

# CONVOCATION 2015 P.5

# THE RING

SUMMER 2015

The University of Victoria's  
community newspaper

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University  
of Victoria

## SPEED READING

### UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

#### UVic first for scientific impact

"Big data" has shown that UVic is ahead of all other Canadian universities for scientific impact in two of five broad fields: mathematics and computer science, and physical sciences and engineering. The Leiden rankings also reaffirm UVic's leadership as a global hub for research, with the highest proportion of internationally collaborative research in Canada. Full story: page 2

### CONVOCATION 2015

#### Watch Spring Convocation on the web

The Spring Convocation ceremonies will be webcast live on June 8-12, 2015. If you're not able to attend in person, you can watch the ceremonies on your computer at [uvic.ca/convocation](http://uvic.ca/convocation). The video of each webcast will be available on this website for six weeks following Convocation. All ceremonies take place in the University Centre Farquhar Auditorium. For event times and more information, visit [uvic.ca/ceremonies](http://uvic.ca/ceremonies).

### SOCIAL MEDIA

#### Parental advice for grads

It's convocation time at UVic, and we're asking parents what advice they have for their new grads. What was running through their heads as their sons or daughters walked across the stage? Check out our convocation celebration stories and photos on UVic's Facebook page during the month of June.

### CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY

#### Canada's greenest university

The UVic campus is at the head of the proverbial class when it comes to sustainability—the greenest in Canada according to *The Princeton Review's* recent guide to sustainable colleges and universities. Only five universities across the country made the list of 353 institutions (mostly in North America)—and UVic was the only Canadian institution awarded a perfect score for its efforts. Full story: page 3

## Taking academia underwater



Irvine. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

3,649

NUMBER OF  
DEGREES,  
CERTIFICATES  
AND DIPLOMAS  
TO BE AWARDED  
DURING SPRING  
CONVOCATION  
CEREMONIES

#### Education grad Mike Irvine took academia beneath the waves for his scuba-dive thesis defence

BY SUZANNE AHEARNE

When education grad student Mike Irvine first posed his master's project research question to his advisor, the idea struck Jason Price as a humorous oxymoron. Irvine wanted to explore how technology could be used as a tool to reconnect kids to nature.

"A lot of research has been telling us that technology may be responsible for socially isolating kids and creating a disconnect with nature. But Mike," recalled Price, "wanted to explore how technology might be used to bring kids closer together, and closer to the marine world in particular."

"I saw the irony," admitted Irvine, "but I thought that the way to connect kids back

to nature might just be the one thing conventional wisdom is telling us is standing in the way." Irvine got the green light.

For his master's project in curriculum and instruction, the third-generation scuba diver studied to what extent underwater web cameras could be an effective tool for motivating and engaging students in marine science.

Irvine created a pilot case study, which he conducted in a combined classroom of students from grades four to six. After conducting surveys with a group of students about their marine science knowledge and interests, then facilitating a curriculum unit about the history of a local marine environment (the Inner Harbour and Race Rocks), Irvine turned on a live ocean-to-surface feed from a stationary camera already in place.

"Almost instantly, students started to

engage with it," said Irvine. "They were excited about what they were looking at. They asked more questions. They dug deeper. And then real discussions started to happen."

That excitement is the hook that's needed, says Irvine, to engage students in inquiry-based learning that's more interactive and exploratory than traditional learning.

"Inquiry is like improv," says the 27-year-old whose undergraduate work at UVic was in Greek and Roman Studies and film. "If someone gives you something, you receive it and pass it on. You don't just stop it in its tracks."

"When a student asks a question," he explains, "you take that question, and re-direct it in a way that can guide the student

SEE IRVINE P. 8

## New CFI funding boosts major science projects

BY VALERIE SHORE

UVic's leadership and participation in several national and international big science projects been given a huge shot in the arm with the injection of \$14.8 million in new funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI).

The funding was announced on May 29 in Ottawa as part of a \$333-million CFI investment in new research infrastructure across the country.

The UVic funding will support researchers who are developing world-class technologies in nuclear medicine, particle physics and ocean observation systems. The bulk of the funding coming to UVic—more than \$13.6 million—goes toward phase two of the UVic-led Advanced Rare Isotope Laboratory (ARIEL) at TRIUMF, Canada's national facility for particle and nuclear physics in Vancouver.

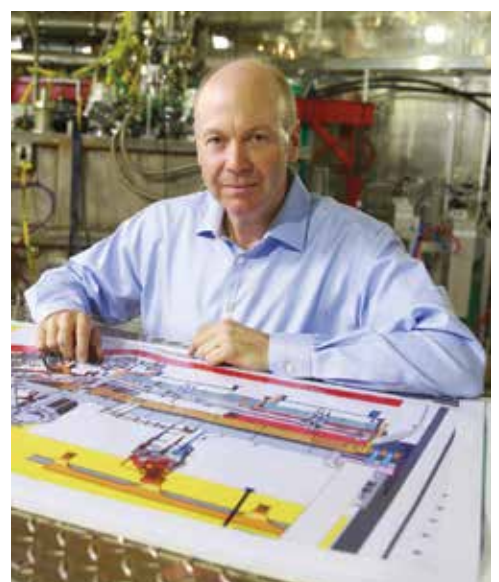
ARIEL will strengthen Canada's capabilities in particle and nuclear physics, and materials science. It's also a testing ground for producing

critical medical isotopes, which are used to diagnose and treat cancer, heart disease, Parkinson's and Alzheimer's.

The first phase of ARIEL, completed in 2014, constructed an underground beam tunnel and one of the world's most powerful superconducting particle accelerators, as well as a new building to house them. This second phase will add next-generation technologies to the accelerator to produce a wider variety of exotic isotopes at greater intensities.

"We have designed a one-of-a kind accelerator that will allow us to pursue the science in which TRIUMF is currently a world leader," says UVic physicist Dean Karlen, who leads a 19-university ARIEL II consortium. "It's exciting for us and for future generations. They'll come up with new ideas on how to use this technology that we haven't even thought of yet."

SEE CFI FUNDING P. 11



Karlen

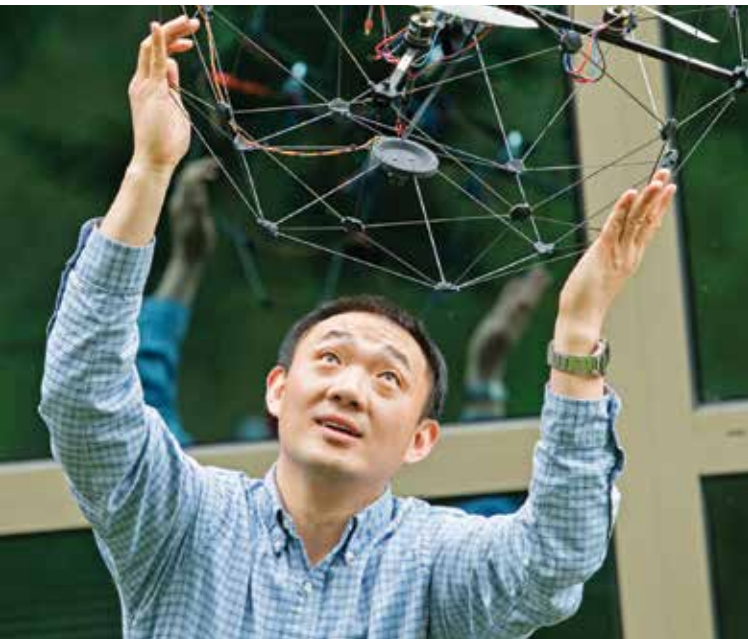


ringers

**2015 campus sustainability champions named.** Each year the Office of Campus Planning and Sustainability selects a UVic staff member and one or more undergraduate students as sustainability champions. The awards recognize and celebrate individuals whose leadership has made UVic more environmentally sustainable. The 2015 winners are **Miranda Harvey** (development) and students **Emily Thiessen** and **Leat Ahrony**. Among other initiatives, Harvey expanded the development office’s recycling separation station to go beyond the standard UVic office system, adding bins for soft plastics, batteries, paper towels, and compost—all of which she ensures are emptied, and their contents taken to the appropriate places. Thiessen has worked to include groups not traditionally engaged in sustainability and has played a key role in Divest UVic, pushing the conversation on what sustainability on campus means. Ahrony is involved in a myriad of groups and projects on campus, all of which focus on making her community a better place for its members. One of her main groups is the University of Victoria Sustainability Project, through which she continues to work to make UVic a more sustainable institution.

“Big data” shows UVic is leading Canada in scientific impact

A data-driven analysis of scientific publications released May 20 by a leading European research centre puts UVic first in Canada for scientific impact in two broad fields—mathematics and computer science, and physical sciences and engineering. The ranking, produced by the Centre for Science and Technology Studies at Leiden University, also places UVic third in the country among all universities for overall scientific impact. UVic was the top Canadian university without a medical school in four of the ranking’s five categories. “For UVic to place in the top tier is a remarkable achievement, and to do so without the lift in rankings that a medical school provides is all the more impressive,” says David Castle, UVic’s vice-president research. The Leiden rankings use multi-year Web of Science publication and citation data in the sciences, social sciences, arts and humanities to measure the performance of 750 leading universities around the world. Leiden’s metrics are unusual because they rely solely on citation impact, and do not include the results of subjective survey responses by industry professionals and academics. Although the Leiden data can be sorted in many ways, UVic’s strong showing is based on Leiden’s default analysis, which measures scientific impact independently from a university’s size and focuses on publications in the top 10 per cent of most-frequently cited work—indicating the value of



Highly cited researcher Yang Shi. UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

the work within the scholarly community. Every year since its inception in 2011, the Leiden rankings have also highlighted an indelible characteristic of our campus—UVic’s global perspective. Our researchers publish a higher proportion of research based on international collaboration than any other Canadian university. “There is a strong correlation between research excellence and the extent to which the research involves international collaboration,” notes Castle. “As these ranking results indicate, UVic is making a vital impact at

home and abroad.” Of the 750 world-leading universities that Leiden ranks, UVic is 116th for global impact in all sciences, 46th in math and computer science, and 71st in physical sciences and engineering. **Subject-area leadership, even by subjective measures** Another estimate of field-specific scientific leadership released last month, the QS World University Subject Rankings, suggests that opinions in the

- scientific community are beginning to catch up to the data—with UVic ranked among the world’s top 200 in six key academic fields:
- Earth and marine sciences
  - English language and literature
  - Geography
  - Law
  - Philosophy
  - Psychology

QS uses a mix of reputation surveys, citations and an impact-and-productivity indicator to measure leadership in each field. No matter which measures are used, UVic’s performance across the disciplines continues to be very strong. QS scored the university for world-class performance in 29 of 36 fields it considers. Research rankings like Leiden and QS are becoming increasingly important not just for potential students in selecting schools, but also in decision-making about research funding—leading key Leiden scientists to publish an article in *Nature* calling for more transparency and accountability in the collection of metrics. “Rankings provide one line of evidence, among many others, about the research performance and impact of a university,” says Castle. “In this respect they tell part of the story of continued strengths and emerging areas of research excellence at UVic, all of which is attributable to inquisitive and driven researchers.”

