

- Lecture/Seminar, 2:45 p.m. Art and Surfacing Control Barrage at the Strait of Georgia. Ivan Gowan Institute of Ocean Sciences & UVic. UVic Bldg., 250-721-7327.

**SATURDAY, FEB. 22**


**SUNDAY, FEB. 23**

- Other, 10 a.m. Centering Meditation: Henri Lecak, United Chaplain, MultiFaith Services, Justice, Equality-Manyard, Contemplative Society. Chapel. Register: chaplain@uvic.ca.

**MONDAY, FEB. 24**

- Victoria Natural History Society Lecture, 7:30 p.m. From Boat to Beach: Using Drift Cards to Improve Our Knowledge of Ocean Currents and Oil Spill Trajectories. Trapez. 250-479-4662.

**TUESDAY, FEB. 25**


**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 26**

- Lecture/Seminar, 8 p.m. Visiting Artists Series. Liz Mayor, One of Canada’s most important contemporary sculptors, May Mayor, winner of the Audain Prize and the Governor General’s Award. UVic Arts A003. 250-721-8801.

**THURSDAY, FEB. 27**

- Lecture/Seminar, 9:30 a.m. Environmentalism and the Arts, and Mysteries Conference. 2:15 p.m. Take The Lead Conference. 2:30 p.m. Peter Ross, director of the Audain Prize and the Governor General’s Award. UVic Arts A003. 250-721-8801.

**FRIDAY, FEB. 28**

- Conference, 10 a.m. Medieval Sources and Mysteries. To March. 1:30 p.m. Kooswol M,N, Albert (U of Virginia). Strong C122. 250-721-7327.


**MONDAY, MARCH 3**

- Other, 12:30 p.m. Medieval Minutes. A noon to 1 p.m. meeting of very short and very serious performances performed around the round table in the Multipurpose Room. Tea Room (CentreMcPherson Library 250-721-7767.

**TUESDAY, MARCH 4**

- School of Exercise Science, Physical Health and Health Education Lecture, 7 p.m. To be determined. The latest trends and exercise research for improving your health. McKinnon 150. 250-721-8514.


**THURSDAY, MARCH 6**

- Other, 1:30 p.m. IDEAFAST Research Fair. Join us in celebrating all of the outstanding research produced by the James Carah Undergraduate Research Awards scholars. Register for the event at: Uvic/IDEAT/urc/14. SUS, Michele Pelip Room & Upper lounge. 250-721-7812.


**FRIDAY, MARCH 7**

- School of Exercise Science, Physical Health and Health Education Lecture, 7 p.m. To be determined. The latest trends and exercise research for improving your health. McKinnon 150. 250-721-8514.

By Julia Bobak

The exchange of ideas at major conferences is a chief driving force of scientific progress. Conferences and symposiums provide opportunities to share one’s work with the global scientific community, to learn about and be inspired by emerging research and, perhaps most importantly, to network with other scientists.

On Jan. 30, the UVic Department of Chemistry hosted the Chemical Institute of Canada’s 2014 Vancouver Island Section Student Symposium—a regional symposium offering a scalding day in the life of students from UVic, Vancouver Island University and Camosun. Each student presented a talk or poster on a subject they were passionate about. The presentations included details on how to transfer to other universities, research career opportunities, why science is important, and many other topics.

“I think this year’s symposium was really successful,” said event coordinator, UVic student Jade Dietz. “We had about 50 students, staff and members of the public turn up to hear the presentations and we had a lot of positive feedback from everyone who attended.”

Like Peters, Dietz is a keen proponent of her department’s transition to paperless office. “It’s really exciting to get that piece of paper in the mail,” she said. “Other correspondences and incoming questions are handled by email. Some students still call us, but it’s really the parents who are more likely to pick up the phone.” So a good portion of the day is focused on her inbox.

“We receive a lot of questions by email. We have to answer as if it’s the very first time we’ve heard that question, even if it’s the 15th time that week. And this is what we do. We all know that it’s ‘When will I know if I’ve been admitted?’”

“You have to have empathy,” Peters adds. “Even if a student’s GPA is not high enough, ‘we never really tell anyone no’. We always give them advice, to keep the door open.” This includes details on how to transfer to UVic after one year in college.

By Tara Sharpe

JAMIE CASSELS UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARDS FAIR

MARCH 5, 2014 | 11:30–3:00 p.m. | SUB

Join us in celebrating the outstanding research produced by UVic’s undergraduate students. Cassels Undergraduate Research Awards scholars.

Student Union Building in the Mikiele-Fujio room and Upper Lounge area.

March 5th, 2014 at 11:30 a.m.

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