A growing appreciation for Indigenous knowledge

Trudeau Foundation award supports Nancy Turner’s lifelong study of traditional plant use

BY ANNE MacLAURIN

A long-time champion of Indigenous knowledge, UVic ethnoecologist Nancy Turner has devoted her career to understanding and communicating the crucial role that plants play in Indigenous cultures and languages, especially with respect to land use, rights and title. To support this important work, the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation has awarded Turner a $225,000 fellowship over the next three years.

“I am very excited to be joining such an interesting and dynamic group as represented by the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Fellows,” says Turner. “Already, we have been able to share ideas and perspectives about many pressing policy issues that cross-cut several disciplines. I feel deeply honoured to be chosen to be a part of this wonderful team of scholars.”

Turner, environmental studies professor and the Hakai Research Chair in Ethnoecology, is one of the most respected ethnoecologists in the world, specializing in ethnoecological studies with Western Canadian Indigenous peoples—particularly on BC’s central coast.

Ethnoecology is the study of how people understand their environment and relationship to ecosystems. Turner began collaborating with First Nations people more than 45 years ago to document and promote their traditional knowledge of plants, including foods and medicines. Her research and teaching about the relationship between Indigenous peoples and plants, and how that relationship influences the landscapes and habitats of Western Canada, helped establish UVic as a leader in this field.

## 2015 President’s Campus Update

### BY LINDSAY GAGEL

During his Campus Update on Oct. 6, UVic President Jamie Cassels summarized UVic’s achievements this past year and addressed university priorities for the upcoming year.

The townhall-style event was attended by over 200 members of the UVic community—primarily faculty and staff. Cassels opted to not use any technology for his presentation, making it more of an informal and collegial atmosphere and emphasizing the conversational format of the event. There were multiple opportunities to provide feedback and ask questions.

Cassels touched upon and responded to a wide range of topics important to our campus community, including UVic’s Strategic Research Plan, the Campus Plan, Enhanced Planning, internal communications, The UVic Edge and student success.

In the first half of the conversation, Cassels referenced the background that was distributed weeks prior, which reviewed UVic’s progress within six priority areas over the past year.

He celebrated UVic’s achievements and also addressed recent challenges: media reports about employee harassment, pockets of questionable student behaviour during orientation and the sexual assault on campus. These are all reminders of the challenges we face, explained Cassels, and a reminder that we must reaffirm our values and commitment to creating a safe and inclusive campus for everyone.

During the second half of the event, Cassels shifted to our priorities for the year ahead. To ensure UVic continues to be a university of choice for students, faculty and staff, said Cassels, we need to focus on our mission and create the best possible research-enriched learning environment.

This year, we’ll be implementing measures identified this past year.

Some of the specific deliverables for students included a focus on new programs—both in response to student interest and social need—and the expansion of experiential learning opportunities.

Cassels referred to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission report, noting that UVic has long been working to fulfil its obligation to empower Indigenous students and close the education gap. Two-way student mobility was also mentioned.

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**SPEED READING**

**RESEARCH EXCELLENCE**

**Help finalize UVic’s Strategic Research Plan**

A draft of UVic’s first-ever Strategic Research Plan is now available to the UVic community for written feedback. Developed over the last nine months, the content of the plan has been shaped by input from faculty, staff, students and external partners. The plan sets strategic priorities for UVic research—building on existing research excellence and positioning UVic to create or respond to emerging opportunities for research. To review the plan, see uvic.ca/research/plan; feedback is being requested by Oct. 19, 2015.

**POSTSECONDARY PRIORITIES**

President’s submission to the BC finance committee

On Sept. 15, UVic President Jamie Cassels gave a presentation to the BC Legislature’s Committee on Finance and Government Services as part of pre-budget consultations. In his presentation Cassels highlighted six key policy recommendations—including stable research funding, the reintroduction of a post-secondary education across the province and at UVic. A PDF of the full report is on the President’s website at uvic.ca/president/activities.

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**THE RING**

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**EDUCATION**

**TURNS 100**

P.5

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**UVIC PHOTO SERVICES**

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**A long-time champion of Indigenous knowledge, UVic ethnoecologist Nancy Turner has devoted her career to understanding and communicating the crucial role that plants play in Indigenous cultures and languages, especially with respect to land use, rights and title.**

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**Turner in Garry oak meadow on campus. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES**

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**Developed over the last nine months, the Research Plan is now available to the UVic community.**

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**A draft of UVic’s first-ever Strategic Research Plan is now available to the UVic community for written feedback.**
Support doubles for refugees, campus challenges to do more

History Refugee Committee to sponsor family from Syria

On Sept. 15, the week after President Jamie Cassels wrote to the campus community about the need for a univer-
sity response to the international refugee crisis, nine colleagues in UVic’s history department decided to proceed in sponsoring a family from Syria.

Now that number has grown to a dozen regular faculty members, two emeritus professors and one adjunct professor—so far. “It’s not an official departmental initiative,” explains Dr. John Lutz, chair of the department and one of the original nine. “This is colleagues in our faculty wanting to bring one family here to Canada.

The group also wants to “challenge” or invite other departments and units on campus and from history depart-
ments at universities across Canada to consider doing the same.

