SOUTHAM LECTURE

Athletic Teams and Olympic Dreams

There’s nothing simple about how we see athletes. “We even demand all of them to be role models, as though athleticism is itself imbued with some noble purpose,” explains noted sports writer and veteran journalist Tom Hawthorn. Hawthorn, 2014 Southam Lecturer for the Department of Writing, will discuss our love/hate relationship with athletes in a free public lecture at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 29, in UVic’s Max Bell Centre, room 102. The report voluminously summarizes much of what was discussed, responds to some of the concerns raised and seizes on many of the excellent ideas that emerged from the conversations.

LEADERSHIP STUDIES RESEARCH

Sedins bring a rare style of leadership to hockey games

BY MITCH WRIGHT

University of Victoria academic Dr. Carolyn Crippen scored a coup Vancouver hockey writers dream of—a lengthy, exclusive interview with NHL superstars Henrik and Daniel Sedin.

Crippen, an associate professor in the Faculty of Education, conducted the fall 2011 interview as part of a three-year case study of the leadership attributes of the twins. The results are in a paper published recently in the leading online physical and health education periodical, PHIcse.

A leadership studies expert, Crippen was casually watching a Vancouver Canucks game on TV in 2009 when her interest was piqued by the two player’s style of play. Crippen’s research focuses on a philosophy known as servant-leadership, which is effectively the pinnacle for leaders to aspire toward, because it focuses on achieving a greater good by serving the needs of followers above all else. She says the Sedins stood out for their civil, respectful approach to their teammates, coaches, opponents and officials.

Their red hair and beards caught my eye, but then I started paying attention to their behaviour and quickly noticed these two players demonstrated a different form of on-ice behaviour—a more civil, respectful, caring approach, she says. “The area of servant-leadership seemed at first glance to have possible connections.”

Her subsequent case study confirmed her theory that the Swedish-born stars exemplify attributes that make them ideal role models for both young athletes and adults.

“I was initially a skeptic of the philosophy existing in professional hockey, but the evidence is overwhelming that both Daniel and Henrik Sedin demonstrate the core principles that define servant-leadership,” says Crippen.

SEE SEDINS P.3

PASSION FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

TUHOSTORSH RESEARCH AWARDS

Nominations open for Craigdarrochs

Until Feb. 3, 2014, you can nominate an extraordinary scientist, artist or scholar for one of UVic’s Craigdarroch Research Awards. Nominations are welcome in four categories: career achievement, research excellence, artistic expression and knowledge mobilization. For eligibility criteria and a nomination package visit www.uvic.ca/ cspispenshonwards or contact Brad Buie at awardfacs@uvic.ca.

ENGAGING THE CAMPUS

Cassels reports on Campus Conversations

After conducting a series of more than 50 meetings across campus, UVic President Jamie Cassels is sharing what he heard as well as his resulting thoughts and reflections in a brief report, available at bit.ly/campus-cone. The report

Research Awards Show the Sensitive Side of Grizzly Bears

BY VALERIE SHORE

British Columbia’s winner of the world’s oldest and most prestigious student scholars for 2014 is a 21-year-old biochemistry student from the University of Victoria. Dylan Collins will head to Britain’s famed University of Oxford next fall as a Rhodes Scholar. The award—which supports outstanding all-round students from around the world—is worth more than $100,000 and covers all travel, living and study expenses at Oxford.

“We’re extremely proud of Dylan and his achievement,” says UVic President Jamie Cassels. “He’s an outstanding student who has pushed himself in the classroom, the lab, the community and the workplace to get a well-rounded perspective and hands-on experience in his chosen field of study. His determination to make a difference in the world is remarkable.”

Oxford is the oldest university in the English-speaking world. Collins will join over 20,000 students from more than 140 countries at the university, which is renowned for its rigorous education and vibrant cultural and community life.

“I’m very excited,” says Collins, who hails from Tlell, a tiny village on the north-east coast of Haida Gwaii. But he admits that attending Oxford wasn’t really on his radar until his research interests started to gel at UVic.

“When I discovered biochemistry, I knew I wanted to study this. I fell into this passion for public health,” he says. “Once I started thinking about grad school, I looked around for the top people in the field who would be the best mentors possible. That led me to Oxford.”

Collins will graduate from UVic in June 2014 with an honours BSc in biochemistry. But his helping academic résumé spans much more than the pure sciences.

