Ocean circulation models disagree on the timing and concentrations of radioactive elements expected of 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 Institute and the University of Victoria’s Akitsiraq partnership. Climate scientists and citizen scientists 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.

### 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 Radiation chicule Monitoring—is now seeking volunteer citizen scientists to collect water samples and share science-based information on ocean health within their communities.

### Ocean Networks Canada research and technology on display in the Arctic

On Aug. 23, Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Laureen Harper were with U Vic 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 Akitstraq 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.

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

**Ocean Networks Canada research and technology on display in the Arctic**

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**Headline:** Citizen scientists to help monitor radiation levels in BC’s coastal waters

**Subheadline:** Ocean networks Canada research and technology on display in the Arctic

**Image:** Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Laureen Harper with UVic President Jamie Cassels at the UVic booth at the 2014 Student Orientation. (Photo: Diana Nethercott)
The University Centre cafeteria expansion and renovation is near completion and expected to open mid-September. If you’ve been won-dering 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-pack-aged 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, creat-ing 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 every-thing from West Coast grill items to Asian wok stir-fries to all-day 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.

A video tour of the new facil-ity—looking ahead to Spring 2015 completion from its rapidly changing scenes for the last eight months. If you’ve been won-dering what’s been going on behind the scenes for the last eight months, the wait is almost over.

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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, Brit- ish 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 Cana- dian government.

Project director and associate history professor Dr. Jordan Stanger- Ross (humanities) points out that the uprooting, internment and deporta- tion of Japanese Canadians have been the focus of scholarly and popular concern, but the story of the dispos- session, 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 institu- tions—universities, museums, and Japanese-Canadian community or- 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 provin- cie—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 experi- enced the injustices of internment and dispossession in BC when she and her family were forced to move. "No one says the project reassures her, but 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."

"Eventually, we all learned what safekeeping meant. Safe, but not for us. Keeping, but none of us returned home."

"The travelling museum exhibition is expected to 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 collec- tion of research material including archival photographs with narratives, land deeds, personal statements, government records and interactive GIS maps.

takesimagescourtesyofNikkeiNational MuseumandCulturalCentre

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Four UVic faculty members—Wen Djillian and Yang Shif (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. Three of the four were each named among the top one percent of most-cited scientific papers. Among Canadian researchers, UVic is fifth on the Thompson-Reuters list, with more faculty members among the top-cited researchers than any other Canadian university.

Dr. Christoph Borchers, director of the UVic-Genome BC Proteomics Centre has been jointly appointed as the Proteomics Chair for the University of California, San Francisco and the Weill Cornell Medical College 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, forensic and alternative fuels. The UVic-Genome BC-McGill collaboration will lead to the establishment of clinical proteomics applications and the first pan-Canadian proteomics program.

Dr. David Giles (economics) was recently named a Distinguished Fellow of the American 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. Phillips Memorial Lecture. Dr. Giles is the only 13th economist to be named a Distinguished Fellow of the NZAE in its 75-year history.

Dr. Atif Suleman (mechanical engineering)—who specializes in computational mechanics, fluid-structure interaction, computational and experimental aerelasticity, 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 Lynn Mackenzie King Research Fellowship from Harvard University. Bradley will teach two half-semester courses through Harvard’s Department of English: Indigenous Literatures of North America—Folk and Written Traditions (fall 2014) and Poets of the Pacific West (spring 2015), as well as serving as an advisor for several research projects at Harvard. The fellowship presents an opportunity to explore rich intellectual opportunities for Canadian studies at Harvard. The award was established in 1967 following a campaign spearheaded by David Rockefeller, who wished to honor William Lynn Mackenzie King (1874–1950), a great friend of his father, John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

BY ANNE MacLAURIN

The “Viking’s Livres beyond the Legend” exhibition opened mid-October at the Royal BC Museum, is providing an opportunity for some UVic anthropologists 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 headbands on the backseat of the reality of the Viking culture and their complex world was much more varied. And that’s just what the anthropologists 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) the classroom—while also creating room in the course for community outreach.

“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 Amy 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. It was a simple idea: Between UVic and the Royal BC Museum emerged, so when the museum needed more volunteers “craftsmen,” McGuire recommended some of her fourth-year anthropology students.

Shawn Curé was one of the 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 Hefstafla—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 point for a conversation about games and social structures. Hefstafla isn’t actually that fun. 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 Hefstafla game pieces by hand out of alabaster and soapstone 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 craftsmanship activity nights being held every Saturday at museum,” explained Curé. “I was really excited because I knew I could talk to visitors about those 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 Bradford Clements.

BY ROWAN MEREDITH

Studying the Holocaust in Europe

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 and a summer co-op at the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial Museum.

ROWAN MEREDITH

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 exhausting and filled with ancient history, we were enriched by learning about the experiences of families surviving at Auschwitz. 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 laborsome effort that is involved in clothing production,” said Chergui. “It makes people think and understand how challenging it would have been in the ‘killing time for the mass family’.”

Pappas-Acreman taught the art of bread 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 the Thunder the Mascot will be invited to the Royal BC Museum for future assistance at the exhibition.

