A Davos dynasty
MBA students repeat first-place performance in international sustainability business competition

BY KRISTA BOEHNERT

Competing in the Corporate Knights’ “Business for a Better World Case Competition” is not for the faint of heart. Teams are pitted against fellow MBA students from universities across the globe for the opportunity to present their green business plan to a panel of elite judges in Davos, Switzerland during the World Economic Forum.

No pressure, right?

Having sustainability as one of the central pillars at the Gustavson School of Business certainly gives UVic MBA students an advantage—but the competition is still fierce.

The 2016 team representing UVic’s Sauder S. Gill Graduate School had an added dollop of stress to contend with—that other entrants did not: they were defending the University’s 2015 championship title—and the entrants did not: they were determined not to disappoint.

In 2015, the UVic team had taken the top prize for presenting environmental recommendations and social and governance initiatives to help improve pharmaceuticals heavy-hitter Novartis’s standing on Corporate Knights’ ranking. Mock presentations and Q&A sessions with business faculty and industry executives helped prepare the 2015 team, helping them refine their presentation for the Davos audience.

In the 2016 competition, teams from 14 countries provided recommendations to decarbonize holdings of the Norway Government Pension Fund Global. Worth approx. $940 billion (USD), the fund has been built from the surpluses of Norway’s petroleum income. As part of the competition, students were given access to a tool that allowed them to assess the carbon profile of the fund’s holdings.

After two elimination rounds, judges...
Updated Campus Plan finalized

After an extensive 15-month planning and consultation process, and with the formal approval of the Board of Governors on Jan. 26, UVic’s Campus Plan has now been finalized.

Building on UVic’s 2005 Campus Plan, the updated plan provides a refreshed vision, guidelines and direction for future campus development, and responds to new challenges and opportunities. The document covers a planning horizon of 10 years, with longer-term considerations given for the next 25 years, on topics such as building placement and design, transportation, and open and accessible spaces. It also plays a key role in supporting the university’s academic priorities and commitments to sustainability.

The new Campus Plan describes the vision of the future campus, rather than detailing specific new building projects or activities. The plan provides the guidelines to be used in future consultations and decision-making.

NORMAND

Natural and landscaped open space goal: 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 uses.

Land and buildings goal: 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 into the evenings and all week long, and promotes compact, pedestrian-friendly, and sustainable development.

Movement and accessibility goal: Encourage increased walking or wheelchair use, cycling, and use of public transit, making these priority modes convenient, safe and enjoyable for all users; provide safe access (and reduced demand) for personal vehicles, to help manage pressures on surrounding neighbourhoods.

Engagement goal: Provide for meaningful engagement of both the campus and broader communities during on-going implementation of the campus plan, supporting mutual learning and inclusiveness in the campus planning process.

Big Moves

But what does that all mean, on the ground? The Plan describes a number of design strategies, or “big moves” that comprise the key physical elements of the concept plan for the future campus.

A compact campus: Focus new development within and near Ring Road, growing upward rather than outward.

Ring Road as a people place: Re-imagine Ring Road as a place for people—a place for walking, cycling, lingering, socializing and more. Numerous opportunities will be studied to determine the appropriate mixture of pedestrian, cycling and vehicle uses.

New and invigorated centres of animation: Reinforce existing activity hubs and create new hubs in under-utilized areas of campus.

Enhancing cycling and transit: Make cycling and transit more enjoyable by enhancing the sense of safety and convenience.

Grand promenade: Strengthen the primary east-west promenade across campus as both a connection and a destination unto itself.

A focused first phase: Focus the first phase of public realm improvements in the centre of campus, along the primary grand promenade, at key anchors on Ring Road and in areas that would benefit from more natural surveillance.

Long-term flexibility for outlying lands: Retain flexibility in use for outlying lands—including the Queenwood and Cedar Hill Corner properties and the Ian Stewart Complex—that they can be utilized to serve UVic’s academic mission as needed.

Implementation of the Plan will occur in various incremental steps over the next 10 years, within the guiding foundation of the Plan’s vision, goals, principles and policy directions. As each new project is proposed and developed, the support and involvement of students, faculty, staff and community members will be encouraged, welcomed and critical to success, as it has been with the development of the Campus Plan itself.