“I went into biochemistry because I was interested in medicine and health,” he says. “But I quickly realized that if I want to make big changes in terms of helping people, then I’d need to shift farther toward the social determinants of health.”

Funded during his UVic studies by a Loran Scholarship, he completed a series of internships that exposed him to many different aspects of health care.

SEE RHODES P.7

RHOSES SCHOLAR

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For threeenicational De-S-Yourself rocket-design competition?

Winning it, of course.

In the summer of 2013, second- and third-year BEng students Michael Pearson, Simon Moffatt and Henry Evans—three Stratodyne team—a 3D printable rocket engine and won first place in an international competition open to anyone and everyone, competing against no-nonsense, school-based teams and professional engineers alike.

The Silicon Valley non-profit Open Space University created the DIY rocket competition to promote innovation and cost effectiveness in small payload delivery into space, and explore the possibilities of 3D printing for the space industry. Pearson stumbled across the competition online and entered fellow UVic AERO team members Moffatt and Evans to team up with him.

"Space is only about 100 km straight up from here, so it's close," says Pearson. "But the problem is, once you get there, a rocket will just fall straight back down to the ground it's not propelled fast enough. We needed to develop a small engine that would propel a rocket 28,000 km per hour at those altitudes to stay in orbit." It took four months for the team to put together the design, post it online, and have it printed by New York City-based sponsor company Shapeways.com. The company specializes in metal 3D printing. The team completed the entire project online.

"One of the coolest things about the competition was that it was open to anyone in the world. There was an elementary school team that came up with a really cool design, and there were professional engineers competing as well," said Moffatt.

Out of 12 teams competing, the UVic team took first prize, which included $5,000, an offer for a free business-development consultation, and a tour of the NASA research centre in Mountainview, Ca.

The students plan to use their prize money to travel to Silicon Valley to meet the group running the tournament and tour the NASA facility. For these three students who love aerospace, it's an opportunity they wouldn't dream of passing up.

Full story online: bit.ly/rocket-sci
BY KRISTA BOEMERT

How do you engage millennials in philanthropy using technology? That is the question Dr. Rebecca Grant posed to Gustavson B.COM students in her fall term class, the Internet and the Executive. Students were tasked with finding a digital strategy for local charity United Way of Greater Victoria (UWGV) to engage a younger donor base.

The class presented their solutions at a trade show attended by representatives from United Way and members of the local business community. The winning team comprised of Talina Barasar, Shantelle Bilach, Denis Luchyshyn and Daniel Thiry paired philanthropic lessons with the power of mobile gaming.

“We wanted to create interaction instead of just providing content,” Thiry says of his team’s decision to develop a game to engage potential donors. “In class, we learned that people spend most of their time on their mobile devices having ‘me time,’ which includes seeking relaxation or entertainment through things like gaming. Reaching people during this time seemed like the most promising way to engage with them,” adds teammember Bilach.

The students brainstormed about possible game scenarios and settled on a city model where the player experiences different campaigns (or game levels) that showcase social improvement initiatives United Way supports. The game simultaneously educates the player about the important work the charity does for the community while providing an entertaining context in which to experience the lessons.

SEDINS CONTINUED FROM P1

Through deliberate and intense observations of the Sedins during games and in media coverage over the course of three years, culminating with a 75-minute interview with the twins, Crippen evaluated 21 separate dimensions of servant-leadership. He found the Sedins embody all 21 almost perfectly.

“‘The game is based on a free- mium model,’” Crippen explains, “‘where the user gets it for free and can make in-game purchases to progress their play. The purchased content helps the player move through the game easier, helping them unlock new game levels.’

There is also a social media component with the game app that allows players to track their donations, as well as compare their game scores with others. ‘Social networking will increase word- of-mouth about the game and will help increase the number of users,’ Bilach says.

“The competition between players keeps them engaged,” Luchyshyn adds. “They want to get to that next level before anyone else, increase their score, and share it online.”

But the competition isn’t just limited to twosomethings. “The beauty of the game is that it appeals to a much broader audience than just millennials,” says Barasar. “It’s something the whole family can play and get involved in.”

In addition to purchasing game enhancements, the player can set up a monthly donation, charged to their phone bill, to support the UWGV in funding the projects showcased. The amount ismillennial-friendly—as low as one dollar a month—with the option to increase it when they are economically in a position to do so.

And has the project changed the students’ attitudes towards UWGV? “Labarknow United Way’s logo, but I wasn’t aware of what they did,” Barasar says. “Now that I know how they improve our community, we’re going to be hooked.”

