



SALISH FISHERY

P.5

THE RING

SEPTEMBER 2015

*The University of Victoria's
community newspaper*

ring.uvic.ca



University
of Victoria

SPEED READING

ORIENTATION 2015

Six weeks of welcome

Orientation events have already begun for the fall. Keep an eye out for various events and activities on campus to welcome new and returning students, including Graduate Student Orientation (Sept. 4, beginning at the University Centre), Family Orientation (Sept. 6 outside Cadboro Commons), the President’s Welcome Barbecue (see below), UVSS Campus Kickoff (Sept. 9–12), Thunderfest (Sept. 11, noon–4 p.m. in front of the SUB) and more. Info about Sexualized Violence Awareness Week appears on page 3, and the new orientation app is linked from uvic.ca/orientation.

WELCOME BACK

President’s BBQ

As part of the full-day New Student Welcome on Sept. 8, UVic President Jamie Cassels will host his annual President’s Welcome Barbecue from 11 a.m.–3 p.m. in front of the Petch Fountain. This festive start to the academic year is always well-attended and brings together all members of the campus community.



Student at field school. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

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Galiano Island field school breathes new life into learning

NUMBER OF
ACRES OF LAND
ON GALIANO
DISTRICT LOT 57

BY ANNE MacLAURIN

In July, under a blistering hot sun, 15 students and environmental studies professor Dr. Eric Higgs waited to embark on a unique learning adventure at the Galiano Island Land Conservancy Learning Centre. During the following week, as part of the Ecological Restoration field school, the students share meals together and work intensely on group projects—off the grid, with no internet, and with the outdoor environment of the island’s District Lot 57 as their principal classroom. The lot, owned by the Galiano Island Conservancy Association, was once an active logging and farming site. But now, it’s home to the Learning Centre, and Galiano Island residents want the land ecologically restored.

That’s where the thinking, learning and labors of the students in the field school come in. “Ecological restoration must be flexible in its design and the community needs to be on side,” says Higgs. “The students each took on a challenging project that included collaboration with the local community.” The class came from a range of backgrounds. For example, Lindsay Kathrens, Jon Weller and Janine Lauder all came to the course with different academic histories. Kathrens is a double-major in environmental studies and geography, Weller is a grad student studying environmental history and Lauder is an English major with a minor in professional writing. During the intensive outdoor classroom experience, these differences became strengths.

“Being a history student,” says Weller, “my ordinary classroom experience entails a great deal of reading and being inside talking about those readings. I was really happy to be able to work and live outside while taking in the course information.” “The highlight of the field school for me,” says Lauder, “was the hands-on learning and knowing that the project we worked on was being used for actual research for ongoing projects.” “This field course provided all of us with valuable opportunities to engage in real action being taken to conserve and restore ecosystems,” says Kathrens. “All of the work we took part in was a contribution, in some way, to the Galiano Conservancy’s

SEE FIELD SCHOOL P. 6



Lynda and Murray Farmer. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

CELEBRATING THE VIKES TRADITION AT CARSA

UVic unveils Murray and Lynda Farmer Walk of Excellence

UVic’s new Murray and Lynda Farmer Walk of Excellence celebrating Vikes’ athletics legacy officially opened Aug. 26 in the Centre for Athletics, Recreation and Special Abilities (CARSA). A crowd including former Vikes filled the double-sided walkway lined with photographs, memorabilia and storyboards that chronicle the history and success of Vikes athletes, coaches and supporters. The walkway is named in honour of former Chancellor Murray Farmer and his wife Lynda. The Farmers, long-time supporters of UVic, made a gift of \$500,000 to CARSA to support the university’s

commitment to the importance of an active lifestyle and the pursuit of athletic excellence in building healthy lives and communities. “The Walk of Excellence serves as a stimulating visual panorama of Vikes’ accomplishments and showcases those individuals who, through their hard work, determination and self discipline, have created our athletic history—reflecting stories of excellence that have the potential to inspire others to live their own lives to the fullest and in the best way possible,

SEE WALK OF EXCELLENCE P. 2

ringers

Is empathy changing in a world where social media and globalization are rapidly transforming how we interact with others? **Rebecca Nelems**, a PhD student in UVic's Sociology and Cultural, Social and Political Thought, has won a three-year scholarship from the Pierre Elliot Trudeau Foundation to investigate empathy and youth. She is one of only 16 Canadian doctoral students receiving a \$180,000 award. Nelems is conducting her research at a time when other studies are suggesting that empathy is sharply declining amongst North American youth. She will explore and compare youth conceptions of empathy alongside an examination of how empathy is increasingly being taught in Canadian schools. Her research will also consider what empathy as a social good can mean at this particular juncture in Canadian history.

"I am so honoured to have won this award and am really excited to be part of such an amazing network of scholars, fellows and mentors working around the world on some of the most pressing issues facing us today," says Nelems, who is also an associate with the International Institute for Child Rights and Development. "Working in community development, I learned that communities have the solutions for the greatest challenges they face. If a lack of empathy is facing young people, they need to be brought into the conversation so that we can learn from them what challenges, resources and solutions they identify. Also, we—society as a whole—have a lot to learn from young people about how the digital age is both opening up and placing new parameters on the way we interact with others."

UVic aerospace centre flies high with funding boost

Forest fire management is one likely application of new technology being developed by University of Victoria's Centre for Aerospace Research (CfAR), which received new funding from Western Economic Diversification this month.

In the three years since its inception, the centre has become a Canadian leader in Unmanned Air Systems (UAS) research, design and flight testing.

CfAR-developed aircraft, called Unmanned Aerial Vehicles or UAVs, and customized payloads are currently undergoing design and testing for a wide variety of applications such as wildlife monitoring, agriculture, mining exploration using remote sensing technology, and search and rescue.

The new federal funding (\$527,000) gives the centre the capacity to continue the development, commercialization and certification of next-generation UAVs.

CfAR is led by Canada Research Chair and centre director Dr. Afzal Suleman of UVic's Faculty of Engineering. The team includes three engineering faculty, and currently there are 20 engineers, graduate and undergrad students being trained in this emerging field.

In Canada, some of the centre's industrial partners include Bombardier Aerospace, Meggitt Training Systems Canada, Rigid Robotics, Terra Remote Sensing, Brican Flight Systems, and internationally, UVic



Suleman. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

CfAR has been collaborating with Boeing (USA).

Unmanned aircraft technology (which encompasses the aircraft itself, as well as flight and ground control systems, and on-board payloads) is the fastest growing sector in the aerospace industry in Canada. At present, it is illegal for unmanned aircraft to be flown out of the line of

sight of operators due to privacy and safety concerns. To commercialize these products, certification and regulation are a primary concern to industry. For this reason, another priority of the centre is to develop standardized tests to assist pilot-operators to certify their aircraft with Transport Canada.

In addition to the Western Eco-

nomic Diversification funding, the centre has received an additional \$1.5 million in cash and in-kind funding from industry, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council and Canadian Foundation for Innovation in the current fiscal year.

WALK OF EXCELLENCE CONTINUED FROM P.1

whatever path is taken," said Murray Farmer, a UVic alumnus who served as chancellor for two terms and as chair of the Board of Governors.

UVic President Jamie Cassels thanked those who donated to CARSA and in particular the Farmers for their support and their leadership in the broader community. "The breadth of their activities demonstrates their desire to see the multiple dimensions of society flourish—business and entrepreneurship, community development, health and well-being, culture and the arts." Cassels particularly highlighted their commitment to post-secondary education and their longstanding support of both UVic and Camosun College.

