



University
of Victoria

SPEED READING

WELCOME BACK

ThunderFest 2014

It'll be hard to miss the 5th annual ThunderFest—hosted by Vikes Nation in collaboration with UVSS and Res Life. Learn about Vikes recreation programming, listen to live DJs and bands on the roof of the SUB, and have fun with over 30 great booths with give-aways and lots of games to play. Noon-4 p.m. in front of the SUB. Info: govikesgo.com

ORIENTATION

Six weeks to success

There's a lot to experience (and learn) during six weeks of student orientation events. Each week of UVic Orientation revolves around a different theme, from diversity and opportunity (week 2) to academic skills (week 3) and volunteering (week 4). Full info and electronic guide: bit.ly/2014-orientation

EMAIL UPDATES

Campus Checklist will bring news to faculty and staff

Launching as a pilot program later this month, a new biweekly *Campus Checklist* email newsletter will deliver essential information about our changing campus to all UVic faculty and staff. More info about this initiative appears on page 3, in the Around the Ring column.

GET READY TO BLOG!

New Online Academic Community set to launch

Rolling out campus-wide later this month, the Online Academic Community (OAC) will allow current UVic faculty, staff and students to create their own websites and blogs with relative ease—all you'll need is a NetLink ID. With more than 100 themes and plugins available, creating, customizing and managing individual sites—professional or personal—will be possible through a university-supported WordPress platform. Online instructions and drop-in help sessions will be provided. Expect more details in the first *Campus Checklist* email.



CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

P.2

THE RING

SEPTEMBER 2014

The University of Victoria's
community newspaper

ring.uvic.ca



Cullen. PHOTO: DIANA NETHERCOTT

14

NUMBER OF
BC COASTAL
COMMUNITIES
WHERE CITIZEN
SCIENTISTS WILL
HELP MONITOR
ISOTOPE LEVELS

COMMUNITY-INVOLVED RESEARCH

Citizen scientists to help monitor radiation levels in BC's coastal waters

BY VAL SHORE

Ever since the 2011 tsunami and nuclear disaster in Japan, there's been widespread concern along the coast of western North America about the potential danger of low-level radioactivity from that event crossing the Pacific Ocean.

What are the levels of radioactive elements in our coastal waters? Do they pose a health risk to us? How will they affect marine ecosystems and the food chain?

You and other coastal residents can help scientists find some answers.

University of Victoria chemical oceanographer Jay Cullen has formed a new marine radioactivity monitoring network

that draws on the expertise of scientists in Canada and the US, health experts, NGOs—and “citizen scientists” along the BC coast.

“There's great public demand for information about the impact of the disaster on the marine ecosystem and on the health of British Columbians,” says Cullen. “Our goal is to provide the public with the best information possible about risks to the environment and their health.”

The InFORM network—which stands for Integrated Fukushima Ocean Radionuclide Monitoring—is now seeking volunteer citizen scientists to collect water samples and share science-based information on ocean health within their communities.

Ocean circulation models disagree on the timing and concentrations of radioactive elements expected off BC. We do know that the radioactive plume of seawater arrived on the coast in June 2013, and that levels detected so far don't pose a health risk.

“In the next few years, as the highest concentrations from this plume arrive, we need to know what the concentrations are and what kind of risks they pose,” says Cullen. “And we won't know that unless we monitor the situation properly.”

Research partners in the network include Woods Hole Oceanographic

SEE CITIZEN SCIENCE P.3

Ocean Networks Canada research and technology on display in the Arctic



Moran and Cassels with Prime Minister Stephen Harper. PHOTO: PMO

On Aug. 23, Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Lauren Harper were with UVic President Jamie Cassels and Ocean Networks Canada (ONC) President Kate Moran to view the latest instrumentation that showcases Canadian technology and science applied in the Arctic at Cambridge Bay, Nunavut.

President Cassels talked with the Prime Minister about ONC, as well as the joint venture between UVic's history department and the Nunavut Department of Education to develop a new web-based “Great Canadian Mystery” on the Franklin Expedition.

He also spoke to northern officials about the potential to work together in the future to benefit northern communities and peoples in the tradition of the university's groundbreaking Akitsiraq partnership.

Installed in 2012, ONC's community-based, cabled seafloor observatory is the first location in Canada's Arctic for year-round, continuous undersea monitoring of the northern environment. Its instruments—including an underwater camera, ice profiler

and sensors that measure temperature, depth and salinity—provide science-based support for greater understanding and protection of fragile arctic marine ecosystems. Data streaming from the instruments supports cutting-edge research and science-based decision making and enables local students, teachers and community members to steward their own environment.

ONC, a UVic initiative, operates world-leading observatories for the advancement of science and the benefit of Canada. Made up of NEPTUNE in the northeast Pacific and VENUS in the Salish Sea, ONC is changing the way oceans are studied by providing data collected by hundreds of instruments and delivering it free through an internet portal. Scientists and citizens alike can observe the underwater natural environment in real time from anywhere in the world and study a wide range of phenomena, including earthquakes, tsunamis, climate change, ambient noise and Arctic change.

around the ring

Goodbye uHire ... and hello UVic Careers

It's time to wave a final farewell to the uHire job posting system as Human Resources gears up to welcome UVic Careers, the new online job management system that will go live in Sept. 2014. Beginning Sept. 8, the UVic Careers system will be the recruitment tool for CUPE 951, CUPE 917, Exempt Support, Management Excluded and PEA positions. "Job seekers interested in working at the university will be able to apply for jobs, save their resumé and track the status of their applications online, anytime from any device," says AVP Human Resources Kane Kilbey. "The UVic Careers system will streamline the entire recruitment and hiring process." Weekly drop-in sessions for job seekers and hiring administrators will be offered on Tuesdays from Sept. 16 to Dec. 9 from 1 to 3 p.m. in LIB 034j (on the ground floor of the Mearns Centre, Technology Integrated Learning area). If you need help creating a new requisition or applying for a UVic job, drop in for one-on-one assistance. Full info: uvic.ca/hr/services/home/hiring/

As the semester opens, a wide range of construction activities dot the campus, but four major projects stand out. Though temporary fences and construction work can be a minor inconvenience, these projects are also part of how the university is delivering on the promise of a better learning environment.



The new bus loop. PHOTO: MARC CHRISTENSEN

New transit hub and expanded bus service

New bus bays on the north side of the Student Union Building, mirroring the over-capacity bays in front of the Bookstore, began operation on Sept. 2—not coincidentally, the same date BC Transit rolled out expanded bus service across the region. The transit hub expansion, a partnership between UVic, BC Transit, government and the transit commission, improves bus capacity at peak times and supports future service expansions. It is a key component of the university's sustainable transportation efforts to decrease vehicle traffic and encourage alternative methods to get to campus—and cements UVic's role as a transit hub for the Greater Victoria region.

This fall's service improvements include:

Increased service hours on routes 4 (Hillside), 12 (University Heights) and 39 (UVic/Royal Roads)

Route 15x now extends past the downtown into Esquimalt, providing express service to Royal Jubilee Hospital, Camosun Landsdowne campus and UVic.

Late night bus service on Friday and Saturday has been added to the 15x, 27, 28, and 50, in addition to the 4, 6 and 14.

For convenience, the two exchanges are organized so that all of the downtown buses are on one side, and the McKenzie/Gordon Head buses are on the other.

BC Transit anticipates additional service improvements will be added in January 2015.

Mystic Market open mid-September

The University Centre cafeteria expansion and renovation is near completion and expected to open mid-September. If you've been wondering what's been going on behind the scenes for the last eight months, the wait is almost over.

Mystic Market will feature eight unique, self-branded food kiosks as well as a general store for pre-packaged foods and quick convenience items. With a modern, market style layout and West Coast-inspired design and décor, Mystic Market will set a new standard in campus dining, creating a truly unique dining experience.

