

A CHANCELLOR LIKE NO OTHER

SHELAGH ROGERS, PAGE 5



THE RING

OCTOBER 2016

The University of Victoria's
community newspaper

ring.uvic.ca



University
of Victoria

SPEED READING

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

ARIEL accelerator expansion

The BC Knowledge Development Fund has announced \$8.7 million in funding for ARIEL, a UVic-led accelerator facility at Vancouver-based TRIUMF, Canada's national laboratory for particle and nuclear physics. ARIEL will produce new isotopes for a wide range of real-life applications, including medicine, industrial manufacturing and clean technologies.

UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN

Together, we are possibility

The 2016 UVic United Way Greater Victoria annual campaign is officially underway. This year, the UVic 2016 fundraising goal is \$275,000. With the help of continuous donors from last year, UVic and its retirees have already contributed nearly \$200,000. Supporting the campaign can be as easy and fun as attending the many fundraising events taking place around campus. These include the Plasma Car Races on Oct. 25, Power up the Tower on Nov. 24, and the Holiday Artisans' Market on Dec. 1. Visit uvic.ca/unitedway/events for full details.



Sobie. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

1+
BILLION

Big science computing

Building a new data system for the world's largest physics experiment

BY VIMALA JEEVANANDAM

Think you have problems storing, handling and sharing data on your home computer? Try dealing with an exabyte of data. That's a billion gigabytes—a threshold that will soon be crossed in a few years by ATLAS, one of the world's biggest high-energy physics experiments.

That's why Randall Sobie, an adjunct physics professor at UVic and a research scientist with the Institute of Particle Physics, is leading a project to build a distributed data and cloud computing system for the ATLAS experiment at the

CERN Laboratory in Geneva Switzerland. The new system will significantly advance global investigations into the fundamental structure of the universe.

ATLAS is one of two detectors at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), the world's largest and most powerful particle accelerator located near Geneva as part of the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN). Over 3,000 researchers from 35 countries work on ATLAS, investigating phenomena such as the Higgs boson and the exploration of dark matter.

Canadians have been key members of the ATLAS experiment since its incep-

tion in 1992 and helped construct and manage the enormous detector. They're also responsible for the development and operation of computing systems for the entire collaboration.

ATLAS generates a mind-boggling flow of data. The experiment currently stores over 200 petabytes (100 million gigabytes), which is roughly equivalent to 1,400 years of full HD-quality movies. The flow is expected to increase 25-fold in the next five years.

"By developing new software systems

SEE BIG SCIENCE P. 3



Rubinoff with sculpture "Series 1-4." PHOTO: MICHELLE TARNOPOLSKY

BC sculptor celebrates scholarship with new art history endowment

BY JOHN THRELFALL

The Department of Art History and Visual Studies (AHVS) is now home to the largest donor-funded endowed award on campus, thanks to a major gift from BC sculptor Jeffrey Rubinoff and the Jeffrey Rubinoff Foundation.

The Jeffrey Rubinoff Scholar in Art as a Source of Knowledge Endowment establishes a recurring four-year PhD fellowship in the area of modern and contemporary art history, allowing doctoral students exceptional opportunities to study the complexities and richness of modern and contemporary art history.

This contribution is ideally timed to help the department celebrate 50 years

of teaching, research and scholarship—ideas all strongly linked to the educational mission of the Jeffrey Rubinoff Foundation.

"Jeffrey Rubinoff's generous gift allows us to envision a brighter future for our vibrant and diverse graduate students," says department chair Dr. Erin Campbell. "In our 50th anniversary year, as we look forward to the next 50 years and beyond, this legacy will deepen the impact of art history both at home and around the world."

Studying world art creates opportunities for intercultural understanding, as people instantly connect with the visual. A greater awareness of the impact of modern and contemporary art can add to the richness of our lives, engage us with

the past and present, and inform how we think about our world.

"UVic is internationally recognized as a leader in creative innovation and arts knowledge, and Jeffrey Rubinoff has identified our extraordinary academic environment as being ideally suited to the goals of the Rubinoff Endowment—to expose students to the leading edge of art history," says UVic President Jamie Cassels.

"My own sculptural work is completely dedicated to art history," says Rubinoff. "Original ideas grow out of original work, which led me to see art as a source of knowledge. Since these insights form

SEE SCULPTOR P. 2

ringers

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) has named the finalists for the 2016 Impact Awards. UVic was the only school with two finalists—law PhD candidate **Aaron Mills** and historian **Dr. John Lutz**. Mills’ teaching and research work in the area of Indigenous law has made him a highly sought-after academic. He is currently a Trudeau Foundation scholar and turned down a prestigious scholarship at Harvard Law to complete his masters at Yale on a Fulbright Scholarship. Lutz is shortlisted in SSHRC’s connection category for the UVic-led Great Unsolved Mysteries in Canadian History (*canadianmysteries.ca*), a national teaching project used in over 50 countries and by nearly 2,500 students every day. The web-based project of 13 historical mysteries is a team effort involving researchers, students and community partners from across Canada. The top SSHRC Impact Award winners in each category—along with the SSHRC Gold Medal—will be announced in Ottawa on Nov. 22.

Vice-President Research **David Castle** has joined the board of CANARIE, which funds and delivers digital infrastructure to Canada’s research sector, connecting provincial and territorial network partners to each other and to more than 100 global counterparts. Castle, who has published extensively on the social dimensions of science, technology and innovation, is also chair of the steering committee of Research Data Canada, a stakeholder-driven organization dedicated to improving the management of research data in Canada. One of the outgoing members of the CANARIE board is **Howard Brunt**, a faculty member in nursing and UVic’s former vice-president research.

Sexualized violence review delivers interim report

The University of Victoria group reviewing sexualized violence policy, programs and education at the university has delivered its interim report, noting the complexities of addressing sexualized violence for a diverse campus community.

The report by the Working Group on Sexualized Violence Programs and Policy Development emphasizes the importance of a survivor-centric approach and the need for consistent, easily accessible information. The university has accepted its preliminary recommendation to hire a coordinator to oversee campus-wide education and prevention programs that are adaptable for different groups.

“I’m pleased to see the significant progress the working group has made and the broad and in-depth consultations that will help UVic develop a clear campus-wide policy and procedures, and cultivate an environment where it is clearly understood that sexualized violence is unacceptable,” says President Jamie Cassels.

Cassels initiated the review in April to develop a separate UVic policy on sexualized violence and make recommendations on related programs and education. He invited 21 diverse campus members, including students, to comprise the group. It is now mid-way through extensive consultations and research.

“Our work is committed to the principles of being survivor-centred, solutions-focused as well as transparent and accountable,” says Annalee Lepp, chair of the working group and chair of UVic’s Department of Gender Studies. “We also want to seek out and value a diversity of perspectives.”