Related

Associated with these priority areas are dozens of specific objectives, along with strategies that describe how the objectives will be achieved and how progress will be measured. Implementation will be aligned with other university planning processes and will take place over the five-year term of the plan, says Castle, adding that strategies taken up in any given year will be subject to resource considerations and other constraints and opportunities that arise. Castle thanks the UVic research community, and key funders and partners, for the time and effort they invested in the strategic re-planning process, as well as external stakeholders, the University of Victoria has its first full-blown Strategic Research Plan. “This plan marks an important milestone in our ascent to being one of Canada’s top research-intensive universities and a significant contributor internationally,” says Vice-President of Research and Governance David Castle. “It will steer our investment and management decisions for the next five years and further extend our reputation for excellence in research and innovation.”
Waves of support for CARSA to boost UVic Students, Athletics

BY ALI LEE

UVic’s Centre for Athletics, Recreation and Special Abilities (CARSA) has had an overwhelming amount of recreation usage and community support since it opened in May 2015. Barely a year old, the facility has more than doubled membership since its official opening on Jan. 8.

In 1991 the Ian H. Stewart Complex opened and was the hub of campus recreation. In supporting the CARSA building: the Stewart family, the贡献 of the Stewart family, the naming of CARSA’s RBC Blue and Gold Spirit Section and the Ian and Gillian Stewart Varsity Weight Room.

Long-time Victoria residents and community leaders, Ian and Gillian Stewart announced their support on Feb. 4 to name the varsity dedicated section of the weight room in CARSA.

On Jan. 29, the UVic Alumni Association announced a $100,000 donation to support scholarships, bursaries and athletics, including a new alumni-supported cheering section of the weight room in CARSA. The new Spirit Section was unveiled on a night that saw a capacity crowd in pink to show support for the 9th Annual Shoot for the Cure. The UVic Alumni Association’s gift included $75,000 for bursaries and awards and $25,000 for CARSA—with the ceremony kicking off the start of this year’s Alumni Week.

“Anchored in the vision of Stewart Family, Waves of support for CARSA to boost UVic Students, Athletics”

BY ALI LEE

UVic’s Centre for Athletics, Recreation and Special Abilities (CARSA) has had an overwhelming amount of recreation usage and community support since it opened in May 2015. Barely a year old, the facility has more than doubled membership since its official opening on Jan. 8.

In 1991 the Ian H. Stewart Complex opened and was the hub of campus recreation. In supporting the CARSA building: the Stewart family, the contribution of the Stewart family, the naming of CARSA’s RBC Blue and Gold Spirit Section and the Ian and Gillian Stewart Varsity Weight Room.

Long-time Victoria residents and community leaders, Ian and Gillian Stewart announced their support on Feb. 4 to name the varsity dedicated section of the weight room in CARSA.

On Jan. 29, the UVic Alumni Association announced a $100,000 donation to support scholarships, bursaries and athletics, including a new alumni-supported cheering section of the weight room in CARSA. The new Spirit Section was unveiled on a night that saw a capacity crowd in pink to show support for the 9th Annual Shoot for the Cure. The UVic Alumni Association’s gift included $75,000 for bursaries and awards and $25,000 for CARSA—with the ceremony kicking off the start of this year’s Alumni Week.

“Anchored in the vision of Stewart Family, Waves of support for CARSA to boost UVic Students, Athletics”

BY ALI LEE

UVic’s Centre for Athletics, Recreation and Special Abilities (CARSA) has had an overwhelming amount of recreation usage and community support since it opened in May 2015. Barely a year old, the facility has more than doubled membership since its official opening on Jan. 8.

In 1991 the Ian H. Stewart Complex opened and was the hub of campus recreation. In supporting the CARSA building: the Stewart family, the contribution of the Stewart family, the naming of CARSA’s RBC Blue and Gold Spirit Section and the Ian and Gillian Stewart Varsity Weight Room.

Long-time Victoria residents and community leaders, Ian and Gillian Stewart announced their support on Feb. 4 to name the varsity dedicated section of the weight room in CARSA.

On Jan. 29, the UVic Alumni Association announced a $100,000 donation to support scholarships, bursaries and athletics, including a new alumni-supported cheering section of the weight room in CARSA. The new Spirit Section was unveiled on a night that saw a capacity crowd in pink to show support for the 9th Annual Shoot for the Cure. The UVic Alumni Association’s gift included $75,000 for bursaries and awards and $25,000 for CARSA—with the ceremony kicking off the start of this year’s Alumni Week.

“Anchored in the vision of Stewart Family, Waves of support for CARSA to boost UVic Students, Athletics”

BY ALI LEE

UVic’s Centre for Athletics, Recreation and Special Abilities (CARSA) has had an overwhelming amount of recreation usage and community support since it opened in May 2015. Barely a year old, the facility has more than doubled membership since its official opening on Jan. 8.

In 1991 the Ian H. Stewart Complex opened and was the hub of campus recreation. In supporting the CARSA building: the Stewart family, the contribution of the Stewart family, the naming of CARSA’s RBC Blue and Gold Spirit Section and the Ian and Gillian Stewart Varsity Weight Room.

Long-time Victoria residents and community leaders, Ian and Gillian Stewart announced their support on Feb. 4 to name the varsity dedicated section of the weight room in CARSA.