Among those in attendance was Nancy Mollenhauer, a two-time Olympic women's field hockey player and UVic Sports Hall of Fame inductee.

"My success is a direct reflection of my time spent here at UVic," said Mollenhauer. "To see this amazing Walk of Excellence open today, creating a legacy for the thousands of athletes who helped lay the foundation for what is, in my view, the most successful university athletic program in Canada."

The walkway has four themes: a walk through time, accomplishments as Vikes, international success and national champions.

"We hope our new walkway will engage alumni and inspire the current athletes," said Clint Hamilton, director of athletics and recreation. "We have a number of artifacts and stories in it now but it is a project that has a lot of room for constant renewal."

Memorabilia include a podium outfit, swimsuit and Paralympic bronze medal from swimmer Stephanie Dixon; team Canada and UVic jerseys from men's basketball player Eli Pasquale; a Whitecaps FC jersey from former Vikes men's soccer player Nico Craveiro; a wheelchair wheel from two-time national champion and Paralympian Janet McLachlan; and all 11 CIAU/CIS championship medals from women's field hockey head coach Lynne Beecroft, who enters her 32nd season this fall.

The walkway, which is one of the entrances to the high performance gym, is also the new home for the UVic Sports Hall of Fame, which celebrates 40 individual and six team inductees.

Alumni who have memorabilia or stories they want considered for the Walk of Excellence or any UVic Sports Hall of Fame nominations can be sent to Ali Lee, Vikes communications officer, at vicvikes@uvic.ca.

Standardizing campus information with new Enhanced Planning Tools

It's what you need to know. The next stage of UVic's Enhanced Planning Tools program is now ready for managers across UVic's faculties and administration. Over the past two years, details of the new resources and priorities planning system were rolled out in a series of meetings with faculties and administrative units.

Enhanced planning is the new process UVic has adopted for decision making, budgeting and organizational forecasting for all units, faculties and departments starting in 2015–16.

The centrepiece is a new software reporting and recording system that will help decision-makers in academic, administrative and support units achieve their goals.

Enhanced planning will enable managers to integrate their physical and technology assets, finances and human resources into an institutional database. The software tool also allows managers to assess the quality of their programs and services, measure demand for their offerings and determine productivity and efficiency, based on setting

goals and objectives within available resources.

Think of it like this: when you go for a physical checkup, you get a clear picture of the state of your health, using baseline data to measure changes as you go through life. Enhanced planning is intended to do much the same thing, by providing the university with a full picture of its resources, capabilities and opportunities.

As University Systems finishes building the new software, it's time to incorporate it as part of essential organizational planning. Open information sessions are scheduled this fall: one-hour, practical guides to tell you what you need to know for your unit's reporting. Managers can attend any one of these, to be held in ASB 120, on the following dates:

- **Wednesday, Sept. 30**, 11 a.m.–12 p.m.
- **Thursday, Oct. 8**, 12 p.m.–1 p.m.
- **Wednesday, Oct. 14**, 10 a.m.–11 a.m.
- **Friday, Oct. 16**, 1 p.m.–2 p.m.



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

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

Production Beth Doman

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

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

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The Ring, PO Box 1700, University of Victoria,
Victoria, BC V8W 2Y2
Tel: 250-721-7636 Fax: 250-721-8955
E-mail: ring@uvic.ca

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Anny Schaefer
MPA (UVic), BA (Cmns), PBD (Econ.)
REALTOR® DFH Real Estate Ltd.
3914 Shelbourne St., Victoria BC V8P 4J1
T 250.477.7291 **F** 250.477.3161
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Bob Reimer

Sexualized Violence Awareness Week 2015

Across the country and around the world, universities and colleges are increasingly focusing on the issue of sexualized violence on campuses. Here at UVic, this concern is being addressed head-on during the second annual Sexualized Violence Awareness Week (SVAW) taking place Sept. 14–18 on campus.

A result of the collaborative efforts of Student Affairs, the UVic Student Society and the Anti-Violence Project, the SVAW program provides the forum for a proactive approach to engage the campus community in a positive and empowering conversation. Rather than concentrating solely on reporting and support after a sexual assault has occurred, the SVAW focus is on preventing assaults from happening by changing attitudes and behaviours.

“UVic is committed to creating a community safe from issues of sexualized violence, and it’s a conversation that needs to involve our entire campus,” says Jim Dunsdon, associate vice-president of student affairs. Research demonstrates that most often sexualized violence occurs within a student’s first year of university and the majority of assaults occur within the first few weeks of classes. “Having the SVAW take place during the second week of classes highlights the importance of the issues and our commitment to

providing a range of proactive, educational opportunities developed with a wide range of campus partners”

Last year’s SVAW program highlighted the importance of consent, with training for student leaders and a popular *Let’s Get Consensual* video and pledge campaign where students declared their commitment to practicing clear consent before engaging in sexual activities.

“The Let’s Get Consensual campaign is about opening up a critical conversation with our student community” says Kenya Rogers, director of external relations for the UVic Student Society. “Last year we had over 500 students take the pledge. This year we’re hoping to engage even more students. The success of this initiative is leading to other universities adopting this campaign and working to shift their campus cultures.”

The goals of the 2015 SVAW, taking place throughout the second week of new student orientation, include promoting positive messaging that encourages consensual conversations, creating awareness about issues of mas-



“We want to engage the widest range of students possible to increase awareness and education about consent, sexualized violence and the supports available for those impacted by it,” says Kirsten McMenamie, judicial affairs and student life coordinator in Student Affairs. “The more awareness we provide, the more discussions we have—the more we can foster a cultural shift on campus towards one of support, safety and respect.”

During the week, we’ll see the launch of an expanded *Let’s Get Consensual* campaign, and a new training program for student leader groups that focuses on bystander intervention—what individuals can and should do when they see the potential for sexualized violence occurring.

“Offering bystander intervention training to students is an important initiative on our campus” says

culininity (such as patriarchy and entitlement) and how these issues can contribute to a societal rape culture. It also focuses on encouraging men to speak out and take an active role in addressing these issues with other men on campus.

Carol Bilson, coordinator of the Anti-Violence Project. “Intervening at the scene of an assault is unlikely but changing attitudes and cultures will do more to help prevent incidents before they occur.”

Also taking place throughout the week is the Clothesline Project, an interactive opportunity for survivors of sexual assault to tell their stories by creating art on t-shirts that are displayed on a clothesline for others to see. The Clothesline Project started in Massachusetts in 1990 and has spread around the world, supporting victims of violence and bearing witness to their experiences.

The keynote event will include speakers Darnell Moore and Anna Soole. Moore is a writer and activist, based in New Jersey, whose work is informed by anti-racist, feminist, queer of colour and anti-colonial thought and advocacy. Soole is a BC-based facilitator and coach specializing in empowerment, sexuality, social justice, healthy relationships and self-esteem. They’ll be speaking on Tuesday, Sept. 15 at 6 p.m. in Vertigo at the Student Union Building.