The project will see a shift from the centre's older cafeteria-style model to a more open environment with varied seating options. Food will be cooked

on demand, freshly prepared on the spot. A separate self-serve market area will feature organic, fair-trade coffee and teas, freshly made grab-and-go items and locally produced retail foods.

The new kiosks will offer everything from West Coast grill items to Asian wok stir-fries to all-day breakfasts, grilled paninis and hot-off-the-press pizza and pasta. Or cool down with fresh Island-made gelato in a variety of flavours. The facility will serve a range of vegetarian and vegan offerings, as well as nut-free, gluten-free and dairy-free options.

The Mystic Market name pays homage to Mystic Vale, a protected natural woodland on campus. West Coast elements featured in the new dining facility include live ferns, a waterfall and a living wall. Design materials also reflect the West Coast, with lots of cedar and flat polished stones to evoke the seashore. These elements are tied together in several West Coast inspired food kiosks, as well as a retail market, or 'General Store' as it's been named, which will have a rustic feel reminiscent of small beachside grocers.

The facility will feature local, organic and free-trade ingredients and products whenever possible. Mystic Market will also be the first zero Waste facility on campus.

For streamlined service Mystic Market will be accepting ONECard and cash only.

Visit uvic.ca/food for hours and maps of other Food Service locations.



Mystic Market, almost ready to go. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

Take a tour of CARSA—online

It's clear that UVic's new Centre for Athletics, Recreation and Special Abilities (CARSA) will be an improvement over existing facilities. And after many months of construction, the extent of that improvement is becoming more and more apparent now that building activities are in their final months.

Visitors to the facility have immediately been impressed by how open, expansive and full of light it will be. The sheer size of the structure helps, with floor space equivalent to the area of three football fields. That doesn't include the vertical terrain—the climbing wall with 370 square metres of bouldering and climbing space and a centrepiece of the building.

Don Chow, manager of recreation for Athletics and Recreation, has been eagerly anticipating the opportunities CARSA will provide. "Our current students and employees are going to thrive in this new facility, and it will be a huge asset for recruiting and retaining students. It will be a world-class facility that everyone at UVic can be proud of."



CARSA video tour

A video tour of the new facility—looking ahead to Spring 2015 completion from its rapidly changing state this summer—is available on the CARSA website at uvic.ca/carsa.

Continuing Studies expansion

If you're finding it difficult to take your favourite turf-based shortcut around the Continuing Studies building this month, you should know that this project will also serve a higher (education) purpose. The Continuing Studies addition and renovations will provide approximately 15,000 square feet of new space, including a central atrium for student gathering, 11 classrooms for the English Language Centre, three language labs and a number of other office and classroom improvements. The new addition is scheduled to open in January 2016, but you don't need to wait that long to imagine how new space might improve the campus experience for students visiting UVic through the ELC—just jump ahead to the ELC feature article on p.8.

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

Managing editor Marc Christensen,
250-721-6022, marcdc@uvic.ca

Production Beth Doman

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

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

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The Ring, PO Box 1700, University of Victoria,
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Tel: 250-721-7636 Fax: 250-721-8955
E-mail: ring@uvic.ca

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RETIREMENT INCOME OPTIONS

SEPTEMBER 2014

REGISTERED RETIREMENT INCOME FUND (RRIF)

	AGE	55	60	65	71	75	80
Minimum Payout *		\$238	\$278	\$333	\$615	\$654	\$729
Total Payout to Age 100		\$160,372	\$149,344	\$139,250	\$128,247	\$123,669	\$117,181
Accelerated Payout:							
Income over 5 years		\$1,774				\$106,455	
Income over 10 years		\$943				\$113,092	
Income over 15 years		\$667				\$119,987	

* Based on best current GIC of 2.50%. Returns will vary depending on investment vehicle. Monthly income based on \$100,000

LIFE ANNUITIES

	AGE	55	60	65	71	75	80
Male							
...payments cease at death		\$455	\$509	\$585	\$718	\$851	\$1,109
...10 years guaranteed		\$448	\$499	\$559	\$657	\$729	\$852
Female							
...payments cease at death		\$422	\$464	\$524	\$626	\$724	\$918
...10 years guaranteed		\$424	\$458	\$510	\$598	\$663	\$785
Joint Life: 10 yrs guaranteed		\$392	\$428	\$467	\$542	\$607	\$725

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UVic to lead \$5.5-million research project on forced dispossession of Japanese Canadians

BY TARA SHARPE

A multi-partner, seven-year, \$5.5-million research project, *Landscapes of Injustice*, was announced by UVic last month and will culminate in an interactive travelling museum exhibition to tell the story of dispossession of Japanese Canadians.

After the Second World War, British Columbians of Japanese descent had no homes to return to after being interned in camps in their own country, once restrictions were finally lifted in 1949. Houses, businesses, fishing boats, vehicles and personal effects had been forcibly sold by the Canadian government.

Project director and associate history professor Dr. Jordan Stanger-Ross (humanities) points out that the uprooting, internment and deportation of Japanese Canadians have been the focus of scholarly and popular concern, but the story of the dispossession, a major policy in its own right, is too little known.

The forced sale of property, which began in 1942 during the uprooting, “caused lasting harms and material hardship that stretch across multiple generations,” explains Stanger-Ross. “This shameful episode may seem to belong to a distant past in a country that is now multicultural, but history is not so easily escaped.”

Landscapes of Injustice, led by the university and affiliated with UVic’s Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives, is funded by a \$2.5 million partnership grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. The project is a partnership of 13 institutions—universities, museums, and Japanese-Canadian community or-



Inside the Maple Leaf Grocery on Powell Street in Vancouver. From the Kariatsumari Family collection. Date: circa 1930.

ganizations—dedicated to recovering and grappling with this history. It also brings together researchers in three faculties at UVic: Humanities, Law and Social Sciences.

The first four years of the project comprise a research phase and will focus on four locations in the province—Steveston, Maple Ridge, Salt Spring Island, and Powell Street in Vancouver.

Acclaimed Canadian writer Joy Kogawa, a member of the project’s advisory board, personally experienced the injustices of internment and dispossession in BC when she and her family were forced to move.

She says the project reassures her “that injustice is not the final word. I was in grade one [when] we were uprooted and sent off in trains. Our homes fell en masse into the trustworthy hands of the Custodian of Enemy Alien Properties for ‘safekeeping.’

“Eventually we all learned what safekeeping meant. Safe, but not for us. Keeping, but not for us. The war ended and none of us returned home.”

The travelling museum exhibition is expected to



An outdoor portrait of the Kawata family on the steps of their home, Cumberland, BC. From the Fumiko Yamada (nee Kawata) collection. Date: 1941.



An outdoor portrait of two boys with a scooter. From the Nakashima Family collection.

begin in 2019 at the Nikkei National Museum and Cultural Centre, where it will be housed at the conclusion of its cross-country tour. The exhibition will include some artifacts, but will primarily showcase a curated collection of research material including

archival photographs with narratives, land deeds, personal statements, government records and interactive GIS maps.

landscapesofinjustice.com
Images courtesy of Nikkei National Museum and Cultural Centre

Below: The registration card issued in March 1941 of a young Japanese Canadian woman. From the Saito Family collection. Date: 1941.



CITIZEN SCIENCE CONTINUED FROM P.1

Institution in Massachusetts, Health Canada, the University of Ottawa, the University of British Columbia and Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO).

Also involved are NGOs such as the Clayoquot Biosphere Trust, the Georgia Strait Alliance, the Raincoast Education Society and the Living Oceans Society, which will help with public outreach, information transfer, and recruitment and training of citizen scientists.