On Jan. 29, the UVic Alumni Association announced a $100,000 donation to support scholarships, bursaries and athletics, including a new alumni-supported cheering section of the weight room in CARSA. The new Spirit Section was unveiled on a night that saw a capacity crowd in pink to show support for the 9th Annual Shoot for the Cure. The UVic Alumni Association’s gift included $75,000 for bursaries and awards and $25,000 for CARSA—with the ceremony kicking off the start of this year’s Alumni Week.

“Anchored in the vision of Stewart Family, Waves of support for CARSA to boost UVic Students, Athletics”

BY ALI LEE

UVic’s Centre for Athletics, Recreation and Special Abilities (CARSA) has had an overwhelming amount of recreation usage and community support since it opened in May 2015. Barely a year old, the facility has more than doubled membership since its official opening on Jan. 8.

In 1991 the Ian H. Stewart Complex opened and was the hub of campus recreation. In supporting the CARSA building: the Stewart family, the contribution of the Stewart family, the naming of CARSA’s RBC Blue and Gold Spirit Section and the Ian and Gillian Stewart Varsity Weight Room.

Long-time Victoria residents and community leaders, Ian and Gillian Stewart announced their support on Feb. 4 to name the varsity dedicated section of the weight room in CARSA.

On Jan. 29, the UVic Alumni Association announced a $100,000 donation to support scholarships, bursaries and athletics, including a new alumni-supported cheering section of the weight room in CARSA. The new Spirit Section was unveiled on a night that saw a capacity crowd in pink to show support for the 9th Annual Shoot for the Cure. The UVic Alumni Association’s gift included $75,000 for bursaries and awards and $25,000 for CARSA—with the ceremony kicking off the start of this year’s Alumni Week.

“Anchored in the vision of Stewart Family, Waves of support for CARSA to boost UVic Students, Athletics”

BY ALI LEE

UVic’s Centre for Athletics, Recreation and Special Abilities (CARSA) has had an overwhelming amount of recreation usage and community support since it opened in May 2015. Barely a year old, the facility has more than doubled membership since its official opening on Jan. 8.

In 1991 the Ian H. Stewart Complex opened and was the hub of campus recreation. In supporting the CARSA building: the Stewart family, the contribution of the Stewart family, the naming of CARSA’s RBC Blue and Gold Spirit Section and the Ian and Gillian Stewart Varsity Weight Room.

Long-time Victoria residents and community leaders, Ian and Gillian Stewart announced their support on Feb. 4 to name the varsity dedicated section of the weight room in CARSA.

On Jan. 29, the UVic Alumni Association announced a $100,000 donation to support scholarships, bursaries and athletics, including a new alumni-supported cheering section of the weight room in CARSA. The new Spirit Section was unveiled on a night that saw a capacity crowd in pink to show support for the 9th Annual Shoot for the Cure. The UVic Alumni Association’s gift included $75,000 for bursaries and awards and $25,000 for CARSA—with the ceremony kicking off the start of this year’s Alumni Week.
New findings on 1940s Vancouver properties

BY TARA SHARPE

The role played by the City of Vancouver in the dispossession of Japanese Canadians during the 1940s is now more clearly drawn, thanks to exhaustive work over the past two years by one of the biggest communities research projects in Canada.

A team of researchers within Landscapes of Injustice—the federally funded, seven-year, multi-partner research project launched in 2014 and led by UVic—uncovered a historical trail that led them into archives about an overlooked urban history. The findings, forthcoming in an article entitled "Suspect Properties: The Vancouver Origins of the Forced Sale of Japanese-Canadian-owned Prop-
terty & Their Reclamation," will be featured in a major conference in Vancouver last month.

The history of the uprooting and internment of 22,000 Japanese Can-
adians in British Columbia during the war has received scholarly and popular attention over the years, but the story of dispossession is not at all as well known. The project team led by associate history professor Jordan Stanger-Ross pointed people to the fact that many residential properties were sold without their consent. The material lessons of our past if we don’t discriminate among as many colours as we can," says Taylor. "We want to know if the surprisingly fish opinion gene repertoire enhances their colour vision.

Biankinis also hoped to discover if opsins could be influenced by raising the fish in different light environments—"We’re very passionate about going from molecular data to actual behaviour," he explains. "We discovered these opsins not by testing in a camouflaged environment, they can change colour quickly and convincingly—so we honed in on using differently coloured and patterned checkerboards as a model for studying vision in general."

After six weeks under broad spec-
trum (as a control) and green-filtered (test) lighting that mimicked ocean conditions, Biankinis set out to dis-
cover the opsins changed under different light environments—and if this also influenced their ability to camouflage. Taylor and Biankinis found they were out of their depth when it came to creating the essential test patterns. That’s when they called the UVic Human, Science, Academic, Assis-
tant in Visual Arts.