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Staff and faculty access to lynda.com

**BY JOANNE MCGACHIE** Get ready to do some skill-sharpening: UVic staff and faculty now have free access to vast and ever-growing sets of online video tutorials from *lynda.com*. This online resource provides an inventory of instructional videos covering the latest software, creative and business skills. Use *lynda.com* for high-quality training in education and e-learning, Microsoft Office, Adobe Creative Suite, time management, HTML coding, business skills, marketing, photography, 3-D animation and much more.

The *lynda.com* library consists of over 128,000 individual video tutorials, grouped into over 3,329 specific courses. Each course is broken into multiple segments, which allows you to watch as little or as much as you want. With new courses added weekly, *lynda.com* is designed for all levels of learners, with nearly endless choices. Exercise files let you follow along with the instruction as you learn, and bookmarks help keep track of what you’d like to watch. Also, many courses

include exercise guides that can assist with your learning. Individual video tutorials may be as short as four minutes each. With the Playlist feature you can browse the entire *lynda.com* inventory and build your own learning library, which can include entire courses or just individual topics of interest. These online resources are available from home, office or mobile device to support employees’ professional and personal development.

**Why is UVic offering this?** As part of our overall learning strategy for employees, *lynda.com* complements existing learning opportunities offered through Human Resources as well as support services currently provided by University Systems. With such an extensive inventory of topics, employees can use *lynda.com* as a great solution for ‘just-in-time’ learning, and for developing long-term professional and personal skills. UVic has negotiated a one-year trial period for this exciting resource, so sign in and see what *lynda.com* can teach you!



New deans and acting deans announced

Four new academic leaders take up their posts at UVic this summer, with the appointments of Dr. Patricia Marck as dean of human and social development, Dr. Susan Lewis as acting dean of fine arts, Dr. Cedric Littlewood as acting dean of humanities and Dr. Kathryn Gillis as acting dean of science. Marck will serve as dean of the Faculty of Human and Social Development for a term effective July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2020. Marck is a specialist in the study of safety and quality issues across health systems and uses knowledge and methods from the field of ecological restoration as a key component of her work. She works collaboratively with students and colleagues across Canada and internationally (particularly in Brazil) to build adaptive health management approaches and sustainable health systems. She has deep experience working in distance education and expertise in ethics, including collaboration on projects that integrate ethics into interdisciplinary undergraduate and graduate curricula. Marck’s partnerships have included Indigenous communities in BC and Alberta and she has worked within her faculty to establish de-colonized curricula. She previously served as a consultant for the Alberta Association of Registered Nurses; an associate professor in nursing at the University of Alberta; associate dean of the Faculty of Health and Social Development at UBC–Okanagan; and as professor and director of the School of Nursing at UBC–Okanagan.

Lewis has been appointed as acting dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts effective July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016. Lewis currently serves as director of the School of Music and was the school’s acting director in 2010 and 2012. She joined the school as an assistant professor in 2001 and was promoted to associate professor in 2008. Lewis is well-placed to take on the role of acting dean while a search is conducted for the next dean of the faculty. Littlewood will serve as acting dean for the Faculty of Humanities for the period of July 1, 2015 to Dec. 31, 2015 while the Appointment and Reappointment Committee conducts its search for a new dean. Littlewood is an associate professor in Greek and Roman Studies and has considerable administrative experience, having represented the faculty on Senate. More recently, he acted as associate dean of humanities for six months in 2014, and over the past year served on three of the sub-committees that contributed to the current Faculty of Humanities Strategic Plan. Gillis has been ratified and appointed as acting dean of the Faculty of Science beginning July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016. Gillis currently serves as associate dean of the faculty. She joined the university in 1994 as an assistant professor and has served as associate director of CEOR (2001-2004) and director of SEOS (2004-2011). Dr. Rob Lipson, who was reappointed earlier this year for a further term as dean of science, is on administrative leave from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016.

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Environmental studies instructor Brenda Beckwith and class in Mystic Vale.  
UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

## UVic gets top marks for sustainability

The University of Victoria was given a perfect score in the 2015 edition of *The Princeton Review's Guide to 353 Green Colleges*, an annual publication spotlighting campuses in the US and Canada with exceptional commitment to sustainability in their policies, initiatives and academic programs.

The scoring is a comprehensive measure of how environmentally responsible a school's policies are, and how well a school is preparing students for employment in the clean-energy economy of the 21st century as well as for citizenship in a world now defined by environmental concerns and opportunities.

*The Princeton Review* chose the colleges based on "Green Rating" scores (from 60 to 99) that the company tallied in summer 2014 for 861 colleges using data from its 2013-14 survey of school administrators.

Last year, *Princeton Review* used that data to unveil a shortlist of 24 schools in North America who had achieved a "perfect" score of 99. UVic was the only Canadian school to make that list.

This spring's guide is made up of a larger set of schools with green ratings of 83 or above, and provides more information on each of the schools. The four other Canadian universities are: Calgary (97), Western University (91), the University of British Columbia (90) and the University of Windsor (83).

"We have a long history of leadership in sustainability at UVic," says Gayle Gorrill, vice president of finance and operations. "Many of our campus policies have sprung from student initiatives that have taken root institutionally and this speaks volumes about the kind of campus community we have here. It's an inspiring place to work and study."

UVic is noted for its focus on local and regionally sustainable practices: roughly 50 per cent of its food budget is spent on locally grown food; roughly 72 per cent of all food waste is composted; 75 per cent of all new plants installed on campus are native; all toxic chemicals are being eliminated from its routine landscape management; and selected areas of the

campus are being "naturalized," reducing irrigation and saving resources—8,500 cubic meters of water and \$17,000 annually.

The UVic Freestore is an example of collaboration between the UVSS, the Waste Reduction department, and Campus Planning and Sustainability and has helped solidify our spot as a leader in waste reduction among post secondary institutions. It opened its doors in September 2014 and facilitates the reuse of items that would otherwise need to be landfilled or recycled. UVic's "waste diversion" rate, which is a measure of how much we recycle rather than send to landfill, is roughly 69 per cent. Most other institutions are between 40 and 50 per cent.

CARSA utilizes a ground-source—or geo-thermal—heating system that is ultra-efficient and as a result has cut the estimated emission of the building by almost 350 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e/year. This is estimated to save UVic about \$100,000 per year in operating costs and over \$16,000 per year in carbon-related costs.

The guide also highlighted UVic's sustainable transportation initiatives, including transit passes and the wide range of cycling infrastructure like showers and lockers for bike commuters.

Academically, UVic rated highly for its multiple sustainability-focused degree programs including in the School of Environmental Studies, which started its first PhD stream in 2014. Sustainable curricula and research can be found across the entire university, including a high density of clean energy researchers in mechanical engineering, in part to the interdisciplinary research success of the Integrated Energy Systems research centre (IESVic).

### COMMUNITY RELATIONS

## UVic sets strategic course for community engagement

Building on the university's breadth and depth of relationships with the community for research and dynamic learning experiences for students, UVic has set a strategic course for community engagement with specific goals.

Supported by the newly created Office of Community University Engagement (OCUE), the integrated approach will increase UVic's capacity for initiatives and activities, which have evolved over the years across all sectors at the university.

"The new Office of Community University Engagement at UVic reflects our university's updated approach and deep commitment to socially responsive research, community-university engaged scholarship and interdisciplinary innovation," says President Jamie Cassels. "Matching research and education with societal need is a crucial aspect of engagement at UVic and this new office will help maintain the university's position at the forefront of the community-university engagement movement in Canada."

UVic's faculty, students and staff have individual, program or research-based connections in thousands of community organizations, work places, households, company boardrooms and government operations.

Undertaking research that has a vital impact and providing students with hands-on learning experiences outside the classroom are established successes at UVic that keep it responsive to and deeply connected with the community's opportunities and needs.

Under the leadership of Dr. Norah McRae as director, OCUE's work over the next three years will be guided by three institutional-level goals: (i) developing UVic as a hub for excellence for community-engaged scholarship; (ii) increasing opportunities for all UVic students to have an engaged experience as part of their education; and (iii) leveraging the university's strengths and strategic commitment to sustainable social, cultural and economic development in our local region.

"These goals, each with specific

strategies and outcomes, will take advantage of opportunities and build on our successes," says McRae, who will continue as executive director of UVic's Co-operative Education and Career Services.

A five-frame approach underpins the UVic community engagement strategy:

Community Engaged Learning (to enhance integration of community experience with student learning);

Community Engaged Research (to strengthen mechanisms and resources to support this level of research);

Good Neighbour (to contribute to the well-being of our local region);

Knowledge Mobilization (to foster a culture supporting knowledge exchange and application for the betterment of society);

Policies and Institutional Supports (to focus on internal support of community-university engagement).

A committee structure with representatives from across campus and the community will be established to support the work. A staff secretariat of three employees will provide administrative support for OCUE as well as the Institute for Studies and Innovation in Community-University Engagement (ISICUE).

ISICUE, established in June 2013, will continue as a research institute studying and building scholarship around community-university engagement, as well as engaging in innovative projects.

"ISICUE is a 'doing' think-tank. It will continue to do research on engagement and to nurture innovative projects and as such serves as another reflection of the university's continued commitment to community engagement," says Dr. Leslie Brown, who is retiring in June after two years as ISICUE director. A new ISICUE director will be appointed this summer.

A community-university engagement executive, consisting of UVic's provost, vice president research, vice president finance and operations and vice president external relations, will have overall responsibility for the community-university engagement strategy.

### LABOUR RELATIONS

## Tentative agreement reached with faculty

After several months of hard work by both negotiating teams, and facilitated by mediator Trevor Sones, representatives of the University of Victoria and UVic Faculty Association have reached a tentative collective agreement, including a salary and benefit settlement. This is the first

agreement since the faculty members and librarians certified as a union. It was approved by the university's Board of Governors in late May. As the Ring went to press, faculty members were holding a ratification vote that was set to conclude June 5. The agreement covers the years 2014 to 2019.

## ringers

Ecologist and ethnobiologist **Dr. Trevor Lantz** (environmental studies) has been named a Fulbright Scholar by the Fulbright Arctic Initiative for his Arctic ecosystems research. Lantz studies the rate and causes of Arctic environmental change and its consequences for northern communities. Using a combination of field studies, remote sensing, and collaboration with knowledgeable hunters and trappers, he will examine the vulnerability of Arctic coastlands to storm surges. His fieldwork will be conducted in the Beaufort Delta region of the Northwest Territories while collaboration with other Fulbright Arctic Initiative scholars will be in Nunavut and Finland.

This April, Director of Community Relations **Dr. Joy Davis** received the 2015 Distinguished Service Award Canadian Museums Association for her extraordinary work directing UVic's Cultural Resource Management program for more than 30 years. "Joy developed the world's first academic distance education courses in museum studies, supporting professionals from as far afield as Rankin Inlet, Haida Gwaii, Kenya and the Falkland Islands," noted Dr. Robert Janes, of the museums association. "While Joy has consistently created widely respected—and enthusiastically evaluated—learning opportunities, the real significance of her work lies in the difference these have made across the museum sector, long after coursework is complete."