“Citizen scientists are critical to the success of this network,” says Cullen. “By engaging directly with communities, we’re inviting those with a stake and an interest in marine environmental risk assessment to get involved.”

Citizen scientists are being sought in 14 coastal areas: Port Renfrew, Bamfield, Tofino/Ucluelet, Nootka Island/Tahsis, Winter Harbour, Port Hardy, Bella Bella, Hartley Bay, Prince Rupert, Haida Gwaii, Salt Spring Island, Powell River/Sunshine Coast, Vancouver and Victoria.

The network is aiming for a sampling team of 10–15 volunteers per area. They’ll be trained to collect 24-litre samples of seawater for radioisotope analysis and record important information such as water temperature and salinity. The levels of radioactivity present in water samples will not pose a health risk to volunteers, stresses Cullen.

Water samples will be collected

monthly for three years and sent to labs for analysis. “Ideally, the samples would be taken near the coast rather than up inlets,” he says. “And it’s best if the Haida Gwaii samples are obtained on the west side of the islands.”

The samples gathered by community volunteers will supplement measurements already being taken offshore by DFO and an existing citizen scientist network coordinated by Woods Hole that extends from the Bering Strait to San Diego.

The data collected by the InFORM network will be disseminated online and through community meetings up and down the coast.

Prospective volunteers are asked

to contact Cullen before Sept. 30 via a contact form at www.fukushimainform.ca. Once a database of interested citizens has been compiled, the network’s NGO partners will go to the communities to organize the groups.

InFORM is funded by \$630,000 over three years by the Marine Environmental Observation Prediction and Response Network (MEOPAR).

MEOPAR is a team of Canadian researchers in the natural and social sciences trying to better understand and predict the impact of marine hazards on human activities and ecosystems. It’s hosted by Dalhousie University and funded by the federal Networks of Centres of Excellence Program.

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around the ring

UVic named to Princeton Review's Green Honor Roll

The *Princeton Review* tallied green rating scores for 861 colleges in the US and Canada, and UVic was among the top 24 schools listed on their 2015 “Green Rating Honor Roll”—the top Canadian university on the list. Only those schools that achieved a perfect score in the ratings were named to the honour roll, based on criteria including healthy and sustainable campus life, preparing students to succeed in a world of environmental challenges, and the school’s overall commitment to environmental issues. The *Review* highlighted UVic’s campus efforts in recycling, composting and water management, along with attention to environmentally sensitive landscaping practices.

Campus Checklist email updates coming soon

Launching as a pilot later this month, a new biweekly *Campus Checklist* email newsletter will deliver essential information about our changing campus to all UVic faculty and staff. Providing briefs about new administrative processes, upcoming events and looming deadlines that are relevant to the broadest range of faculty and staff, the *Campus Checklist* aims to improve on-campus communication and reduce single-issue campus-wide “blast” emails. Content from *Checklist* will also be collected in a news stream on the *Ring* website, to provide timely information about campus operations to all interested parties. Faculty and staff can expect the first updates in their email boxes later this month. Staff who don’t rely on email as part of their usual duties may also see printed newsletters in their work areas.

Don’t be mistaken—it’s not the President’s Run

The last few days before the start of term create a special kind of busy for everyone on campus—including UVic President Jamie Cassels. Between returning from meetings with the Prime Minister and northern officials in the Arctic on one Monday, and hosting a campus BBQ for students and welcoming a crowd of thousands at New Student Orientation the following Tuesday, Cassels also found time to address Family Orientation, speak to new UVic employees about the value of ongoing professional development, and open up a dialogue about how to continue to improve teaching and learning during the Learning and Teaching Centre’s “Teaching Day” event. He also joined staff and student volunteers welcoming 2,000 residence students on move-in day, participated in an orientation session for new academic leaders and was on-air for a CBC radio interview. Though he didn’t sound obviously sleep-deprived at any of the events, we’re hoping that with classes in session, Cassels can return to his default speed of “extremely busy”—because the *Ring* was getting exhausted just keeping track of him.

ringers

Four UVic faculty members—**Ned Djilali** and **Yang Shi** (engineering), **Andrew Weaver** (earth and ocean science, on leave) and **Pauline van den Driessche** (mathematics)—have been recognized in the 2014 list of Highly Cited Researchers compiled by Thompson-Reuters. These researchers published work of exceptional value to their field, appearing in the top one per cent of most-cited scientific papers. Among Canadian universities, UVic is fifth on the Thompson-Reuters list, with more faculty members among the most-cited researchers than any other Canadian comprehensive university.

Dr. Christoph Borchers, director of the UVic-Genome BC Proteomics Centre has been jointly appointed as the Proteomics Chair for the Jewish General Hospital at McGill University in Montreal. Borchers is an expert in the use of mass spectrometry to study the structure and function of proteins. At the UVic centre, Borchers directs a research program that applies proteomics technologies to areas such as medical diagnostics, drug development, forestry and alternative fuels. The UVic-Genome BC-McGill collaboration will lead to the development of clinical proteomics applications and the first pan-Canadian proteomics program.

Dr. David Giles (economics) was recently named a Distinguished Fellow of the New Zealand Association of Economists. The award was made at the 2014 Conference of the Association, in Auckland, New Zealand, where Dr. Giles also presented the invited A.W.H. Phillips Memorial Lecture. Dr. Giles is only the 13th economist to be named a Distinguished Fellow of the NZAE in its 55-year history.

Dr. Afzal Suleman (mechanical engineering)—who specializes in computational mechanics, fluid-structure interaction modelling, computational and experimental aeroelasticity, ocean energy and technology and aircraft and spacecraft design—has been named a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) for his contributions to the field. Fewer than one tenth of one per cent of IEEE members are elevated to fellow in any year.

Dr. Nicholas Bradley (English) has been awarded the 2014–2015 William Lyon Mackenzie King Research Fellow at Harvard University. Bradley will teach two half courses through Harvard’s Department of English: Indigenous Literatures of North America—Oral and Written Traditions (fall 2014) and Poets of the Pacific West (spring 2015), as well as carrying out his own program of research at Harvard. The fellowship presents rich intellectual opportunities for Canadian studies at Harvard. The endowment was established in 1967 following a campaign spearheaded by David Rockefeller, who wished to honor William Lyon Mackenzie King (1874–1950), a great friend of his father, John D. Rockefeller, Jr.



Shawn Curé plays the “Hnefatafl” board game constructed by his anthropology group. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

Viking Age skill-building at the Royal BC Museum

BY ANNE MacLAURIN

The “Vikings: Lives beyond the Legend” exhibition, open until mid-November at the Royal BC Museum, is providing an opportunity for some UVic anthropology students to build their knowledge of Viking culture and share in community education at the same time. Jokes about these students’ “cutting edge” skills will have to wait, though. While popular culture representations of the Vikings often put axes, raiding expeditions and pointy headgear first, the wealth of the Viking culture and their complex lifeworld was much more varied. And that’s just what the anthropology students are helping community audiences appreciate.

For professor Erin McGuire, supporting the Royal BC Museum exhibition was a perfect opportunity to teach her Viking archaeology course (ANTH 398) outside the classroom—while also creating room in the course for community members.

“Having community members as active participants in the course brought us new perspectives,” said McGuire. “It was a chance for students to share ideas with others and hear other people’s thoughts on the things

we were reading and examining in the exhibition.”

“I found it deeply enriching,” said Joy Bagnall, who was one of six community members who attended the ANTH 398 classes held at museum. “Besides learning about the obvious historical and cultural aspects by lecture, which was of course extremely interesting, I also enjoyed engaging in Viking weaving, metal work and needle knitting—without the pressure of having to produce a final project like the students had to.”