The theory of colour

Using the large-format printer in the Fine Arts Studio, a UVic professor, Christian Haman, was able to create consistent, reliable prints that matched the spectrophotometer-measured colour and patterned checkerboards as a model for studying vision in general."

Final results

And the result? “They’re definitely camouflaging differently—which is quite exciting,” says Biankins. “As far as I know, no one has explored cam-
floishing under different light environments and if this also influenced their ability to camouflage. Taylor and Biankinis found they were out of their depth when it came to creating the essential test patterns. That’s when they called the UVic Human, Science, Academic, Assistant in Visual Arts.

The theory of colour

Using the large-format printer in the Fine Arts Studio, a UVic professor, Christian Haman, was able to create consistent, reliable prints that matched the spectrophotometer-measured colour and patterned checkerboards as a model for studying vision in general."

Final results

And the result? “They’re definitely camouflaging differently—which is quite exciting,” says Biankins. “As far as I know, no one has explored cam-
floishing under different light environments and if this also influenced their ability to camouflage. Taylor and Biankinis found they were out of their depth when it came to creating the essential test patterns. That’s when they called the UVic Human, Science, Academic, Assistant in Visual Arts.

The theory of colour

Using the large-format printer in the Fine Arts Studio, a UVic professor, Christian Haman, was able to create consistent, reliable prints that matched the spectrophotometer-measured colour and patterned checkerboards as a model for studying vision in general."

Final results

And the result? “They’re definitely camouflaging differently—which is quite exciting,” says Biankins. “As far as I know, no one has explored cam-
floishing under different light environments and if this also influenced their ability to camouflage. Taylor and Biankinis found they were out of their depth when it came to creating the essential test patterns. That’s when they called the UVic Human, Science, Academic, Assistant in Visual Arts.

The theory of colour

Using the large-format printer in the Fine Arts Studio, a UVic professor, Christian Haman, was able to create consistent, reliable prints that matched the spectrophotometer-measured colour and patterned checkerboards as a model for studying vision in general."

Final results

And the result? “They’re definitely camouflaging differently—which is quite exciting,” says Biankins. “As far as I know, no one has explored cam-
floishing under different light environments and if this also influenced their ability to camouflage. Taylor and Biankinis found they were out of their depth when it came to creating the essential test patterns. That’s when they called the UVic Human, Science, Academic, Assistant in Visual Arts.

The theory of colour

Using the large-format printer in the Fine Arts Studio, a UVic professor, Christian Haman, was able to create consistent, reliable prints that matched the spectrophotometer-measured colour and patterned checkerboards as a model for studying vision in general."

Final results

And the result? “They’re definitely camouflaging differently—which is quite exciting,” says Biankins. “As far as I know, no one has explored cam-
floishing under different light environments and if this also influenced their ability to camouflage. Taylor and Biankinis found they were out of their depth when it came to creating the essential test patterns. That’s when they called the UVic Human, Science, Academic, Assistant in Visual Arts.

The theory of colour

Using the large-format printer in the Fine Arts Studio, a UVic professor, Christian Haman, was able to create consistent, reliable prints that matched the spectrophotometer-measured colour and patterned checkerboards as a model for studying vision in general."

Final results

And the result? “They’re definitely camouflaging differently—which is quite exciting,” says Biankins. “As far as I know, no one has explored cam-
floishing under different light environments and if this also influenced their ability to camouflage. Taylor and Biankinis found they were out of their depth when it came to creating the essential test patterns. That’s when they called the UVic Human, Science, Academic, Assistant in Visual Arts.

The theory of colour

Using the large-format printer in the Fine Arts Studio, a UVic professor, Christian Haman, was able to create consistent, reliable prints that matched the spectrophotometer-measured colour and patterned checkerboards as a model for studying vision in general."

Final results

And the result? “They’re definitely camouflaging differently—which is quite exciting,” says Biankins. “As far as I know, no one has explored cam-
floishing under different light environments and if this also influenced their ability to camouflage. Taylor and Biankinis found they were out of their depth when it came to creating the essential test patterns. That’s when they called the UVic Human, Science, Academic, Assistant in Visual Arts.
World’s only chair in transgender studies

BY ANNE MACLAURIN

A million-dollar donation to establish a chair in transgender studies—the first of its kind—will make all the difference to students such as Alyx MacAdams, who self-identifies as a genderqueer and trans-masculine person.

“I am very grateful that this chair now exists, and I look forward to participating in and witnessing what happens over the next few years,” says MacAdams.

“It was through building community at university, taking courses that included content about gender identity and expression, and volunteering with student advocacy groups that I came to understand my identity as a genderqueer and trans-masculine person,” MacAdams adds.