To date, more than 80 in-person consultations have been held or are scheduled with campus and community groups, with another 24 to be confirmed. Also, 14 written submissions have been received. At the same time, the working group has researched existing UVic policies, educational and prevention programs, supports and resources available to survivors, the investigation and adjudication process, as well as policies on sexualized violence at other universities.

Valerie Kuehne, vice-president academic and project lead, says she welcomes the preliminary recommendation to hire an education, prevention and response coordinator. “We need to provide clear, consistent information about UVic’s values and expectations to help prevent incidents of sexualized violence. We also need to provide clear information about support options and responses to sexualized violence.”

“The UVic Students’ Society is impressed with the scope of consultation that the sexualized violence policy working group has undertaken so far,” said UVSS Director of Student Affairs Emma Kinakin. “It’s so important that UVic gets this right and creates a policy that is survivor-centric, gives us an accurate picture of incidences of sexualized violence on campus, and sets the standard for post-secondary institutions in BC.”

At this stage, the working group has devoted considerable attention to how to best educate people in a comprehensive way about sexualized violence, given the diversity among campus members, including first-time students, longtime faculty members, graduate and international students, among others. Several programs and resources exist, especially for undergraduate students, but some campus groups have none.

“The efforts to address sexualized violence need to understand that each person’s experience will be affected by many factors, including their gender identity and expression, sexual identity, Indigenous, racial, or ethnic background, language barriers, abilities, faith and socio-economic status as well as the person’s position within university structures and hierarchies,” says Lepp. “Also, sexualized violence doesn’t exist in a vacuum and is linked to systemic inequalities and forms of discrimination such as colonialism, racism, sexism, homophobia and transphobia.”

A three-phase approach to education and prevention is proposed that would begin before students or employees arrive on campus. On-campus orientation programs and continuing education throughout the year would follow the pre-arrival phase.

The working group will next focus on how UVic can provide meaningful and clearly designated supports to those who have experienced sexualized violence, and procedures for the clear, impartial adjudication of complaints including confidentiality provisions and interim measures.

Consultation participants across the university have said more information is needed about what to do if someone discloses an incident of sexualized violence to them.

Lepp says the consultations and research show that having survivor-centred, trauma-informed training is critical so that the situation is handled in a manner that is appropriate, empathetic, consistent and supportive starting with the initial disclosure.

The interim report includes detailed comparisons of sexualized violence policies at nine Canadian and American post-secondary institutions; meeting summaries from the working group and its subcommittees; a list of consultations held May to September plus planned consultations to December; and preliminary recommendations on support for those who have experienced sexualized violence, and what is needed in a fair and accessible adjudication process.

The working group will continue research and consultations in the fall, with a draft policy to be ready in January 2017 for another round of consultation. Final approvals of the policy are expected by May 2017.

More information about the review to date, including the interim report, a list of consultations and how to provide input to the working group is available at uvic.ca/sexualizedviolencepolicy.

Campus building projects set to get underway

Renovations to Petch and Queenswood accompany new district energy centre

New construction and renovations of campus facilities will add to UVic’s research, teaching and learning spaces that will help our students and faculty continue to make meaningful change in society.

These projects include significant upgrades to science facilities, renovations at the Queenswood property to support academic and research activities and the first stages of a new district energy plant for campus.

“Through support from the provincial and federal governments, we are pleased to be able to move forward on a number of important capital projects in support of our academic mission,” says Gayle Gorrill, vice-president finance and operations. “Not only will these projects support faculty research and improve the teaching environment, they will also help us begin to address deferred maintenance.”

Science facilities at UVic will undergo significant renovations and quality upgrades to improve the functioning and efficiency of research and teaching labs in the Petch Building.

A short distance from the main Gordon Head campus, renovations and seismic upgrading are planned for the Queenswood property, purchased in 2010 from the Sisters of St. Ann for future academic and research activities. Those plans are now in the works including community consultations.

It is proposed that Ocean Networks Canada relocate to the Arbutus Road property as the main occupant of the former care facility building.

Plans are also in the works to deal with UVic’s aging heating infrastructure. The new system, outlined in the story at right, is expected to significantly improve energy efficiency in buildings, research and teaching labs.

Other ongoing projects around campus include the replacements of roofs on the Sedgewick, Phoenix and Elliott buildings, and chemistry lab upgrades in the Elliott Building.

We appreciate your patience and understanding about the noise or other disruptions as work gets underway.

SCULPTOR CONTINUED FROM P.1

the context within which the work becomes meaningful, it is imperative that the general public, artists and art educators understand them if the work is to be fully appreciated.”

The author of *Rubinoff on Art* and the subject of scholarly study himself in the book *The Art of Jeffrey Rubinoff*, Rubinoff’s commitment to scholarship includes the establishment in 2014 of a fellowship at Cambridge University in England. The UVic endowment is only the second such donation from the Jeffrey Rubinoff Foundation.

“Together, the Endowment at UVic and the Fellowship at Cambridge are the institutional mainstays of the unfolding, permanent educational program at the Jeffrey Rubinoff Sculpture Park, which will continue to explore the future of art as a source of knowledge,” adds Rubinoff.

The new UVic endowment will also provide travel and costs for the scholar and two students to attend the annual Company of Ideas forum, established by Rubinoff in 2008 to engage scholarly collaborators from

around the world with the advancement of education in the arts.

Current AHVS doctoral candidate Munazzah Akhtar was one of a select group of renowned and early career scholars who attended the Company of Ideas in May 2016. “Being a student of Islamic art history, it was a novel experience for me to get acquainted with art beyond my area of specialization,” says Akhtar. “The forum offered an unparalleled opportunity for the students to learn from and engage with artists, writers, curators and academics from distinguished universities.”

After receiving his MFA in the USA in 1969, Rubinoff returned to Ontario to pursue his artistic career before moving to a 200-acre farm on Hornby Island in the early 1970s. Living and working on the northern Gulf Island for nearly five decades, he has built the Jeffrey Rubinoff Sculpture Park. This remarkable site is home to over 100 of his steel sculptures, which he has created unassisted using his one-man steel foundry, as well as the Company of Ideas forum.



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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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A ‘power-full’ future for UVic



Architect's sketch of plant in Parking Lot 6.

Aging energy infrastructure to be replaced with higher-efficiency systems

The site has been chosen and planning is underway for a new energy plant to replace UVic's aging energy heating infrastructure. The new natural-gas fired plant will boast more efficient boilers which, in combination with new control systems and ultra-efficient energy transfer stations across the campus, are expected to produce significant energy savings. The new energy plant will be in the southwest corner of Parking Lot 6, north of the Interfaith Chapel and Finnerty Gardens.

With a nearly \$20 million overall budget, the project is moving ahead this year with approved initial funding of \$5.7 million to undertake detailed designs, prepare the project for tender, and replace underground piping and components in existing buildings. Construction of the new plant is slated to begin in the Spring of 2017.