“We knew our efforts could have a huge impact on one family, but wouldn’t touch the larger picture,” says Lutz. “However, it’s not an ‘either/or.’ As a nation, we can’t stop working on the larger front. That doesn’t mean we as individuals should be paralyzed by the enormity of the situation and do nothing.”

“It came up in informal conversations over the summer as to whether we as colleagues wanted to collective-
ly explore support for this idea,” adds Lutz, “but the events of late August and early September pushed us to a place where we felt we had to act now.”

The History Refugee Committee is chaired by Drs. Elizabeth Viberti, Lynn Marks and Martin Bunto.

Viberti says, “We hope our effort to sponsor a Syrian family, and our own public-
sessions, help to draw attention to the horrific plight of over 30 million refugees around the world—and action.”

“We have been talking to the Inter-
cultural Association of Victoria about identifying a Syrian family to sponsor,” adds Marks. “There are some bureau-
cratic hurdles to overcome first, but we are excited about this opportunity to make a difference.”

As an academic unit, the history department also worked with the Centre for Global Studies and the Eu-
ropian Union Centre of Excellence in co-
organizing two panel discussions at UVic in September on the refugee crisis.

New campus initiatives double refugee support, challenge community to contribute

UVic, as an institution has committed to provide $800,000 to two new initia-
tives. The first doubles the student refugee spaces at UVic for the next three years through fund-
ing from the World University Services Canada (WUSC) UVic Local Commit-
tee, which has been in place since the early 1980s. WUSC has many years of experience and expertise working in refugee camps to provide young adults with an opportunity to enter Canada as permanent residents and continue their education at a post-
graduate level inside Canada.

The WUSC UVic Local Committee is student-driven and depends on UVic students to help provide the sponsored student refugees with sup-
port in the community. The spaces cover both educational and living costs, and are available to refugees from Syria and other regions.

UVic’s Division of Continuing Studies has dedicated $25,000 to work with local refugee aid organizations to provide language and job skills train-
ing to refugee families.

The university also created a $300,000 fund—the UVic community matching fund for refugee assistance—to match the contributions of univer-
sity community members who want to lend their support to these initia-
tives. These could further increase the number of spaces for refugee students at UVic in the future.

For more details on UVic’s re-
sponse and for more information on campus events, activities and forums, local and international organizations working in the field, and how to con-
tribute to the UVic community match-
ing fund, visit uvic.ca/refugeeresponse.

History ‘challenge’ initiative: fa-
cebook.com/HistoryRefugeeCommittee
UVic WUSC Local Committee facebook.com/wuscuvic or wuscuvic@gmail.com

Going places in an era of global connectivity

UVic students are great examples of students who have immersed themselves in such journeys of discovery. Jorgensen (political science) has long held an interest in cli-
mate change related migration. He worked in Bangladesh in 2014 as part of the Centre for Asia-
Pacific Initiatives (CAPI) internship with the Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit.

Jorgensen (right) with a co-worker overlooking Dhaka.

New funding rolled out by President Jamie Cassels has increased support for UVic students to engage in rich and meaningful learning experi-
ences well beyond the campus. The President’s Beyond Borders Fund—with a focus on the Asia-Pacific region and on study and co-op op-
portunities within Canada—aug-
ments existing programs at UVic and offers additional opportunities for students to study abroad in other parts of Canada.

“With this fund, I’m aiming to increase two-way mobility opportu-
nities for students to broaden their knowledge, cultural understanding and educational experiences;—op-
portunities for domestic students to get to know Canada better or ex-
perience another part of the world and opportunities for international students who come here and enrich our campus environment,” Cassels explains. “It’s generous to the donors whose support provides more ac-
cess for students who might not otherwise be able to participate in such programs.”

At a total of $449,000, the fund is large enough for four initiatives over the 2015/16 to 2018/19 academic years (2015/16 to 2018/19). Financial support will stream from the President’s Excellence Fund and Asia Partners Fund, which are targeted funds to UVic from donors. It falls into three categories:

- Two-way student mobility initia-
tives focused on the Asia-Pacific region, internships, field trips and co-op placements in the region, undergraduate tuition support for students from the region and graduate students from Canada.
- Initiatives designed to increase student mobility within Canada: travel funds for a term at another Canadian university or for a co-op term elsewhere in the country, as well as subsidies for community work or internship at a non-profit organization in Canada;
- Community work—opportunities for students, e.g. subsidies for community co-op term or internship in indigenous businesses, community or com-

To find out more on these initiatives, visit bit.ly/uvic-mobility

Cassels adds, "Our students are great places. Introducing the world and the rest of Canada to UVic and emerging from our campus as engaged citizens ready to flourish in an increasingly connected world!" As a student, imagine being able to join the next UVic field school to India, travelling across the Pacific for internships in Nepal, Malaysia or Bangladesh. Or journeying as far as your funds and financial aid will allow, without having ever visited before in Canada for a campus work opportunity.

The increased support rolled out this spring ensures that more UVic students will do more than imag-
ine—they’ll find dynamic learning opportunities across Canada and around the world.