Being the first to gain access to an archive is the kind of research opportunity most academics dream of—and it's how Art History and Visual Studies professor **Dr. Allan Antliff** will be spending his summer. Antliff was recently announced as the inaugural Research Fellow in Residence at the Clyfford Still Museum Research Center in Denver, Colorado. Named for the famed American painter—whom Antliff describes as "a leading artist in the abstract expressionist movement"—the position at the CSM represents a rare opportunity. "No scholars apart from those at the CSM have had access to his archive or library before this—I'm getting first crack at it," says Antliff, who will be spending two months on site. "I have no idea what I'm going to find there; I've just been told it's substantial. . . . I've been exploring debates concerning aesthetics and romanticism during WWII in Britain and the United States, and tracking art's configuration as a means of resistance to the forces of state power, mass conformity and dehumanizing military violence," he says.

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# CARSA's grand opening

Just hours into the community open house for UVic's new Centre for Athletics, Recreation and Special Abilities (CARSA), every corner of the 190,000 square foot facility was filled with activity.



The new squash courts. PHOTO: ARMANDOTURA



Wheelchair basketball in the Field House. PHOTO: ARMANDOTURA



Breaking the ribbon at the opening ceremony. PHOTO: ARMANDOTURA

BY PATTY PITTS

Just hours into the community open house for UVic's new Centre for Athletics, Recreation and Special Abilities (CARSA), every corner of the 190,000-square-foot facility was filled with activity.

"It's awesome," said third-year student Kolding Larson, taking a break from his workout in the sprawling fitness and weight training centre, just one of CARSA's features that support athletic excellence and active living for the campus and community. "I thought it would be good, but it's way better than I thought it would be."

During his five-times-a-week visits to the former Ian Stewart Complex (ISC) fitness centre, Larson says he frequently encountered waits to use machines at busy times. "But there are so many of each machine here," he said of the 18,000 square feet devoted to weight and cardio equipment. "I don't think that will be a problem."

## A facility for everyone

The same enthusiasm was evident during the May 2-3 open house among community members who tried out the new equipment; dropped in on free sessions, including spin classes, yoga and kids' karate; and smashed a ball around in the squash and racquetball courts.

## From vision to reality

At CARSA's official opening on May 1, UVic President Jamie Cassels said the facility started as a vision in 2008.

"It's absolutely critical to the mission of a university to provide recreational opportunities for everyone to engage in active and healthy living," said Cassels, adding that this was "the foundation for academic and life success."

He pointed out that since 2000, UVic's student population has grown by more than 4,500 students—more than 30 percent—and that

UVic has invested over \$300 million in new and renovated academic facilities. At the same time, athletics facilities were showing the wear and tear of over 40 years of use, and also needed to be renewed, upgraded and expanded.

## A hub for sports excellence

UVic has a proud tradition of high-performing student athletes and is among the top five Canadian universities for its number of Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) team championships. Varsity athlete and national field hockey team member Kathleen Leahy thinks CARSA will help UVic add to that total.

"We train hard and compete harder. With CARSA the opportunity to raise our game is endless," she said at the opening. Leahy added that CARSA provides "extra recruiting appeal" to students considering which university to attend.

Cassels also expressed his pride in the "inclusive nature" of CARSA, where everyone can find "the resources, inspiration and opportunity to be the best that we can be."

## A new home for CanAssist

That inclusive nature is best demonstrated right off CARSA's main lobby in the new facilities for CanAssist, UVic's innovative program that develops technologies, programs and services for people living with disabilities.

During the open house, CanAssist staff proudly showed off some of their current technologies in a light-filled facility easily accessible by clients, staff and the public. Electrical design specialist Paul Green said the new location was already raising awareness about CanAssist.

"About 50 per cent of the people coming through our doors are newcomers who had never heard of CanAssist before, and lots of those are UVic faculty and staff," he said. "So even on campus we're raising our profile."

## The Peninsula Co-op Climbing Centre

Just beyond the main foyer of CARSA, the Peninsula Co-op Climbing Centre dominates the building and a steady stream of people lined up to scale the 16-metre wall studded with multi-coloured holds that mark the paths of various climbs.

"UVic has purchased 5,000 holds so we can switch them up and change the routes to keep it interesting for regular users," said Kathleen Wirtanen, a UVic summer camps and program coordinator and one of the many staff conducting building tours.

The dominating wall and its towering enclosure serve a dual purpose. It contributes to CARSA's LEED gold building certification standards by acting as a funnel, venting warm air up and out of the building like a chimney. Other environmental features include a geothermal system that will save emissions by 340 tonnes annually, and technologies to reduce water consumption by 40 per cent, making it one of the most water-efficient buildings on campus.

## Transforming the UVic campus

The \$77-million project includes significant renovation to the McKinnon Building, providing much needed teaching and research space for UVic's School of Exercise Science, Physical and Health Education, as well as a new parkade at McKenzie Avenue and Gabriola Road. The project is funded by the university, donor and sponsorship support, membership fees and parking fees.

The open house, in addition to a faculty and staff sneak peek on May 1, provided people with an up-close look at the facilities that includes the enormous field house where semi-transparent screens divide the space into separate sections so badminton and pick-up basketball can exist side-by-side with room for ping pong and tennis games.



New treadmills. PHOTO: ARMANDOTURA

Students, faculty and staff get free access to much of CARSA as part of their athletics and recreation fee or employment compensation. Memberships for the weight/fitness area are available for a cost, which is the same arrangement that was used for the fitness facility at ISC. Community members can purchase a full-access membership.

One of the younger visitors, Helena McQuarrie, 7, expressed what many were feeling after an initial visit to CARSA. After tackling the bouldering area next to the climbing wall she admitted, "it looked cool, but it's a little hard." Then she took another look at the brightly coloured holds. "I want to try it again."



# CONVOCATION 2015



Rogers. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

## Chancellor's installation opens convocation

Shelagh Rogers became the university's 11th chancellor at the start of the calendar year but it becomes official when she is installed in office at the outset of spring convocation ceremonies.

Rogers, a nationally respected CBC radio journalist, will take her oath from Lieutenant Governor Judith Guichon. Chancellor emeritus Murray Farmer will invest Rogers in her ceremonial robes while delegates from other universities

will be on stage to witness the installation.

Rogers hosts and produces CBC radio's *The Next Chapter*, a weekly program about Canadian writers and songwriters. She is an officer of the Order of Canada for her support of Canadian culture and for her volunteer efforts for mental health and literacy. She is also an honorary witness for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.



Mailes at Australia's Royal Children's Hospital.

## Co-ops give health info sciences grad a competitive edge

BY KATE HILDEBRANDT

For Emily Mailes of Melbourne, Australia, deciding what to study was a daunting process. "I was not one of those people who always knew what they wanted to do."

Six years post-high school and having relocated to Victoria, Emily decided to pick a path and move forward with her life. "UVic's School of Health Information Sciences stood

out," she says. A relative is a grad who now has an interesting and lucrative career. The global opportunities across the tech sector held considerable appeal along with the school's promise of guaranteed placement upon graduation.

The School of Health Information Sciences (HINF), based in Human and Social Development, was the first program of its kind when launched in 1981. Today, it's internationally recog-

nized as a leader in the field of health informatics education.

"I was fascinated, too, by the diversity of the BSc program," Mailes explains. Studies blend computer programming with healthcare delivery and business administration skills to prepare students for the demands of the health service workplace as well as equipping them with the ability to

SEE MAILES P. 7

### CONVOCATION

## Honorary degrees

The University of Victoria will present four honorary degrees for outstanding achievements in community-based leadership, public service, legal affairs and mathematics during spring convocation ceremonies.



Dunstan

**Ruby Dunstan,**  
**HONORARY DOCTOR OF LAWS (LLD)**

June 9 at 10 a.m.

The first female chief of the Lytton First Nation, Ruby Dunstan was a dynamic leader in the fight to protect the Stein Valley, ancestral territory of the Nlaka'pamux people, from logging. She was a key negotiator in the formation of the Stein Valley Nlaka'pamux Heritage Provincial Park, co-managed by the Lytton First Nation and BC Parks.

Dunstan was among the first to bring attention to residential school abuses in Canada, helping to mobilize a national campaign that led to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and she was a driving force behind the creation of the Stein Valley Nlaka'pamux School in Lytton.



Drummond

**Don Drummond**  
**HONORARY DOCTOR OF LAWS (LLD)**

June 9 at 2:30 p.m.

Don Drummond, BA '76 (Economics), is an economist whose career has been guided by a vision for a Canada that is fiscally strong, educated and inclusive. As Associate Deputy Minister of Finance, Drummond played a key role in the 1995 budget (and subsequent budgets) that eliminated deficits that had been the worst of the G7 countries at the time.

After leaving the federal civil service, Drummond continued to influence economic outcomes in Canada as the senior vice-president and chief economist at TD Financial Group. From 2000-2010, he made frequent media appearances, offering informed perspectives on Canadian economic issues and policies. He later chaired the Commission on the Reform of Ontario's Public Services.



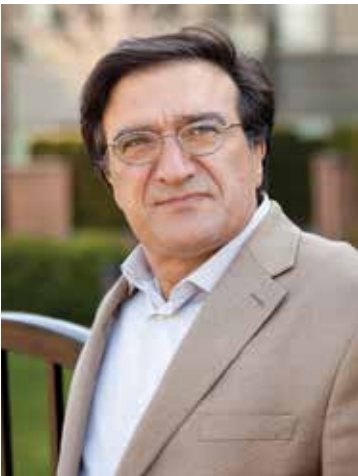
Finch

**Hon. Lance Finch**  
**HONORARY DOCTOR OF LAWS (LLD)**

June 10 at 2:30 p.m.

Hon. Lance Finch is the retired chief justice of British Columbia and Yukon Territory, a position he held from 2001-2013. His approach to justice is characterized by wisdom, compassion, and profound concern for the law and its role in Canadian society.

Finch studied at Victoria College, starting in 1955, before completing his undergraduate and law degrees at UBC. An effective and principled leader of the court, Finch has been especially concerned with the impact of the law on less advantaged members of society. He has been outspoken about challenges related to access to justice and has urged the law community to share more responsibility for helping those who can't afford legal services.



Ghoussoub

**Dr. Nassif Ghoussoub**  
**HONORARY DOCTOR OF SCIENCE (DSC)**

June 12 at 2:30 p.m.

Dr. Nassif Ghoussoub is a world-leading mathematician who has played a critical role in building Canadian networks for the support of education and research in mathematical sciences. He is the founder of the Pacific Institute for Mathematical Sciences, the Banff International Research Station, and a co-founder of Mathematics of Information Technology and Complex Systems.