And if the team’s game app completes development, you will be too.

Teaching awards highlight Alumni Week, Feb. 2-8

Alumni Week—honouring the social, economic and artistic impact of UVic graduates—runs from Feb. 2-8 with more than a dozen special events on campus and at alumni branches across Canada and in Asia.

A luncheon gathering of alumni who work at UVic kicks off the week’s events on campus on Feb. 5. The Distinguished Alumni Awards on Feb. 5 will honour 12 outstanding graduates, and the Teaching Awards Celebration on Feb 6 will spotlight the 2014 recipients of the Alumni Awards for Excellence in Teaching and the Andy Farquharson Awards for Excellence in Graduate Student Teaching.

The alumni teaching awards, in two categories, will be presented to three recipients.

Dr. Mark Colgate (Gustavson School of Business) and Assistant Teaching Professor Jing-Yoon Sun (Child and Youth Care) receive the Harry Hickman teaching award for regular faculty members, including senior instructors, artists-in-residence and librarians.

Dr. Kristen Semmens (History) will receive the Gilian Sherwin teaching award for sessional lecturers, lab instructors and senior lab instructors.

The selection committee, chaired by Vice-President Academic and Provost Berta Tremblay, evaluates nominees based on evidence of outstanding teaching methods and educational leadership. The committee considers the nominee’s performance in such areas as course design, innovation and mentorship of students.

Recipientsget a cash prize of $2,000 and their photos will be permanently displayed in the McPherson Library. There have now been 51 recip-"ents since the alumni association introduced the first campus-wide teaching award program in 1989.

Graduate students Jason Sieffken (mathematics and statistics), Jamie Kemp (history in art) and Michael Lukas (English) will receive the Farquharson award, organized by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and the Learning and Teaching Centre.

The Distinguished Alumni Awards presentation at the Conrad and Grand Pacific, will feature award recipients selected by faculties, divisions, and outside this year’s honorees are: Eric Akins (journalist, author and chef), Roderick Allen (assis- tant deputy minister of education), Brian Butler (CEO, Butler Brothers Supplies); Marilyn Copes (execu- tive director, Island Health); Mary Montgomery (environmentalist); David Naysmith (medical hu- manitarian); Qimin You (CEO, Ustar Biotechnologies Hangzhou); Chris Reid (executive chair, Hydrascan); Hyunya Ross (curator/community activist); Michael J. Whitfield (stage lighting designer); Evan Wood (investigator, intrusive drug use prevention/ treatment); and Jennifer Zalmer (executive VP, Canada Health Infoway).

Alumni Week is supported by the UVic Alumni Association and organ- ized by the Alumni Relations office.

Full event list and grand prize draw information: alumni.uvic.ca

Salary interest arbitration decision reached

Arbitrator Colin Taylor released his decision on Nov. 26 in the arbitration matter between the University of Victoria and the UVic Faculty Association. The award covers the period July 1, 2012—June 30, 2014. For each year, Mr. Taylor awarded faculty members and librarians a 2 per cent salary increase as well as a lump sum payment of $1,000. The lump sum payment is payable to all faculty members and librarians based on their appointees as of July 1, 2012 and July 1, 2013. The first adjustments payments were made on Dec. 13, 2013, and the remaining payroll adjustments will occur on Jan. 15, Jan. 31 and Feb. 15 of this year. Full information about the arbitration award is available at bit.ly/4a8t8p

New site for UVic Plant Sale

The UVic Plant Sale is moving outdoors. The new location will be in parking lot 6, adjacent to Finney Gardens. This year’s sale, on Sunday, May 4, will offer a specialized selection of plants and will include tours of the garden, showcasing its collection of rhododendrons in bloom. Since 1978 the volunteer-led Finney Garden Friends have organized a fundraising sale in McGinn Gym. The sale supports ongoing development of Finney Gardens. Known for its rhododendrons, the gardens also feature more than 4,000 varieties of trees and shrubs, occupying 2.6 hectares on the southwest corner of campus. The gardens are open year-round and a donation center for the plant sale, contact Joy Davis at 250-472-5474 or joydavis@uvic.ca.

Campus Bike Centre opens

The new indoor Campus Bike Centre opened on Nov. 19, with a briefstorm of weather—including the unusual appearance of light hail—serving to underscore the value of shelter from the elements for cyclists as they arrive on campus.