Details: uvic.ca/president/activi-
ties/mobility/
The 2015 federal election campaign is in full swing. On campuses across the country, an election presents some distinct challenges—and opportunities.

For many undergrad students, this election is the first they have been eligible to vote in, and that raises some key questions. “How do I register? Where do I vote? Which is my riding—here, or back home? How do I find out what the candidates’ positions are?”

The UVic Students’ Society (UVSS) is helping to answer those questions by building on a recent Elections Canada announcement of a pilot project to open satellite offices at select campuses, friendship centres and community centres across Canada. UVic was selected for one of these satellite offices, the only one on Vancouver Island.

This week, Elections Canada has been operating UVic’s satellite office in the upper lounge of the Student Union Building (SUB) from 10 a.m.–8 p.m. each day—but today is the last day the office is open. All electors registered for advance voting will be able to vote at the SUB. The cut-off date is the last day voters are eligible to vote. For Canadian students who come from different parts of the country, this can make all the difference between voting or not. Unlike advance and election-day polling places, which serve only those whose home is nearby, the office will be open to all voters, no matter where in Canada they call home. The voting will be special ballot—voters will count in the riding where the voter’s home address is located, wherever that may be.

The UVSS, with support from Student Affairs, has also been addressing other questions students have, and inspiring as many of them as possible to vote.

Through election day, UVSS board members are fanning out across campus, engaging with students and talking about the election. They will walk them through the voter registration process, help them find their home ridings and candidates, and explain where and when to vote.

“At this stage, we are talking to students about why they should vote: why the election matters to their lives and futures,”

“Our approach will be strictly non-partisan, but we’ll really be emphasizing how important the youth and student vote is,” explained Kenya Rogers, UVSS director of external relations. “We want our members to understand that this year, students are changing the course of the election.

“Through this campaign—UVicVotes—we’ll be encouraging students to think about the federal issues that affect them, like core funding for post-secondary education, climate justice or support for research and science”.

To help focus students on the issues, UVSS will be running a social media campaign throughout the campaign period. Many students will be handing out coffee cup stickers saying “This year we’re voting for education” or ones that say “This year we’re voting for...” and let them finish the statement. Pictures will be posted on Instagram and Facebook, with prizes to be won.

Jim Dunsdon, associate vice-president of student affairs, congratulates the UVSS for taking the lead on encouraging student voting. “It’s a great opportunity to have one of Elections Canada’s satellite offices here at UVic,” he said. And we’re really impressed with the campaign that UVSS has planned. Student Affairs will be sponsoring their activities and promoting their events and website wherever we can, but it will be students engaging with students that will really make this election successful”.

Full info: UVicVotes.ca

Planning the next decade, and beyond: a reaffirming vision

BY JOANNE McGACHIE

The second phase of the process to update U Vic’s official Campus Plan is nearing completion, with the preparation of a draft plan and public engagement sessions this month.

The 2003 Campus Plan is being updated to provide a refreshed vision and guidelines for future campus development. On topics such as building placement and param- eters, transportation, and open and natural spaces. It also plays a key role in supporting the university’s academic priorities and commitments to sustainability.

The first phase of the process, in January and February of this year, saw mobile information booths around campus, a speaker’s event and an ideas forum. These were followed by open house sessions for the campus community and the public, as well as a focused workshop with faculty, staff, students and community represen- tatives who explored more specific themes and priorities.

All of the input collected from those sessions was compiled, organ- ized and analyzed, and over the spring and summer months, a steering com- mittee drafted the plan.

The draft plan presents the vision for the UVic campus over the next 10 years and beyond, by focusing on frameworks in three key areas:

• Open space framework: maintain and continue to evolve an open space system which protects and enhances environmentally significant natural areas; provides safe, pedestrian-friendly links throughout the campus; and encourages social interaction through outdoor meeting places, relaxation spaces, playing fields and other outdoor recreational venues.

• Land use and build framework: evolve a land-use and building pattern that supports the university’s academic mission, respects the physical environment, creates a welcoming campus, encourages social interaction and activity within the evenings and all week long, and promotes compact, pedestrian-friendly, and sustainable development.

• Mobility framework: encourage increased walking or wheelchair use, cycling, and use of public transit, making these priority modes conven- ent, safe and enjoyable for all users; provide safe access (and reduced demand) for personal vehicles, to help manage pressures on surrounding neighbourhoods.

The frameworks represent the three pillars that will form the basis of the final plan, drawn from the extensive input received in the first phase of the process. The second phase will now look at fine-tuning these frameworks, with a second set of engagement events planned for this month:

• Oct. 19–20 a mobile booth will be touring several locations around campus, presenting information on the main elements of the draft plan.

• Oct. 21: public open house sessions in the Michel’s Pupil room of the Student Union Building, from 11 a.m.–2 p.m. and again from 6–8 p.m.

The third phase of the process—final- izing the plan—will take place from November to January, and will include a final campus and community open house session and community stake- holder meetings.

Navigate the ever-changing market

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

Brand guidelines for the UVic Edge unveiled

The Edge brand guidelines will help us all talk a consistent and unified story about UVic and allow you to get the materials you need to support your unit’s goals by acces- sing templates and working with University Commu- nications + Marketing. We use colour, photography and our unique marks and identifiers—along with how we speak and what we say and do—demonstrate what makes UVic unique. It’s how we bring the Edge to life, both internally and externally. To supplement the new brand guidelines and tools, public information sessions are also being scheduled.