PIMS has transformed mathematics among research universities in western Canada by encouraging regional research initiatives. BIRS has gained an international reputation as a premier venue for mathematics conferences. MITACS, an offshoot of PIMS, promotes collaboration among mathematicians working in industry and academia. Ghoussoub, a UBC math professor, is a world leader in the field of partial differential equations.



major medal winners

The Governor-General’s Gold Medal (best Doctoral thesis)  
**Michelle Parker**  
*PhD, Biochemistry*

The Governor General’s Silver Medal (top undergraduate student)  
**Kristy Inouye**  
*BSc Honours in Kinesiology*

Lieutenant Governor’s Silver Medal (best Master’s thesis)  
**Malcolm Bowles**  
*MSc, Mathematics*

Lieutenant Governor’s Silver Medal (Other than Thesis)  
**Connor Gaston**  
*MFA, Writing*

The Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology Undergraduate Student Award  
**Kristy Inouye**  
*BSc Honours in Kinesiology*

Jubilee Medal in Social Sciences  
**Carolyn Tsao**  
*BSc Honours in Economics*

Jubilee Medal in the Humanities  
**Andrea Brown**  
*BA, French*

Jubilee Medal in the Sciences  
**Alexandra Jamieson**  
*BSc, Biology*

The Law Society Gold Medal  
**Francesco Siletta**  
*JD, Law*

Victoria Medal in Fine Arts  
**Spencer Davis**  
*BMUS, Music*

Certificate of Outstanding Academic Distinction in the Faculty of Human and Social Development  
**Jennifer Bell**  
*BSN, Nursing*

Department of Computer Science Graduation Medal  
**Marcelle Wheeler**  
*BSc, Computer Science*

IEEE Victoria Section Gold Medal in Computer Engineering  
**Cole Bosmann**  
*BENG, Computer Engineering*

IEEE Victoria Section Gold Medal in Electrical Engineering  
**Jordan Krog**  
*BENG, Electrical Engineering*

IEEE Victoria Section Gold Medal in Software Engineering  
**Samuel Maskell**  
*BENG, Software Engineering*

The Canadian Society For Mechanical Engineering Medal  
**Pranay Shrestha**  
*BENG, Mechanical Engineering*

CONVOCATION 2015

Congratulations, grads!

Thousands of UVic students and their families and friends will gather on campus this month to celebrate the achievement of an academic milestone. During Spring Convocation, from June 8–12, nine ceremonies will be held to confer degrees, diplomas or certificates upon 3,649 graduating students. Shelagh Rogers will be formally installed as the 11th UVic chancellor during Monday’s ceremony, and four honorary degrees will be conferred in subsequent ceremonies. Congratulations and best wishes to all convocating students. In the following pages, we present profiles of a few of the many outstanding members of this year’s graduating class.



Napoleon

INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

Wild game and words feed inspiration for TV host and Indigenous language revitalization grad

**BY TARA SHARPE**

Art Napoleon was already a national figure when his TV show, *Moosemeat & Marmalade*, premiered on APTN in January 2015. He had performed at the Canadian Aboriginal Music Awards, opened for Buffy Sainte-Marie and been interviewed by veteran correspondent Tom Hawthorn for the *Globe and Mail* in September 2010 for the release of his album *Creeland Covers*, sung almost exclusively in Cree.

*Moosemeat & Marmalade* is a “comedic documentary adventure and cultural clash,” says Napoleon, who graduates in June 2015 with an MA from the Faculty of Humanities. (The show, along with several other UVic films, has been nominated for a 2015 Leo Award. More about that on page 12.)

Napoleon was raised on moosemeat and wild game in an inter-tribal community at East Moberly Lake—in the woodlands of northeastern BC. “To eat traditional food, it’s like you’re tasting a piece of my culture,” he says. As co-host and producer of the new TV series, he hunted moose and foraged for berries then presented his culinary creations—all on camera.

He points out the English word “moose” comes from the Cree word *môswa*. Much like the majestic animal pierced by the sharp tip of a hunting weapon, words can help pin important paradigms in place for broader understanding. Napoleon, a graduate of UVic’s Department of Linguistics as well as Indigenous Education in the Faculty of Education, did his master’s thesis on traditional concepts related to Cree worldview through the lens of nîhiyawîwin, the Cree language. A holistic focus on the Cree language and worldview is part of why he avoids standard dictionary approaches to translation.

“None of this approach is new; what is new is compartmentalization,” explains Napoleon. “The language itself provides clues to our ways of thinking, clues to our past.

“One example is the Cree word for ‘thunder.’ You’d need a whole sentence in English to translate our word: ‘The thunderbirds are calling out to one another!’

“Another example is the English word for ‘green.’ In Cree, it’s ‘the colour of the land in summer’ or ‘summer-like colour.’

“I come from a holistic paradigm

and I can’t isolate anything from anything else. It is a more of a circle, a circling. And the beauty of the Cree language is that it allows you to see that really clearly.”

Napoleon is the first master’s student in UVic’s Indigenous Language Revitalization program to complete an MA. He describes himself on Twitter as a TV producer, songwriter, adventurer and wild game foodie, as well as a “weekend shape-shifter and extreme berry picker.”

Based in Victoria since 2003, he remains connected to his home territory and his Cree and Dane Zaa roots. As a child, he was “forced to dig in the garden, season the wood and haul it, clean the fishing nets, water and take care of the horses. Every child knew how to make a fire at four years old. And I still feel like the land is able to feed me.” He brings his two youngest daughters home to the Peace region each summer, where he hunts and forages to fill his city cupboards and freezer for the winter.

“My kids swim in the lake and tell stories by the fire. If you asked them whether they’d like to go to Hawaii or Europe for the holiday, they’d say Moberly.”

He was Chief of the Saulteau First Nation for a short time before moving to the coast. He is a seasoned performance artist and musician who tours regularly and also serves as a juror on arts and culture organizations across Canada. He is also a language teacher and a long-time consultant and advisor.

He plans to write a book on aspects of the Cree language and culture, and has a suitcase literally stuffed with ideas and notes for future writing projects.

He adds he also has “an activist side, out of necessity.” He is a conservationist involved in protests against the Site C dam, the proposed project which is “at the doorstep of my community and will affect the river.”

Cariboo were “once like ants” across the land of his ancestral home—also the “heart of moose country”—and he remembers hearing moose bellowing and fighting. Now “it is hard to even find one.”

You can bet a cookbook is very likely in his future. What is not as safe a bet is the continuation of fresh air, clean water and wild game in plenty that once tempted and inspired his ancestors in both song and hunt.





Arespacochaga

## From Manila to Broadway

Professional director sees MFA as stepping-stone to rest of the world

BY ADRIENNE HOLIERHOEK

Like many MFA students in the Department of Theatre, director Chari Arespacochaga came to UVic already armed with a strong resume and extensive experience in theatre. A native of the Philippines, Arespacochaga directed professionally in Manila for many years, casting big foreign stars, and touring shows across Asia. Her resume is teeming with major productions of Broadway’s best and most popular musicals including *Spring Awakening*, *Legally Blonde*, *Avenue Q*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Aladdin* and *Rock of Ages*.

So why leave a successful career to travel across North America and return to school? “I didn’t want to rest on my laurels in Manila. Doing my MFA meant starting fresh in a new community so that I could improve myself and my craft,” says Arespacochaga. “When I was researching different programs, I noticed that UVic’s directing MFA was not only very successful, but very competitive—only one person is admitted each year. I thought it would be very challenging and I would be able to focus completely on exploring plays and directing work within a department that has the resources and support to make my ideas a reality on stage.” She was also looking forward to working in the department’s extraordinary facilities and mentoring with the diverse faculty. “I loved that there were three different spaces in which I could explore staging possibilities in. And the faculty has a great diversity of experiences and approaches to creating theatre. I thought this would be beneficial to expanding my ideas and directing process.”

While musicals have a special place in Arespacochaga’s heart, for her MFA thesis production she decided to explore music within a more classical-style play and chose

*Amadeus*, Peter Shaffer’s Tony Award-winning fictional play (later a Oscar-winning film) about Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and his rivalry with Antonio Salieri. “I was taken by the poetry in Shaffer’s writing and believed that the questions this play asks about the nature of art were very important. What is our accountability to our talent? Is it a gift from a God, or can it be developed? How far would you go to achieve success?” she says. “These are fascinating ideas to explore in school where people are trying to become artists.”

Staged in March as part of the Phoenix Theatre’s mainstage series, *Amadeus* was called “bold and ambitious,” garnering a 4.5/5-star *Times Colonist* review and a nearly sold-out run. Directing a cast of 16 student actors, Arespacochaga was also able to work with a majority-professional creative team, including professor Allan Stichbury, retired Stratford lighting designer Michael Whitfield, sound designer Brian Linds, choreographer Jacques Lemay and award-winning student costume designer Pauline Stynes.

Returning to school has also opened up Chari’s perspective on theatre. “I love a good musical, but there are so many other genres of theatre that you might not get to do in a commercial environment—so many ways to do theatre, and so many scripts to create theatre with. There’s always something to be excited about, always something to explore.”

For Arespacochaga, coming to Victoria was a stepping-stone to bigger and better things. “As a director, it’s important to venture into bigger theatrical centers and to keep discovering new ways of creating and approaching theatre. I left Manila to broaden the spheres that I create theatre in,” she says. “What’s next?” she laughs. “I am keeping my bags packed and then I will disappear into Vancouver or Toronto or New York or London or wherever the work takes me... and emerge with a Tony Award.”



With Arespacochaga directing, the Phoenix Theatre mounted “a bold and ambitious” production of *Amadeus* that was lauded by critics. PHOTO BY DAVID LOWES.

## A passport stamped “experience”

BY KATE SIEMENS

Electrical engineering grad Sarah Allan explored her personal and professional interests at home and abroad while at UVic—thanks in large part to the co-op program. “Taking part in the co-op program allowed me to explore many of my personal interests,” she says. “It also allowed me to gain industry knowledge that wouldn’t have possible in a traditional degree program.”

Allan chose UVic largely because of its co-op program, which is mandatory for engineering students. Over the course of her degree, Allan completed work terms with four different employers across three continents.

Allan’s first work term took her to northern Ghana with Engineers Without Borders, where she developed and populated data systems and data-driven development in small local communities. Her international interests spurred her second co-op, a placement at HSBC as a global IT intern. At HSBC, she planned and built business tools to support various multinational teams. For her third co-op term, Allan supported a Yukon College archeologist in the Yukon and Ukraine, exploring the possibilities of using virtual reality to analyze artifacts. She also got to practice her Russian, which she learned before heading to Ukraine and carried forward up to 400-level courses upon her return to campus.

Allan spent her final work term in Edmonton as a field engineer with Willbros Canada, an energy infrastructure contracting company. Though each day started with a 5:30 a.m. wake-up call and a dark, snowy trek out to the field site, Allan enjoyed the opportunity to put her skills from earlier positions to work in a new environment. “Because it was a field position, where I could work hands-on and learn project engineering,” she says, “it was a new learning experience for me in an industrial setting.”

Allan spent her days in Edmonton coordinating clients, site foremen and quality assurance personnel to ensure projects were on task. She was also responsible for planning work reviews, site inspections and any other projects that came her way. The dynamic nature of the job helped Allan build project management and workflow skills and learn from her project manager and gain new knowledge about industrial, electrical and instrumentation systems



Allan

and parts.