The totally enclosed facility, nestled on the west side of the University Centre parking lot, offers over 210 bicycle parking spots, as well as equipment lockers. SPOKES, a volunteer-run bike rental and repair service, has relocated to its newly expanded space inside the bike centre. Full story: bit.ly/2prC

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The lasting value of "sense of place" 

BY MITCH WRIGHT

People often have a place that holds special meaning for them. Whether it’s somewhere childhood memories were made or a serene spot that soothes their soul, places can have a profound impact on people’s lives.

For former Lieutenant Governor, politician and tireless advocate for First Nations rights Iona Campagnolo, memories of talking with other young-sters at a North Pacific Cannery dock on the Skeena Slough in northwestern BC have stayed with her. It was a formative experience that played a recurring role throughout her life and demonstrates how powerful “sense of place” can be.

UVic doctoral candidate Nick Stagner is researching the notion of “sense of place” and how formative places become transformative places, such as that cannery dock for Campagnolo.

Stagner says with increasing amounts of time spent online and in front of monitors, people are losing their sense of connection to the ecological systems that are life sustaining, both in the physical and psychological senses. His environmental education research investigates how learning that occurs within childhood places has lasting effects on our lives.

“There’s been little investigation into the value of important places, or even the memory of them, and the impact of the experiences we connect to significant places have throughout our lives,” says Stagner. “Our lives are rooted in place, whether we acknowledge it or not. I’m interested in how those places foster emotional, physical, spiritual, and ecological connectedness and how that contributes to shaping our lives.”

Stagner enlisted the help of four prominent British Columbians—Campagnolo, Tsartlip First Nation Elder and UVic Elders in Residence May Sam, National Geographic Explorer-in-Residence Wade Davis, and Sharktrust organization initiative founder Claudia Li—who were filmed explaining their own transformative places.

Full Ring story: bit.ly/4-transform

In this engineering course, people skills are a design solution

BY MITCH WRIGHT

Aspiring engineers at UVic are getting something most of their peers across Canada are missing: hands-on experience from real-world professionals in their first year of post-secondary education.

The ENGR 110 Design and Communication course is mandatory for all 400-plus first-year engineering students, and focuses on introducing principles of design engineering through practical projects with an emphasis on teamwork. Through a series of labs and lectures, some of which are instructed by community and corporate partners, students get an opportunity that many Canadian universities don’t offer until third or even fourth-year courses.

Mechanical engineering professor Dr. Peter Wild has one of Acadia Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) Chairs in Design Engineering, and part of his focus has been “getting to the fun stuff earlier,” he says. “ENGR 110 presents a glimpse of some of the important elements of engineering practice that will not be apparent from other more technically focused courses,” Wild says.

The local arm of Schneider Electric is among the key corporate partners, with company rep Jordan Duggan volunteering his time to present lectures and labs for the last few years. With the course becoming mandatory this year, he’s upped his involvement and presented two lectures as well as 14 two-hour labs to include all incoming students.

Duggan’s goal is to teach about teamwork dynamics and other so-called “soft skills” that are absolutely crucial to success after graduation.

In the lecture, we talk about forming, storming, norming and performing—the four stages you go through with team-building,” Duggan says. “We’re trying to get students to understand more to it than just getting together and doing a project. They’ve got to learn to work with all sorts of different people who have all different ideas.”

Their task in the lab is spaghetti-stick tower construction, a project more often in the realm of elementary school classes, but it’s about showing their engineering prowess than about the dynamics of the teams, formed as groups of five or six.

“It’s a lot more than the ideal number, but that’s the point. We want them to experience the challenges of teamwork and trying to make that work,” says Dagg. “The more students that come out with that type of experi- ence, they’ll have a few more tools to be able to work with.”

Students also get a chance to have real-world impact through a project with the CRID, which tasked students to come up with ideas to improve cycling infrastructure and accessibility. The top 15 suggestions were showcased in December as students pitched their plans to a panel of judges for the chance to win prizes and have their idea shared with local government professionals and decision makers.

“There’s no shortage of ways to make cycling easier, safer and more enjoyable,” says Wild. “Our goal in collaborating with the CRID was to help generate fresh ideas, make people aware of the various challenges and solutions for cycling in our community, and offer these first-year students an applied-learning opportunity early in their engineering education.”

With this kind of fun, experiential learning, the hope is to sustain student interest in engineering through a busy and academically challenging first-year program. Other partners include Viking Air, Starfish Medical and Bic Canada.