Learn more at uvic.ca/brand

DRAFT CAMPUS PLAN

RETRIEVAL INCOME OPTIONS

<table>
<thead>
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<th>RETIREMENT INCOME OPTIONS</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>65</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age 55</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Max.</td>
<td>average of last 5 yrs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Female</td>
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<td>Joint Life</td>
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<td>Joint Life</td>
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<tr>
<td>Max.</td>
<td>average of last 5 yrs.</td>
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</tbody>
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*Based on best current GIC of 2.20%. Returns will vary depending on investment vehicle. Monthly income based on $100,000
MODEL UN CLIMATE NEGOTIATIONS

A chance to be the change we want to see

In an early preview of the challenges world leaders face when negotiating international agreements on climate change (such as this December’s UN meeting in Paris), two UVic students and a business professor got to embark on an opportunity of a lifetime—travelling to Switzerland to attend the Model United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) negotiations. This annual international event is hosted by leading business graduates and professors across Europe and provides the opportunity for scholars studying climate change to engage in mock climate negotiations. These mock negotiations were an opportunity to engage in debate, to strategize towards fulfilling an assigned country’s interests and, as a collective, to negotiate a best-draft resolution to climate challenges facing the global community.

UVic attendees Babak Manouchehrinia (engineering) and Anne-Marie Beliveau (public administration) were members of the UNFCCC media team, which allowed them to play a more active, hands-on role in the conference proceedings than many other delegates. Beliveau and Manouchehrinia were responsible for all official reporting, interviewing and photography for the conference proceedings including the Model UN-FCCC blog and Facebook page, which were widely used amongst delegates to stay up to date with the fast-paced negotiations. “During the conference, the challenges and opportunities of climate change were addressed and it was evident that the delegates put in a tremendous amount of effort to reach a final consensus,” Manouchehrinia said of the negotiations’ end results.

Upon their return, Manouchehrinia and Beliveau, along with Gustavson School of Business professor Dr. Monika Winn, are actively sharing the knowledge and insights gathered at the international event. “The conference provided us with valuable information about the UNFCCC structure and its mechanisms” Manouchehrinia says. “It was an accurate depiction of leaders’ negotiations in the real world and it was such a unique opportunity for us to play a role in the model negotiations.”

The trio are currently writing several articles and reports about their experience in addition to meeting with campus stakeholders to help facilitate increased climate change awareness as well as illustrate potential solutions UVic could consider in helping to tackle this global problem.

INTERNATIONAL FIELD SCHOOL

Lessons in Scandinavian sustainability

Northern Europe is famous for sustainability—from cycling in Copenhagen, Iceland’s geothermal riches, and offshore wind farms in the North Sea to Germany’s investments in mass solar power. This spring, 28 UVic geography students headed to Europe to study those sustainability efforts and more. Their month-long field school took them to Iceland, Sweden, Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands, bringing them together with community leaders, planners, developers, scholars and others to examine Scandinavian efforts to address the daunting ecological and social challenges facing contemporary societies.

As a broadening example of renewable energy, the UVic students returned to Canada inspired to make a positive difference in their own communities—in areas as broad as vibrant public placemaking, local food, active transportaiton, waste reduction and green building.

In addition, the students have begun sharing their insights and reflections with municipalities and the Capital Regional District, by using the research and practical applications work in their academic programs.

For more information about the Northern Europe Sustainability Field School, check out https://field-schools.geog.uvic.ca or contact Cam Owens at camo@uvic.ca

Students and staff from the School of Nursing at the new centre. PHOTOS: UVIC MEDIA SERVICES.
Double whammy of weather expected along BC coast

Research shows that extreme weather patterns — both hot and cold — could mean accelerated erosion in BC

BY ANNE MacLAURIN

As storm season approaches, BC coastal communities need to prepare for the possibility of extreme flooding and erosion that come with both El Niño and La Niña weather systems, according to new trans-Pacific research published in Nature Geoscience.

This is the first study to show how these climate variability events are linked to greater erosion and flooding in coastal regions across the Pacific Ocean. Researchers from 13 different institutions, including the University of Victoria analyzed wave, water level and shoreline response data to identify the impacts of both El Niño and La Niña on coastal flooding and erosion, including in BC.

“Research has shown that severe coastal erosion and flooding can occur along the BC coast during both El Niño and La Niña storm seasons, unlike further south in California. We need to prepare not only for this winter, but also for what could follow when La Niña comes,” says Ian Walker, UVic’s research leadership in ocean and climate. Walker, whose research has taken him all along the west coast from Haida Gwaii to California, is an expert in beach and dune systems, dune restoration, coastal erosion and sea level trends.

The impact of these storms is not presently included in most studies on future coastal vulnerability, which look primarily at sea level rise. New research data, from 48 beaches across three continents and five countries bordering the Pacific Ocean, suggest the predicted increase will exacerbate coastal erosion irrespective of sea level rise affecting the region.