A natural synergy between UVic and the Royal BC Museum emerged, so when the museum needed more volunteer “craftsmen,” McGuire recommended some of her fourth-year anthropology students.

Shawn Curé was one of the four students hired as a craftsman for the Viking exhibition. He had taken Viking archaeology classes with McGuire and also worked as her research assistant, so she knew of his keen interest to be involved with the museum.

“In one of my medieval archaeology classes with Dr. McGuire, we were assigned to choose an experimental archaeology project,” says Curé, “I chose *Hnefatafl*—a board game played by Vikings.”

“I like to use the example of board games for thinking about what we can learn about Vikings and ourselves,” said McGuire. “I taught my students how to play a couple of Viking games and we used it as a starting off point for a conversation about games and social structures. *Hnefatafl* isn’t actually fair. It’s a two-player game but only one player gets a king. The king’s side almost always wins.”

Curé and the two other members of his group crafted the *Hnefatafl* game pieces by hand out of alabaster and soap stone to show that it was labour intensive and that game pieces found in graves can suggest the status of the person buried there. They also built the board and learned how to play the game in class.

“When the Viking exhibition arrived, it seemed like my game would fit in nicely with the craftsman activity nights being held every Saturday at museum,” explained Curé. “I was really excited because I knew I could talk to visitors about these artifacts in a way that they might not get from simply seeing them in a case.”

Curé was hired by the Royal BC Museum along with fellow anthropology students Rose Pappas-Acreman, Amina Chergui and Bradley Clements

to teach museum and community members some of the skills of the Viking Age. Chergui demonstrated *nal-binding*, a single needle-knitting technology practice in early medieval Scandinavia, and a skill she picked up in her Viking archaeology course at UVic.

“I enjoy how it exposes people in a very hands-on way to the extensive and laborious effort that is involved in clothing production,” said Chergui. “It makes people think and understand how challenging it would have been in the Viking Age to clothe one’s family.”

Pappas-Acreman taught the art of bead making to community members, children and families. She also helped with activities during the Viking sleepover at the museum involving 100 children and parents.

Clements planned educational and fun family activities involving the ancient use of rune stones.

All four students’ experiences, teaching skills from the Viking Age to community members, have enriched their appreciation of their coursework. And, at least for now, there’s no word on whether Thunder the Mascot will be invited to the Royal BC Museum for future assistance at the exhibition.

STUDENT VIEWPOINT

Studying the Holocaust in Europe

Rowan Meredith is a UVic Slavic Studies student who attended the 2014 I-witness field school and a summer co-op at the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial Museum.

BY ROWAN MEREDITH

In the fall of last year, I was walking the halls of UVic, when I happened upon a poster advertising the May 2014 I-witness Holocaust Field School with the Department of Germanic and Slavic Studies. The chance to spend three weeks travelling through Germany, Austria and Poland learning how the Holocaust is memorialized in Central Europe sounded incredible.

And even better, the program description also noted an opportunity to stay on in Europe and complete a summer co-op term at the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum. Little did I suspect just how profoundly this immersion in Holocaust studies would affect me.

The I-witness program started with one week of classes at UVic discussing readings about the memorialization of the Holocaust and listening to survivor testimonies first-hand. We then flew to Berlin, where we spent our days visiting memorials and museums and meeting with other student groups from Europe. Emotionally exhausted by a barrage of images and stories, we found ourselves sharing a wide range of thoughts and feelings. Our cultural and personal biases were illuminated and challenged by our experiences, observations and encounters, and many of our frameworks of belief were torn down. Only now are they starting to be built anew.

At the end of May, I left the I-witness group and moved to Oswiecim, Poland to volunteer at the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum. I write this from the former camp commander’s office, where I will be living until the end of the summer.

Every day, a new task awaits me:



At the Jewish Monument, former Mauthausen camp in Austria. CREDIT: ROWAN MEREDITH

from preparing 70-year-old straw mattresses for display and sorting artifacts for collections, to transcribing video interviews of survivors. The experience of photographing and labelling spoons confiscated from the belongings of families arriving at Auschwitz can be chilling – and certainly causes one to reflect in a more visceral way than any history lecture can. Throughout all of the tasks, I work with dedicated, multi-lingual museum staff who offer a breadth of

insights into the ways in which different communities view the work of remembering the Holocaust.

Throughout both of these experiences, I have had the opportunity to make friends from across the globe. Whether they be coworkers, classmates or roommates, I have met people from Taiwan, Norway, Germany and the United States.

The understanding I have gained about the Holocaust from people with such varied backgrounds and perspectives has been tremendous. I could not have asked for a better Holocaust education, and I am more motivated than ever to work to prevent genocide and human rights violations worldwide.

The Holocaust may seem far removed from our daily lives; yet, while our cohort was studying in Cracow, we read in the *Times Colonist* that racist and antisemitic graffiti had appeared on the streets of Victoria.

This is a reminder there is much more to learn.

“Frosty genes” technology awarded US patent

The most effective vaccines against disease are those that expose our immune systems to live pathogens. But how do we do that without causing the very disease we’re trying to avoid?

Two UVic researchers may have found a way using bacteria from the frigid waters of the Arctic. The innovative technology they’ve developed over the last decade has just been awarded a US patent.

The technology—developed by former graduate student Barry Duplantis and UVic microbiologist Francis Nano—substitutes cold-loving genes from Arctic bacteria for the genes of warmth-loving, disease-carrying bacteria.

The strategy is to create a strain of bacteria that can replicate in a person or animal’s skin, but not penetrate into deeper, warmer tissue to cause infection. In this way, the body is safely exposed to the pathogen, providing future immunity from the disease.

Nano, who studies bacterial patho-

gens, had always wondered how bacteria survive in extreme Arctic cold. In the late ‘90s, he asked a Canadian polar expedition to send him some water samples from the Arctic Ocean.

Several thermoses full of Arctic ocean water later, Nano managed to isolate several strains of bacteria. One of them, *Shewanella frigidimarina*, was a cold-water bacterium found in icy waters around the world.

“One of the strange things about cold-water bacteria is that they can only grow in cold water,” says Nano, whose team has since identified a number of genes and proteins from Arctic bacteria that make them sensitive to warm temperatures.

“We look for temperature inactivation relevant to human body temperatures, but most often we’re looking for proteins that are inactivated at 37 C.”

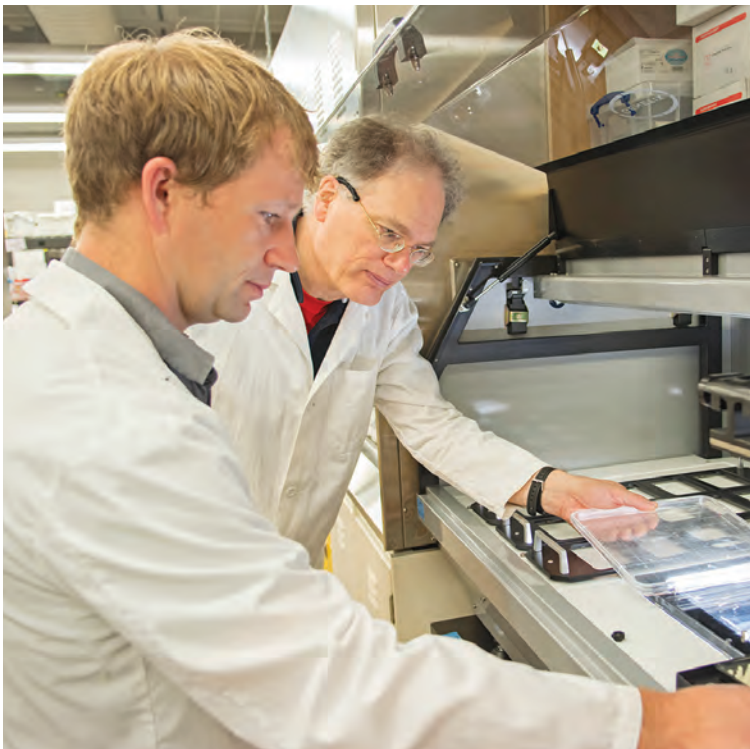
The new technology can be applied to vaccines for almost any disease caused by a bacterium, such as tuberculosis, drug-resistant staph

infections and even plague. Nano and his team are currently working with a number of bacteria, including *Salmonella*, which causes one of the most common food-borne illnesses in the world.