With her co-op experiences under her belt, Allan feels confident heading into life after graduation and has a greater awareness of her interests, strengths and career options. “Each co-op term was another insight into what type of career would interest me,” she says.

“The combined skills I gained from my co-op terms and academic studies also give me the confidence to work in the industries that appeal to me the most.”

Allan continues her jet-setting—off to Brisbane, Australia. She plans to travel the country for a month or two before looking for a position as an industrial engineer-in-training.

Reflecting on her time as an engineering student, Allan is grateful for the support she found throughout her degree. “I had a great time during my degree, and appreciated and took the opportunity to use the many resources available at UVic.”

She suggests new students create their own networking opportunities on campus, joining student clubs and interacting with as many people as possible. “UVic provides an extensive network and proven connections to the industry,” she says. “Talk to as many people as you can, learn from them and have fun!”

### MAILES CONTINUED FROM P.5

push the discipline forward.

Encouraged to work while she learned, Mailes arranged her own work terms through contacts she had established with Stanford Children’s Health in Palo Alto, California, KPMG Australia’s Melbourne office, and the Royal Children’s Hospital (also in Melbourne) where she works now as a full-time electronic medical record analyst.

During her work term at Royal Children’s, she helped put together a business case for an electronic medical record software installation. This involved literature reviews, workflow analysis, time-in-motion studies, and developing business requirements. The case was so successful, she was hired to work on the project. In fact, the same software she used during her work term at Stanford Children’s Hospital was procured by Royal Children’s. Emily’s co-op experience gave her an advantage having worked closely with this program that had yet to be tried in Australia.

Recalling highlights from her time at UVic, Mailes says she’s changed her mind about one instructor who refused to give her an extension or a break on grading after a team abandoned their group project. The instructor’s direction to figure out how to manage the team or do the work herself led Mailes to complete the assignment. “I wasn’t happy with that prof then, but

now I really appreciate that experience.”

Mailes also recalls one class that was held entirely outdoors. “I pine for Victoria,” she admits. “I wish I’d realized then just how fortunate I was to attend a university nestled in the forest and a stone’s throw from the beach; to be around people who are progressive and accepting and ambitious; to live in a city where activities like cycling, kayaking, hiking, and rock-climbing are so accessible.”

Being able to study a few electives online meant she could complete her international co-ops, line up employment, do some travelling (like cycling from Victoria to her work placement in California), and still graduate on time.

With feet now firmly planted in Australia, Emily has found a way to give back to the program that helped her get her life on track. She’s gearing up to place a HINF co-op student this September alongside at the Royal Children’s Hospital. Not only will she be the student’s main support person, they’ll also be included in work with different teams and project managers.

“I’m really excited to be able to offer this co-op to a fellow HINF student,” she says, stressing how much she values the learning she gained through similar experiences. “I think this will be a fantastic opportunity.”



# around the ring

## Catalyst Conversations

How do Greater Victoria’s universities and college work together with municipalities to benefit the region? First, you get everyone in the same room and start the conversation. On June 2, Royal Roads University and Camosun College joined UVic President Jamie Cassels in welcoming more than 80 elected municipal officials, city managers and leaders from the three post-secondary institutions to a Catalyst Conversation that challenged participants to imagine how they could collaborate to address a wide range of interests. In a facilitated session that had participants suggest their own topics followed by free-flowing discussion in groups, the session considered the assets each had to contribute, sparking ideas and conversations that resulted in new connections and ways of looking at common opportunities and challenges. A graphic animation of the event is being produced.

## Connect U keynote presentations

Keynote speakers at the 2015 Connect U all-staff professional development conference included Chancellor Shelagh Rogers, VP Finance and Operations Gayle Gorrill, VP Research David Castle, and a four-VP “Living on the Edge” panel discussion about life at UVic in the new “Edge” era. Recordings of these presentations are now available online at [bit.ly/2015-connectu](http://bit.ly/2015-connectu).

## New Edge resources

For more on the UVic Edge, check out the starter tools on the Edge website. Resources include new email signatures, electronic letterhead, document covers, business cards, PowerPoint presentations and more. Start at [uvic.ca/edge](http://uvic.ca/edge) — the tools can be found on the “what’s next” page.

## UVic fundraising recognized by the United Way

The generosity of the campus community was recognized on April 21 at the United Way Spirit Awards luncheon, held at the Empress Hotel. UVic’s 2014 United Way fundraising campaign was recognized with two awards: the Leadership Giving Award and the coveted Post Secondary Challenge Cup. UVic’s campaign was hugely successful, surpassing its target and raising over \$268,000 for the Greater Victoria community. The annual campaign relies on the generosity and community spirit of UVic employees and students—areas where there’s no shortage! In accepting the awards, campaign chair Kane Kilbey congratulated his team and UVic’s local union leaders for their hard work and tireless efforts, and thanked all those from the campus community who donated for their support and generosity.

# What comes after plastic?

Innovation at the elemental scale could help us move beyond oil-based polymers

BY ERIN KING

You might not see the results of his research on store shelves in the next few years, but PhD graduate Saurabh Chitnis is helping to change the very makeup of the world around us.

Chitnis is a fundamental chemist working on developing new chemical compounds.

For the past 100 years, popular chemistry has focused on one element of the periodic table: carbon. Combining with one or two other elements, carbon makes organic compounds that then combine in long chains to make a polymer—the basic makeup of plastics. These carbon-based polymers are in virtually everything we use on a daily basis from eyeglasses to clothing to cell phones.

“With the typically slow decomposition rate of plastics, and their components being derived from fossil fuels, the world’s reliance on these polymers has become an environmental concern,” says Chitnis. “There is a real need to find viable alternatives.”

Chitnis’s work explores some of the other 113 elements of the periodic table. He studies the unique characteristics of elements, how they work together, and what bonds them into new forms.

“Think of creating synthetic material like building a structure out of Lego,” he says. “We have all the Lego pieces (the elements in the periodic table), but we don’t know what shape they are or how they fit together.”

Research like this is at such a high level, so removed from immediate societal impact, that it can be difficult to see the benefit. However, without chemists like Chitnis focusing on carbon 100 years ago, our world would look very different indeed. “An often uncounted outcome of scientific research is the production of qualified personnel,” he says. “To sustain an innovative economy someone has to produce knowledge. That’s what I’m doing. Future chemists can take the principles we’re discovering to create the next synthetic material.”

Chitnis’s research has garnered an impressive amount of accolades. In 2011, he was awarded an NSERC Canada Graduate Scholarship, and he was named a Vanier scholar the following year. He also published a dozen articles in prominent chemistry journals during his PhD, with another



Chitnis

three in the works now.

Chitnis says one of the things that drew him to UVic is the institution’s reputation for involving undergraduates in research. “In the four universities at which I’ve studied, UVic seems to take undergraduate research the most seriously. Not only have undergraduates contributed directly to my research, but their participation also gave me an opportunity to supervise research.”

Chemistry chair Neil Burford also drew Chitnis to UVic. “I was a member of Neil’s lab at Dalhousie University. When Neil moved to Victoria in 2011, I came with him,” says Chitnis. “Neil is internationally renowned as a leader in inorganic chemistry and currently the president-elect of the Canadian Society of Chemistry. He believes in letting students freely design and evolve their research projects based on their intellectual curiosity, allowing them to develop as independent thinkers. It’s no surprise that many of his previous students are now professors and researchers around the world.”

With his PhD now complete, Chitnis embarks on a new chapter as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Bristol. For the next two years he’ll study catalysis—an industrial process already used to produce plastics by efficiently bonding carbon with other elements. He’ll work to develop a new methodology to efficiently create bonds between inorganic elements.

What really excites Chitnis about this area of research are the endless possibilities. “So much is still unknown about chemical compounds. The imagination lags behind what nature can ultimately reveal to us,” he says.

## IRVINE CONTINUED FROM P.1

toward a greater understanding.”

This is a key piece of the research, he explains. When a student observes a phenomenon in real time, it elicits both an emotional response and an intellectual curiosity.

Both STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) literacy and ocean literacy follow the same fundamental principle: when we become more engaged, we are motivated to become more informed, and those informed decisions impact the planet.

Irvine’s intention was not to work as a classroom teacher. “I wanted to focus my efforts on bridging the extensive gap between the ocean and the public, to be able to take them from anywhere in the world, to any internet device and actually come diving with me,” he said.

To that end, he led a mind-hive of UVic-connected graduate students and marine scientists, as well as teachers, dive industry people, and community organizations to co-found the Fish Eye Project, a not-for-profit

organization using technology to highlight important marine research via live dives.

Communicating from underwater to surface is not that difficult. Nor is it that difficult to webcast it, said Irvine. “It’s just that we’re looking at it with a different lens and intention.”

To embody his research and test new ideas, Irvine pulled off what he believes to be the first live-streamed, ocean-to-surface, webcast master’s defence ever conducted.

“We normally require an oral defence to take place on campus,” said David Capson, dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies, “but we thought Mike’s research was so innovative we made an exception in his case. Defending his work underwater dramatically showed us how his creative use of technology will help to connect students with an ocean environment.”

After many months of planning and logistics and help from colleagues, faculty and family, Irvine, jumped into the Salish Sea to make history in April.

# A natural path to resilience, outdoors

BY ANNE MacLAURIN

Brittney Sharma’s vision—an outdoor program to help children who had experienced family trauma—generated lots of buzz this year after being chosen as a showcase idea for the Clinton Global Initiative University (CGIU) conference. Sharma graduates this month with a bachelor’s in anthropology, and says her time at UVic was filled with academics and club activities, as well as developing her vision to help children of battered women.

“Studies have shown that children of battered women living in shelters or transition houses were more likely to develop depression, anxiety, low self-esteem and aggression,” says Sharma. “Also these children were more likely to stay in a cycle of violence.”

In March, Sharma applied to CGIU and her project, “Koro: Outdoor Resilient Adventure Program for Children of Battered Women,” was selected as a showcase idea for the conference. With costs covered by CGIU and the The National Society of High School Scholars, Sharma was flown to Miami for the event.

“It was an amazing experience,” says Sharma “and the on-site mentorship I received really helped focus my project.”

The word “Koro” comes from an island in her mother’s native land of Fiji. Koro, in Fijian, means ‘village’ or ‘community’—a fitting title for the program Sharma envisions.

“Koro is growing and developing from not only just being an outdoor resilience program but also to a physical space where kids can drop in and talk to a counsellor, peer, and use other resources that might not be available back at the shelter or transition house.”

Sharma’s mother came from the Fijian island Koro, in the early 1970’s, and her father arrived in Canada in the 1980’s. Sharma grew up in Vancouver’s East End, where she saw a variety of social issues in her community and heard about social problems from her mother who worked with the Ministry of Social Development. From a young age Sharma was aware of poverty, addictions and domestic violence—but her interests in making a difference led Sharma away



Sharma

from traditional fields of assistance and intervention like social work. Instead, she followed her love of learning about other cultures, and focused on understanding and putting judgments aside.