Researchers from the 13 institutions, including the US Geological Survey, University of Sydney, the University of New South Wales and the University of Waikato (New Zealand) analyzed coastal data from across the Pacific Ocean basin from 1979 to 2012. The researchers sought to determine if patterns in coastal change could be connected to major climate cycles. Data came from beaches in many countries, including the United States as well as Canada, Japan, Australia, New Zealand and Hawaii.

“Shoreline behavior can be controlled by so many different factors, both locally and regionally, that it’s been difficult to isolate the signal until now. However, utilizing the many years of data we were able to put together in this study enabled us to definitively identify how the major climate drivers affect coastal hazards across the Pacific,” says Patrick Barnard, USGS coastal geologist and the lead author of the study. “This will greatly enhance our ability to predict the broader impacts of climate change at the coast.”

GETTING TO CAMPUS — UVIC TRAVEL MODE SUMMARY

Source: UVic 2014 Traffic Survey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode</th>
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<th>2013</th>
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<td>Skateboarders/rollerbladers</td>
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<td>0.2%</td>
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</table>

The deep-green hues of UVic—from Sustainability Week 2015 highlights travel options

BY PAUL MARCK

The deep-green hues of UVic—are from research leadership in ocean and climate studies, to sustainability studies in nearly every academic field—also colour our pride in our natural spaces and sustainable on-campus operations. But we can’t put ourselves on the back too quickly, either. Unless we’re prepared to turn off the lights and heat on campus, cycling and transit will continue to play key roles in reducing our carbon footprint, individually and as a concerned community.

We’ve already made good strides: nearly 8,000 members of the campus community use public transit, pedal power and shoe leather in getting to and from campus every day. And despite significant enrolment growth on campus, there are fewer cars in our parking lots than there were 15 years ago.

Cycling, transportation options and personal commitments to reduce carbon footprints are key themes of UVic’s second annual Sustainability Week, Oct. 13-16. The occasion is an opportunity for the university to celebrate its commitment to sustainable activities and events for students, faculty and staff.

Cycling was something runner Shari Winter left behind until severely injuring her leg while pounding the pavement a couple of years ago.

“I was having the best run—and then I tripped,” recalls Winter, executive assistant to UVic President Jamie Barnard. “An ambulance rushed her to hospital. The diagnosis: a compound fracture, followed by 18 months of slow, painful rehab. And no more running.

Winter became a cycling convert practically overnight, and met the challenge of Bike to Work Week last May. “I haven’t gotten off my bike since,” says Winter. “The ride in the morning really helps get my knee and hip on the move. It’s become a way of life now—something I really enjoy. I’m totally a convert to cycling, I’m getting more confident and it makes me feel a lot better.”

Shredding the car also means reducing carbon emissions. Winter previously drove to work for 30 years. “I wish I had done this earlier, but it’s never too late,” says Winter, among more than 2,000 staff, students and faculty members who cycle to campus every day.

Sustainability Week, Oct. 13-16, aims at getting people out of their cars to reduce their carbon footprint. Cycling is a major theme, and activities include a mural art project at the Campus Bike Centre, free bike tune-ups, a bike maintenance workshop and a birthday celebration—with cake—to mark the second anniversary of the Campus Bike Centre. More information on the week’s activities, including a documentary film on food waste: bit.ly/2yorx1S.

“At UVic, sustainability is our commitment to future generations, says Kristi Simpson, associate vice president of financial planning and information services. “Our vision builds on the collective action of the university community through planning, shared learning, grassroots activities and institutional leadership.”

UVic’s commitment to sustainability suffuses our teaching and research activities as well. Sustainability is a core part of more than 300 courses and experiential learning programs among many of UVic’s faculties, departments and schools, and we’re home to many key environmental agencies and research consortiums—and the student-led UVic Sustainability Project, as well.

Our sustainable operations have also been well-recognized. Last year, UVic was awarded a gold rating by the Association for the Advancement in Higher Education for top marks under the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS). And our 2014 Carbon Neutral Action Report shows greenhouse gas emissions levels decreased 11.8 per cent in 2014, compared to 2013.

Supporting the campaign can be as easy and fun as attending the many fundraising events taking place around campus:

- Plasma Car Races on Nov. 3
- Libraries Book Sale Nov. 17-19
- Holiday Artisan’s Market on Dec. 1

Annual student-led events include the ESS Bug Bash on Sunday, Oct. 18, pancake breakfasts hosted by the Commerce Students’ Association, and dunk tanks.

And don’t miss the new event at the Peninsula Co-op Climbing Wall in the CARSA building for Nov. 26—stay tuned for more details.

More info: uvic.ca/underway

Create campus surveys, forms and polls with FluidSurveys

Special to the Times-Colonist.

FluidSurveys is now available to all current faculty, staff and students as a pilot project through to June 30, 2016. FluidSurveys is a Canadian-hosted web survey tool that can be used to create and manage online surveys, forms, questionnaires, polls and quizzes. If you’re not sure how to use FluidSurveys, consultation will be given to you.