Full Ring story: bit.ly/5-solution
Though polar bears have become symbolic as a species put at risk by climate change, UVic research shows why the grizzly bear may be a better indicator of BC’s ecological health. **STORY BY KIM WESTAD**

A grizzly bear takes a dip in a glacier-fed pool. 
PHOTO: CHRIS DARIMONT

They inspire awe, fear, and are viewed as an international symbol of the Canadian wilderness. But who’d have thought that grizzly bears, those great lumbering creatures with the teddy bear faces and claws as long as human fingers, were also at the heart of the current version of the canary in the coalmine? For all their size—it’s not unusual for a female grizzly to weigh 1000 pounds or rise to eight feet when standing on its hind legs—grizzlies are among the most sensitive animals in the world. They are more sensitive to changes in their environment, such as food, development or human encroachment, than many other much smaller species.

Their numbers have been decimated over the last century. At one time, you could have walked grizzly bear trails from coastal Alaska down to northern Mexico, stepping at hundreds of salmon streams along the way. These days, explains UVic researcher and geography professor Chris Darimont, the bear trails stop in Howse Sound, north of Vancouver, and the salmon runs have become mere ghosts of their former selves in Oregon and California.

A species at risk
More than half of Canada’s grizzly bears live in BC—about 15,000. Alberta has an estimated 790. The rest—about 10,000—are in the Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut. Grizzlies are listed by both the provincial and territorial governments as being of special concern. Their numbers are threatened by a variety of factors, most caused by humans, say researchers. Unsustainable hunting, poaching, recreational and industrial development, fisheries management policies that reduce the number of salmon available for grizzlies as a food source—all affect grizzly bear populations.

Reducing impacts requires a change in priorities in environmental management, says Darimont, and a shift away from viewing grizzlies as big game trophies to seeing them as an essential part of the environmental landscape. If grizzlies are healthy, the environment is healthy, researchers say. The reverse, unfortunately, is also true.

A trophy species, but for whom?
Minnesota Wild player Clayton Stoner ended up with more publicity for his grizzly bear hunting than his hockey playing this fall. A photo of the NHL defenceman holding a severe grizzly head went viral, focusing public attention on the contentious issue of trophy hunting. The grizzly, known to locals as Cheeky, was shot in the Great Bear Rainforest, on BC’s north central coast. Stoner had one of the limited-entry licenses given out by the province each year to hunters who can then kill bears in designated areas. Hunters can use high-powered rifles equipped with powerful scopes. They usually want the heads, coat and paws of the animal, and leave the meat and carcasses behind.

Province-wide, tourism revenues from the hunting, guiding and charter aircraft involved are estimated at $830 million a year. The province says that the number of hunts allowed is based on sustainable limits, as determined by an independent panel of grizzly bear scientists. Harvest levels vary throughout the province, depending on the number of bears in each area, the estimated productivity of the bears and the known number of mortalities.

But joint research from UVic, Simon Fraser University and the University of British Columbia published this fall in the scientific journal *PLoS ONE* found that grizzlies were over-hunted in half the areas where the province permitted hunting, with large discrepancies between the upper limit to kills set by the provincial government and the number of bears actually killed. Almost all were associated with trophy hunting, says Darimont, the study’s co-author and the Raincoast Conservation Foundation science director. The study was based on a 10-year audit of the province’s own numbers. Of particular concern was the finding that of the 3,900 grizzlies killed during the study period, more than 1200 were females—the “reproductive powerhouses of populations,” says Darimont.

A delicate reproductive cycle
Hunters are not required to target males, but are encouraged to because of the challenges in grizzly reproduction. Female grizzly bears don’t produce their first litter until they are about five or six years old. Delayed sexual maturity, together with a three- to more- year interval between litters, results in a low reproductive rate. Bears usually live between 25 to 30 years.

Research has also found that adequate food sources for grizzlies play a large role in reproduction. When a female grizzly becomes pregnant, the development of the embryo temporarily stops for several months, a process called “delayed implantation.” If a female bear is unable to gain enough weight during the summer and fall before hibernation, she misses carrying because of the lack of nutrients and calorie intake. If the female finds enough food and is healthy enough to hibernate—grizzlies can gain two pounds a day and sometimes eat 90 pounds of food a day during the warmer months—she will give birth in the den in January or February to one to four cubs, usually two. These two, harmless, blind and toothless cubs weigh about one pound. The mother nurses her cubs in the den until they all come out in late April or May.