Currently, the heating system for much of UVic is comprised of a loop of piping, providing heat and hot water to 32 buildings all across campus. The system is serviced by natural gas-fired boilers located in the Engineering Lab Wing, the McKinnon building and the Cadboro Commons building. The existing plants, built in 1994, 1974 and 1968 respectively, have reached the end of their operational lives and require refurbishing or replacing. A fourth plant in the Clearihue building was decommissioned several years ago.

The need for a new power plant to replace the aging infrastructure and prepare for future growth was identified in the 2015-16 Five Year Capital Plan. It was also highlighted in the recent update to the Campus Plan, which identified the importance of advancing energy use and greenhouse reduction strategies for the district heating system.

A schematic design for the building, which includes the requirements to achieve the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) gold standard certification, has been prepared. The building will be tucked into a corner of the parking lot and bordered on two sides by existing forest. Estimated at about 5600 sq.ft., the new plant will only displace 28 of lot 6's 421 parking spaces.

Wanting to avoid an industrial appearance, the design includes an attractive sloped-roof design, inspired by the pyramidal shape of the Interfaith Chapel. It will also feature exterior walls clad in wood, large expanses of glass to provide views to the boilers and pipes, enhanced ventilation, and a system to funnel rainwater from the roof down to a stone rain garden that will wrap the east and north sides of the building.

To find out more about this project, plan to attend the Open House on Nov. 16 in the Student Union Building. More detailed information and updates on the project are also available at uvic.ca/campusplanning.

New international plan to make a world of difference

UVic has released the *International Plan: Making a World of Difference (2017–2022)*, bringing increased momentum to our university's ongoing commitments—to welcome international students to UVic as an inspirational new home and to foster life-changing intercultural learning and research for domestic students here in Canada and across the globe.

“In this era of global connectivity, complex geopolitics and increased international collaboration, it is even more important to embrace and integrate diverse perspectives, enhance social and cultural opportunities for students of all backgrounds, and nurture ideas and partnerships from an extensive array of communities and countries,” says UVic President Jamie Cassels. “This plan takes our commitment a step further by identifying key objectives and strategies to move us forward.”

Consistently ranked in the top one per cent of universities in the world and among the top-ranked in Canada for scientific impact, UVic is already known as a globally aware and engaged university. Building a thoughtful, internationalized research and education strategy is also a core part of UVic's *Strategic Plan* and *Strategic Research Plan*. Our faculty publish a higher proportion of research based on international collaboration than any other Canadian university, with one-third of UVic research partnerships having an international component.

UVic draws faculty and students from every point on the map, from India and China to Germany and Iran, to teach, study, research and explore here. In 2015, nearly 3,000 international students (15 per cent of all students) from more than 100 countries were enrolled at UVic, including a Thai student in mechanical engineering who spent a work term at the new Patient Care Centre at Royal Jubilee Hospital and a Chinese education

grad student who immersed herself in the Marnie Swanson International Commons on campus.

UVic also supports students to go beyond its borders to make a vital impact in the world through research, practicum placements, field schools, co-op work terms, internships and cultural exchange programs. These students range from a biochemistry student who spent a co-op work term in Kenya and a group of applied theatre students who participated in a field school in India, to an Indigenous student who travelled to Australia for the first-ever Indigenous co-op exchange.

The new international plan clearly outlines the priorities, principles and strategies for the next five years. The plan's five categories outline how UVic will support international students throughout their time at the university, incorporate international content into coursework, establish and maintain global partnerships, bolster international research and development projects, and offer hands-on learning opportunities around the globe.

With the new plan, UVic is taking firm steps to enrich every aspect of the international experience it offers.

“Our students, both domestic and international, seek transformative educational experiences. Their learning goes both ways—both are strengthened by listening to one another's stories,” adds Nancy Wright, UVic's new associate vice-president of academic planning who is overseeing the plan's implementation with assistance from the International Research and Academic Plan Group. “The plan will help us foster an even stronger intercultural environment, one that relies on perspectives from communities across the world, and encourages collaboration.”

UVic community members are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the plan, which is available online at uvic.ca/international.

around the ring

The Edge is here: UVic launches ad campaign

Throughout Fall 2016 and early 2017, UVic is running a brand awareness ad campaign aimed at opinion leaders and prospective undergraduate students as part of an overall strategy to challenge, change and evolve perceptions of our university among these audiences. The ads will run in newspapers, magazines, public transit, airports, movie theatres, online and social media in regions of BC, Alberta and Ontario. For more info visit uvic.ca/adcampaign.

Sustainability Week

Sustainability Week at UVic, running from Oct. 10–15, is a great opportunity for faculty, staff and students to learn about sustainability initiatives on campus through Campus Planning and Sustainability. Activities and events include:

- Oct. 11 – Green Buildings: Urban Adventure tours
- Oct. 12 – Energizing the UVic Data Centre tour
- Oct. 12 – Edible campus forum
- Oct. 13 – Campus ecology walk
- Oct. 13 – Creative compost collaboration
- Oct. 14 – Campus bike tour

Full info at bit.ly/uvic-green16. A related story about controlling invasive species, one of four projects funded this year by the Campus Sustainability Fund, appears on page 8.

UVic gives thanks

The lead-up to Thanksgiving is a perfect time to acknowledge what makes the UVic experience so great, as well as the many people behind that experience. On Oct. 5 and 6, UVic's Student Ambassadors, the Vikes and Donor Relations teams are rallying the campus community to celebrate the impact of donors and volunteers through a Thank-a-thon. If you missed the first installment outside CARSA on Wednesday, you can still participate at the Petch Fountain Thursday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. to personally thank a donor for contributing to UVic, by funding access to education, emergency support and extra-curricular opportunities. Our goal is to mail 500 postcards—filled with messages of thanks from staff, faculty and students—to members of the UVic donor community. When you write a thank you note and mail in the Canada Post replica mailbox, you'll get free goodies. It's our way of thanking you for saying thank you.

BIG DATA CONTINUED FROM P.1

and technologies that use cloud computing and data storage facilities around the world, we can more quickly sift through massive amounts of data,” says Sobie.


The development of a distributed data and cloud computing system will link the huge amounts of research data samples generated by this and other CERN experiments with a worldwide set of cloud computing facilities, he says.

“This project will create a novel cloud infrastructure that will enable


the experiment to meet its rapidly growing computing requirements,” says Sobie, noting that Canada's ATLAS team is a global leader in the use of cloud computing for scientific research applications.

The \$2-million project is funded with \$824,000 from the Canada Foundation for Innovation. Another \$824,000 in matching funds is from the British Columbia Knowledge Development Fund. The funds will be used to expand the highly skilled team of cloud computing developers at UVic.

“This system will allow us to accelerate our search for new particles and physics and our understanding of the properties of the Higgs boson. And the unique infrastructure will benefit the broader Canadian research community, as the services developed in this project will be accessible for other projects with huge amounts of data.”