“Ever since I was five years old and my class learned about Egypt, I have loved other cultures,” Sharma explains. Sharma began studying anthropology at Langara College, where she received an associate’s degree before progressing to UVic. She cites UVic’s size and academic excellence as contributing to her choice. “The more I got involved with clubs and the more I engaged with my professors, the better my grades got,” she adds.

Sharma soon learned that living in Victoria and attending UVic fed her natural desire to help others and form a community. “Victoria is very different from Vancouver,” she says. “There’s a real sense of community here.”

Now back in Vancouver, Sharma is committed to her Koro project and starting her new job at a group home for at-risk youth.

“Outdoor adventure programs for at-risk youth have shown to increase resilience, develop trust, improve self-esteem and create conversation and dialogue with youth about the issues they struggle with daily,” says Sharma. “I am very excited for the way things are developing so far and I’m sure that by this time next year, the organization will be progressing well!”



Irvine defending his thesis. PHOTO: SCOTT STEPHENSON

Price was on site at the James Island wharf with a dock-full of electronics; co-supervisor Mijung Kim was in attendance via teleconference from Alberta; department chair David Blades attended via teleconference from UVic.

“UVic is a leader in the areas of ocean research and what Mike’s done is created a potential for student scientists and citizen scientists from around the world to become engaged in our ocean research,” Price said after the defence went off without a hitch.

As for the future, Irvine says: “This

system we put together here is very mobile and I think we should start looking to other places in the world where people need help to get their marine research and marine sites opened up to the public. And hopefully from there, we’ll motivate a lot of people from different places to go beneath the waves and be the next researchers in the future, leading and pioneering the next wave of ocean communication.”



# A global perspective and an international itinerary

BY MOIRA DANN

While many educational experiences are a straight road from enrollment to convocation, some routes are more circuitous. Bader Murad—who graduates this June with a Master of Global Business (MGB) from the Sardul S. Gill Graduate School at the Gustavson School of Business—took a while to find his way. Convocation isn’t the only milestone for Murad: he’s also arrived triumphantly at his first career destination.

Murad’s undergraduate degree in criminology and additional coursework in human resources left something lacking for him—ultimately, he found neither of those spoke to him as careers. Murad heard about the Master of Global Business while working at an outdoor store on the West Coast. He had lived in Europe and wanted to get back overseas, so he investigated the internationally focused program.

Without an undergrad commerce degree, Murad acquired the fundamentals in an intensive, 12-week Certificate in Business Administration. It required a big leap of faith: he quit his job to immerse himself in the program—“...in which he excelled,” adds MGB Program Associate Director John Oldale.

And then another roadblock: Murad’s undergrad GPA wasn’t stellar. However, there were many other clear and compelling elements in his application, and Oldale and the MGB

Admissions Committee “had a good feeling about him.” They weighed those factors against his GPA and made him an offer of admission.

“It was the right decision,” said Oldale. “He excelled in the MGB, not only academically, but in every other way: socially, cross-culturally [and] in the experiential elements of the program.” Murad was one of the top five graduates in his class.

Murad found his MGB internship with Munich, Germany company, Metaio, on a UVic job board. He was later encouraged by a friend to apply to Hitfox Group in Berlin, where he survived a month-long interview process.

Murad says he got his job because he was able to sell the MGB program. He competed successfully with people with MBAs and experience in consulting companies because of what he learned and experienced through the MGB program; in his words: “I learned a global mindset.” He’s already had the opportunity to travel to Barcelona twice through his job, and is heading to London and Madrid. The MGB gave him the skills and confidence to work internationally. He also said the program will have paid for itself in two years.

With his recent promotion to Business Development Manager at Hitfox venture Applift—and an international itinerary to match his global perspective—Murad says happily, “I am living the MGB life.”



Murad

# An international career path in law

## Thai co-op quenches law grad’s thirst for international experience

BY JULIE SLOAN

Anna Beatch doesn’t like to plan too far ahead, and that feeds her thirst for adventure. She likes a challenge, which is why she chose UVic Law after receiving her undergrad commerce and business law degree from the University of Alberta. “I wanted to challenge myself and push my boundaries,” says Beatch. “I also chose UVic Law because of the co-op program.”

During her undergraduate degree at U of A, Beatch had the opportunity to study abroad at the Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration in 2008 and as a delegate with an international study tour to China in 2009. Clearly seeking a broad education and experience, the UVic Law co-op program was an easy choice. She stayed close to home for her first three co-op terms—in the BC Office of the Ombudsperson, the BC Ministry of Justice and a local tax law firm—so a fourth work term in Thailand became a perfect opportunity for adventure, and an invaluable education in Asia-Pacific law. Beatch was offered a position with Chandler

and Thong-ek, a Bangkok law firm that handles corporate and commercial law, with local and international clients.

Chandler and Thong-ek has hired 62 co-op students from UVic over the past 20 years. The partnership began in 1991 between now-retired Dean of Law Bill Nielson and Al Chandler, the firm’s founder and senior partner. The partnership has been providing students with an invaluable experiential learning opportunity, and clearly has an impact on career choices for many of the students who have had the opportunity to complete a co-op placement there. Barry Penner—former BC Attorney General, Minister of Aboriginal Relations & Reconciliation and Minister of Environment—was the first UVic Law co-op student hired by Chandler and Thong-ek. Penner’s experience there left such an impression on him that he returned, 20 years later, to expand Chandler & Thong-ek’s satellite office in Myanmar, where Beatch also met Penner.

Beatch’s experience in Thailand also had a profound impact on her. “Living in Thailand and working at Chandler and Thong-ek was amazing—I grew personally and professionally. I was exposed to a new country and a new culture, and got to teach my colleagues about my country and my



Dean of Law Jeremy Webber, Anna Beatch and Al Chandler in the Chandler & Thong-ek offices in Bangkok.

culture. I was working at a top-tier law firm and being mentored by brilliant lawyers. I was exposed to conducting due diligence for domestic and international investment projects and project financing in the renewable energy and natural resources sectors. I spent every bit of my time exploring and networking with other young professionals from all over the world. I have memories that will last a lifetime.”

Beatch has considered finding her way back to work in Thailand. Al Chandler, who was very fond of Beatch,

recommended that she work in corporate law in Canada for four or five years to position herself well for work in the firm back in Bangkok.

The Saskatchewan-born Beatch, who graduates this June, has just started articling for MacPherson, Leslie and Tyerman, a law firm in Saskatoon. As for the future plans of this adventure-seeker: “I tend not to plan my future too far in advance—this keeps it exciting!”

# around the ring

## LinkedIn places UVic grads #3 globally for volunteerism

Graduates of UVic are making a vital impact through volunteerism—and the online community has taken notice. Social media giant LinkedIn looked at more than 10 million of its users who connected their volunteer causes and interests to their online professional profiles and discovered that four of the top five universities whose alumni disclose out-of-work commitments are Canadian, with UVic at number 3 globally. Connect to other faculty and staff via UVic’s LinkedIn.

## New co-op funding

The BC government has announced \$6 million in funding (provided through the BC Innovation Council) for students to receive job training in the technology sector. The BC Tech Co-op Grants Program is designed for small tech businesses and will be delivered in collaboration with co-op departments at BC public post-secondary institutions, including UVic. It encourages student training and job readiness through work terms with small technology firms. In addition, the incredibly popular Service Learning Internship Program (SLIP) has been renewed beginning in summer 2015. If you work for a local community-based organization that collaborates with UVic on joint research projects and you want to hire a co-op student, you might qualify for SLIP. SLIP funding helps employers hire co-op students to do work that provides an excellent learning opportunity for the student and supports the local community.

## Off to the Prague Quadrennial

When it comes to stage design, the Prague Quadrennial is as good as it gets—and this year, a pair of Department of Theatre alumni will help represent Canada. “It’s the Venice Biennale of stage design,” says theatre professor Allan Stichbury. With leading designers from 80 countries, the Prague Quadrennial is the biggest theatre exhibition in the world. Canada will be represented by six different submissions, selected from 33 entries by the three-person jury—which included Stichbury. Among those entries was the Belfry Theatre’s 2008 production of *The Turn of the Screw*, which featured design work by theatre alumni Patrick DuWors (set & lighting) and Erin MacKlem (costumes), along with frequent Phoenix contributor Brian Lynds (sound). “It’s fantastic that UVic is represented in at least one of the six shows,” says Stichbury. “It’s already a big victory, because there’s a lot of pretty amazing stuff across Canada.” The Canadian teams will be competing for gold, silver or bronze awards. Stichbury—who, along with Theatre professor Mary Kerr, has exhibited at the Prague Quadrennial before—will also be taking 13 current Phoenix students to the event.






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in memoriam

Joyce Underwood

The university lost a dear and valued member of the community on Monday, May 18 with the passing of Joyce Underwood. Underwood was a founding member of the Elders’ Voices program, which brings the stories, songs, language, culture and traditions of Indigenous communities to life at UVic and at Camosun College. Her involvement helped shape the program, bringing elders from local communities to guide students, staff, faculty and administration in Indigenous ways of knowing and being. She was well known for having a kind word and a smile for everybody she met, and supported the spirit, work and life of the university in ways that are difficult to count.

Her funeral was held at the Tsawout First Nation gymnasium on Friday, May 22. The university flag was also lowered in her honour that day.



Dr. Martha Farrell

Dr. Martha Farrell, a long-time associate of the Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives (CAPI) and the School of Public Administration, was killed May 13th in a Taliban terrorist attack on the Kabul guesthouse where she was staying. Farrell was in Afghanistan with the Aga Khan Foundation leading workshops on gender and anti-violence for Afghan locals and government officials.

Farrell was a director of the Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA), an India-based non-profit with a long history of collaboration with the university. Over the years, Farrell developed many personal and professional connections with the UVic community and programs. She helped develop community development courses for the School of Public Administration and had been adjunct faculty both here and at Royal Roads where she was scheduled to teach later this summer.

Budd Hall (Public Administration, Anthropology) has known Farrell for 25 years. Of his friend, Hall reflected, “Martha Farrell was a joyful, courageous, strong and principled woman. She was a national leader of the movement against violence against women, a great friend of the University of Victoria and will be with us always in our hearts.”

Hall shares the UNESCO Chair in Community-Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education with Farrell’s husband and President of PRIA Dr. Rajesh Tandon, who received an honorary Doctorate of Laws from UVic in 2008.

Farrell and PRIA distance education initiatives have connected with many UVic students. CAPI interns working with PRIA had the privilege of working with Farrell directly. Robyn Fila, internship program manager says that “Martha was an incredibly strong, intelligent and inspiring woman, who’s work had a huge impact on many people’s lives.”

Farrell’s death is a tragedy that has brought home to UVic the reality of the violence happening in many places around the world. All who knew her or her work will miss Farrell’s leadership, inspiration, courage and dedication. A celebration of Farrell’s life is being planned for September when Tandon is planning to be in Victoria.