The newly patented technology is at the heart of a spinoff company headed by Duplantis. He formed DuVax Vaccines and Reagents Inc. in 2011 to further develop and market the technology to pharmaceutical companies in human and animal health.

“Fran’s idea for a vaccine technology is why I began graduate school and it was my goal from the outset that if we succeeded I would attempt to commercialize it,” says Duplantis.

In addition to the US patent, the technology is patented in a number of other countries including Canada, he adds. “Without a solid intellectual property position it would be impossible for a small start-up biotechnology company like this to get off the ground.”



Duplantis and Nano. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

GOOGLE MAPPING OF INDIGENOUS PLACE NAMES

Modern tools document histories of Indigenous terrain

Indigenous communities across Canada are engaged in intensively mapping their lands, waters, resources and knowledge. These maps have unparalleled importance today not only for future generations celebrating Indigenous knowledge, but in discussions over land and resource development and the recognition of Indigenous rights.

The University of Victoria extended its leadership with collaborative Indigenous mapping research by bringing together more than 100 representatives from Indigenous organizations across Canada for a four-day intensive workshop beginning at the end of

August.

“This workshop connected Indigenous communities from across Canada who are using sophisticated mapping technologies to assert Aboriginal title and treaty rights, and to celebrate cultural knowledge about the land,” says Brian Thom, assistant professor of anthropology and co-organizer of the workshop.

Thom first came to UVic in 2010 after 13 years as a researcher and negotiator for several First Nations in the BC Treaty process. He established UVic’s Ethnographic Mapping Lab, which provides a collaborative space for research with Indigenous communities

about traditional use sites, cultural sites and place names using leading digital technologies.

The national Indigenous mapping workshop brought together community practitioners and academics for a hands-on enriching experience with Google Earth technologies. The workshop was co-hosted by UVic (ethnographic mapping lab in the Department of Anthropology), the Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs, the Firelight Group and Google Earth Outreach.

Read more online in a Q & A with Brian Thom: bit.ly/Thom-QA



Stz’uminus First Nation elder Ray Harris has worked with the UVic-led mapping project. PHOTO: CHAD HIPOLITO

STUDENT VIEWPOINT

Studying the legacies of colonialism in South Africa

Tess (Taylor) Syrowik is a humanities student in UVic’s Department of Linguistics. This is her personal account of UVic’s Spring 2014 Colonial Legacies Field School in South Africa.

BY TESS (TAYLOR) SYROWIK

South Africa has changed me. I don’t know what it is but something is different, something has shifted.

Before departing for South Africa, I admit my greatest concern was the constant company of 12 other students and two chaperones. As a library-dwelling hermit during the school year, the thought of constantly spending that much time with people was frankly intimidating.

One day of the field school and that all changed: we met a woman who lives in a room, smaller than my first-year dorm, with not only her whole family but with two other families as well. The difference in cultural norms struck me.

For me, a middle-class white Canadian, abject poverty had been a hazy issue that other people had, not a tangible force that could steal your breath and capture your soul all in one blow.

After seeing the living conditions of these three families who share one room, my concern over spending



A scene from the 2014 field school. In the outdoor “classroom” student Sam Kerr gives a presentation on the area’s cultural and natural history. Cape of Good Hope, near Cape Town. PHOTO: E. VIBERT.

time with 14 people for three weeks appeared so trivial. Before sleeping I reflected on the day and it left a bitter taste in my mouth. There I lay, warm, safe and dry with food in my belly while countless others shared beds smaller than mine, suffered from hunger and malnutrition and lived in homes that would be considered inadequate in Canada. It brought me to tears. That was my first night in

South Africa.

The following weeks taught me more important lessons than any formal or informal education ever has. The women from the township taught me what it really means to share space and forgo privacy. From a man named January I learned what hard work and determination look like while still maintaining a positive attitude. The women from the Women’s Farm

taught me what it means to never give up, to keep on working hard despite seemingly insurmountable setbacks. Our peers in Nwamitwa unknowingly made us realize how fortunate we are for being able to access a high school education, let alone a university education. The Women’s Farm and Khataza Crafts Project demonstrated the meaning of working together and creating a community. There were so many occasions that prompted me to think “I’ve never heard of anything like this at home” that I started to wonder about our culture, lifestyle, interpersonal relations, everything.

Every time we interacted with the locals of Nwamitwa, especially in Joppie Village where we spent much of our time, we were embraced into the arms and homes of strangers with overwhelming welcome.

There are many aspects of South Africa that we could use more of in Canada; the feeling of welcome into a new hearth and home is one of them.

For a long time I felt like we had done nothing to deserve such welcome but then I realized that this sort of welcome is part of the Tsonga culture, and that in order to express my appreciation of this culture, I can bring it to Canada by welcoming my friends and family into my home with more warmth and meeting new

people with more openness.

It took every ounce of self-determination for me to get on the plane home and it has not been an easy adjustment, re-adapting to the Canadian lifestyle. Nobody can pretend that Canada does not have problems, does not have poverty. In fact, many First Nations peoples in Canada do not have adequate housing or even drinking water. For the most part, however, we live in a country of plenty—not for all, but for most.

Only through education can we have a better understanding of different lives and find the beauties of different cultures. Your actions define you, not your clothes, technological gizmos and gadgets, or career.

The Colonial Legacies field school was an opportunity of a lifetime. We were able to make friends and work with South Africans who live in a rural area. These new friends taught us a lot about their experiences under apartheid, a democratic government and the struggles many South Africans face.

My time in South Africa taught me a lot about life but most of all, it taught me that how you treat people defines who you are.

Student-athletes carry Vikes spirit to XX Commonwealth Games

The opportunity to be part of a larger national team at a multi-sport international games is not something that happens very often. A number of athletes with UVic connections—including 14 current, former or soon-to-be Vikes varsity athletes—travelled to Glasgow, Scotland to compete in the 2014 Commonwealth Games (held every four years).

The XX Games included 17 sports and 71 participating nations. The Vikes were well represented in field hockey, swimming, rugby sevens and rowing, which accounts for four of the eight varsity sports available at UVic.

Two golds for swimmer Ryan Cochrane

There was never any doubt that the Vikes would make a splash at the games but it couldn't have been any more fitting than to have Canada's first gold come from former Vikes swimmer and UVic psychology alumnus Ryan Cochrane. The two-time Olympic medalist touched in at 3:43.46 to successfully defend his Commonwealth Games gold-medal title on July 24 in the 400-metre freestyle swim.

Cochrane was also the top seed going into the men's 1,500-metre freestyle final July 29 in Glasgow, which he won by nearly five seconds—his second gold of the games. He won gold in both these events in Delhi, at the 2010 games.

Fellow Olympian and former Vikes swimmer Hilary Caldwell also medalled in the pool, claiming bronze in the 200-metre backstroke. It's the second major international medal in her collection, joining her bronze in the same event at last year's FINA World Championships in Barcelona, where she swam a Canadian record time of 2:06.80.



Ryan Cochrane gets Canada's first gold medal, July 24, and another July 29. PHOTO: DAN GALBRAITH



UVic grad Catharine Pendrel wins gold, July 29. PHOTO: DAN GALBRAITH.