More info: uvic.ca/surveys
Katharine Maltwood’s legacy illuminated at Legacy Downtown

Longtime residents of Victoria will remember the Maltwood Art Museum on the UVic campus, but may not know much about its namesake, English sculptor Katharine Maltwood and her husband John. In 1964 they left their Tudor-style home in Royal Oak (now the Fionside Grill restaurant) to the university—along with a collection of English furniture, Chinese paintings, Middle Eastern textiles and artifacts collected on their world travels, and an endowment. In the 1970s, the Maltwood museum was unique in North America in its initial Arts and Crafts collecting mandate, with nearly all of the 200 works acquired in the following decade contributing to this focus of the permanent collection.

This October, two exhibitions open at the Legacy Art Gallery Downtown—Magnus Matar: Katharine Maltwood and the Arts and Crafts (curated by Caroline Baddeley, Legacy Art Gallery) and its companion, Beauty for All: The Arts and Crafts in Europe and North America (curated by Holly Cecil, art history and visual studies). These exhibits provide an opportunity for visitors to view a significant part of our Arts and Crafts collection and learn about the Legacy Art Galleries' beginning.

Katharine Maltwood led a remarkable life. One of her earliest accomplishments was a commissioned sculpture for Elbert and Alice Hubbard of the Roycroft Workshops in New York. The Hubbards were leading figures of the American Arts and Crafts Movement, and the fact that they selected Maltwood’s work was significant. While the Arts and Crafts movement’s ideals of simplicity and beauty persisted in her work and collecting interests, Maltwood’s complex artistic vision and worldview grew to include interests in astrology, the occult, Eastern religions and theosophy. She claimed to have discovered the Glastonbury Zodiac, a giant earthwork in Somerset that linked the landscape to the legends of King Arthur. She published several books on her theories and even brought a cutting from the original Glastonbury Thorn Tree to Canada, where it now grows outside the University Centre.

Maltwood is also the subject of a novel by Lily Adams Beck, and a play, Temple of the Stars, by former UVic writing professor Marilyn Bowering. More recently, her papers have been digitized as part of a digital fieldwork project by University of Washington graduate student Robert Gordon Lamming. The Legacy Maltwood Gallery also remains on campus as a space for collaborative interdisciplinary projects.

Celebrating the century: 100 years of preparing educators

BY RALF ST. CLAIR

The UVic Faculty of Education is celebrating 100 years of preparing educators in Victoria with a range of events that began with a forum and celebratory dinner on Oct. 3.

There is an unbroken chain from the current Faculty of Education reaching back a century—and UVic is proud to have many alumni from its earliest years (and from Victoria College) still involved in our work. In every corner of BC and far beyond, our educators serve at many different levels of the school system, government and private enterprises, applying what they learned to make education better for others.

The faculty has grown from preparing teachers for the classroom to inspiring and educating a diverse range of students who study in fields such as exercise science, physical and health education, educational psychology, leadership and Indigenous education.

Before the opening of the Victoria Normal School in 1915, teachers were prepared for the profession in other parts of Canada, including the University of British Columbia. The provision of education for elementary teachers on Vancouver Island was a significant step forward for our city and local schools.

As UVic historian Dr. Iain MacPherson waggishly noted in Reaching Outward and Upward, his history of UVic, the faculty “grew steadily, partly because, in addition to serving schools on Vancouver Island, it taught many students from ‘beyond Hope’, as they were colloquially called, because they came from the interior of the province to the east and north of the community of Hope.”

The faculty developed particularly strong ties with communities in the Okanagan and the Kootenays, in the process pioneering in the development of distance education at UVic.

But it all sounds strange to modern ears, the term “normal school” does not refer to the people who attended it or worked there; it comes from the French École Normale—a college to prepare teachers to deliver course content in a standard way. The Victoria Normal School building at the corner of Lansdowne and Richmond roads is now a visual hallmark of Camosun College’s Lansdowne campus.

In 1942, the building was converted into a military hospital for service personnel who had been wounded abroad, forcing teacher education to move to a downtown nightclub, and then to Memorial Hall, next to Christ Church Cathedral.

After World War II, the Normal School shared its premises with Victoria College. In 1956, the provincial government wound down the Normal School, created the College of Education and amalgamated it into Victoria College. When UVic replaced Vic College in 1963, the College of Education became UVic’s Faculty of Education.

As part of its centennial celebration, the faculty is planning a number of future events and will seek enhancement to the Dr. Jean Downie Dey Centennial Scholarship in honour of one of its retired professors. Dey came to campus the same year that UVic became a university, and left a legacy gift that established scholarship programs with full tuition for one or more students who would otherwise find it financially difficult to study. Like other forms of anniversary celebrations, which look backward to find connections to the future, this celebration scholarizes the continuity of preparing educators in Victoria—100 years strong and counting.

TURNER CONTINUED FROM P1

a national and international leader of ethnobotany and traditional knowledge studies.

“Dr. Turner is a person of deep integrity, social commitment, and eloquence, who has combined scholarship at the highest level with public education, far-reaching contributions to the policy process, and the promotion of dialogue among governments, the public and First Nations peoples,” says UVic President Jamie Cassels.

As part of her fellowship project, Turner has proposed a two- to three-day symposium (planned for early 2017) for interested Indigenous peoples, her amazingly generous support for students and their research, her knowledge, and her wisdom.”