Supporters, friends, MLAs, students, faculty and members of the university executive were on hand for the historic announcement on Jan. 15, at the UVic library archives and special collections. UVic President Jamie Casels, Dean of Social Sciences Catherine Krull, MP Esquimalt-Saanich-Sooke Randall Garrison, Dr. AaronDev and social work masters student MacAdams all provided remarks.

“The overwhelming reality for transgender people during most of the 20th century was profound isolation, secrecy, shame and silence,” according to Devor, who will fill the chair for its inaugural five-year term in UVic’s Faculty of Social Sciences.

UVic established the new chair to inspire research and teaching about gender identity and gender-related issues that can tackle essential issues that can make a difference for members of the trans and genderqueer community, who often occupy complicated, vulnerable and contested positions in wider society.

The chair is supported by a donation of $1 million USD from the Tawani Foundation, founded and led by Lieutenant Colonel Jennifer S. Pitarka, US Army (Retired). In addition, the foundation has also pledged up to another $1 million USD to match contributions from other donors toward the Chair in Transgender Studies at UVic.

“The Chair in Transgender Studies sets UVic apart as a place that offers the highest quality research and is also home to exceptional students, faculty and staff who inspire bold action for positive impact on the lives of others,” says President Jamie Casels. “I am proud of our campus community’s commitment to diversity, as well as to Dr. Devor. Lt.-Col. Pitarka, the Tawani Foundation and all those who help us continually learn and grow in a welcoming environment that promotes the rights and affirms the dignity of all persons.”

As the first Chair in Transgender Studies, Devor will work with some of the world’s top researchers and scholars, thought leaders, transgender community activists and students to further research into a broad range of topics concerned with the lives of trans and non-conforming people—including crucial issues such as healthcare, poverty, discrimination and suicide.

“The University of Victoria has made itself a leader in the subject of human gender identity,” Pitarka noted. “It has already established a first-class archive on the topic—the largest and most comprehensive in the world. My support is an investment in success. It is a major personal goal of mine that this chair in transgender studies stimulates the outstanding work of other institutions and creates a global network for the study of this topic.”

“Far too many trans and gender-nonconforming people still live in poverty and fear,” said Devor. “As the inaugural chair, I will act as a resource locally and internally for those seeking information for their own research or for policy development, as well as building linkages between community-based and academic scholars working in transgender studies,” continued Devor, who is also the founder and academic director of the Transgender Archives at UVic, unveiled in June 2012.

The Transgender Archives at UVic represents 17 countries on five continents, more than a century of research and over 50 years of activism. If the materials were lined up along one long shelf, the collection would stretch the length of a football field.

Devor is an elected member of the elite International Academy of Sex Research, an elected Fellow of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality and a national award-winning teacher. He is a sociology professor and former UVic’s Faculty of Graduate Studies.

Lending voice to an international initiative

BY TARA SHARPE

UVic linguistics associate professor Dr. Sonya Bird was listening to the CBC Radio “On The Hour” program in early 2014 when she first heard the voice of Rupal Patel, a Canadian researcher based in Boston who launched the VocaliD Human Voicebank (vocalid.co) in May 2014.

The interview ignited Bird’s interest in contributing to Patel’s mission to connect those living with a severe speech disorder or limited speech to their own unique vocal identifiers. As a result of an eight-month volunteer effort by the Voice Drive Victoria group, in collaboration with local speech language pathologist Gail Poule, more than 100 people in our region now have donated their voices to the global effort.

Theoretical physicist Stephen Hawking, arguably the most easily recognizable voice on earth, whose familiar voice carries an American accent. The VocaliD project aims to match recipients with personalized voices to neatly fit individuals with a unique vocal identity.

As a result of this volunteer effort, you can now listen to yourself speaking your own language and sound exactly like you.

One of the primary processes the volunteer team underwent was building a phonetic inventory of the English language. This phonetic inventory, created with assistance from the University of Victoria, is a list of the sounds that go into different words and phrases.

The team also had to record and analyze the different ways people say things. They spoke a variety of different languages and dialects.

Each donor reads and repeats nearly 5,000 sentences, some of which are recorded in different voices, pronouncing the same words in different ways to create a unique “voiceprint” of a person’s unique vocal identity.

Donors who volunteered for the project provided a range of information about themselves, including their age, gender, ethnicity, occupation, the language they speak, and their daily activities.

Bird and Patel in a sound booth of Speech Research Lab. UVIC PHOTO SERVICES
The Phoenix Theatre’s new main-stage production, *Wild Honey*, runs from Feb. 11–20—and behind those efforts are a number of graduate students who are stepping up established careers by pursuing MFAs at UVic.

Costume designer Graham McMonagle is an extraordinary example, as a professional dancer for 20 years and the co-founder of Victoria’s Canadian Pacific Ballet company, which operated locally from 2007 to 2014.