Cycling, rugby and field hockey

Catharine Pendrel claimed the women's mountain bike gold medal July 29 after blasting through the 32K course in 1:39:20. Pendrel is well-known in Victoria and across Canada for being a world champion, and she trained here at UVic.

Canada's rugby sevens lifted the Bowl at Ibrox Stadium on July 28 after a 50-7 victory over Cook Islands. In the mix were former Vikes John Moonlight,

the Canadian captain, as well as pivotal players Sean Duke and Nathan Hirayama. Lucas Hammond and Justin Douglas are expected to suit up with the Vikes this fall. The victory put the team in the ninth spot overall.

Also competing were women's field hockey players Danielle Hennig, Kaitlyn Williams and Thea Culley, as well as men's field hockey player Keegan Pereira—all former Vikes student-athletes.



Victoria's Commonwealth Games remembered

Do you remember what you were doing 20 years ago? If you lived in Victoria, you were likely immersed in city-wide excitement for the XV Commonwealth Games. It's hard to believe two decades have passed since Victoria—and UVic—welcomed the world for 10 days in August 1994. From the spectacular opening ceremonies to the joyous closing events, UVic was the centre of activity and celebration for the entire games.

Queen Elizabeth opened the games on August 18, and her son, Prince Edward, closed them on August 28. In between, life at the university was dominated by the games, with more than a third of the campus used for its activities. Student residences were transformed as the Athletes Village housed some 3,700 elite athletes and teams from 67 countries for more than three weeks. Centennial Stadium was expanded to include 34,500 seats (up from the usual 5,000) to accommodate the opening and closing ceremonies, as well as 10 track and field competitions. As well, UVic played host to 800 members of the world's media at the International Broadcast Centre, built inside the Gordon Head Complex (since renamed the Ian Stewart Complex).

Expanded services were in evidence all across the campus. Bookstore operations included convenience stores in the Athletes Village and broadcast centre. Athletics and Recreation operated a full recreation program for the athletes. Housekeeping, food services and health services all contributed to the well-being of the visitors. The scale of campus participation was enormous.

The spirit of participation at UVic played a huge part in the success of the games as well, in both professional and volunteer capacities. Hundreds of faculty, staff, students and grads worked in a variety of areas, including performing in the opening and closing ceremonies, accreditation, race marshals, media managers, security, results, and many other roles.

Perhaps most remarkably, the games were mounted during one of the busiest times of year, as the campus prepared for a new school year. Closing ceremonies took place just a few days before thousands of students arrived for their first classes.

Exciting, exhilarating, and yes, even *exhausting*—the games left UVic with amazing memories, a huge sense of pride in what was accomplished, and a legacy that continues on, strong in memories and spirit two decades later.

calendar highlights

Events free unless otherwise indicated. For a complete list of events, visit the online calendar at events.uvic.ca

at the galleries

www.uvac.uvic.ca
250-721-6562

- **Exhibit.** *Money, Sovereignty and Power: The Paper Currency of Revolutionary Ukraine 1917-1920.* Until Nov 3, 2014. Reception: Meet guest curator Dr. Bohdan S. Kordan—2 p.m. Sept. 5, 2014. A new political order of nation-states in the wake of the Great War. Amongst the newly established entities there appeared an independent, sovereign Ukraine. From the outset, Ukraine was the object of invasion and its survival was in doubt. In a search for legitimacy, extraordinary efforts were made to affirm the state's sovereign, national character. This was to be accomplished by consciously connecting with Ukraine's historical past both to invoke precedence and encourage a narrative of political continuity. The symbols introduced in the currency of Ukraine during this revolutionary period were examples of this process. The exhibit, *Money, Sovereignty and Power: The Paper Currency of Revolutionary Ukraine*, documents this process, describing the use of symbols in the currency produced by various successive governments during the period of the Ukrainian Revolution. Legacy Maltwood at the Mearns Centre McPherson Library. Free and open to the public.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 5

- **Welcome.** 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. *Thunderfest.* Fifth annual Vikes Nation Thunderfest is an energy-filled afternoon including music, games, food and prizes, presented in collaboration with UVSS and Res Life. The UVSS will be featuring bands on the roof, so come out and watch some local favourites. Full info: vikesnation.com

SUNDAY, SEPT. 7

- **Music.** 2 p.m. *Cirque Peking.* (7 p.m. show has been cancelled; 2 p.m. will proceed.) The National Acrobats of The People's Republic of China 2014 was founded in 1951 and has been one of the most acclaimed acrobatic troupes in China. University Centre Farquhar Auditorium. Tickets \$35.99-\$15.99. Call the Ticket Centre to book: 250-721-8480.

MONDAY, SEPT. 8

- **Lecture/Seminar.** 4 p.m. *"Future Humanities".* Robert Gibbs (U-Toronto) will address his current work, located on the borderlines of philosophy and religion, with a comparative and historical focus on law and ethics. Clearihue A127.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 9

- **Other.** 10 a.m. *Co-op and Career Info Day.* Discover our career services and programs, including career exploration, free online programs, résumé and interview workshops, online resources and more! SUB Michele Pujol Room. 250-721-8421.

- **Welcome.** 12-12:30 p.m. *Inclusion Flash Mobs.* Look for—and participate in—two to three flash mobs celebrating our diverse and welcoming campus. Outside the SUB, Bob Wright Centre and Petch Fountain.

- **Lecture/Seminar.** 3:30 p.m. *BCom Program Information Session.* The Peter B. Gustavson School of Business is hosting information sessions on the Bachelor of Commerce program. Sessions will cover the program requirements and application process in detail. Please RSVP with the BCom Program Office at bssclerk@uvic.ca or 250-472-4728.

- **Orientation event.** 6 p.m. *Rethinking Masculinity and Ending Sexualized Violence with Bryon Hurt, Jeremy Loveday and more.* Key event of the Sexualized Violence Awareness week. Featuring Byron Hurt, filmmaker, writer, speaker advocate, who will speak on issues of masculinity, consent and sexualized violence. Performance of "Masks Off" by local poet Jeremy Loveday, which garnered over 800 000 views on YouTube, sparked debate, and attracted international media attention. Also includes panel discussion led by men from across the university and the community to discuss issues of masculinity and sexualized violence and how these issues are addressed in the life of the university community. Clearihue A311.

- **Lecture/Seminar.** 6:30 p.m. *Cafe Scientifique —The Thirty Metre Telescope.* Dr. Luc Simard (UVic physics and NRC Herzberg). Reserve seats: cafescifossepo9.eventbrite.ca. Hermann's Jazz Club, 753 View. 250-721-7744.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 10

- **Other.** 10 a.m. *HSD Indigenous Student Support Centre Open House.* The Faculty of Human and Social Development is pleased to announce the launch of its Indigenous Student Support Centre. Human & Social Devt B211. 250-721-6005.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 11

- **Other.** 3:30 p.m. *ICE Breakers—Meet a mentor session.* Got an idea but don't know where to start to develop it into a viable business? The Innovation Centre for Entrepreneurs (ICE) is giving you the chance to meet a mentor to share your idea for initial feedback. Sessions are open to current UVIC students, staff/faculty and recent alumni. Sessions are drop-in with no registration necessary. Sedgewick A142. 250-721-8556.

- **Workshop.** 5 p.m. *Human Rights Conversation Café: Inclusion/Exclusion.* This café series focusses on specific, current human rights issues on campus to further in-depth dialogues and exploration. Sedgewick C168.