The Awareness Week’s kick-off event will take place Monday, Sept. 14 in front of the SUB with the unveiling of the SVAW banner and information fair. For more information, visit: www.uvic.ca/consent.

ringers

Dr. Stephanie Willerth (engineering/medical sciences), who holds the Canada Research Chair in biomedical engineering, was recently named one of the 2015 Young Innovators in Cellular and Molecular Bioengineering. As part of the award, her group paper was published in the Young Innovators special issue of the journal *Cellular and Molecular Bioengineering* in August. The study extends the work done in the eponymous Willerth Lab—engineering tissue that can be transplanted into humans to treat diseases of the nervous system like Parkinson’s or to repair spinal cord damage. The paper describes experiments using drug-releasing microscopic particles, called “microspheres,” into pluripotent stem cells—adult cells that can be genetically modified to become muscle, blood, heart or nerve cells. The work begins what promises to be a revolutionary tool for regenerative medicine.

Dr. Tom Gleeson (engineering) has won the Early Career Award from the Hydrologic Sciences section of the American Geophysical Union (AGU) which goes to an international hydrology researcher within six years of their PhD. Gleeson’s work focuses on mega-scale groundwater systems and groundwater sustainability. An upcoming edition of *Nature Geoscience* will feature Gleeson’s expansive and interdisciplinary research, which addresses how much groundwater the planet holds and how long until it runs out. It will be of interest to water managers and policy developers, as well as scientists from a number of fields such as hydrology, atmospheric science, geochemistry and oceanography. He will be presented with the award at the AGU meeting in December.

Global child health scholar joins UVic

BY KATE HILDEBRANDT

An academic leader in global child health and human rights research, who is developing a child rights global monitoring platform that will be tested in New Brunswick, the Northwest Territories and BC, has joined UVic as a Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research Scholar. Dr. Ziba Vaghri, of the School of Public Health and Social Policy, has more than 15 years of extensive research, international experience, significant awards, and a global network of researchers and practitioners all set on creating a seamless UN-endorsed, rights-based system to measure global child health and development.

Vaghri’s current work plan could position BC and Canada as leaders in global child health and human rights research. For the past eight years, Vaghri worked with a team of experts serving the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UN-CRC). They developed a monitoring tool for children younger than nine and led

pilot tests in Tanzania, Chile, and will soon do the same in Canada.

“We learned that carefully designed indicators can fairly capture very different governments’ actions in support of child health,” says Vaghri. Canada’s reports were compilations of other reports gathered from a number of jurisdictions, she explains, and lacked the necessary coordination to generate a comprehensive portrayal of the overall status of Canadian children in all areas articulated within the convention.

“Canada, with its high standard of living, should be setting a global standard of how to support development of the child.”

Vaghri’s case for helping to facilitate Canada’s reporting process, based on her work with the UN, led to her winning a 2014 scholar award with the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research. She plans to devote that five-year award to developing *GlobalChild*, a more comprehensive child rights global monitoring platform to be tested first here in Canada.

“Having Ziba here is a fantastic opportunity for UVic,” says Dr. Michael Hayes, school director. “Her work will create an invaluable data repository that will lead to other research and funding opportunities. Her understanding of the human condition alone is a profound contribution to our school and our students.”

Developing a monitoring tool to suit Canada—along with 194 other governments of countries with diverse economies, cultures, and policies—is a rigorous process. Yet, if all goes according to Vaghri’s plan, this work could produce the world’s most comprehensive and reliable resource for not only monitoring child rights, but also transferring that research and knowledge into action.

Vaghri’s choice to join the UVic faculty also brings back “good memories of my time here as a student.” She came to Canada from Tehran in her early 20s with a pediatric nursing degree and chose UVic to upgrade her education before going to UBC for 10 years of graduate studies. “We lived



Vaghri. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

in the family residence,” she recalls, amazed to see our Family Centre still open after 20 years.

All in all, she concludes, “Here is a perfect match. Like Ring Road, I’ve come full circle.”

We're on Twitter!



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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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Accelerated Payout:

Income over 5 years	\$1,761	Total 5 year payout	\$105,668
Income over 10 years	\$929	Total 10 year payout	\$111,468
Income over 15 years	\$653	Total 15 year payout	\$117,468

* Based on best current GIC of 2.20%. Returns will vary depending on investment vehicle. Monthly income based on \$100,000

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...10 years guaranteed		\$438	\$475	\$537	\$625	\$690	\$812
Female							
...payments cease at death		\$415	\$438	\$491	\$590	\$677	\$869
...10 years guaranteed		\$414	\$444	\$491	\$571	\$634	\$744
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around the ring

Vikes Championship Breakfast makes first appearance in CARSA performance gym

The Vikes Championship Breakfast is the largest fundraiser for the varsity programs, and this year, the annual event will be hosted in the CARSA performance gym, featuring four-time Olympic triathlete Simon Whitfield as the keynote speaker. The event will also feature the return of former Vikes men's basketball player Chris Hebb, who will also emcee for the Vikes on Sept. 29. The past seven Championship Breakfast events have been held in the iconic McKinnon Gymnasium with varsity athletes serving breakfast to alumni, university and community supporters. To date the event has raised just over \$2.8 million dollars for student-athlete scholarships. And this year, UVic is set to once again match the first \$200,000 raised at the event. Individual seats, tables of 10 and separate donations can be made up until the date of the event at govikesgo.com/breakfast.

Five-year capital plan approved

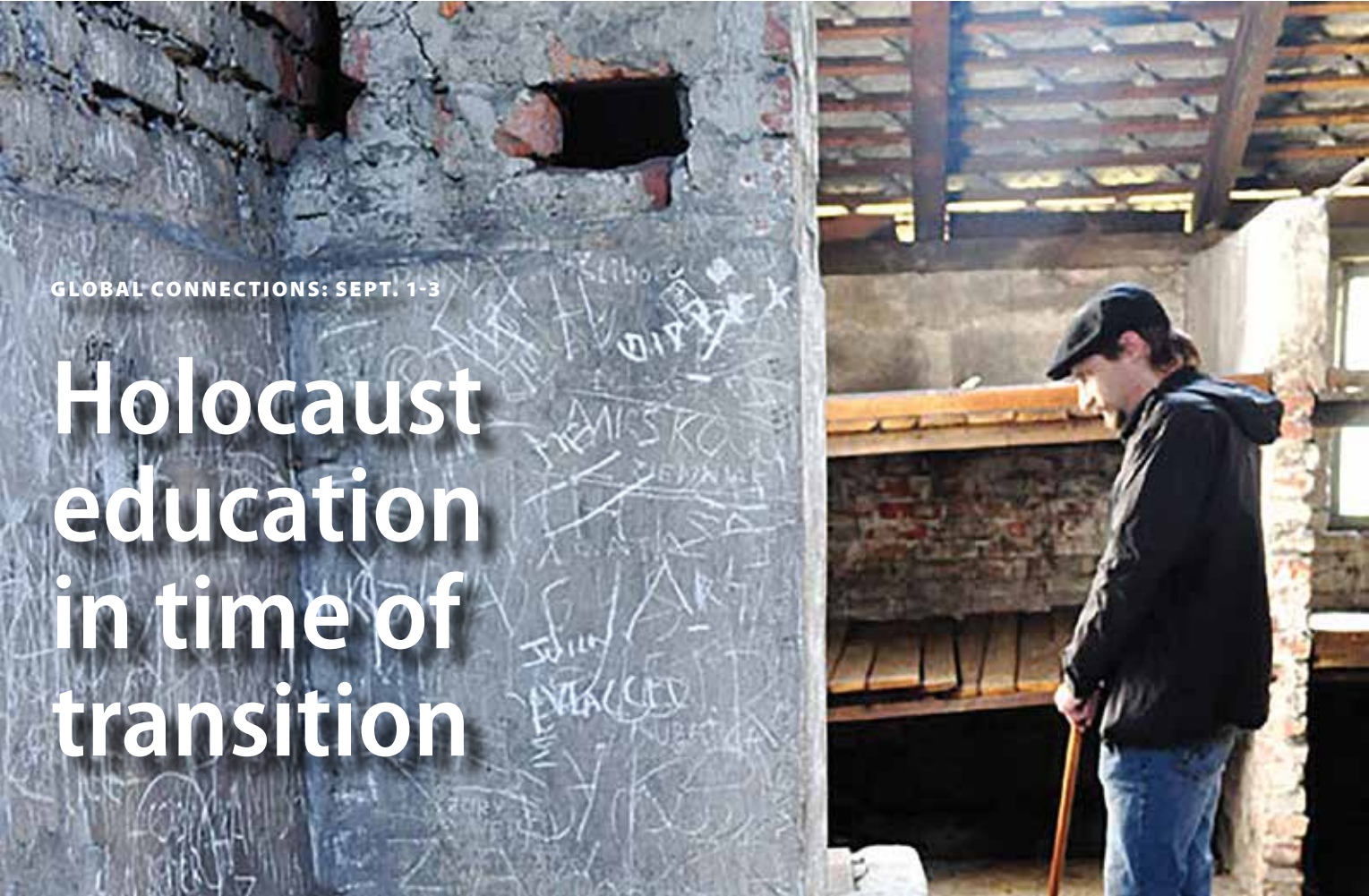
The university's five-year capital plan was approved at the June 29th Board of Governors meeting. The plan, which is updated each year, outlines the major capital priorities (greater than \$5 million) for the campus including projects to address space pressures as well as deferred building maintenance. The capital priorities for the university include the following:

- Student housing expansion and renewal;
- Business and Economics Building expansion;
- Fraser and Petch Building renewal;
- Elliot Science teaching laboratory upgrades; and
- Campus seismic program.

As well as the above capital projects, planning work will continue over the next two years to develop a plan to address academic space pressures in engineering and computer science, science and social sciences. The full report can be viewed at uvic.ca/financialplanning/capital.

Is your IdeaFest proposal ready?

There's only a month left to brainstorm proposals for next spring's IdeaFest—the university's campus-wide research festival, celebrating the ideas, voices and experiences of faculty, students and staff from across UVic. The festival—March 7–12, 2016—is a unique opportunity to share the impact of UVic research and creative endeavours with the Greater Victoria community, as well as an opportunity for our on-campus community to discover and connect with ideas being explored around them every day. Units from across campus are invited to submit event proposals to the Office of the Vice-President Research by Oct. 5. More details and proposal forms at bit.ly/ideafest-props



GLOBAL CONNECTIONS: SEPT. 1-3

Holocaust education in time of transition

Alum goes from I-witness Holocaust Field School to Shoah Foundation

BY TARA SHARPE

This summer the world saw film footage of the Queen as a child giving the Nazi salute. Media coverage was immediate and it also served to raise important questions about a real risk of losing the educational legacies of the 1940s and the importance of Holocaust education to future generations in the 21st century. UVic is home to the I-witness Holocaust Field School (the first of its kind for undergraduate students at a Canadian university) and the UVic Holocaust Archive. Earlier this month UVic hosted a global gathering to explore Holocaust education as a means to tackle contemporary issues of hatred, racism, antisemitism, islamophobia, xenophobia, ethnic conflict and genocide.

From Sept. 1–3, “Global Connections: Critical Holocaust Education in a Time of Transition” brought together participants—from the US, Canada, Austria, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and Switzerland—to focus on Holocaust studies, the continuum of displacement and destruction and the incredible human costs and trauma. The conference will also address related issues of multi-cultural human rights education including Canadian atrocities of the residential schools and Japanese-Canadian internment.

“This annual conference challenges us to view Holocaust education in

new ways, at a critical time in history when the generation which experienced it firsthand will not be with us for too much longer,” says Dr. Helga Thorson, chair of UVic's Department of Germanic and Slavic Studies and a co-founder of the UVic field school. She explains how the annual conference came together due to “contacts we had made during the first two field schools and as an extension of an international research collective” established by Thorson and Dr. Charlotte Schallié, a former co-director of the field school and professor within the department.

Andrea van Noord, a UVic alumna who is employed in her chosen field of study as a Holocaust testimony indexer with the Shoah Foundation at the University of Southern California, returned to Victoria to manage the three-day conference along with a team of dedicated volunteers and committee members.

Van Noord audited the UVic field school in 2011 and, while living in Berlin, also worked as a research consultant during the 2014 field school and travelled with the group. She speaks from the perspective of the next generation: “Since the field school, I would say I tend to think of history more and more as a story that we tell ourselves about the past, which can help us to make sense of the present, and perhaps even guide



L-r: Schallié, Thorson, van Noord. CREDIT: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES.

decision-making in the future. But it is also a story that can change in time from person to culture to nation to government.”

“Living in the wake of not only the Holocaust, but also the First Nations residential school system, the wars in Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda and more—the slogan ‘never again’ represents the worst kind of institutionalized rhetoric that on the one hand champions a sense of responsibility—and more importantly, a capacity for change—while on the other hand completely fails to acknowledge the mass violence that we have inflicted upon one another since, and before, the Holocaust.”

“How are we supposed to safeguard against distortions of the past? As of today, I'm not sure we can safeguard against such a thing. But we can increase our awareness of history”

Schallié adds, “What makes our

conference unique is that it brings together scholars from a multitude of disciplines, socially engaged artists, activists and survivors. To foster interaction and cooperation among the conference participants, including the audience members, we decided to keep the traditional lecture format to a minimum. The afternoon sessions were thus comprised of panel discussions and reflective group meetings sharing best practices in Holocaust Education.”

Visit the conference website (<https://onlineacademiccommunity.uvic.ca/globalconnections>) to view the conference's full program.

Photos from the first field schools, as well as student viewpoints and additional storytelling about the program, are available at bit.ly/1Eha3bf and bit.ly/1L5UPFw.

Human footprints on the BC coast could be 13,000 years old

BY ANNE MacLAURIN

Family gatherings around a fire pit—an ancient custom that's still with us today—may have been practiced as long as 13,000 years ago along BC's central coast. Footprints from what appear to be a man, woman and child circling a hearth were discovered below the tideline.

Twelve single footprints were discovered in April in a layer of clay on a beach on remote Calvert Island in the Great Bear Rainforest on BC's central coast. Archaeologists Dr. Duncan McLaren and Dr. Daryl Fedje, researchers with the Hakai Institute and the University of Victoria's De-

partment of Anthropology, were digging for prehistoric stone tools and bones—only to discover what could be the oldest human footprints in North America.

In a recent interview with *Hakai Magazine* McLaren marvels: “To see those footprints, it's really evocative. It's something we can all relate to because it represents a brief moment of time.”

McLaren and Fedje call their archaeological methodology unconventional: “We have to take the time to excavate but we're always looking over our shoulder watching the tide,” says McLaren. “With the footprints we had to cover the area with a plastic layer



L-R: Fedje and McLaren at the dig site. CREDIT: JOANNE MCSPORRAN.

and when we returned in the morning it was covered in seaweed, debris,

and sand. It then took a long time to carefully remove all the debris and get back to the work we had uncovered the day before.”