“I know getting my MFA would be challenging visually and mentally for me,” says the soft-spoken but quick-witted McMonagle. “Design has been a lateral stream with dancing my whole life and, as I come to the end of my dancing age, this is as much a moment to begin anew as it is to wind something up.”

McMonagle’s design credits are many and numerous, including the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, the National Ballet of Canada and the Columbus Dance Theatre. “Design plays a huge role in theatre, especially dance theatre,” he says. “Design is half of the actor, then I’m diminishing the actor, but will look at the sketch and understand their character so much more. Costumes really help to tell the story.”

McMonagle clearly enjoys the importance of costume design. “A good actor will look at a good costume design and really see their character—they may have read the script and been thinking about their role, but will look at the sketch and understand their character so much more. Costumes really help to tell the story.”

McMonagle says his designs are less “slavish historicism” and more “anachronistically hybrid” at the kind of “dirty luxury” director and theatre professor Peter McGuire is bringing to the stage.

McGuire is another theatre professional who sought to enhance his career by earning a MFA at UVic in the late ‘90s. “I walked away from a very lucrative career in Ontario to come back here,” says McGuire. “For me, it was the right thing to do. It was both a reinvention and a renewal of spirit.” Not only did his MFA further his career, but it also sparked a love of teaching evident in his latest production.

“I’m excited to be working with Peter, and to be working on this play,” says McGuire, as he flips through colourful sketches of his costume designs. “There are multiple ways to draw an audience into a narra-tive: Peter wanted to use 1900 as an anchor, but his visual association with the principal actor was more the shirtless, greasy-haired, 1970s Keith Richards.”

The 15-person cast will sport a mix of “skirts and jeans, rubber boots and overalls, caps and traditional dresses…in a way, we’ve created our own 1900-by-way-of-1970 Russian country look.” It’s beautiful, because both of those periods were about landed people who were becoming lost from their anchored place and experiencing disintegra-tion, substance use and a kind of disaffected glamour.”

Graham McMonagle
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.ca/250-721-8800
- Exhibit, Emerging Through the Fog: Tla-o-qui-aht—Together, Feb. 15 to May 10. This is an exhibition of two kusla-chul-naatam, Art Thompson / Tla-o-qui-aht-supp from Ditidaht (1948–2003) and Holmer We receh / Tla-o-qui-aht from Tla-o-qui-aht. Emerging Through the Fog seeks to honour and commemorate the life and work of the dedicated teacher Tla-o-qui-aht’s BA from UVic’s Visual Arts Department.
- Legacy Art Gallery, Downtown, 656 Yates St.

at the theatre

phoenixtheatres.ca

- Theatre, 8 p.m. Wild Honey. Feb. 8–11. Phoenix has a way with women. It’s both his blessing and his curse. He knows how to seduce and he can’t help it. Women simply believe everything he says. This “Brilliant!” (London Guardian) re-imagining of Chekhov’s unfinished play swings between the polar opposites of melodrama and farce, and shakes them into an intoxicating cocktail. Phoenix Theatre 315–25 250-8000

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4
- Lecture/Seminar, 3:30 p.m. History, Faith & Preferred Futures. Tom Saunders (UVic). HSD A240.
- Cafe Scientifique, 6:30 p.m. Iron Overload: Why Too Much of a Good Thing can be Bad. Dr. Patrick Walter (UVic / Environment Canada). Turpin B215. 250-721-6120

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5
- Lecture/Seminar, 9 a.m. Compassionate Classrooms. The Invisible Hand of Empathy. Holman Lab. 250-721-7817
- Café Scientifique, 6:30 p.m. The Quest for a Naphthyl Emergency. Dr. Christian Honors (UVic / NRC Herzberg). Herman’s Jazz Club, 753 View St. Seating is limited, please reserve via UVic/CafeSci at 250-721-7704

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9
- Lecture/Seminar, 10 a.m. Science for the Conservation of Marine Biodiversity in Canada. Dr. Paul Snelgrove (Memorial U.). Elliot 250-721-6120
- Café Scientifique, 6:30 p.m. Overload: Why Too Much of a Good Thing can be Bad. Dr. Patrick Walter (UVic / Environment Canada). Turpin B215. 250-721-6120

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11
- Lecture/Seminar, 3:30 p.m. Flying Opossum. Prof. Patrick Firegloss (U of Nottingham). Clearihue 203. 250-721-6120
- Café Scientifique, 6:30 p.m. The Pope, the Poor and the Planet: Francis on the Tyranny of Money. David Setlyk (St. Jerome’s Univ. in Waterloo). HSD A40.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12
- Lecture/Seminar, 3:30 p.m. Philosophy colloquium. Nicole Wyatt (U-Calgary). Arts A162. 250-721-8011