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...payments cease at death		\$442	\$472	\$544	\$674	\$778	\$977
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Anna Schaefer

MPA (UVic), BA (Cmns.), PBD (Econ.)
REALTOR® DFH Real Estate Ltd.
3914 Shelbourne St., Victoria BC
T 250-477-7291
TF 1-800-668-2272
anny@annyschaefer.ca
AnnaSchaefer.ca



around
the ring

Get ready to
ShakeOut

The Great BC ShakeOut happens on Oct. 20 at exactly 10:20 a.m. Be ready to drop, cover and hold on! Since 2011, UVic has been part of the annual earthquake preparedness drill, where students, faculty and staff practice what to do in the event of an earthquake. Wherever you are on campus on Oct. 20, please join this two-minute exercise. Or, if you can't do the drill at 10:20 that day, consider finding another time during the week that works better for your office or class. More info: uvic.ca/services/emergency.

Mentorship program
now open

The UVic Mentorship Program is accepting mentee applications until Oct. 20. This program, now in its seventh year, is designed to promote professional and personal development of staff while providing an enhanced understanding of our campus community. Each year, approximately 20 mentee participants gain informal guidance, coaching and knowledge sharing through the program. Mentee selection occurs in the fall and the six-month program kicks off in January, with a mix of scheduled lunch events and flexibility for pairs to meet on their own. Program info: bit.ly/uvic-mentor.

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES

We use gold for jewelry, tooth fillings and Olympic medals—and soon for Zika detection

BY PATTY PITTS

To most people, gold is a way of measuring wealth. But for UVic physical chemist Alex Brolo, the precious metal may provide a faster way to diagnose devastating viruses such as Zika and dengue fever—and even cancer.

Brolo is developing new ways to use gold nanostructures—microscopic bits of matter 10,000 times smaller than the width of a human hair—in medical applications.

“When metals become very, very small their properties change. We can manipulate these properties and learn how to translate them to new technologies,” says Brolo, who is director of UVic’s Centre for Advanced Materials and Related Technology (CAMTEC).

“I’m very interested in learning how to chemically modify the surface of gold to make it possible to target specific molecular markers from human samples, such as saliva or blood.”

The key to advancing the fight for early detection of the Zika virus is an extremely thin, postage stamp-sized plastic strip on which the surface appears pricked with minute punctures. Each “puncture” is actually thousands of surface-modified gold nanostructures—nano gold—that turns colour when exposed to saliva containing the Zika virus.

Brolo aims to take this inexpensive, easy-to-use detection method directly into the neighbourhoods and regions where Zika and dengue fever are prevalent, and the mosquitoes that cause them are most likely to breed.

He’s already conducted a pilot project in his native Brazil with 30 strips



Brolo with a testing strip. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

that proved 60 per cent accurate in detecting dengue fever. By the end of this year, he hopes to conduct a more extensive test with 200 strips involving collected samples from suspected Brazilian Zika patients. The project is funded by a \$25,000 Grand Challenges Canada grant.

“Right now, Zika tests are blood-based so the samples have to go to labs, but tests involving saliva can be done in a neighbourhood clinic by health workers,” says Brolo. “The idea is to use hand-held devices, like cell phones, to feed data about the contaminated individuals to a Google-based map. This will provide a real-time record of the infestation, allowing government officials to respond quickly.”

Brolo emphasizes fabricating the nanostructures, understanding how they work and applying them through various technologies when teaching his undergraduate and graduate students who participate fully in his research work.

“They prepare the strips, make solutions, take images, even provide their own saliva for the testing,” says Brolo.

While the Zika and dengue fever viruses are currently Brolo’s primary focus, he dreams of the day when nanotechnology also advances early cancer detection. Properly coated nano-gold also reacts with a blood sample containing cancer biomarkers.

Brolo envisions coating a chip em-

bedded with gold nanostructures with blood from a finger prick. A scan of the blood sample for several proteins related to cancer would provide a baseline report on that patient. Subsequent annual tests would provide early detection through any spiking protein levels that may signal the presence of cancer.

While cancer’s complexities keep this type of testing a dream for now, the test strips are close to becoming a reality in the battle against Zika and dengue fever. Instead of spinning straw into gold, researchers like Alex Brolo are using gold to advance the fight against Zika and dengue fever, one nanometer at a time.



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ROYAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

Psychologist, business
prof elected to “rising star”
national academy

BY VALERIE SHORE

A psychologist probing the mysteries of the brain and a business scholar who investigates corporate social responsibility are UVic’s two newest members of the Royal Society of Canada’s prestigious College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists.

Members of the college are elected by their peers and are considered “the emerging generation of intellectual leadership in Canada.” To qualify, members must be within 15 years of receiving their PhDs or equivalent.

Clay Holroyd’s research focuses on how people detect and correct their errors and how they learn from the consequences of their actions. In particular, he’s interested in a specific part of the brain that helps us plan, achieve goals and make decisions, as well as respond to rewards.

Holroyd, who is the Canada Research Chair in Cognitive Neuroscience, is investigating how the brain’s anterior cingulate cortex functions. It’s an area of the brain associated with multiple neurological psychiatric disorders such as depression, schizophrenia, Parkinson’s diseases, substance abuse and obsessive compulsive

disorder. “The anterior cingulate cortex is one of the largest riddles in cognitive neuroscience,” he says. “I find it quite exciting to think that the answer to this puzzle may be within reach.”

Recognized as one of the world’s most influential researchers in business and economics, Roy Suddaby is an expert on organizational and social change. He’s specifically interested in how organizations use symbolic resources—such as legitimacy, authenticity and history—to gain competitive advantage.

“For instance,” says Suddaby, “corporations are increasingly recognizing that their history is a competitive resource that they can use to their advantage. It can be used as a marketing tool to create a sense of identity for employees, or to gain an advantage over competitors by appearing environmentally sustainable (commonly known as greenwashing).”

To date, seven UVic scholars have been elected to the College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists, which was created in 2014. College members participate on expert panels, mentor promising young scholars, and engage in RSC regional programming.

Full Ring story: bit.ly/rsc2-uvic



Rogers “photobombing” at convocation. PHOTO: PROVIDED

Channelling UVic life as Chancellor

Bearing witness to—and representing—the boundless enthusiasm of UVic students, researchers and community connections comes naturally for Chancellor Shelagh Rogers.

BY JOANNE MCGACHIE

Over a year and a half into her term, and Chancellor Shelagh Rogers shows absolutely no sign of waning enthusiasm for her role and responsibilities as UVic’s ceremonial head. Even with three convocations under her belt, it’s clear that the excitement of presiding over the ceremonies has not worn off in the slightest.