“My research legacy has been to weave together ethnographic descriptions of human plant relationship patterns into a broader framework of Indigenous cultural landscapes and resource management systems that reflect the deep and enduring relationships between First Nations and their territories,” adds Turner.

She is the fourth UVic professor to be honoured with a Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation Fellowship. The awards are made by an independent jury of researchers and intellectuals and support the winners as they pursue the next stages of their academic research.

The Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation fellowships were established in 2003 to support scholars who have demonstrated the capacity to propose creative solutions to important issues and to encourage initiatives and projects that might not necessarily receive support through traditional funding mechanisms.

For more information, visit www.trudeaufoundation.ca.
CAMPUS UPDATE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9

Lecture/Seminar, 12:30 p.m. Gender, Masculinities, and Laboratory Culture: Tanja Carolina, (Hamburg U. of Technology). Strong C16.

Music, 12:30 p.m. Fridaymusic: Piano. Featuring School of Music piano students in a concert of varied repertoire. MacLaurin B15.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10

Lecture/Seminar, 12:30 p.m. Gender, Masculinities, and Laboratory Culture: Tanja Carolina, (Hamburg U. of Technology). Strong C16.

Music, 12:30 p.m. Fridaymusic: Strings. Featuring School of Music string students in a concert of varied repertoire. MacLaurin B15. Admission by donation.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16

Music, 12:30 p.m. Fridaymusic: Strings. Featuring School of Music string students in a concert of varied repertoire. MacLaurin B15. Admission by donation.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13


Music, 8 p.m. UVic Wind Symphony—Fall edition. Dr. Gerald King, conductor. 51-55 UVic Ticket Centre. 250-721-8480.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19

Graduate Colloquium. 11:30 a.m. Three Decades with the Baja. Reflecting on Fieldwork in Papua New Guinea. Dr. Ioanis McPherson (UBC). Cornett A19.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20

Music, 12:30 p.m. Sundaymusic: And Oct. 21 & Nov. 5. Take an afternoon break to enjoy a concert of varied repertoire and instruments featuring School of Music students. MacLaurin B15. Admission by donation. 250-721-8934.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

Lecture/Seminar, 7:30 p.m. A World of Knowledge: H.J. Leveson. Encyclopaedia: Threshold with Mc Lu. Dr. James Kemp will explore what we can know about the original owners and function of Mc Lu. 5 Mears Centre. McPherson Library Aways. 250-721-8427.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22


CAMPUS UPDATE

—both support for international stu-
dents and support for domestic stu-
dents to gain educational experiences
elsewhere in Canada and abroad.

We’ve both research intensive and
student-centred, explained Cassels, and
we have to make sure those things
work together in a positive fashion.
“Our research addresses issues that
matter and make a difference in the
community,” said Cassels. A draft of
the Strategic Research Plan—which
will help us to determine how we
can enable, support and strengthen
research, scholarship and artistic en-
deavours—is available to the campus
community for review and feedback
until Oct. 9.

The draft Campus Plan will also be
open for feedback later this month.
Most urgent among construction
priorities are student residence and

a new wing to the Business and Eco-
nomics Building.

Implementing Enhanced Planning
Tools is another deliverable that Cas-
sealls identified. “Enhanced Planning in
a terriﬁc initiative designed to ensure
decision making is evidence-based and
transparency,” explained Cassels. The
Enhanced Planning website is now
live at uvic.ca/enhancedplanning.

Cassels also referenced the roll-
out of the UVic Edge—our means
of describing our strengths and our
missions. UVic’s Enhanced Planning

The Fish Eye

Friday, Oct. 16, 6:00

γ The Ring

October 2015

Page 7
Visit UVic from anywhere in the world, virtually

Hang out on the quad, explore the library, learn about our faculties, and take in the natural beauty of the UVic campus—all without leaving your home.

UVic’s virtual tour, which officially launches October 8, is an interactive online tool that provides an authentic and engaging way for prospective students to explore our spectacular campus.

Three UVic students guide visitors through the places they live and learn, including popular spaces, buildings, faculties and programs. There are currently 16 stops, each with video descriptions and photos. Most of the stops include 360-degree panoramas and other dynamic content, and new photos and videos can be added at any time to keep the tour fresh and up-to-date.

The new virtual tour is a great way to experience UVic’s extraordinary academic environment from anywhere in the world, and it reinforces our position as a top choice for hands-on, research-inspired learning.

The project is a collaborative effort between University Communications • Marketing and Student Recruitment and Global Engagement. It uses YearVista’s platform, which can be viewed on desktops, laptops, smartphones, tablets, social platforms and virtual reality headsets. YearVista is the only product of its kind on the market. It’s used by many universities in the US—including Yale and Stanford—and is quickly being adopted by Canadian universities.

Experience UVic’s virtual tour at uvic.ca/virtualtour.

Day in the life

BY ERIN KING

Surrounded as we are by the Pacific Rim temperate rainforest, it’s only natural that the field of forest biology would flourish at UVic. At the programs’ director’s office in the impressive Bev Glover building, Dr. Brad Binges, a problem solver with a green thumb, who has helped to nurture and grow forest biology at UVic over the past two and a half decades.