Mystery of the Franklin Expedition

Locating the sunken Erebus has sharpened some of the mystery surrounding the failed expedition—and reinforced Indigenous accounts of the tragedy

TARA SHARPE

The truth is out there, if you know where to look. And now, thanks to the dramatic discovery of the sunken hull of HMS *Erebus* last fall, clues and questions about the ill-fated Franklin Expedition continue to surface, making this historical mystery thrilling—and chilling—nearly two centuries later.

“The Franklin Mystery: Life and Death in the Arctic,” is the 13th website in the award-winning *Great Unsolved Mysteries in Canadian History* series. It aims to help crack one of the oldest cold cases of all. *Great Unsolved Mysteries*, based in the history department at UVic, is built on the premise that everyone loves a mystery and that students of all ages can be drawn into the study of Canadian history with the allure of solving real stories of historical intrigue.

As project co-director and UVic historian Dr. John Lutz says, “History is too important to be boring.” And finding one of Franklin’s two ships solves one mystery, but opens up many more.

**Unsolved questions**

The doomed 1845 British mission was the equivalent in its time of sending humans to the moon. But how could 129 men with three years’ provisions not survive when local peoples were living off the land? Did lead poisoning, freezing temperatures, conflict or starvation cause the deaths of the crew? Why did the crew abandon HMS *Erebus*, or did they? What happened to the other ship, HMS *Terror*, and its crew? Was cannibalism, a part of the Inuit oral testimony, really the unfortunate final chapter in these men’s stories?

Research director Lyle Dick, a former president of the Canadian Historical Association who first suggested



Abandoning the Vessels. FROM THE RICHARD CYRIAX COLLECTION.

the 13th mystery to Lutz, explains that the British admiralty’s instructions to Sir John Franklin “included as many orders to collect geomagnetic data as they did requests to search for the Northwest Passage. When Franklin’s ships became beset in the ice, they were only about 100 miles from the North Magnetic Pole. Were they on a mission to discover not only the Northwest Passage but a kind of early forerunner to the modern Global Positioning System?” Thanks to collaborating historian and author Andrew Lambert, who was interviewed for the Franklin Mystery, this is a new question to be explored on the site.

Dick also points out, “The Franklin Mystery can teach us a great deal about how Aboriginal people have survived in the Arctic over many generations while newcomers didn’t because they were not adequately prepared with knowledge and equipment for the rigors of the Arctic environment and climate. The website is unique among Franklin-oriented sites in that it emphasizes the role of Inuit as well as Europeans in this very important chapter in Canadian history.”

**Toolkit for history sleuths**

The Franklin Mystery includes primary historical documents including Inuit testimony, as well as archive photos, paintings, newspaper articles, journal entries, old maps, interactive materials and guides for teachers, and historical interpretations by experts.

Also interviewed for the Franklin Mystery was Inuit hunter Louie Kamookak, a historian in Gjoa Haven. Kamookak, in an interview posted on the Franklin Mystery website, describes his grandmother’s story of when she was “maybe about six or seven. They were travelling. The story was that they were on King William Island, they were travelling to the

north part of the island to cut some wood and when they got kind of close to the shore there, it was in this area, they came across a ridge...and they started finding some artifacts: they didn’t know what they were. They were picking up brown things, dark things...then she noticed they were from a musket, a rifle. And there were spoons and forks: they didn’t know what they were.”

**Bilingual national teaching project**

The Franklin Mystery will be available in English and French, with an additional instructional package available in Inuktitut.

Launched in 1997 with one website, the bilingual national teaching project now spans almost 1,000 years of history and draws nearly 2,500 users every day from over 50 countries including Morocco, Japan, Israel and Peru.

More than 5,000 teachers and professors have registered to access its guides and lesson plans. The mysteries, ranging from 1000 AD to the 1950s, include numerous unsolved murders as well as the actual location of the first Viking settlement on the East Coast.

The official unveiling in Ottawa on June 4 included an introduction to the Franklin Expedition by Mr. Dick; remarks by Mr. Kamookak on Inuit involvement in the story; and a presentation by Parks Canada archaeologist Marc-André Bernier. Special entertainment included a musical performance of the Northwest Passage song by Canadian tenor and UVic alumnus Ken Lavigne, as well as Inuit throat singing by the Ottawa Inuit Children’s Centre.

[canadianmysteries.ca/sites/franklin](http://canadianmysteries.ca/sites/franklin)

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The Franklin Mystery website.

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# More than just a smile

Advocating for community-access dental clinics

BY KATE HILDEBRANDT

As a researcher and advocate, social work professor Bruce Wallace has invested the lion’s share of his academic career toward improving access to dental care for those with low or no incomes. In March, he received a BC Dental Association award of merit for work leading to the creation of Cool Aid’s community dental clinic in 2002. “It felt unique to be an outsider welcomed in,” Wallace says of the award. “I see it as a breakthrough considering I’ve been critical of the industry, questioning dentists’ responsibility to do more.”

Cool Aid was one of the original community dental clinics in BC. Today, there are about 20 such clinics across the province. While Wallace is happy to see this progress, he feels the real issue remains unaddressed: dental care is not covered by Canada’s healthcare system—so access is based on who can pay versus who needs care.

Wallace says he had no grand plan to focus on dentistry, but that was before he studied the disparity. It was more than 15 years ago when an advocate at Together Against Poverty Society (TAPS) asked for his help investigating barriers to dental treatment for people in need.

“It is an extreme need,” Rev. Al Tysick said in 2001, then leading the Open Door Society. He told Wallace that of the 400 street people he saw daily, about 95 per cent needed dental care. Tysick also emphasized how poor oral health contributed to the



Sydney Adair, clinic administrator, and Wallace at the Cool Aid dental clinic. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

spread of disease among the poor. “It also keeps people from getting a job. It’s a big impediment.”

Dr. Richard Stanwick, Chief Medical Health Officer for Island Health, told the Times Colonist, “there are about 275 diseases that can affect the oral cavity.” People with oral health needs, he added, are being denied the opportunity to enjoy the same level of health as others.

The Cool Aid dental clinic strives to correct that imbalance, booking more than 5,000 visits each year. “No one is turned away without treatment or a plan for care elsewhere,” says Sydney Adair, clinic administrator, “but we need more clinics because many people are going without care.” With four chairs and two dentists working daily, the clinic is heavily booked with a 10-to-12 week waiting list.

Wallace has stayed on top of the

issue, repeatedly asking government and health care leaders how they can allow this health inequity to continue. He also presses for policy change in his work with community partners, health care activists, as well as his own social work students and faculty colleagues.

Irene Haigh-Gidora, manager of Cool Aid’s health services program, has worked closely with Wallace not only in developing the dental clinic but also as a fellow community activist. “Bruce and I prepared a cost analysis for a full-service clinic with paid staff and dentists because that’s what people need, not just extractions but full preventative services, which meant we would need a subsidy from government each year. Bruce was the catalyst that made this dream happen.”

Full Ring article online at [bit.ly/community-dental](http://bit.ly/community-dental)

## CFI FUNDING CONTINUED FROM P.1

Four other UVic-related projects have also been funded.

UVic physicist Rob McPherson and his team are receiving \$1 million to build new elements for the massive ATLAS detector at the Large Hadron Collider—the world’s largest science experiment—in Europe.

UVic physicists have a long history of leadership in ATLAS, which involves more than 3,000 scientists from 39 countries seeking to understand the fundamental building blocks of matter. UVic is one of three universities partnering with Carleton University on this \$6-million upgrade project.

UVic is receiving \$200,000 for

Ocean Networks Canada (ONC) to help the University of Manitoba develop, install and maintain components of an observatory in Hudson Bay.

The collaboration builds on the success of ONC’s world-leading NEPTUNE and VENUS cabled observatories, and since 2012, a community observatory in Nunavut.

UVic is also a partner in a new CFI-funded project to upgrade beam line infrastructure at the Canadian Light Source (CLS), a national synchrotron facility located at the University of Saskatchewan.

The facility allows scientists to study the microstructure and chemical properties of materials. Past

research at CLS has defined the molecular basis of chronic disease, defined new targets for drugs, and led to a better understanding of protein interactions within living cells.

UVic is one of 32 universities participating in ADEPT, a national “virtual laboratory” led by Queen’s University which gives science and engineering researchers access to world-leading tools, facilities and expertise in microsystems (miniaturized devices) and nanotechnology.

Applications of ADEPT technologies include health care and biomedical devices, transportation, communications, clean technology and cybersecurity.

# New CanAssist technologies extend independence

BY ANNE TOLSON

Thousands of British Columbians living with dementia and other challenging conditions will benefit from innovative new technologies being developed by CanAssist at UVic.

Prototypes of several technologies aimed at helping people stay in their homes for as long as safely possible were demonstrated May 11 during a funding announcement by BC Minister of Health Terry Lake.

One technology, the “wandering deterrent system,” uses computer screens that flash personalized video messages to discourage a person from leaving the house late at night—a fairly common occurrence among those with dementia.

“This system would allow me to stay in my home longer and give me quality of life and independence,” said Jim Mann, who lives with Alzheimer’s disease and was on hand at the announcement to help demonstrate the system.

“I’m a huge fan of this system

because it is personal—with the caregiver visually suggesting the action to take—and it’s non-intrusive,” he adds.

During the event, the minister announced \$3 million in new funding, which will enable CanAssist to develop an innovative technology that will benefit thousands of people across the province starting in 2016. CanAssist is working with ministry staff to determine the theme or focus for this most recent investment in the development of new and innovative technologies.

The funding will also be used to launch a new online service for individuals and organizations looking for information about existing and emerging technologies that can help people with a range of disabilities.

In March 2014, CanAssist received \$2 million from the Health Ministry for the CanStayHome program, which will result in a suite of innovative technologies that support vulnerable BC seniors and others to stay in their homes longer—enhancing their well-being and quality of life, while at the same time reducing pressure on the

province’s health system.

The “wandering deterrent system” is one of the technologies being developed and tested as part of CanStayHome. Another is the “phone-in monitoring system,” which allows family members and other caregivers to check in on someone with dementia remotely, without invasive monitoring equipment and costly subscriptions.

The system uses basic landline phone connectivity already in the home, along with a small number of sensors. These sensors monitor the individual’s presence in various rooms and also indicate if the door leading to outside opens.

Simply by calling the home phone and entering a code, the caregiver of a person with dementia gets a summary of activity, such as: “Mom is in bed and has been there for 30 minutes” or “Mom is in the bathroom; her last activity was detected five minutes ago” or “There has been no activity for four hours,” and so on.