MONDAY, SEPT. 15

- **Academic skill development.** 12 p.m. *RefWorks is your Friend: Citation Management 101.* Part of UVic Orientation—Academic Week. Intro to RefWorks, an internet-based citation management tool that allows you to create your own database of citations. Mearns Centre-McPherson 130.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 16

- **Other.** 10 a.m.—2 p.m. *Resumania!* Want to improve your résumé? Stop by one of our Resumania booths with a copy of your résumé (or cover letter) and get expert feedback from our career educators. Bob Wright Centre lobby, Clearihue Building lobby (near computer labs) and University Centre lobby.

- **Academic skill development.** 12 p.m. *CourseSpaces Boot Camp.* Part of UVic Orientation—Academic Week. CourseSpaces enables students to access, interact with and contribute to course content, engage in individual and collaborative learning activities, communicate with instructors and peers and track their own progress or obtain feedback on their learning activities. Join the Director of Technology Integrated Learning, Janni Aragon, in this informal and informative workshop to find out how to make CourseSpaces work for you. Mearns Centre-McPherson 130.

WED., SEPT. 17

- **Academic skill development.** 12 p.m. *Getting Schooled: Plagiarism and Academic Integrity.* Part of UVic Orientation—Academic Week. At UVic, the consequences of plagiarism range from a failing grade for an assignment or course to disciplinary probation or even expulsion from the university. Come get schooled in this informal and informative workshop and find out how to give credit using proper citation when you use someone else's ideas. Mearns Centre-McPherson 130.

in memoriam

Brian Hendricks: a life lived well in the classroom and through the screen

Longtime and much-loved instructor, filmmaker and writer Brian Hendricks passed away on August 11 at the age of 57.

An alumnus of UVic's Creative Writing program (he won the Petch Prize on his 1979 graduation), Brian taught at UVic as a Continuing Sessional from 1992 to 2011 in the Department of Writing and in the Department of Germanic and Slavic Studies.

"Brian was one of the friendliest and most upbeat people you'd ever meet," says longtime writing department colleague Bill Gaston. "His students loved him, and many remained his friends. Like so many Canadian artists, he was also a regular guy. We'd bump into each other and talk hockey, beer, and our kids—then guffaw about some weird Polish film we'd both seen. Here at UVic his presence is greatly missed."

As was noted by former student and personal friend Brick Blair, Brian "taught 12,000 students in over 180 courses and 2,000 classes. He marked 20,000 essays, oversaw 100 film festivals, and watched 5,000 other short films and assignments from his students . . . He changed the course of my life."

That's typical of the kind of praise and memories Brian engendered in his students. As local *Times Colonist* film writer Michael Reid noted in his August 15 memorial piece about Brian, "Hundreds of former students have posted notes of appreciation online for the beloved curly-haired redhead whose passion for philosophy and cinema was matched by his enthusiasm for golf, hockey, photography, skiing, barroom banter and Sophie, his cherished Shih Tzu."



Hendricks

Not surprisingly, given his cinematic passions, Brian's battle with cancer was being documented on the website *The Beauty of Certainty*. "I went out to the backyard and took a deep breath and felt this ridiculous sense of peace that I hadn't felt since I was a child," he wrote on the site. "From this moment forward, all I had to accomplish out of the 700 things that typically come into my mind every day is stay alive . . . it gave me a sense of being present. And I realized that I was well-armed for this. I had written about the beauty of uncertainty, about how it prepares us to face life in the face of death. I had written about Carl Jung and his statement that most people spend the first half of their lives afraid to live and the second half of their lives afraid to die."

Indeed, one of his most popular courses was Film on the Mythological Journey, based on Joseph Campbell's archetypal studies. Writing 412 was his perennially popular "signature" class, offering a rotating look at different film topics each semester—Film on the Future or The Mythology of Hollywood,

for example, as well as looking at influential directors like Alfred Hitchcock and David Lynch.

"Brian had a generous spirit with his students and always maintained an innocent exuberance about creativity, his own and others," says Dr. Lynne Van Luven, Acting Dean of Fine Arts and another longtime departmental colleague.

In addition to his teaching, Brian wrote many scripts for film, television and businesses, as well as government videos. He was an early champion of digital filmmaking, and worked as a freelance screenwriter, script consultant and editor, film judge and critic. He was also the senior editor of *Hobo*, the internationally acclaimed Vancouver-based travel, culture, and literary magazine that was actually started under his mentorship.

"Follow your bliss" was one of his greatest lessons to his students, and it could well stand as the epitaph to his own life. Brian will be missed, but his legacy will continue to inspire former students and colleagues alike.

—Submitted by John Threlfall

in memoriam

Alan Astbury, physics and astronomy

Physicist drew UVic into international scientific collaborations that helped put department's achievements on the world stage

This July, UVic lost one of its most illustrious scientists. Alan Astbury, the inaugural R.M. Pearce Chair of Physics, was already an internationally renowned physicist when he joined the faculty in 1983. His prior work at TRIUMF—Canada's leading particle facility, co-founded by UVic—brought him into the orbit of researchers from Victoria and helped convince him to settle here.

Once on campus, Alan championed a number of initiatives that helped build UVic's world-class particle physics program. Major international collaborations included analyzing data from the UA1 experiment, which had just discovered the long searched-for W and Z particles.



Astbury

In the Fall of 1984, Carlo Rubbia was awarded the Nobel prize (along with Simon van der Meer) for the discovery of the W and Z bosons. I was working at CERN, and Carlo's assistant asked me to call Alan at home (at 2:00 a.m., Victoria time) to ask if he would come to the ceremony in Stockholm. They were afraid to wake Alan up—but as it was good news, I figured I could be the one to rouse him. (Not surprisingly, Alan accepted the invitation.)

That year, Alan was also asked to join a key scientific policy committee at the Stanford linear accelerator—and in 1985, UVic became a member of Stanford's prototype linear electron collider. The Victoria contribution to the Stanford experiment was half of a large complex calorimeter based on liquefied argon—a growing area of expertise that helped set the stage for participation in even larger physics collaborations.

Alan also opened doors at the Institute of Particle Physics and NSERC that put a running list of UVic scientists at the table for key decision-making at the national level, and he served on the Armstrong Committee—one of the first efforts by NSERC and the NRC to develop a national long-range plan for subatomic physics.

In 1994, Alan was asked to serve as the director of TRIUMF, where he swiftly created a new vision for the lab and launched a new accelerator project to create rare nuclei. Alan personally and TRIUMF as a whole played crucial advisory roles on the early design of the ATLAS experiment, and helped position UVic as one of the strongest Canadian groups in ATLAS. As TRIUMF director, Alan oversaw and facilitated important Canadian contributions to both the Large Hadron Collider and the ATLAS detector.

The scope of Alan's interest and service to his field was truly breathtaking. While serving as TRIUMF director, he also managed to serve on international review committees and hosted and chaired the International Conference on High Energy Physics in Vancouver.

And though he took on the directorship of TRIUMF in an era of some uncertainty, by the time Alan retired

as the facility's director in 2001, it had cemented an international reputation as a world leader in nuclear astrophysics and nuclear structure physics.

After retiring from TRIUMF, Alan served as the President of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP) from 2005 to 2008. Cecilia Jarlskog, current President of IUPAP, recently wrote that "Alan was a man with clear ideas and active engagement in introducing and implementing new initiatives in IUPAP. During his presidency he succeeded in recruiting 11 new IUPAP member countries.... Another initiative of Alan's was the introduction of IUPAP Young Scientist Medal and Prize, which have been awarded by the IUPAP Commissions since 2006. Alan was also committed to making physics itself more inclusive and worked hard to bring women into leadership positions within IUPAP."

Alan's long list of accomplishments also drew substantial national and international recognition, including the Rutherford Medal, awarded by the British Institute of Physics. The many awards also include honorary degrees from UVic and SFU, as well as his alma mater, the University of Liverpool. He was an active Fellow of the Royal Society of London.