Binges manages the Bev Glover Greenhouse Facility and field research compound for the UVic Centre for Forest Biology. To coordinate the research projects of graduate students and faculty members in the greenhouse, Binges must understand the basics of their research plans—space requirements, type of plant material, timelines. But he’s quick to point out that this does not mean he’s heavily involved in the projects themselves. “If I helped with the research itself, I would have earned 30-40 PhDs at this point!”

Binges is not exaggerating the numbers of researchers he has helped in his many years as manager of the facility. At any one time the Glover Greenhouse has at least six graduate-level research projects, a few undergraduate projects and courses, and some staff and faculty projects on the go—all of which are made possible by Binges’ careful planning and coordination.

This work is a far cry from how Binges first joined UVic as an undergraduate biology student in the mid-80s. At that time, there were only a few botany professors at UVic, and Dr. Peter Owens was one of them. Binges, who was working full time at UVic, coordinating projects in forest biology and providing support to Dr. Owens’ research.

The UVic Centre for Forest Biology was established in 1989, and was originally based in the Cunningham building. Binges fondly recalls their efforts in the first few years to lobby for more space on campus. “We would place potted research plants in and around walkways behind the Cunningham building to demonstrate we were outgrowing our space.”

Their efforts did not go unnoticed and the centre was given a plot of land just outside Mystic Vale on the Cedar Hill Corner property. A more long-term area was established soon after the move, along with the addition of an official Environmental Canada weather station. Bings helps to maintain this forest biology compound, which houses a mix of potted and planted research specimens, as well as a mini arboretum of research trees.

In 2002, the Glover Greenhouse Facility was built across Ring Road from where the Bob Wright Centre is now—and Binges took up his new office space and responsibilities as facility manager. The facility boasts six state-of-the-art climate-controlled greenhouses, a nutrient mixing system, a small laboratory, and 17 growth chambers that support research on diverse topics ranging from seedling physiology and disease resistance to tree genomics and molecular biology.

Binges now spends his days training students to safely propagate, plant, grow and irrigate research specimens like native conifers and poplar. “When he isn’t orienting new students or coordinating space in the facility, he monitors our current environmental conditions both inside the greenhouse (temperature, supplemental light, irrigation and humidity) as well as external factors like sunlight and wind to keep as steady a climate as possible for the facility’s plants. He also manages maintenance projects, inventory, equipment installations and the centre’s motor pool vehicle.

“The greenhouse has one full-time occupant and you’re looking at him,” says Binges. You might think that a setup like that sounds a little lonely, but not according to Binges.

“I think my favorite thing about this job is the people. Our students come from all over the world to study forest biology. They, along with the outstanding teachers in our Faculty of Environment and the strong leadership at the centre make for a really enjoyable place to work.”

Engineering co-op students build tree-planting robot to help fight deforestation

BY VANESSA STOFER

Many students spend their summer tromping through slash-piles and battling blackflies to replant Canada’s forests. Two UVic engineering undergraduates took a different approach: they designed and built a tree-planting robot with the idea of supplementing the humans’ hard work.

“TreeRover” is the brainchild of third-year electrical engineering students Nick Birch and Tyler Rhodes. Through an entrepreneurship co-op work term, they formed their own company—Iota Enterprises—to build their robot prototype in Rhodes’ Saanich backyard.

Growing up on Vancouver Island, Birch and Rhodes have always enjoyed outdoor pursuits and electronics projects. “A tree-planting robot seemed like a logical way to combine those interests to create something that could positively impact the environment,” says Birch. “especially given the extent of BC’s forest fires this past summer.”

The bright orange TreeRover prototype, which carries up to 10 seedlings, has a four-wheeled electric drive base with an air-powered planting mechanism mounted on top. The robot drives to a planting site, punches a hole in the ground with a hollow metal tube and deposits a tree seedling with a whoosh of pressured air. Then it tamps the earth around the seedling with a metal “foot”—mimicking a planter’s heavy boot—to ensure it’s secure.

“The TreeRover has been challenging and fun to build,” says Birch. “Tyler and I learned a lot of practical skills over this work term. Because our team only consists of two people, we were forced to be very hands-on in all aspects of the project.”

UVic students in any program can choose the entrepreneurship co-op option, which allows students to either work for clients (on a self-employed or contract basis) or develop a product or service over a four-month period with input from a mentor and support from a co-op coordinator. For Birch and Rhodes, this work term was their third.

“We chose to do an entrepreneurship work term this time for the unique learning opportunities it presented—business, marketing, and design experience,” says Birch. “We definitely encourage others to try the entrepreneurship option because it’s a low-risk way to try a business idea and gain skills crucial to creating a successful startup.”

While Birch and Rhodes have now returned to their full-time engineering studies, they’re raising funds to upgrade their TreeRover prototype’s planting mechanism, navigation system and powertrain and to allow it to carry more seedlings. Going forward, they’re hoping to continue using their education to develop more sustainable technologies—something they’re both real of they have a passion for.

“Trees can play a major role in helping to fight climate change and create carbon sinks,” says Birch. “It’s a great way to find out what you love to do.”

Watch video at https://youtu.be/KpWPhlKfzGw