“I love convocation!” Rogers says. “If I could do convocation every day of my chancellorship, I would be thrilled. I really feel that energy as the students are crossing the stage, and I’m very aware that, for each and every one of them, this is a threshold day—the last bit of ‘UVicness’ before their new lives begin. So I try to engage with each of them individually, call them by name, make it personal and say congratulations.”

She credits the hard work—and humour—of the staff at Ceremonies and Events, the Farquhar Auditorium and the University Secretary’s office for making her job easy and fun. “This past June, there were pictures posted backstage. One of them was a picture of Catwoman and it said ‘Chancellor Rogers, a.k.a. Catwoman—I mean, have you ever seen them together in the same room?’”

“There’s a beautiful atmosphere created backstage. They are all part of a very important and well-oiled machine, and the fact that they take time for these little, personal details is what makes it magic for me. It’s been deep fun!”

Rogers becomes even more animated as she talks about the strong focus the university puts on Indigenous culture, recognition and reconciliation—an area of huge importance in her life since she was appointed an Honourary Witness on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.

“I love the fact that we’re now opening the ceremonies with drumming, and that a representative of one of the First Nations, on whose traditional lands the university is built, offers a welcome to the territory or a blessing,” she says. “It’s a big part of UVic’s essence—honouring history, culture,



Rogers enjoying a Vikes breakfast with Simon Whitfield and president Jamie Cassels.

traditions and protocols. And when you know you’re doing something right, you kind of vibrate inside.”

Asked about some of the other highlights of the Chancellor role so far, Rogers’ list seems boundless. “It’s been such a privilege to be invited to so many events that really exemplify the amazing things happening on campus,” she says. “Touring CanAssist and seeing the incredible work they do there. Being part of Ideafest last March, where I moderated a session at the Belfry Theatre with three of UVic’s award-winning scholars. Attending the celebration of the tenth anniversary of Uni 101 and seeing how it’s removing barriers and changing people’s lives. I could go on . . .”

And she does, describing one more event that reflects another personal passion—extinguishing the stigma of mental illness. A long-time advocate of mental health awareness, and having spoken openly about her own battle with depression, she was honoured to host the second annual Student Mental Health Strategy forum last January.

“It was an incredible gathering, especially towards the end when several students got up and spoke about their struggles with depression,” she says. “I remember thinking: ‘Frack the stigma! This is possible—we’re all strengthened by this.’ It still gives me goose bumps to think of it.”

Even when asked about what challenges there have been for her as Chancellor, Rogers can’t contain her passion for the job. “We have very stimulating Board of Governors meetings, but it’s been a great learning curve for me, especially around understanding the financial reports that we deal with,” she says. “Trying

to read spreadsheets doesn’t come naturally to me at all, but I was given some great advice by Murray Griffith. He told me to see it as a narrative—a story that is being told about UVic. The spreadsheets are UVic’s financial story—one book, with many chapters. That’s helped me a lot.”

So, between being UVic’s Chancellor, a tireless advocate for reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in Canada, an activist for mental health awareness and, of course, continuing to host her weekly CBC radio show on writing in Canada—how does she balance all the demands on her time and energy?

“I’m very lucky, because I’ve got so many wonderful people around me who support me, keep me organized, help prepare me for each engagement, and understand and accommodate my highs and lows,” Rogers says. Then she taps her wrist. “I call my Fitbit ‘Clint’ after Clint Hamilton,” director of athletics and recreation at UVic. “He didn’t give it to me, but he and I have had long talks about the link between exercise and mental health and well-being. So it’s very important to me that I get my 10,000 steps in every day, and ‘Clint’ really helps me stay on track!”

And her thoughts on what the remainder of her term as Chancellor holds? “I want to get out there more, to speak about UVic and the wonderful things that are happening here,” she says. “I don’t like confrontation; I think conversation is where it’s at. I’m constantly hearing in my head the voices of survivors and the elders—‘be kind, be gentle, listen, be respectful.’”

“Universities are where discussions take place and here at UVic we have a real leadership role in creating a better society.”

Paleolithic stones snag 21st-century attention

BY TARA SHARPE

We’ve got proof: early humans found clever ways to subvert

A quarter of a million years ago, an early human used a flint stone tool to butcher a waterfowl—alert to the possibility of predators at the edge of the watering hole—then discarded the blunted device before leaving the dangerous area.

Daylight duck-hunting is one possible scenario described in a new study on the groundbreaking discovery by UVic paleoanthropologist April Nowell (anthropology) and seven co-authors of how early humans found clever ways to subvert in a challenging land.

During an extensive three-year excavation 100 km east of Amman, Jordan, the archaeology team led by Nowell uncovered 10,000 well-preserved Middle Pleistocene stone tools from the Azraq Basin—once a lush wetland oasis in the heart of the ancient Levantine corridor (now Syria, Lebanon, Israel and Jordan) connecting Africa and the Eurasian continent. Two UVic graduate students were also involved in the dig.

After closely examining 7,000 scrapers, flakes, projectile points, hand axes and chipping debris, then meticulously testing for evidence of protein residue (blood, tissue and other animal products), the research team from UVic and partner universities in the US and Jordan found the oldest-ever evidence on 17 tools of identifiable residual remains of butchered animals including duck, horse, rhinoceros and wild cattle.

Hands-on learning in the field

Two anthropology students—Jeremy Beller (PhD candidate) and John Murray (MA candidate)—participated in the excavation in Jordan, recording and processing the artifacts. Beller’s work focuses on where the flint material (used to make the stone tools) originated. Murray says, “I’m trying to figure out how the tools were being used, not just what they were being used on. So I’m recreating functional activities like butchering and plant-processing to see how they might have been using the tools. I feel like this is one of the most fulfilling things I could have done with my master’s. Hands-on learning is essential in anthropology. And I picked UVic because of Nowell and her project. That was what drew me here first.”

A world-first discovery on early use of Stone Age tools

The findings draw startling conclusions about surprisingly sophis-

ticated strategies—suggesting cognitive ability, social order and technical acuity—applied by early humans (probably *Homo erectus* or *Homo hiedelbergensis*) to survive in an increasingly demanding habitat thousands of years before our direct ancestors evolved in Africa.

The new paper published in the *Journal of Archaeological Science* has already garnered significant attention including from the *Washington Post*, *TIME*, *New York Times*, *The Globe and Mail*, United Press International, CNN, CTV National News, CBC News and the Canadian Press.

Approximately 250,000 years ago, the Azraq Basin became increasingly arid and it is now drying up again due to climate change and water demand. The article in *TIME* points out they “went looking for ancient artifacts in a place you wouldn’t think of as a garden spot for proto-humans” but “hit paydirt” in two of nine layers of geological strata.

“CSI” for the Paleolithic period

It was UVic sessional instructor and co-author Daniel Stueber who first suggested testing for protein residue. However, cross-over immunoelectrophoresis—a biochemical method used traditionally in forensics—is an expensive undertaking.