“There are layers above and below all 12 footprints that still need to be rigorously tested and analyzed,” McLaren points out. “This is an exciting hint of a group of footprints left behind in prehistoric times and now we'll dig deeper into this discovery to duplicate and confirm the preliminary results with radiocarbon dating.”

McLaren and Fedje were interviewed for a feature story the institute's *Hakai Magazine*, available at hakaimagazine.com/article-long/time-travelers.

Legacy of statelessness for migrant families “on the move” in Southeast Asia

BY TARA SHARPE

Heartbreaking headlines dominate the news around the world in continuing coverage about the predicament of migrants from Africa, Asia and the Americas. What gets less attention are challenges faced by the millions of families caught up in undocumented migration for temporary work. Among the growing number of labour migrants worldwide, the stream of undocumented workers from Indonesia to Malaysia and the Middle East is one of the largest, but we know very little about the family experiences of labour migrants, especially those in the Asia-Pacific region.

A two-year pilot study by UVic researchers Drs. Leslie Butt (Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives, anthropology) and Jessica Ball (child and youth care), and collaborator Dr. Harriot Beazley at the University of the Sunshine Coast in Australia, closely explores the risks of statelessness, the difficulties that families on the move confront when seeking birth documentation, and other impacts of undocumented parent migration in Southeast Asia on the children who are either left behind, carried along or born while mothers are working overseas.

Birth registration is the first step towards citizenship. “And the process can be unnecessarily and prohibitively complex,” explains Ball. And lack of birth registration is often part of a multigenerational legacy of statelessness.

“Unless steps are taken to simplify birth registration procedures and to make it more accessible to parents who are poor, rural and moving across borders for work, inequities between children who are citizens and non-citizens will endure,” says Ball. “There is a high degree of precarity.”

“And there just hasn’t been the research on parent choices and decisions,” points out Butt.

By talking to migrant parents of stateless children about their experiences with birth registration and their goals for family cohesion and quality of life, the researchers learned of challenges and solutions to birth registration from the participants themselves.



Butt (second from right) at health information session for expectant mothers in East Lombok. PHOTO COURTESY OF LESLIE BUTT

The insights from the UVic-led study, “Stateless Children, Parents, and Undocumented Migration: An Indonesian Pilot Study,” identify strategies to help migrant families to establish children’s identity documentation.

“Migration destabilizes family unity,” says Butt, “and migration is often the family’s last choice. Virtually every person we spoke to would prefer to stay home, not migrate. This is the first study to talk to parents of stateless children and to learn from their insights about their reasons and experiences with registering their children.”

The study found that mothers lack the social position and resources

to complete the birth registration process. With many fathers forced to find work overseas before their child’s birth, the birth registration process needs to be simplified so that mothers and even grandparents (who often care for children of migrant parents) can successfully complete the process themselves.

Another one of the study’s recommendations is for a greatly simplified and no-cost birth registration process to be integrated in the network of widely used government birthing clinics and primary health care programs in local villages.

“Multigenerational statelessness amplifies the risks to safety, health

and quality of life of children who are already vulnerable,” Ball says. “The global push to ensure every child’s right to an officially documented name and nationality needs to consider the limited resources and access to birth registration in families who are constantly on the move.”

“At the same time, some families may prefer to remain undocumented and beyond the reach of government surveillance. Research that encompasses diverse family perspectives can identify pathways to citizenship for all children.”

“With so many families on the move in the global era, birth registration policies will need to adapt,” adds

Butt. “Family needs come first, and Indonesia can take a leadership role in making birth registration easy for all families.”

In December 2015, both researchers will return to Indonesia to help the partner organizations such as UNICEF, PLAN and Save the Children explore ideas and apply the research to possible strategic initiatives in that country.

The two-year study was supported through CAPI and by a 2013 Insight Development Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

More info: <http://bit.ly/1LG6dbw>

Reclaiming a banned Saanich fishery

BY SUZANNE AHEARNE

Almost a decade ago, XEMTOLTW Nick Claxton told his family he wanted to revitalize the reef net fishery, a fishing practice unique to the Straits Salish people and banned by the colonial government 100 years ago.

His uncle advised: “You can’t just go fishing. You must first build a ceremonial net.” And so began the spiritual, cultural and educational journey that Claxton considers his life’s work. It also became his PhD dissertation in curriculum and instruction at the University of Victoria—a research study designed to revitalize the knowledge, ceremony and practice that was nearly lost.

In August, he defended his thesis in front of a panel of academic supervisors and family in the gym of the Gathering Strength community centre in Tsawout—on Saanich Peninsula, where it all began.

Claxton, who’s been UVic’s Indigenous Education advisor for five years, started this project by enlisting the help of his WSÁNEĆ (Saanich) Nation elders and later, his Lummi Nation

relatives in Washington, who traditionally shared this distinctive reef net technology as well as the fishing grounds. They built a model of two ocean-going canoes with a long net suspended between them, designed to direct migrating salmon into the belly of the net.

The net became a focal point of the ŁÁU,WEL,NEW Tribal School curriculum. Social studies and science teachers taught their subjects around the project, incorporating the beliefs and philosophies associated with the fishery, which Claxton says distinguished his people as a nation.

“The reef net fishery formed the core of our society at one time. It was the way we governed ourselves. It was the core of our spiritual society, our economic system and our social system. It was the backbone of our people,” he says.

Last summer, for the first time in a century, ocean-going canoes dropped a full-size reef net into the Salish Sea. Despite two trips so far, they’ve yet to catch any fish. “It took a lot of knowledge about how and where the salmon migrated as well as knowledge of the



A scene from the 2014 sailing.

flow of the tides,” Claxton says, acknowledging that it’ll take some time to build up these skills again. “It’s my vision that we can be reef net fishing people again,” says Claxton, 42, who’s planning his next cross-border fishing trip soon after his defence.

Full Ring story with video and CBC radio interview: bit.ly/reef-net

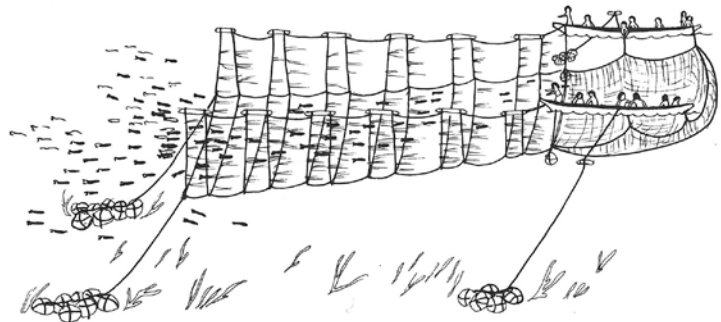


Diagram of an anchored reef net system.

in memoriam

Eugene Dowling

The Faculty of Fine Arts mourns the passing of inspirational teacher and invaluable colleague, School of Music professor Eugene Dowling. Following a 2013 diagnosis of prostate cancer, Dowling passed away at his home on June 30 with his family and close friends at hand.

“Gene was a wonderful teacher, talented performer and delightful colleague and friend,” says Acting Dean of Fine Arts and former School of Music Director Susan Lewis. “He showed incredible generosity and thoughtfulness towards his students and helped make the School of Music a great place to be.”

An inspirational mentor to more than one generation of students, Dowling worked as a teaching professor for 39 years before retiring in 2014. But he was perhaps best known locally for his 35 years leading the annual Tuba Christmas ensemble, which raised thousands of dollars for local charities.