At the Jewish Museum, former I-witnesses camp in Austria. CREDIT: ROYAN 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 surviving 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, class-mates 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 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.
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.

"Frosty genes" technology awarded US patent

"Frosty genes" technology awarded US patent

The strategy is to create a strain of bacteria that can replicate in a person or animal, but then proceed 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 pathogens, 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 cold.

"We look for temperature inactivation relevant to human body temperature, 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.

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

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.

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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.

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 had no idea what to expect. I was the constant company of 12 other students and two chaperones. As a liberal arts student, and during the school year, the thought of constantly spending that much time with people was rather daunting.

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, doctors cold to her genes 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 hairy 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 time with 14 people for three weeks started to wane. Before sleeping I reflected on the day and it left a bitter taste in my mouth. There I lay, sad and dry with food in my belly while countless others shared beds smaller than mine, suffered from hunger and malnourishment and lived in homes that would be considered inadequate in Canada. I brought it to tears. That was my first night in South Africa.

"Frosty genes" technology awarded US patent

The following week taught me more important lessons than any formal or informal educational experience ever had. The women that taught me taught me what it really means to share space and forge 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 opportunities 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 wel- come 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 people with more openness.

It took every ounce of self-deter- mination for me to get on the plane home and it has not been an easy adjustment, re-adapting to the Can- dian 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 drink- ing 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 differ- ent lives and find the beauty 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 Afri- cans 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 you.
Two golds for swimmer Ryan Cochrane

There was never any doubt that the Viks 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 Viks swimmer and UVic psychology alumnus Ryan Cochrane. The two-time Olympic medalled in the pool, claiming bronze and UVic grad Catharine Pendrel wins gold, July 29.

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

Fellow Olympian and former Viks swimmer Hilary Caldwell also medaled in the 1,500-metre freestyle 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.

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 Brixton Stadium on July 28 after a 56-7 victory over Cook Islands. In the mix were former Viks 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 Viks 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 UVic student-athletes.

Student-athletes carry Viks spirit to XX Commonwealth Games

Ryan Cochrane, F.17 and Catharine Pendrel, F.19, medalled at these Commonwealth Games.

Victoria’s Commonwealth Games remembered

Do you remember what you were doing 20 years ago? If you lived in Victoria, you were likely in a Bubble and cheering for UVic’s Commonwealth Games team. It’s hard to believe we have decades passed since Victoria—and UVic—welcomed the world for 10 days in 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 5,000 people, to accommodate the opening and closing ceremonies, as well as 10 track and field competitions. As well, UVic played host to 100 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 concession stores in the Athletics Village and broadcast centre. Athletics and Recreation operated a full recreation program for the athletes. Houising, food services and health services all contributed to the well-being of the visitors. The scaled 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 the 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.

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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.
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 2013 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. “He loved his students, 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—who’d guzzle away some wiz-tastic 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 students and colleagues alike. Legacy will continue to inspire former students and teachers. “To me, Brian was the epitome of the kind of teacher I always dreamed of having. He was caring, kind, and a wonderful mentor,” says film writer Michael Reid, who mentioned in his Times Colonist August 15 memorial piece about Brian, “he will be missed, but his influence will stay alive . . . . It gave me a sense of accomplishment out of the 700 things that typically come into my mind every day I 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 die before they actually die. And I realized that I was well-armed for this.”

In addition to his teaching, Brian wrote many scripts for film, television and business, 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 culture, travel, and literary magazine that was actually started under his mentorship.

“Follow your bliss” was one of his greatest lessons to his students, and it would hold true 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

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

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 that 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 I 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 die before they actually die. And I realized that I was well-armed for this.”

Indeed, one of his most powerful 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 Loenen, Acting Dean of Fine Arts and another longtime departmental colleague.

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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 B.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-sought W and Z particles.

In fall of 1984, Carlo Rubbia was awarded the Nobel prize (along with Simon van der Mee) for the discovery of the W and Z bosons. I was working at CERN, and Alan assisted asking 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 a new framework, I couldn’t be the one to reprise it. (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 made of liquid 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.

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In 1994, Alan was asked to serve as the director of TRUMF where he swiftly created a new vision for the lab and launched a new accelerator project to create rare nuclei. Alan personally and TRUMF 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 overviewed and facilitated important Canadian contributions to both the Large Electron Positron Collider and the ATLAS detector.

The scope of Alan’s interest and engagement in introducing and implementing new collaborations in IUPAP 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 Award, by the British Institute of Physics. 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 (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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**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, and join in. By the second or third song, a loose circle of jostling bodies formed and shy faces became animated ones, as the reluctant among them were pulled in to dance.

At the barbecue and social evening in July, Pedro Corbeiro, Gabriel Jimenez and Philippa Gaurin Levousse—far from Brazil, Mexico and Quebec 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 Philippa 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 communciate with movement.”

“We’ve become masters of mime,” said Philippa, 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 (nobody could understand her, she laughed) and sometimes, she co-DJs a multicultural music show.

Huda Kuwizani 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 Information 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, Lamis and Huda 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.

**LEARNING A LANGUAGE IS ABOUT MORE THAN JUST WORDS**

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

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