Nowell at first sent six tools to co-author and supervising archaeologist Cameron Walker at the Residue Analysis Lab in Portland, Oregon.

Stueber told *The Globe*: “We were just courageous enough to take the chance...and we got really strong results.” After one came back positive, another 38 tools were tested.

With proof of protein residue on 17 tools, “for the first time, we had direct evidence of exploitation by our Stone Age ancestors of specific animals for subsistence,” adds Nowell.

Hominins include our ancestors (*Homo sapiens*, Neanderthals, Denisovans), as well as extinct proto-humans including those who once clustered near the Azraq water hole to ambush their prey.

Another result of the study is the potential to revolutionize what researchers know about early hominin diets.

The *Washington Post* caught Nowell reflecting on another puzzling piece: each tool appeared to have been used once only. Were the tools just discarded, leaving a trail like Stone Age disposable cutlery for 21st-century humans to retrieve? Was it easier to make new tools than resharpen blunt edges? “It’s such a direct window onto past behavior.”



Nowell excavating in Madaba, Jordan. PHOTO: MICHAEL BISSON

In memoriam

Martial Agueh

It is with great sadness that the Department of Mathematics and Statistics announces the passing of Dr. Martial Agueh, age 47, on Sept. 14. Agueh was known for his radiant smile, his generosity and collegiality. His lectures were models of clarity that impressed even internationally renowned mathematicians. He spoke loudly, wrote clearly, and his enthusiasm and love for his research were contagious.

“I always looked forward to our meetings, where we spent hours trying to solve difficult problems,” says Louis-Philip Saumiers, a former graduate student of Agueh’s. “His energy and positive attitude were contagious. He was someone I could go to for anything. He helped me become who I am.”

Agueh was born and grew up in Benin, West Africa. He completed his bachelors in mathematics and a postgraduate diploma (DEA) in mathematical physics in his home country, before joining Georgia Tech for a PhD in applied mathematics. He came to UVic in 2005 after completing two post-docs, one at UBC and another at Carnegie Mellon University.

“I was his postdoctoral supervisor at UBC, yet I learned more from him,” says Dr. Nassif Ghoussoub. “Martial earned everything he got in life, often the hard way, yet he was the most generous of friends. He went back to Benin often with his thesis supervisor to teach and mentor the new generation of African mathematicians.”

Martial’s area of research was in partial differential equations, a branch of applied mathematics sometimes known as mathematical physics. The originality in his research made him popular in his field and he was regularly invited to workshops and conferences worldwide. He spent substantial time in France, Spain, South Korea, Australia, Italy and Africa, among other places, as well as all over Canada and the US, making friends and collaborations wherever he went.

Agueh volunteered with many charitable organizations and initiatives including Operation Trackshoes, which organizes sporting and entertainment activities for people with developmental disabilities, as well as the Knights of Columbus, running soccer and basketball tournaments for young kids. He was devoted to his church where he spent much of his time helping those in need.

Agueh’s death is a tremendous loss to the department, to UVic, and to Canadian mathematics.

Agueh’s funeral service will be held at 12:10 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 7, 2016 at St. Patrick’s Church in Victoria.

Bruce Partridge

UVic President, 1969–1972

The university was saddened to learn recently of the passing of Bruce J. Partridge, former president of the University of Victoria, this August. Partridge’s term in office lasted just over two years, leading the university during an era of substantial upheaval.

Partridge took office in September 1969 as a youthful 42-year-old American arriving from Johns Hopkins University, where he had served as vice-president administration and treasurer. As an administrative leader, he had contributed to the work of the US National Committee on College and University Business

Administration. In disembarking the scene of growing campus upheavals in the US, however, Partridge was soon caught up in Canada’s own campus crisis. In Victoria, the federal government’s use of the War Measures Act against Quebec separatists in 1970 and a BC-wide ban on “expressions of support” for the FLQ divided public sentiment and civic expectations on and off campus.

Partridge also faced challenges specific to UVic, a young institution barely six years old, that was outgrowing a mix of nonstandard but longstanding hiring practices inherited from its predecessor institutions, Victoria College and the Provincial Normal School. Historian Ian MacPherson noted in *Reaching Outward and Upwards*, his history of UVic, that Partridge’s predecessor, Malcolm Taylor, “resigned the presidency partly because of the controversies over employment practices” as the university sought to normalize tenure and promotion standards for a newly hired cohort of professors.

Partridge also arrived to news that in his first year as president, the provincial operating grant would be short \$1.5 million of its anticipated amount—more than 12 per cent—which delayed the establishment of several planned programs.

Following a year of increasingly personalized protest on campus and acrimonious relations with the Canadian Association of University Teachers, Partridge resigned in November 1971, setting off a temporary but important lull in hostilities.

After leaving UVic, Partridge completed a Canadian law degree at UBC in 1975, served as managing director of the law offices of Baker & McKenzie in Hong Kong, and after moving back to BC in 1992, co-authored a textbook on management practices. A celebration of Partridge’s life will be held at the Bethlehem Retreat Centre in Nanaimo on Saturday, Oct. 8, at 2 p.m.



Agueh. PHOTO: PROVIDED



Haida Style Expeditions is one Indigenous enterprise that has benefitted from the NW-ACE collaboration. PHOTO: HAIDA STYLE EXPEDITIONS

Aboriginal Canadian entrepreneurs program honoured as best in the world

BY SASHA MILAM

The Northwest Aboriginal Canadian Entrepreneurs (NW-ACE) program, which provides business skills training in northern BC Indigenous communities, took home the the International Business Education Partnership Network’s top global prize in Oslo, Norway last month in recognition of the significant impact NW-ACE is having on the communities in which they operate.

The program—a partnership between Tribal Resources Investment Corporation (TRICORP), the Gustavson School of Business, industry and government, and representatives from Aboriginal communities—provides Aboriginal Canadians in northwest British Columbia with the skills, knowledge and mentorship to start their own businesses.

NW-ACE was selected as the overall winner from a competitive international pool made up of six categories, seven regions, and 84 finalists. NW-ACE first won the Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Skills category based on the success of the partnership in supporting the development of Aboriginal entrepreneurship in BC and across Canada.

The award comes hard on the heels of June’s announcement that NW-ACE had received the Alan Blizzard Award from the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education, the organization which also administers Canada’s national 3M Teaching Fel-

lowships.

In the three years since the program’s inception, 116 students have graduated. So far, 23 of those students have launched their own businesses, with 48 more business plans in the final stages of completion.

The NW-ACE collaboration is unique in that, upon invitation, it brings leading business education to Aboriginal communities instead of requiring students to leave their homes to participate. This allows students to give flight to their business plans while drawing on the support and context of their own culture and families, and ultimately develop businesses that tap into economic opportunities in BC while invigorating their communities.