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16
- Lecture/Seminar, 3 p.m. Violent Hydro-environmental and Geophysical Flows. Ahmad Shabikinza. RSRC Fellow, UVic/Environment Canada. Turpin 250-721-8000
- Lecture/Seminar, 3 p.m. Violence: From Violent Hydro-environmental and Geophysical Flows, Ahmad Shabikinza. RSRC Fellow, UVic/Environment Canada. Turpin 250-721-8000

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17
- Lecture/Seminar, 3:30 p.m. Thursdaymusic: Guitar. UVic’s Community and Government Relations Office sponsored and created the display, which included almost $2,000 in raffle prizes. The bear go to the raffle winner (coincidentally, a UVic staff member) while the display will find a permanent home at CARSA. Thousands of individuals and families visited the display this year and voted on their favourite bears. The event raised $26,500, which will go to Jenence Place to improve the health and well being of over 20,000 children, youth and their families in communities throughout Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

IDEAS THAT CAN CHANGE EVERYTHING 7-12 MARCH

IDEAFEST
UVic earned the People’s Choice Award at the Children’s Health Foundation of Vancouver Island’s annual Bear Wear event, which wrapped up in January. UVic’s display featured the CARSA and featured severalinterpug leg steps scaling the climbing wall. UVic’s Community and Government Relations Office-sponsored and created the display, which included almost $2,000 in raffle prizes. The bear go to the raffle winner (coincidentally, a UVic staff member) while the display will find a permanent home at CARSA. Thousands of individuals and families visited the display this year and voted on their favourite bears. The event raised $26,500, which will go to Jenence Place to improve the health and well being of over 20,000 children, youth and their families in communities throughout Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands.

Why does war inspire great art? How do you say ‘I love you’ in Tla-o-qui-aht? What happens when two galaxies collide? Discover the answers to these questions and more at UVic’s fifth annual Ideafest.

Extraordinary thinkers, innovators and artists will explore topics ranging from human health and urban renewal, to space exploration and climate change. Choose from over 50 free panels, exhibits, workshops, performances, open mic events, youth-friendly activities and tours.

Join the discussion and be inspired by ideas that can really change everything.

See the full roster of free events: uvic.ca/ideafest

CLIMBING INTO THEIR HEARTS

UVic earned the People’s Choice Award at the Children’s Health Foundation of Vancouver Island’s annual Bear Wear event, which wrapped up in January. UVic’s display celebrates CARSA and featured several interpug leg steps scaling the climbing wall. UVic’s Community and Government Relations Office sponsored and created the display, which included almost $2,000 in raffle prizes. The bear go to the raffle winner (coincidentally, a UVic staff member) while the display will find a permanent home at CARSA. Thousands of individuals and families visited the display this year and voted on their favourite bears. The event raised $26,500, which will go to Jenence Place to improve the health and well being of over 20,000 children, youth and their families in communities throughout Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands.
The study abroad programs offered last year by the Department of Hispanic and Italian Studies left two UVic undergraduates not only with an amplified fluency in Spanish but also with unforgettable memories and an incomparable immersion in language and culture.

In 2015, the department—in partnership with the Universidad de Cuenca (Ecuador) and the Universidad de Alcalá (Spain)—offered 15 UVic students intensive language classes for the full term in Cuenca and Alcalá de Henares respectively, complemented by cultural and literary readings, volunteer opportunities, field trips and visits to museums.

“Language and living in a foreign country is transformational at a very basic level,” explained Pablo Restrepo, acting chair of the department last year, while the students were studying abroad. “It’s like day and night when the students return—they are suddenly so very aware of the world outside Canada and their hometowns.”

At school in the Andes

Cuenca, located 2,500m above sea level, is a vibrant cultural nexus of Ecuador nestled within the Andes Mountains. Everett (“Dane”) Rogers, a second-year student majoring in Hispanic and Italian studies combined with French and a minor in German, is from Seattle and hopes to be a transfer for the UN or a government body once he graduates from UVic. Rogers “decided on a whim” to go to Cuenca and there discovered an instant interest in teaching English while providing volunteer instruction to indigenous children in the province of Loja in southern Ecuador. He’s now considering ESL as part of his university education. Rogers says he came to UVic “for what I’m getting-some of the best language programs and exchange opportunities anywhere, on a campus that’s just the right size.”

When he arrived in Ecuador, he had to acclimatize.

While still adjusting to the altitude, Rogers quickly became out of breath scaling the steep staircase leading up from the river to the old town where his homestay was situated, above the newer part of Cuenca where the school is located.