“We can all relate to the importance of personal independence,

# calendar highlights

Events free unless otherwise indicated. For a complete list of events, visit the online calendar at [events.uvic.ca](http://events.uvic.ca)

## MONDAY, JUNE 8

- **Lecture/Seminar.** 10:30 a.m. *Making a ‘Career’ of People-smuggling in Indonesia.* Dr. Antje Missbach (Monash U, Australia). Fraser 152. 250-721-7020

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10

- **Music.** 8 p.m. *Quartet Fest West Concert: Lafayette String Quartet.* Lafayette String Quartet with Alexander Tselyakov, piano, Yariv Aloni, viola. Quartet Fest West runs from June 8-19. Masterclasses, workshops and concerts are open to the public. MacLaurin B125. Tickets. \$12-\$25. 250-721-8634

## THURSDAY, JUNE 11

- **Conference.** June 11-13. *Migration and Late Capitalism: Critical Intersections with the Asia-Pacific & Beyond.* Fraser 159. Conference presented by the UVic Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives. Student and community member prices available. Keynotes are free and open to the public. 250-721-7020, [capi.uvic.ca](mailto:capi.uvic.ca)

- **Lecture/Seminar.** 7 p.m. *Undocumented: the Architecture of Immigrant Detention.* Tings Chak (No One Is Illegal-Toronto and the End Immigration Detention Network). This public keynote is part of the Migration and Late Capitalism Conference Fraser 159. 250-721-7020

## FRIDAY, JUNE 12

- **Lecture/Seminar.** 11 a.m. *What’s at Stake in the Mobility of Labour?* Borders, Migration and Late Capitalism. Sandra Mezzadra (U-Bologna, Italy). This public keynote is part of the Migration and Late Capitalism Conference. Fraser 159.

- **Lecture/Seminar.** 7 p.m. *Disappeared, Banished, Murdered and Displaced.* Climate Change or Neoliberal Capitalism? What is happening to Indigenous communities in the 21st Century? Linda Tuhiwai Smith (U-Waikato, New Zealand). This public keynote is part of the Migration and Late Capitalism Conference. Fraser 159. 250-721-7020

## TUESDAY, JUNE 16

- **Music.** 8 p.m. *Quartet Fest West Gala Concert: Lafayette and Penderecki String Quartets.* Quartet Fest West runs from June 8-19. MacLaurin B125. Tickets \$12-\$25. 250-721-8634



Software developer Nathanael Kuipers and the wandering deterrent system. UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

which is why government is committed to ensuring supports for people with disabilities and seniors,” said Lake. “Funding the development of technology to support independence so people can stay safely and comfortably at home puts patients’ needs first and contributes to a better quality of life.”

Robin Syme, executive director of CanAssist, says this new funding will

help her team extend the benefits of innovative technologies for people with disabilities across the province.

“We’re very excited to work with ministry staff, as well as the five regional health authorities, to begin researching and developing innovative yet highly practical technologies that will benefit many British Columbians and their families for years to come,” she says.



day  
in the  
life

Carmel Chamberlain, of UVic’s School of Public Health and Social Policy, knows full well the healing potential and importance of having a network of different types of support during times of struggle. This is especially true when the safety and happiness of one’s family is on the line. Carmel has been on both sides of the United Way’s efforts, both accessing United Way funded programs and services, and recently working with United Way as a Loaned Representative during the 2014 Greater Victoria fundraising campaign.

There is a common misconception about the sort of people that use United Way funded programs. We tell ourselves “that could never happen to me or my friends and colleagues.” There can be a negative stigma surrounding these programs and a fear of needing to take advantage of them. But it’s always important to have a strong network of support to fall back on. The positive impact of the network of support programs and services funded by United Way can be felt even here at UVic—a place many may not think would have as great a need for assistance.

Carmel became a single mother to a young daughter after a long struggle to fully leave a difficult, high conflict relationship where most interactions were aggressive and very confrontational. “Although we had split up a number of times dating back to 2008, we didn’t fully separate until 2010,” Carmel recalls.

There was no stability, and her young daughter was in constant exposure to the separation. Worried about the emotional well being of her daughter, Carmel decided to take action.

Carmel needed a solid parenting agreement in place to bring stability to her daughter’s life. Carmel applied to court, and received a trial date after a long period of time. In the time before the trial, which included three failed mediation attempts, co-parenting became increasingly difficult. Even practical things like signing her daughter up for public programs like swimming lessons became an obstacle, and the emotional toll it was having on her child was beginning to show as well. “I felt helpless and frustrated. I didn’t know what to do to help my little girl through this. I also didn’t know how to get myself through it. I was emotionally tapped out,” says Carmel.

Carmel found support in a number of agencies. One of the agencies Carmel accessed was Family Services of Greater Victoria. Beginning with personal counselling and legal support, Family Services GV has also offered access to support groups for Carmel and her daughter. “It was a relief to see my daughter openly expressing her emotions and explaining how she was feeling about what was going on around her,” says Carmel. “I had also found a place for myself. I hadn’t realized how alone I felt until I was in that supportive environment.”

“After a 50/50 parenting agreement had been secured, I found myself responsible for the majority of my daughter’s expenses,” Carmel states. Even a well-paying job at UVic didn’t provide enough for a single parent who still faced substantial remaining legal fees. Carmel began taking up additional contract work on top of her full time work and par-

enting responsibilities, but anything she earned from additional work was still only enough to cover groceries, gas and personal hygiene. “This left me feeling stretched thin, both financially and emotionally,” Carmel explains. “Between working, parenting, and managing a stressful former relationship, I just had nothing left.”

It was at this time Carmel found about the financial assistance program at the YMCA/YWCA of Greater Victoria, which subsidized summer camps for her daughter. “Without this assistance, I wouldn’t have been able to send her to camp, leaving me struggling to find childcare while I was at work during the summer,” Carmel states.

Carmel felt inspired to give back to her community for all of the support that she and her daughter had received. In the fall of 2014, Carmel had the opportunity to participate in the United Way Loaned Representative program. Loaned Representatives (or LR’s as they are affectionately known) are employees “loaned” to United Way Greater Victoria by their employers to assist with the annual United Way fundraising campaign. UVic sponsors at least one LR every year, and a close friend and colleague made Carmel aware of the position.

Carmel was looking for a change of pace and wanted to do something to inspire others. As she learned more about United Way, she gradually came to realize that the position would be a good fit for her. Carmel was especially attracted to United Way’s role as a leader in social change. “United Way empowers each and every one of us to support one another,” says Carmel. “They are there so that we can take care of one another, should we need it.”

When she did further research into United Way and came across



Chamberlain with daughter.

the list of programs and services that they fund, Carmel was hooked. Seeing programs and services that she had used herself (including Family Services GV and the YMCA/YWCA) gave her the final push toward pursuing the Loaned Representative experience. “Everything started to align. This was the greater purpose I had been searching for. This was my way of giving back; back to those within our community who need the support and back to the services that have and continue to support my child and me,” says Carmel.

It has been a long journey for Carmel and her daughter, but together they have overcome every obstacle

to date. Returning to her regular UVic post after the LR experience, Carmel feels even more appreciative of the network of support provided by her community. “The stigma that only homeless or addicted people are receiving United Way assistance is not a reflection of what is actually happening, and it’s time for people to see that,” says Carmel. “My daughter and I continue to be supported by this network of services, and this network may not exist if not for the support of United Way. We have been, and continue to be, on the receiving end, and after the LR experience, it now feels so great to be on the giving side of the equation.”

30 Leo Award nominations this year, 26 from writing faculty and alumni

BY JOHN THRELFALL

Need proof of the impact of the Department of Writing’s film production courses? Just look to last month’s 2015 Leo Award nominations, where films by writing faculty and alumni received a combined 26 nominations for five productions—an impressive number for a university that doesn’t technically even have a film production program.

UVic’s writing department is no stranger to Leo nominations or awards. A project of the Motion Picture Arts and Sciences Foundation of BC, the Leo Awards are an annual celebration of excellence in the province’s film and television scene.

“Film is just a development of the writing department’s already well-known streams: fiction, poetry,

creative non-fiction and drama,” says professor Maureen Bradley. “I don’t know anywhere else in the country where this is happening. There are good student films being made, but they’re not being driven by faculty [led-courses].”

Bradley has spent the past six years building up the department’s technical equipment and supporting talent so students can create professional-looking 10-minute short films. “Drama and film are really an applied form of learning,” she explains. “A screenplay and a play are not final products, and they’re always open to interpretation. Students need to see how hard it is to make a film, how to adjust the writing as the film is made, how to write with a budget in mind.”

With no other Vancouver Island

college or university offering film production classes, Bradley feels UVic’s writing department is uniquely situated to help fill a gap both locally and nationally. “I think we have the best [student] screenwriters in Canada here, and I have a lot of experience in the other centres,” she says. “This is a unique situation where the production comes through the writing first. I’ve seen beautiful films at student screenings across Canada, but the story is usually lacking—so it’s really exciting to see story and surface come together here. Why make a film if there’s no heart to it?”

The awards will be presented over three evenings between June 6 and 14 in Vancouver.

www.leoawards.com

This year’s Leo nominees include:

Writing alumnus Jason Bourque’s feature film *Blackfly* is nominated for 10 awards, including best motion picture, direction and screenwriting.

Writing prof Maureen Bradley’s feature film *Two 4 One* (produced by Fine Arts Digital Media Technician Daniel Hogg) is nominated for six awards—including costumes, which were created by theatre alumni Kat Jeffery.

Writing alumni Kate Bateman and Matt Hamilton’s web series *The Actress Diaries* received four nominations.

Recent MFA grad Connor Gaston’s film *Godhead* received two nominations.

The short film *Gord’s Brother*—created by the busy writing alumni team of Daniel Hogg, Jeremy Lutter and Ben Rollo—received four nominations.

Linguistics MA grad Art Napoleon’s *Moosemeat & Marmalade* series received one nomination (see page 6).

*Reaching Blue*, a CBC documentary on the Salish Sea co-produced by Ocean Networks Canada and ONC Video Specialist Andy Robertson—featuring ONC director Kate Moran, geography professor Chris Darimont and writing alum Kevin Philip Paul—received three nominations.

Navigate the ever-changing market

A longtime resident and UVic grad, Dave is helping local residents and new-comers to navigate their way through the real estate market. Whether buying or selling, he will assure smooth sailing. Just ask his many clients at UVic.

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AGE	55	60	65	71	75	80
Minimum Payout *	\$238	\$278	\$333	\$615	\$654	\$729
Total Payout to Age 100	\$153,837	\$144,147	\$135,205	\$125,362	\$121,220	\$115,284

Accelerated Payout:

Income over 5 years	\$1,766					
Income over 10 years	\$934					
Income over 15 years	\$657					

Total 5 year payout: \$105,930  
Total 10 year payout: \$112,008  
Total 15 year payout: \$118,304

\* Based on best current GIC of 2.30%. Returns will vary depending on investment vehicle. Monthly income based on \$100,000

LIFE ANNUITIES (PER CANNEX BASED ON INITIAL INVESTMENT OF \$100,000)

AGE	55	60	65	71	75	80
<b>Male</b>						
...payments cease at death	\$436	\$481	\$557	\$687	\$791	\$1,045
...10 years guaranteed	\$436	\$478	\$543	\$639	\$698	\$808
<b>Female</b>						
...payments cease at death	\$418	\$438	\$496	\$607	\$697	\$862
...10 years guaranteed	\$419	\$441	\$486	\$580	\$643	\$750
<b>Joint Life:</b> 10 yrs guaranteed	\$377	\$403	\$451	\$525	\$580	\$687

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