Food supply, particularly salmon, is therefore crucial for grizzly bear reproduction, one of the findings of another study published this fall in *PLoS ONE* co-authored by UVic researchers, including Darimont.

Salmon: the centre of the food web
The fall salmon season provides the nutrient-rich food the bears need before hibernation. Grizzly bears with access to salmon have higher population density, body size and litter size, says the study. The researchers from UVic, the University of Calgary and the Rain-coast Conservation Foundation also found that grizzlies with reduced access to salmon were more stressed, which could have other negative long-term health effects. The findings came after an exhaustive dress of hair samples of grizzlies from the 30,000-km² Herschel Territory on BC’s central coast. Researchers used hair strands from the huge animals to measure their cortisol, a stress hormone. Using molecular markers, they could also tell how rich in salmon a bear’s diet was and to which individual bear the hair belonged. The researchers tempted grizzlies to barbecued-wire hair snags by dousing fermented fish oil in a pile surrounded by barbed wire. The bears stay for a while and smell around, often leaving a few tufts of hair behind.

The study shows the importance of resource management that keeps all users in the equation. The odds are stacked against grizzlies, says a growing body of work. Fisheries, primarily the commercial sector that target the salmon species favoured by bears, captures salmon on route to spawning grounds before they even become available to grizzlies.

Darimont’s previous work, published in *Plat.Biology*, showed how such intense competition by fisheries can suppress bear densities. The new hormone research reveals the probable mechanism: birth rates and litter sizes are likely reduced by the stress response from low salmon.

When salmon are plentiful, however, it’s more than the bears that benefit. UVic’s Tom Reimchen (Biolo-gy) first discovered how bears eat the nutrient-rich brains and eggs, casting aside the remainder of the fish to feed other animals and fertilizing the forest.

Mapping the contact zone
Examining ways that grizzlies and human activities can co-exist is a big part of Tsalalyn Nelson’s work. The UVic geography professor and her students recently worked with the Foothills Research Institute, publishing research in *PLoS ONE* about the impacts of habitat conditions and human disturbance on the long-term stress and health of grizzly bears in northern Alberta.

Researchers can’t ask a grizzly why it prefers one patch of berries over another, or how a bear adapts in for-mer wilderness areas that are logged, mined or used for recreation. But the animal’s travel patterns—collected via satellite collars—speak volumes. For example, mapping found that female grizzlies spend more time than male bears near roads. That puts them at a higher risk of human-caused mortality, either from poaching or be-ing struck by vehicles. And losing more females from the grizzly population is a serious conservation concern.

Another model: coexistence in nature
Where do researchers and society move from here? Darimont and others are strong advocates of changing how society views grizzlies. Rather than trophies for a few, they could provide education and a conserva-tion economy for many. Among several First Nations partners, he works with the Kitasoo/Xai’xais Nation on BC’s central coast and their Spirit Bear Lodge and Spirit Bear Research Foundation to monitor the grizzly and white bears. Other partners include the Hakai Beach Institute, funded by the Tula Foundation, who support research programs that address the complex nature of conserving, managing and restoring the central coasts unique marine and terrestrial ecosystems.

“Collectively, we envision a near future in which the extractive industries that threaten bears in their territory—forestry, over-fishing, trophy hunt-ing—are increasingly substituted with bear eco-tourism,” says Darimont.

Imagining, say researchers, a time when Cheeky, the five-year-old bear shot last year, would still be alive, providing education and benefit to the world’s another 20 years.

“What do we are doing to bears is we are ultimately doing to ourselves,” Darimont says. “To think that humans will somehow evade the effects of eco-logical damage we bring to the world is to ignore reality.”

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James Provan

Dr. James (Jim) W. Provan passed away on November 15th, 2013 at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Victoria. Provan was a beloved academic leader, mentor, researcher, writer and activist who touched the lives of many in the University of Victoria (UVic) community.

Provan was an internationally known scholar on continuum mechanics and fatigue and on the statistical fatigue reliability of mechanical components. As an academic leader, he made paramount contributions to the profession and the institution involved, serving as the Chair of the International Association for Structural Safety and Reliability, Director of the Canadian Association for Internship Program, Associate Dean Academic for the Faculty of Engineering at UVic, Dean of Engineering at UVic, and Warden of Camp 23 of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of British Columbia, to name a few.