It took him 25 minutes to walk—downhill—to school each day. Classes ran 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., then broke for lunch, the longest meal of the day: “It’s usually three to four courses, with lots of soup and more rice than you could ever eat.” Another regional food—which he did not eat—was mant A ndean rat or “cu” (pronounced KOO-e).

The nightlife in Cuenca “is wild and crazy, with lots of discotheques.” Rogers first chose UVic not only because his parents are alumni, but also because he wanted to “get out of the Okanagan” and, like Rogers, he finds UVic to be “just the right size. But it is also a very respectful university. It’s very accepting.”

“I knew I wanted to further my knowledge of Spanish,” Nazaroff says. “And I think the only way to really do that is to go on a full-immersion experience.”

Spanish (Spain). Upon successful completion, students earn full credit of 7.5 units. Last year was the first year that UVic joined the Ecuadorian program. The department also offers a four-week program in Recanati, Italy during the summer for students in the Italian program. Contact the Department of Hispanic and Italian Studies at spanit@uvic.ca for details.

“I find the whole city ‘wakes up’ and heads down to dance in the water, which is warmer than the air.”

“They’re rush when there needs to be.” Like Rogers, he took classes from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. But then siesta would shut everything down at approximately 3 p.m. for two to three hours. “At the time of dinner back home, everything starts back up again. Is it 8 p.m.? That’s still afternoon in Cuenca!” After a couple of weeks, he adjusted to not eating dinner till 9 p.m. Like in Cuenca, lunch was the biggest meal anyway: spine-on fish cooked in olive oil; fried eggs and frites; chorizo sausages; baguette-like bread; and paella.

“I knew I wanted to further my knowledge of Spanish,” Nazaroff says. “And I think the only way to really do that is to go on a full-immersion experience.”

Nazaroff first chose UVic not only because his parents are alumni, but also because he wanted to “get out of the Okanagan” and, like Rogers, he finds UVic to be “just the right size. But it is also a very respectful university. It’s very accepting.”

In 2015, the department—in part- ership with the Universidad de Cuenca (Ecuador) and the Universidad de Alcalá (Spain)—offered 15 UVic stu- dents intensive language classes for the full term in Cuenca and Alcalá de Henares respectively, complemented by cultural and literary readings, vol- unteer opportunities, field trips and visits to museums.

“One of his best memories is when his school group (which included stu- dents from New Mexico and Michigan, as well as the six from UVic) took a weekend excursion to Máncora on the coast of Peru at night, it felt like the ‘whole city ‘wakes up’ and heads down to dance in the water, which is warmer than the air.”

“The Hispanic and Latin American culture is very warm too. The people are so dramatic, and kind.” Lights were strung along the beach like a trail leading to his future, which he is completely certain will include a myriad mix of culture and language.

An immersive experience in Spain

Isaac Nazaroff’s experience was somewhat different than that of his peer “because Spain is considered a first world country—but the people are just as passionate and it feels just as tight knit.”

Nazaroff himself comes from “a town of 5,000 people”—Oliver, in the Okanagan—and had visited Barcelona the year before with his parents. Alcalá was a welcome choice.

“And Spain is its own thing, life is a lot more relaxed than home, but there’s ‘rush’ when there needs to be!” Like Rogers, he took classes from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. But then siesta would shut everything down at approximate- ly 3 p.m. for two to three hours. “At the time of dinner back home, everything starts back up again. Is it 8 p.m.? That’s still afternoon in Cuenca!” After a couple of weeks, he adjusted to not eating dinner till 9 p.m. Like in Cuenca, lunch was the biggest meal anyway: spine-on fish cooked in olive oil; fried eggs and frites; chorizo sausages; baguette-like bread; and paella.

“I knew I wanted to further my knowledge of Spanish,” Nazaroff says. “And I think the only way to really do that is to go on a full-immersion experience.”

Nazaroff first chose UVic not only because his parents are alumni, but also because he wanted to “get out of the Okanagan” and, like Rogers, he finds UVic to be “just the right size. But it is also a very respectful university. It’s very accepting.”

Back in Spain, the relationships I cultivated with the host family and teachers will be long lasting and I’ll never forget my host mother.” Not to mention his new girlfriend, whom he met there—“a pivotal part of the trip.”

A seamless academic experience

What he found particularly ben- eficial academically was how the pro- gram is “UVic. Abroad,” with all credits transferable and grades submitted as smoothly as if the professors in Alcalá were here within Ring Road.

The two programs are aimed at students who have finished first-year Spanish (Ecuador) or second-year Spanish (Spain). Upon successful com- pletion, students earn full credit of 7.5 units. Last year was the first year that UVic joined the Ecuadorian program. The department also offers a four- week program in Recanati, Italy dur- ing the summer for students in the Italian program. Contact the Department of His- panic and Italian Studies at spanit@uvic.ca for details. More info: bit.ly/18MeTtY