“Reciprocity is at the heart of our business and the ACE program complemented that,” said James Cowpar, a member of the Tsaahl Eagle Clan who graduated from NW-ACE in 2015. Together with his twin brother Shawn, Cowpar operates Haida Gwaii-based

Haida Style Expeditions, a sport fishing and cultural tour company. “Our top priority at Haida Style is offering opportunities to learn—whether it’s our clients on tours learning about life on Haida Gwaii, or local youth looking to learn the ropes of the business.” Cowpar says NW-ACE helped establish a framework with which to run a business and provided valuable connections with fellow students and mentors. He and Shawn have successfully collaborated with other NW-ACE alumni to give clients a complete Haida Gwaii experience. “For a number of reasons, business is up 196% this year,” he says.

Entrepreneurs like Cowpar are precisely the businesspeople the NW-ACE program is designed to support. Their vision and business acumen combine to create personally and culturally significant businesses that also tie into strong markets where there is demand for their products. They and the other graduates of NW-ACE are the businesspeople of BC’s future.



Haida-owned and operated ecotourism. PHOTO: HAIDA STYLE EXPEDITIONS

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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.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 5:30 p.m. *Cafe Scientifique*. The General Consulate of France in Vancouver and UVic present short presentations by Patrick van Aderkas, who will talk about Douglas Firs, and Kim Juniper on Ocean Networks Canada. Q&A and reception follow. ECS 124. 250-721-7367

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7

■ **Music.** 12:30 p.m. *FRIDAYMUSIC*. And Oct. 14, 21, 28. Featuring UVic School of Music students. MacLaurin B125. Admission by donation. 250-721-8634

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 3 p.m. *Machine Learning Meets Environmental Sciences*. Dr. William Hsieh (UBC). MAC D288. 250-721-6120

■ **VNHS Lecture.** 7:30 p.m. *The Trouble with Wilderness: Romantic Wildness in a Post-Colonial World*. Kem Luther presents his new book, *Boundary Layer*, to the society. Fraser 159.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 2:30 p.m. *Putin and the West*. A public forum examining Putin's recent controversies, international policies, and relationship with NATO, the EU and the West. Moderator: Dr. Megan Swift (UVic). Hickman 115. RSVP 250-721-6490

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 7:30 p.m. And Oct. 14. *Orion Visitor in Fine Arts: Kelly Richardson*. Recognised as one of the leading representatives of a new generation of artists working with digital technologies to create hyper-real, highly charged landscapes, Richardson has been widely acclaimed in North America, Asia and Europe. Visual Arts A150. 250-721-8011

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 4:30 p.m. *Jean Vanier, L'Arche and the Evolution of a Founding Story*. Carolyn Whitney-Brown (UVic / CSRS). Strong C118.

■ **CAVI Lecture 7:30 p.m.** Dr. Michael Chase *Pierre Hadot's Concept of Philosophy as a Way of Life*. Dr. Michael Chase (National Center for Scientific Research, Paris). Clearihue A212.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 2:45 p.m. *Mechanistic Pathways of Trophic Interactions in Human-Occupied Landscapes*. Adam T. Ford (UBC). Turpin B215. 250-721-7327

■ **Music.** 8 p.m. *UVic Wind Symphony: Reflections!* Dr. Gerald King, conductor. UVic Centre Farquhar Auditorium. Tickets \$10–\$20. 250-721-8480

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20

■ **CSRS Lecture/Seminar.** 4:30 p.m. *Coercion, Conversions and Resistances: Political Imprisonment in the Islamic State of Iran*. Shokoufeh Sakhi, Visiting Research Fellow. Strong C118.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 2:45 p.m. *Marine Conservation in Myanmar: A Very Geographical Tale*. Prof. Phil Dearden (UVic). Turpin B215. 250-721-7327

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

■ **Beck Lecture.** 2 p.m. *Paradise Lost: John Milton*. Dr. Ástráður Eysteinnsson (U. of Iceland). Clearihue A212. 250-721-7316



IN DEFIANCE

at the galleries

uvac.uvic.ca
250-721-6562

■ **The Averted Eye Sees: The Life and Work of Glenn Howarth – Part II.** Until Jan. 7. Curated by Jenelle Pasiechnik. Glenn Howarth— an innovative creator and inspired teacher—was a pillar in Victoria's arts scene from the late 1970s until his death in 2009. His work was often infused with surrealist imagery which recalls the work of Francis Bacon. Howarth was also responsible for innovations in computer graphic art in the early 1980s working on the Telidon system as an artist-in-residence at UVic's engineering department. The Averted Eye Sees draws on UVic's significant collection of Howarth paintings primarily from the Michael C. Williams estate, as well as writing, sketches, ephemera, and digital files from UVic Libraries' Archives and Special Collections. Legacy Art Gallery Downtown, 630 Yates St. 250-721-6562

■ **In Defiance.** Until Jan. 7. This new exhibition emerged from Iroquois Mohawk artist and collaborator **Lindsay Kat Kat-sitsakatste Delaronde's** photographic project "Squaw" which, in utter defiance of the negative word used to denigrate Indigenous women, seeks to break down the stereotypes. The individual photographs shown together create an empowering series that deconstructs, challenges and defies mainstream ideologies of identity and its link to sexuality. According to the artist, her motivation was to "seek to create a project to reclaim and empower First Nations women and their capability to express their natural sovereign powers of eroticism, sensuality and vulnerability through their presence over time." Legacy Art Gallery Downtown, 630 Yates St. 250-721-6562

MONDAY, OCTOBER 24

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 7 p.m. *The Walrus Talks Youth Leadership*. An evening of lively, thought-provoking ideas about the youth, leaders, ideas, and questions that will shape our future. UVic Centre Farquhar Auditorium. Tickets \$12–\$20. 250-721-8480

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25

■ **Music.** 12:30 p.m. *TUESDAYMUSIC*. And Nov. 1. Featuring UVic School of Music students. MacLaurin B125. 250-721-8634

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26

■ **VNHS Lecture.** 7:30 p.m. *Bird Songs of the Boreal Forest: Cradle for Billions of Songbirds*.



at the theatre

phoenixtheatres.ca
250-721-8000

■ **50th Anniversary Alumni Festival.** October 11–29. This year, the Phoenix Theatre expands its usual fall "Spotlight on Alumni" into a three-week 50th Anniversary Alumni Festival featuring three internationally acclaimed artists presenting five solo shows. Self-proclaimed 'professional geek' **Charles Ross** will present all of his one-man nerd trilogies including the Star Wars trilogy, Lord of the Rings, and his newest, *Dark Knight: A Batman Parody*. Writer, performer, director and international Fringe icon, **T.J. Dawe** will remount the very first "Spotlight" show, *The Slipknot*—a comic monologue about three equally horrible jobs: from stock boy, to driver, to post office customer service. Cirque du Soleil clown extraordinaire **Shannan Calcutt**, best known as her alter ego Izzy, the charming and radiant clown, returns with her hilarious solo show, *Burnt Tongue*, that introduces us to Izzy on the night of her first blind date with a man on the internet.