The Faculty of Engineering, the many people whose lives he touched, and his profession are all made poorer by his passing. He will be missed.

James Haddow

Another colleague and friend to many in engineering, Dr. James (Jim) B. Haddow passed away January 3 at Parkinson Intensive Care due to complications of cancer. Dr. Haddow received his BSc in Mechanical Engineering from University of St. Andrews in 1951, MSc in Civil Engineering from University of Alberta in 1958, and PhD in Mechanical Engineering from University of Manchester in 1962. Haddow started his academic career at University of Alberta in 1955, reaching professor in 2006. He received his BSc in chemical engineering from Strathclyde University Glasgow, Scotland and started his academic career at McGill back in 1952.

Haddow was an internationally known scholar on continuum mechanics and fatigue and on the statistical fatigue reliability of mechanical components. As an academic leader, he made paramount contributions to the profession and the institution involved, serving as the Chair of the International Association for Structural Safety and Reliability, Director of the Canadian Association for Internship Program, Associate Dean Academic for the Faculty of Engineering at UVic, Dean of Engineering at UVic, and Warden of Camp 23 of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of British Columbia, to name a few.

The Faculty of Engineering, the many people whose lives he touched, and his profession are all made poorer by his passing. He will be missed.

Every year, more than 200 million people in tropical and subtropical regions of the world are infected with malaria and more than 600,000 die from it—mostly children.

We know a lot about malaria, including what causes it—a parasite, single-cell microbe spread by mosquitoes—but how did this parasite evolve? And what can we learn from this evolutionary trait?

What scientists have discovered so far may surprise you.

Find out more on Jan. 30 when Dr. Patrick Keeling from the University of British Columbia’s Department of Botany, presents the 2013-14 Royal Society of Canada Governor General Lecture at the University of Victoria. Keeling is considered one of Canada’s most groundbreaking micro-biologists. His research combines exploration of natural diversity with molecular biology and genomics to understand fundamental processes such as metabolism, symbiosis and gene exchange.

His lecture, “From Coral Reefs to Malaria: An Evolutionary Perspective of Intracellular Parasites,” will describe a convoluted evolutionary history peppered with odd characters, plot twists and exotic scenes.

“Our recent discovery that the malaria parasite contains a chloroplast raises an intriguing question,” says Keeling. “Why would a parasite that develops in the dark within animal cells need a [cell structure] used for photosynthesis by plants and algae?”

The search for answers leads to—of all places—coral reefs.

“This whole project is a good illustration of what basic research is important,” says Keeling. “We never could have predicted any of this in a million years of guessing, but because of some good old-fashioned, curiosity-driven exploration of coral reef microbes, a whole new way of looking at the evolution of malaria has emerged.”

The Governor General Lecture takes place at 7 p.m. in room 105, Hickman Building, Info: ceremony@uvic.ca

Jan. 29–30: Critical conversations

The norm at diversity conference

How does research benefit the community? How do we become allies in the movement for social justice? The 2014 Provost’s Diversity Research Forum: Arts, Allies and Activism, takes on these and other questions on Wednesday, Jan. 29 and Thursday, Jan. 30 at the University of Victoria. This annual conference brings together faculty, staff, students and community members to discuss groundbreaking research and engage in critical conversations on a wide range of equity and diversity topics, from gender and race to faith, sexuality and Indigenous approaches to the arts.

“This forum recognizes UVic scholars who do diverse research, and provides a space to share that research with our community,” says Grace Wong Stubington, conference chair and adviser to the provost on equity and diversity. “Every voice is welcome, and we strive to create a safe space where people can talk about issues that are often difficult to discuss.”

The 2014 program features keynote speakers Denise Chong and Yvonne Brown. Chong is an internationally-published and award winning writer, best known for The Concubines’ Children. She was named in 2013 as an Officer of the Order of Canada “for her contributions to Canadian culture as a writer, and for her civic engagement in social causes, notably in support of human rights and the arts.”

Denise Chong’s presentation will be part of the opening reception at First Peoples House on Wednesday, Jan. 29 (4–7 p.m.), which will also feature a special performance—the Dance of the Big Button Blanket—and readings by winners of the Diversity Writing and Spoken Word contests.

Keynote speaker Yvonne Brown, a retired public school teacher, university lecturer, researcher, writer and social justice advocate, will speak on Thursday, Jan. 30 at 11:15 a.m. in the Student Union Building. Brown’s research, writing and workshops focus on how the legacies of the transatlantic slave trade and plantation slavery on the continent of Africa and in its Diasporas are remembered in various struggles for citizenship.