“He was a devoted and insightful instructor, often offering



Dowling. PHOTO: UVIC ARCHIVES

extra hours of teaching and mentoring to his students,” recalls fellow professor and School of Music Acting Director Harald Krebs. “The many successes of his students worldwide honour his legacy. He will be sorely missed by the many in whose lives he made a difference.”

In addition to his teaching, Dowling was a very active performer: for 25 of his 39 years at UVic, he was Principal Tubist with the Victoria Symphony, as well as an internationally known soloist. He was also nominated for a Juno Award for his first recording, *The English Tuba*.

Upon his retirement in 2014, Dowling established a scholarship for the benefit of School of Music low brass students.

“He was widely recognized as a dedicated teacher and advisor,” says Lewis. “We will miss Gene’s expertise, good humour and collegial nature.”

A public memorial for Eugene Dowling is planned for 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 26, at St. John the Divine, 1611 Quadra St.

—Submitted by John Threlfall

David Godfrey

An award-winning author, a publishing visionary, a pioneer in on-campus computing and an early writing department chair—David Godfrey was all this and so much more. The Department of Writing is saddened to announce the passing of this former professor at the age of 77.

The winner of the Governor General’s Award in 1970 for his novel *The New Ancestors*, Dave Godfrey was also the co-founder of iconic Canadian publisher House of Anansi, as well as the New Press and was the editor of Press Porcépic—which became the publishing house The Porcupine’s Quill. Chair of the writing department from 1977–1982, Godfrey retired in 1998 to operate the 60-acre Godfrey-Brownell Vineyards in the Cowichan Valley.

“I was an admirer of Dave Godfrey’s writing long before I joined him in the Department of Writing,” notes retired writing professor Jack Hodgins. “His great novel *The New Ancestors* seemed to be opening up something new in Canadian fiction. That he had attended both the famous Iowa State and Stanford writing programs made him a valuable colleague in a writing program. I was impressed, too, that he had been one of those Ontario writers—like Matt Cohen and several others—who were creating a new Canadian literature for our generation. Somehow he made me feel welcome to join him in this enterprise.”

Writing professor Joan MacLeod had Godfrey as a professor when she was an undergrad back in the 1970s. “He had a strong reputation not only for his editorial skills but also his fiction. He co-taught the fiction workshop I was in, where I started a novel that eventually became my MFA thesis,” she recalls. “He was incredibly good to me and incredibly supportive. He made me feel like I had a voice.”

Lorna Crozier remembers Godfrey as being “generous, sharp and excited about ideas and young people. He was a central figure in the Canadian renaissance, in our belief that our own

stories have value. We need more of his kind now.”

Godfrey’s legacy lives on in the three publishing houses he helped create. House of Anansi Press was founded in 1967 by Godfrey and writer Dennis Lee as a small press with a mandate to publish Canadian writers. House of Anansi still thrives today, as does the New Press and The Porcupine’s Quill.

Godfrey was also at the cutting edge of the cultural side of computer technology, arguing that decentralized data and computer communication were extremely important for art and literature. In 1979, he co-edited *Gutenberg Two*, focusing on the social and political meaning of computer technology, and co-wrote *The Telidon Book*, about electronic publishing and video text. He also founded a software development company called Softwords—which eventually grew to a staff of 22 with annual sales of about \$1 million.

“Dave helped hold the department together not long after its difficult birth,” recalls former departmental colleague Derk Wynand. “He also played a huge role in bringing us into the 20th—and perhaps 21st—century, with his expertise in computers and business.”

“He was ahead of his time,” agrees Crozier. “He was into computers at the start, before any of us dreamed of giving up our pens and booklets, and he insisted that the department get on board. He was also a proponent of the co-op program because he was that rare thing—a businessman as well as a writer.”

Retired Humanities, Fine Arts and Professional Writing Co-op Coordinator

Don Bailey recalls Godfrey as “the founding chair” of the writing co-op. “He was very committed to introducing students with a flair for writing—and some digital competencies—into careers in the communications, publishing, journalism and tech sectors. He was somewhat of a visionary in this regard.”

—Submitted by John Threlfall



L–R: Farley Mowat and Dave Godfrey at UVic in 1982. PHOTO: UVIC ARCHIVES



L-R: Elder May Sam providing guidance to Hanton. CREDIT: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

UVic student heads to Australia on first Indigenous co-op exchange

BY JOY POLIQUIN

When UVic student Kimberly Hanton packed her bags for her work term in Australia last month, she carried words of encouragement from the local Indigenous Elders. Hanton recently embarked on the university’s first Indigenous co-op exchange after attending a departure ceremony at First Peoples House in her honour.

This unique co-op exchange saw Hanton travel to the University of Newcastle in Australia in August, while UVic will welcome Australian Indigenous student Cristal Walters to campus this fall.

Hanton, an Indigenous student studying political science, will be working with Australia’s leading Aboriginal historian, as well as contributing to the University of Newcastle’s Global Indigenous and Diaspora Research Studies Centre team. Walters will take part in the LE_{NONET} program, take some Indigenous Studies courses and complete a multi-week internship in Victoria.

“I am excited and greatly thankful for this upcoming passage of my life,” says Hanton. “I hope that I will make a positive difference with my work and will keep close the words of encouragement from the Elders. Thanks to their blessings, I certainly know I will be safe on my journey.”

Both students will be supported by

local Indigenous Elders and will participate in cultural ceremonies that will protect them on their travels and keep them connected to their Indigenous homeland. Hanton was guided by Elders May Sam, Skip Sam and Skip Dick during a departure ceremony at First Peoples House on Aug. 19, while Walters will be given a traditional welcome to the local Lekwungen territory and the opportunity to learn about the culture and protocols of the Coast Salish Peoples when she arrives in September.

This exchange program was established through the CANCOM-COOP project, as a result of funding from the Canadian Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Scholarship program. UVic’s Co-operative Education Program and Career Services received the funding in March.

“It’s a unique initiative, as the students will support each other during their exchanges and will spend time working together on a community engagement initiative here in Canada when Kimberly returns to campus,” says Dr. Norah McRae, executive director of UVic’s Co-operative Education Program and Career Services.

“This is a tremendous opportunity to share knowledge and to connect Indigenous students from Canada with other Indigenous communities across the world.”

FIELD SCHOOL CONTINUED FROM P.1

efforts. It was very rewarding.”

The students presented their projects at the end of the week to the Galiano Conservancy and to approximately 50 local residents. Opportunities were given to the audience for feedback and future consultation.

The student-proposed projects included an educational geocache adventure game, a food foraging forest, and a historical accounting and documenting of Lot 57. The common thread was that all 15 students experienced firsthand the impact of working in a rugged, remote island landscape. The classroom was spellbinding and

how they engaged with each other, their instructor, and the community enriched everyone’s lives.

As one student put it, “this is how I want to do my learning.”

Higgs, who has taught two previous ES 441 field schools, delights in watching the students emerge from their academic shells to find themselves in this context. “It is such a profound and inspiring experience to work with bright students in a community setting—they come alive. I feel like I am doing my best teaching and facilitating during these classes.”

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calendar highlights

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



at the galleries

uvic.uvic.ca

250-721-6562

■ **Exhibit.** 12 a.m. *Celebrating W.B. Yeats at 150.* Until January 18. 2015 marks 150 years since the birth of Irish poet and Nobel laureate William Butler Yeats (1865–1939). This exhibition explores Yeats’ work as a poet and a playwright with artwork, rare books, and printed ephemera drawn from UVic’s Legacy Gallery and UVic Library’s Special Collections and University Archives. Mearns Centre / McPherson Library A003. Free. 250-721-8247.