Canada's proud role in the recent discovery of the Higgs boson also owes much to Astbury's remarkable foresight.

Personally, Alan loved traditional jazz and football (or, as we're forced to call it in North America, soccer). I believe he could have played professionally. We were walking across campus one day when a stray soccer ball rolled passed us. With an almost imperceptible flick of his foot, he shot the ball a remarkable distance directly back to the players who lost it.

In recent years, it was hard to remember that Alan was an emeritus professor. He came to UVic every day. His door was always open and he continued to give wise advice and regale us with amusing anecdotes. He was very interested in the welfare of the students and post-doctoral fellows. We will miss his wisdom, his humour and his humanity.

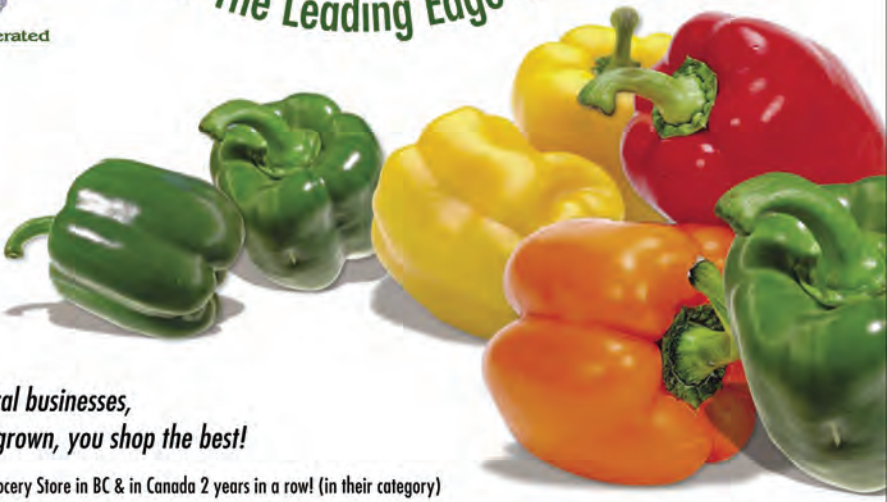
—Submitted by Richard Keeler

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Ziyi Qi, who volunteers at the campus radio station CFUV, completed the ELC's Pathways program in economics and is now studying science. PHOTO: SUZANNE AHEARNE

English Language Centre programs bring thousands of students a year to UVic from around the world to improve their communication skills.

BY SUZANNE AHEARNE

On a hot summer evening in front of Cadboro Commons, the smell of barbecued meat hung in the air as Kumbia, a local salsa band, hit the first notes of a signature Santana tune, *Oye Como Va*. The audience was a group of close to 150 international students from more than a dozen countries who were attending UVic's summer English Language and Culture program.

A lot of students stayed sitting around the concrete tables and benches talking and eating. The Latinos and Latinas in the crowd are the first to jump up and dance, but they're not alone. The beat is infectious and before long, a few of the program's cultural assistants, or CAs as they're called, start dancing and coax others to leave their pop and burgers to the wasps and join in. By the second or third song, a loose circle of jostling hips and shoulders formed and shy faces became animated ones, as the reluctant among them were pulled in to dance.

In its 45th year, UVic's English Language Centre (ELC) is one of the largest in a Canadian university and has one of the most extensive home-stay programs in the country. This summer, there were more than 700 students on campus; this Fall, at least 750. Over the last year, 3,528 students have registered—the largest number in a single year. And the numbers are growing. To meet the demand, construction began in August on the new wing of the Continuing Studies Building where the ELC is housed. Set to open by the end of 2015, the extension will feature a student lounge, 11 new classrooms, three language labs, two executive classrooms, and the Study Centre—currently housed in the library—will become the ELC Study,

Writing and Pronunciation Centre.

Throughout the year, a variety of programs run concurrently: from academic intensives, to first year bridging programs, to the three or six-week language programs that balance classroom learning with social and cultural activities like hiking, kayaking, volunteering and dancing.

At the barbecue and social evening in July, Pedro Corbeiro, Gabriel Jimenez and Philippe Gauvin Levesue—from Brazil, México and Québec respectively—sat around their table talking about why dancing and socializing are the real heart of a language immersion program. “The classroom is about rules and grammar,” said Philippe who came to UVic this summer on the recommendation of his high school English teacher who got his education degree here. “You learn to speak by doing things.”

Pedro nodded vigorously. “One of the most important things we are learning is how to talk to other people and other cultures,” said the young engineering student. “You have to learn to be comfortable communicating *without* perfect English, to communicate with movement.”

“We’ve become masters of mime,” said Philippe, and they all laughed—after he acted out what he meant.

Eighteen-year-old Ziyi Qi was one of a cohort of 120 mostly Chinese students in the Pathways program, studying first year economics, engineering or science concurrent with intensive English for twelve months. When she was a little girl growing up in Changsha in south-central China, Ziyi had a fascination with mermaids and the sea. She loves being close to the ocean here and now that she’s completed her English as a second language requirement, she’s switched from economics to study marine biology instead.

Some of her friends, she said, don’t

like to put themselves out there as much as she does, but she’s thrown herself at as many opportunities as she can handle with her academic workload. She’s gone for meals at First Peoples House, joined a drama group and started volunteering at the campus radio station CFUV. There, she’s painted signs for concerts, tried reading the weather on air (but nobody could understand her, she laughed) and sometimes, she co-DJs a multicultural music show.

Huda Kutrani from Libya and Lamis Almadani from Saudi Arabia just finished the summer session of the English Language Academic Intensive. Students from more than 15 nations attended 22.5 hours of classroom sessions per week, a slightly lighter load than the 30 hours per week in the three other semesters. Year round, classes are held from upper beginner to university entrance level. Lamis and Huda, both here on full scholarships from their respective countries, became friends shortly after they came here this past winter and both have started the Fall semester with plans to continue in the academic program at UVic for another 12 to 18 months.

Lamis has a degree in fashion design from the College of Art and Design at King Abdul Aziz University in Jeddah. She’s studying English so she can do a masters degree in business or education. She was assigned *The Great Gatsby* to read in one of her summer classes. She knew the book was a classic of English literature, but hadn’t read it before. “Anything you read as part of the program gives you insight into the English-speaking world. I like that,” she said.

Huda is an associate lecturer at the University of Benghazi (formerly the Libyan University before the civil war) in the Faculty of Public Health. She has a Master’s Degree in Health Informa-



Social events like this summer dance in front of Cadboro Commons teach ELC students they have as much to learn from each other as they do from their classroom teachers. PHOTO: SUZANNE AHEARNE



Lamis Almadani (left) and Huda Kutrani are part of the ELC's academic intensive program, planning to start graduate degrees at UVic next year. PHOTO: SUZANNE AHEARNE.

tion Science from Coventry University in the UK. Although she says her reading and writing skills in English are “okay,” she wants to bring them to a much higher level in preparation for doing a PhD, which she hopes to do at UVic. There are always new discoveries being made in public health, she said, and she wants to be able to read about and participate in new research being done internationally.

Though the 104 academically focused students who were on campus this summer had their heads in their books more than they’d sometimes like to when the weather is beautiful, Huda and Lamis said that the ELC was great in organizing outdoor activities

to encourage them to explore the city and to set the stage for the natural world do its thing in bringing people together.

When asked what was one of their favourite memories of the summer, both of them said it was the trip to Witty’s Lagoon, near Metchosin, with their classmates and teachers.

Huda brought her four-year-old son with her. It was the first time they had been to the ocean together, she said, and “it was beautiful.” Lamis cut her foot. She could hardly walk afterwards, she said, but still, it was one of the best days she can remember, walking barefoot in the sand with her friends.