Concurrent sessions on January 30 include From the Heart: How Arts, Allies and Activism All Converged in One Unconventional Theatre Production; First OUT: Introducing—Positive Space Network Workshop 2.0; and Racial, Religious and Other Forms of Otherness at UVic and Beyond.

The closing plenary, A Conversation with Indigenous Artists, will showcase the work of artists Lindsay Delaronde, Master Carver Charles El-Delaronde, Master Carver Charles El-Delaronde, First OUT: Introducing—Positive Space Network Workshop 2.0; and Racial, Religious and Other Forms of Otherness at UVic and Beyond.”

The conference is free of charge but pre-registration is required and space is limited. Everyone is welcome: faculty, staff, students and community members. More info: www.uvic.ca/diversityforum. Follow us on Twitter @diversityforum and on Facebook: uvicdiversityforum.
He worked in Kenya with the Foundation for Sustainable Development to increase the capacity of health care services in a rural region. Seeing street youths habitually stuff glue to ward off hunger pains left an indelible impression. "Many foreigners seem to easily discount these children, seeing them through the lens of addiction," he says. "I was beginning to understand that this was not a behaviour of leisure, misjudgement or malicious intent, but of survival perpetuated by poverty, marginalization, stigma and disease."

Working with the BC Centre for Disease Control, he was part of a team that developed a province-wide program to reduce injury and deaths from overdoses of opioid drugs—such as morphine and heroin—using an "antidote" drug called naloxone.

"This program was one of the first 18 people on Vancouver's downtown east side to receive naloxone training," says Wood. "All of us are really grateful for it."

"Overdose is the leading cause of death in young people between 15 and 34 in Canada," he continues. "We need to continue to work on harm reduction."

Wood says that policy translate into practice was a huge victory for the people involved. "I'm committed to exploring how the interactions between substance use, social determinants, and the broader context of poverty, colonization, culture and trauma."

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It was an incredible powerful and sold me on this field of study."

This win for Collins is completing his honours thesis in a BC Cancer Agency lab on a project that involves the chemical modifications of genos or gene-associated proteins. "This field has huge implications for diseases such as cancer," he says.

For the last year, he’s been working with UVic’s Centre for Aboriginal Health Research (CAHR) and a Haida Gwaii community on a project that explores barriers to harm reduction among Aboriginal people using illicit drugs.

"Dylan ranks among the most gifted students with whom it has been my privilege to work," says Dr. Charlotte Reading, director of the CAHR. "As one of the world’s foremost institutions of learning, Oxford is ideally suited to further prepare Dylan as a leader of the world’s future."

At Oxford, Collins will pursue the British equivalent of a PhD through the Nuffield School of Population Health. "I’m committed to exploring the interactions between substance use, social determinants, and the broader context of poverty, colonization, culture and trauma."

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They got to discover and explore what Visibility meant. “The concept of ‘generation’ in social media is very short. “Three years for me is a generation,” says Tura.

The tweet that started it all means to be a lexicographer.” With 40 students in the class, Andrea Brown was the one whose tweet was seen by LeRobert. She says the class “was a unique and fulfilling experience. It was an excellent opportunity to be able to connect with professionals through Twitter and be able to get an inside view of the world of networking. It was really neat to be reconnected by the dictionary.”

Caws also taught a first-year course on lexicology and semantics, offered to third- and fourth-year UVic students in the French program, was intended to expose students to other scholars, ideas and sharing of knowledge and particularly by using Twitter (Lexico-100). The class met once a week for two hours; students then engaged in discussion on the blog (lexic100.wordpress.com) to address various questions based on additional materials, including scholarly articles but also other coverage as well as video.

The first discussion was on a one-hour video by famous French lexicographer, media personality and Le Robert editor-in-chief Alain Rey. The topic caused a flurry of chatter and evaluation and “had a real impact on the students right away,” says Caws. “They got to discover and explore what it means to be a lexicographer.” With 40 students in the class, Andrea Brown was the one whose tweet was seen by LeRobert. She says the class “was a unique and fulfilling experience. It was an excellent opportunity to be able to connect with professionals through Twitter and be able to get an inside view of the world of networking. It was really neat to be reconnected by the dictionary.”

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The impact of one French tweet

BY KAITLYN ROSENBURG

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