■ **Exhibit.** 10 a.m. *unlimited edition.* Until September 26. unlimited edition looks at how prints by Aboriginal and Inuit artists represented in the Kamloops Art Gallery’s permanent collection, supplemented by works on loan from the Carleton University Art Gallery and Legacy Art Galleries, represent a drive to preserve, portray and popularize oral histories and address social inequities in the medium of printmaking. Featuring prints from Northwest Coast, Woodlands and Inuit artists with a focus on an early period of printmaking in the ‘50s through to the ‘70s, unlimited edition showcases prints that relate to ideas of cultural story, politics of land, and the beauty of Indigenous aesthetics. Curator’s talk Saturday, Sept. 26, 2 p.m. at Legacy Art Gallery Downtown, 630 Yates St.

■ **Book Launch.** Friday, Sept. 25, 7:30 p.m. *Made in British Columbia: Eight Ways of Making Culture.* In association with the Faculty of Fine Arts, 2006 Honorary Doctorate (LLD) Dr. Maria Tippett will be launching her latest book, *Made in British Columbia*. Considering the question, “Is there such a thing as British Columbia culture—and if so, is there anything special about it?”, the noted cultural historian responds with an assured “Yes!” by looking at the careers of eight ground-breaking cultural producers—painters Emily Carr and Bill Reid, architects Frances Rattenbury and Arthur Erickson, writers George Woodcock and Martin Grainger, composer Jean Couthard and playwright George Ryga—who not only made an enduring mark on Canadian culture during the 20th century, but whose work is intimately interwoven with BC’s identity. Fine Arts 103. 250-721-6222.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 3

■ **Conference.** 8:45 a.m. *Global Connections: Critical Holocaust Education in a Time of Transition.* See article, page 4.

■ **Other.** 1 p.m. *Present and Future Wind Energy Resources in Western Canada.* MSc oral exam, Jeffrey Daines. Bob Wright Centre A319. 250-721-6120.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 5

■ **Other.** 2 p.m. *Peking Dreams.* This troupe has made profound contribution to the circus world and heavily influenced the creation of Cirque du Soleil. Performance features the National Circus and Acrobats of the People’s Republic of China performing gravity-defying acrobatics. University Centre Farquhar Auditorium. Tickets \$16–36. 250-721-8480.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 8

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 6:30 p.m. *Café Scientifique—Neutrinos: the Ghost Particles.* Café Scientifique is an informal series of talks given in a relaxed setting such as a café. Dr. Dean Karlen (UVic) will discuss the tantalizing ghost particles known as neutrinos. Herman’s Jazz Café, 753 View St. 250-721-7700.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 9

■ **Music.** 7:30 p.m. *Tsugaru Shamisen Concert—Traditional Japanese Rhythm on Three Strings.* Join us in a rare music performance by artists from Japan. Enjoy traditional melodies originating from the Tohoku area of Japan. The concert features solo performances by Hiroshi Yamaguchi on shamisen and duo performances with Brazilian/Jazz guitarist Yujiro Nakajima. Phillip T. Young Recital Hall. Free of charge, but reservations by email are required. Please email full name and number of tickets to culture@vc.mofa.go.jp.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 10:30 a.m. *Housing and Well-being in Later Life from an Environmental Gerontology Perspective: Lessons from Germany.* Dr. Frank Oswald (Goethe University, Germany). David Strong C128. Free, but space is limited. Please register by email Impotter@uvic.ca or phone 250-721-6575.

MONDAY, SEPT. 14

■ **Other.** 12 a.m. *Sexualized Violence Awareness Week Kickoff and Information Fair.* An information fair will mark the start of Sexualized Violence Awareness Week. Come hear key representatives from the AntiViolence Project, UVSS and Student Affairs speaking about the importance of sexualized violence prevention on campus. Take the Let’s Get Consensual pledge and engage with a number of related campus groups and community organizations present to provide information and connect students to support resources. Parking Lot E. 250-721-8865.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 15

■ **Other.** 12 a.m. *The Clothesline Project.* Participate in an international campaign to share the stories of survivors of sexualized violence by creating art on t-shirts that are displayed on a clothesline for others to see. A component of Sexualized Violence Awareness Week. Share your story or show your support for survivors by participating in creating a t-shirt or viewing the display. Parking Lot E. 250-721-8865.

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 3 p.m. *Understanding Megathrust Earthquakes through Ocean Drilling.* Dr. Paolo Vannucchi (University of London). Engineering Comp Science 124. 250-721-6120.

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 6 p.m. *Meeting at the Intersections: Conversations on Preventing Sexualized Violence on Campus.* Join in the conversation on ending sexualized violence through an intersectional lens to address the multiple forms of oppression that perpetuate violence on campus and in our society. Hear from social justice educators Darnell Moore and Anna Soole, with a feature spoken word performance from the Victoria Youth Poet Laureate, Zoë Duhaime. SUB Vertigo. 250-721-8865.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 16

■ **Other.** 11 a.m. *Curious About Humanities Co-op/Work Experience?!* Info booth to answer your questions about the Humanities Co-op Program. Clearihue first floor lobby between D and A wings. Also Thurs, Sept. 17. 250-721-8841.

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 1:30 p.m. *Gender and Social Justice: Networking and Activism in the Archives.* Dr. Annalee Lepp (UVic) will discuss the Victoria Women’s Movement Archives and the Transgender Archives, providing insight into the varied ways in which gender politics and social justice activism were realized beginning in the 1970s. Mearns Centre / McPherson Library A003. 250-721-8247.

■ **Other.** 1:30 p.m. *HSD ISSC Open House.* Come and join us to celebrate the start of the 2015/2016 school year at the HSD Indigenous Student Support Centre open house. Refreshments will be provided. Human & Social Development B211. Drop-in from 1:30–4:30 p.m. 250-721-6005.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 18

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 10 a.m. *The Good, the Bad and the Weird: Different Cultures in the Canadian classroom.* Are you an international teaching assistant (ITA) at UVic and wonder why the students interrupt you to ask questions? Why they call you by your first name in class? This workshop will explore characteristics of the Canadian classroom culture with which ITAs may not be familiar, such as nonverbal communication, directness and much more. Hickman 128. 250-472-4798.

■ **Other.** 10 a.m. *CCV Facilitation Session.* Do you need help transferring information into the Canadian Common CV (CCV)? Bring your CV to enter information into the CCV portal. RSVP to resprog3@uvic.ca. Mearns Centre / McPherson Library 130.

■ **Music.** 12:30 p.m. *Guest Masterclass: Gordon Wolfe, trombone.* Gordon Wolfe conducts a masterclass with School of Music trombone students. Wolfe is Principal Trombonist with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and teaches some of the best young brass players in Canada at the Glenn Gould School. Gordon Wolfe will also present a concert on Saturday, Sept. 19 at 8:00 p.m. in the Phillip T. Young Recital Hall. Admission is free. Phillip T. Young Recital Hall. 250-721-8634.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 20

■ **Music.** 8 p.m. *Guest Concert: Jorge Caballero, guitar.* Orion Series in Fine Arts presents Jorge Caballero, guitar. Peruvian-born virtuoso Jorge Caballero performs works for solo guitar. Maclaurin Bldg Phillip T. Young Recital Hall, B-Wing. 250-721-8634.