John Neville's presentation features the boreal forest and some of its inhabitants. Fraser 159.

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 7:30 p.m. *Orion Visitor in Fine Arts: Jose Vicente Martin*. Martin's artwork has been focused since the early nineties on figurative painting that aims to explore the ambiguous nature of reality and personal identity. Visual Arts A150. 250-721-8011.

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day in the life

BY MARC CHRISTENSEN

Anyone who’s ever misplaced keys, glasses, a wallet or a purse in their own home learns to appreciate the value of placing things in a consistent place. Now imagine keeping track of more than two million sets of ‘keys’—each one unlocking an important, highly specific area of knowledge. That’s the challenge Christine Currie, stacks maintenance supervisor in UVic libraries, faces every day at the office.

It’s easy to overlook the amount of labour required to keep the shelves organized, when a trip to the library works as it should—books in order, where they should be. With an average of more than 500 books returned each day, however, and countless others removed from stacks for review by students and researchers, it’s no small feat. And when a book or journal goes missing, like our misplaced keys or glasses, it’s Currie and her colleagues who track it down.

In addition to returning items to shelves, her team is also responsible for finding room for new books as the library grows, and shifting the collection when it does. And they’re midway through a project to convert microforms from accession order to call numbers, modernizing access to the collection.

It’s not quite the job Currie imagined when she came to UVic in 2004 to help establish Village Greens and move Cap’s Bistro into daytime services. Prior years of work in food services management—from seniors’

homes to Victoria General Hospital—prepared her well for those challenges.

And Currie’s jump to the library, in 2007, isn’t that tremendous a stretch, she explains. Her service leadership background—with coursework at Camosun and SAIT, honed by on-the-job learning—is a real benefit in the Libraries’ Academic Commons unit, which focuses on a core set of services for library patrons.

Currie also sees a lot of overlap from her time at VGH. At the hospital, she knew just how essential food services can be for patients. “The doctors could do all the work in the world, but if we don’t feed the patients properly, then they’re not going to get well.”

The university parallel, lined up row by row among the stacks, isn’t much of a reach: books are food for learning. As Currie sees it, “it all boils down to reading, and libraries provide the nutrition for education.”

That’s a great fit for her personally, and as a supervisor. Currie’s whole career is grounded in a love of working with people—providing leadership and service. “I have a lifelong passion for learning. With that, being able to work at a university is perfect.”

In keeping with that motto, Currie has taken many of the courses offered by UVic’s Human Resources department. “I do a lot of the leadership courses, and I always learn something there,” she explains. “The most recent course I took was ‘The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People.’ I found the material very interesting and the take-home items were more useful than many other courses I have been to. There was a set of practice cards included with this course that I keep on my desk and actually use frequently.”

Currie was also sponsored through UVic to enroll in a nine-month experiential program with Leadership Vic-



Currie. PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

toria. One of the Leadership Victoria projects she worked on brought her full-circle to her food services roots, as she helped coordinate a Big Brothers and Big Sisters program organized around cooking.

That spirit of giving is also central to Currie’s life. Her support of Operation Trackshoes, an athletics and recreation program that supports people with developmental disabilities, predates her arrival at UVic. She and her husband also volunteer at Our Place.

Currie also reminds us that these important connections to the com-

munity can be made on campus. “Community patrons and alumni bring a wealth of life experience with them when they walk into the library. Every Saturday, there are at least two I can count on to be here, as soon as I open the doors.”

Whether they’re alumni from years ago, or community members who are working on their own projects, these library clients also create important human connections. “They’ll come up to the loan desk to chat with the folks they reliably see there, week after week—just to keep

them up to speed on their projects, or on a book they’re working on.”

From a growing sense of community, to providing an ever-growing array of in-person and digital services, Currie has seen a decade’s transformation at the library, which is an increasingly social space as well as a vital home for reading and resources. “Many people think of the library as a quiet place to study, but it’s also a vibrant and lively place. Between classes, it can be crazy—you can’t walk across the floor for all the students. And that’s a good thing.”

SUSTAINABILITY WEEK, OCT. 10-15

Controlling invasive species on campus

Invasive species management is one of four projects approved and funded this year by the Campus Sustainability Fund

BY PAUL MARCK

Lindsay Kathrens is on a mission to repel the invaders. Whether they lurk in Mystic Vale, Cunningham Woods, Bowker Creek or brush up along campus buildings, Kathrens and her colleague Julia Jennings lead a clutch of up to 40 students engaged in the Invasive Species Management Project at UVic. This small army of volunteers is on the march to eradicate the spread of plant species that threaten native-growing campus flora.

Kathrens, who graduated in June with a double major in environmental studies and geography, says the Invasive Species Project makes classroom studies more meaningful and practical, connecting course work and students with initiatives that are already underway in understanding

ecology and campus ecosystems.

“That project has been an opportunity to apply our learning through self-directed studies. It gives people an opportunity to situate learning in place,” says Kathrens, now a coordinator with the project. “The natural areas around our campus provide a real place for learning, a living laboratory.”

The Invasive Species Management Strategy involves a cross-section of campus stakeholders, including facilities management grounds staff, students, environmental studies faculty and community members to coordinate the removal of invasive species on campus, develop an action plan and identify priority areas for action.

Invasive species management is one of four projects approved and

funded this year by the Campus Sustainability Fund, which provides one-time allocations to campus projects that focus on water savings, sustainability awareness and learning opportunities. The fund was created earlier this year with the university’s contribution of \$100,000 to help the campus community develop and engage in projects that advance the goals of the Sustainability Action Plan.

The Campus Sustainability Fund allows the project to be more strategic and effective with inclusive student participation and educational outreach, explains project leader Dr. Valentin Schaefer of the School of Environmental Studies. “The Campus Sustainability Fund has enabled us to develop 10 area management plans in a format that makes them easy

for an instructor to adopt in their course curriculum and engage their students.”

Kathrens agrees the funding has been invaluable. “It’s allowed us to do work we’ve been wanting to do for a long time but never had the capacity to do.”

Other funded projects

Building on the success of the Revolving Sustainability Loan Fund that was established in 2011, the Campus Sustainability Fund assists in funding projects suggested by members of the university community that further UVic’s Sustainability Action Plan.

In addition to invasive species management, three other Campus Sustainability Fund projects got underway this summer:

- District energy system carbon intensity reduction feasibility research—examining alternative energy technologies and their potential integration into the district energy system
- Edible landscapes—with the goal of engaging faculty, staff and students in the investigation, review and design of potential edible landscapes on the UVic campus
- Women and trans bike repair workshop series—a bike repair workshop series for women and the transgender community.

The deadline for new project applications to the Campus Sustainability Fund is Oct. 15. More information: action@uvic.ca
Full story: bit.ly/uvic-species



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