MONDAY, SEPT. 21

■ **Other.** 12 p.m. *Mitacs for Natural Sciences & Engineering.* Mitacs is a national, nonprofit organization that designs and delivers research training programs in Canada. Join us for a lunchtime Q&A facilitated by the university’s Mitacs Business Development Specialist Nolan Beise to learn about the Mitacs suite of programs for natural sciences and engineering. RSVP to resprog3@uvic.ca. Administrative Services 120.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 24

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 4:30 p.m. *W.B. Yeats and Artistic Collaborators.* The poetry of Nobel Laureate William Butler Yeats reverberates throughout the 20th and 21st centuries—but Yeats was also an innovative playwright, an

astute politician who served in the first Senate of the Republic of Ireland, a serious occultist, and co-founder of the Irish National Theatre. Ann Saddlemeyer (University of Toronto). Mearns Centre / McPherson Library A003. 250-721-8247.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 25

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 10 a.m. *Critical Thinking: The Value of Reflection.* Is all that glitters gold? Reflective practice is crucial to student learning and just as valuable as gold. This workshop will look at how critical thinking can improve students’ problem solving abilities through engagement in reflective thinking. Hickman 128. Free. 250-472-4798.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 3 p.m. *Ocean Acidification on Canada’s West Coast: What Do We Really Know?* Dr. Debby Ianson (Fisheries and Oceans Canada and UVic). Engineering Computer Science 124. 250-217-1454.

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The Ring September 2015 Page 7

day in the life

BY LINDSAY GAGEL

The moment she walks into her office, Juanita Shorkey can “feel the love.” The room is full of Hello Kitty memorabilia, from money banks to plush toys to candy dishes, and nearly all of the items have been gifts from friends, family members or colleagues—including the tour guides Shorkey coordinates. It doesn’t take long to understand why; Shorkey’s positive energy and enthusiasm for her work is practically contagious.

A UVic alumna, Shorkey started working at UVic in 2005, first in Residence Services, then in Campus Security, and later in International Student Recruitment.

“I was trying to find my niche,” Shorkey explains. And she found it, as the Campus Tours and Program Coordinator in the Welcome Centre. “From the first day, I loved it. I love my job!” With a big smile, Shorkey adds, “despite times of insanity.”

And this year was certainly a busy one for the Welcome Centre. Record breaking, in fact. Three years ago when Shorkey started in her current position, the Welcome Centre was averaging 5,000 visitors per year for their tours. This year they’ve already had about 7,000 visitors, and it’s only September! This means more tours, more tour guides, and more work for Shorkey. “It’s been intense this summer,” she admits. Good thing she’s a workaholic.

Shorkey coordinates a staff of approximately 25-30 tour guides throughout the year, with July and



Two student tour guides and Shorkey. CREDIT: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES.

August being the busiest for tours. She hires, trains and evaluates the guides, all of whom are students or recent graduates. “I don’t always hire the stereotypical guides,” Shorkey explains. “Just because someone is an introvert doesn’t mean he or she is shy. I have students from all walks of life who can really lead a tour! It’s really neat to see their confidence build up.”

The tours are delivered primarily

to prospective students and their parents. It’s Shorkey’s responsibility to ensure these local, national and international students get the information they need to make the right decision about their future education. “The first thing I tell new tour guides,” says Shorkey, “is that they don’t need to know everything. I want them to speak to their own campus experiences. That way, visitors get a really authentic experience.”

Also on Shorkey’s current to-do list is helping to make the campus virtual tour a reality. The online tour is expected to be released this fall and stars some of the Welcome Centre’s professional tour guides.

When she’s not busy at work, you may find Shorkey with a camera in her hand—she owns a dozen of them—and she enjoys taking photos of pretty much everything. “Between photography, Hello Kitty and work, I

don’t have time for much else.” With a thoughtful pause and a laugh, she adds, “oh yes, and my husband, too!”

This winter, Shorkey is also making time to travel to Hawaii. It’ll be her first two-week vacation in the 30 years she’s been in the workforce. Enjoy the beach, Shorkey. I think your colleagues will all certainly agree that you’ve earned it.

How humans became the world’s most dangerous predator



Rope trawl for midwater trawling. PHOTO: NOAA

BY PAUL MARCK

You need not look far to find the world’s “super predator,” a term used by UVic scientists to describe how human dominance has bred an unrelenting predacious global culture that threatens nature’s balance.

Research published in the Aug. 21 edition of the journal *Science* by a team led by Dr. Chris Darimont, Hakai-Raincoast professor of geography at UVic, shows how extreme human predatory behavior is responsible for widespread wildlife extinctions, shrinking fish sizes and disruptions to global food chains.

“These are extreme outcomes that non-human predators seldom impose,” Darimont and colleagues write in the article, “The Unique Ecology of Human Predators.”

“Our wickedly efficient killing technology, global economic systems and resource management that prioritize short-term benefits to humanity have given rise to the human super predator,” says Darimont, who is also

the science director for the Raincoast Conservation Foundation. “Our impacts are as extreme as our behaviour and the planet bears the burden of our predatory dominance.”

The team’s global analysis indicates that humans typically exploit adult fish populations at 14 times the rate than do marine predators. Humans also hunt and kill large land carnivores such as bears, wolves and lions at nine times the rate that these predatory animals kill each other in the wild.

Researchers noted that in some cases, dwindling species of predatory land carnivores are more aggressively hunted for trophies, due to the premium placed on rare prey.

The result of human activity on wildlife populations is far greater than natural predation. Research shows socio-political factors can explain why humans repeatedly overexploit. Humans use advanced killing tools, cheap fossil fuel, and professional harvesters—like high-volume commercial fishing fleets—to overcome the defensive adaptations of prey.

“We should be protecting our wildlife and marine assets as an investor would in a stock portfolio,” says Darimont.

Humanity also departs fundamentally from predation in nature by targeting adult quarry. “Whereas predators primarily target the juveniles or ‘reproductive interest’ of populations, humans draw down the ‘reproductive capital’ by exploiting adult prey,” says co-author Dr. Tom Reimchen, biology professor at UVic.

During four decades of fieldwork on Haida Gwaii, an archipelago on the northern coast of British Columbia, Reimchen began to look at how human predators differ from other predators in nature. Reimchen’s predator-prey research revealed that predatory fish and diving birds over-

whelmingly killed juvenile forms of freshwater fish. Collectively, 22 predator species took no more than five per cent of the adult fish each year. Nearby, Reimchen observed a stark contrast: fisheries exclusively targeted adult salmon, taking 50 per cent or more of the runs.

The data for the recent study includes wildlife, tropical meat and fisheries systems from every continent and ocean, except Antarctica. There are distinct regional differences. “Higher human densities and reduced fish biomass (from longer exploitation) likely explain higher fishing rates in the Atlantic versus Pacific oceans,” the article says.

The authors conclude with an urgent call to reconsider the concept of “sustainable exploitation” in wildlife

and fisheries management. A truly sustainable model, they argue, would mean cultivating cultural, economic and institutional change that places limits on human activities to more closely follow the behaviour of natural predators.

“This does present enormous challenges in the short term, but it’s no different than changing the practices of our carbon economy,” says Darimont.

The seven-year project is supported by UVic, the Raincoast Conservation Foundation and the Hakai Institute. It includes 2,215 estimates of annual finite exploitation rates, drawing on data from more than 300 studies. Other co-authors include Caroline H. Fox and Heather M. Bryan of UVic, Raincoast and the Hakai Institute.

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