



# THE RING

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2022

The University of Victoria's  
community newspaper

[uvic.ca/news](http://uvic.ca/news)



University  
of Victoria

## SPEED READ

### CONVOCATION 2022

#### Watch convocation online

Fall convocation ceremonies will be webcast live on Nov. 9-10. If you're not able to attend in person, you can watch the ceremonies on your computer. Video of each webcast will be available for six weeks following convocation. For event times and more information, visit [uvic.ca/event/grad-2022](http://uvic.ca/event/grad-2022).

#### Connect on social media

We can't wait to see everyone in their cap and gown! Don't forget to tag us and use #UVicGrad so that we can share in your celebration.

### EQUITY AND INCLUSION

#### Five Days of Action

Five Days of Action: 365 Days of Commitment (Nov. 14-18) is a week-long event to celebrate diversity and work together to create a more inclusive and equitable campus and community throughout the year. To participate, visit one of the artistic events, sign up for workshops, virtual engagements and more. Info: [bit.ly/5D-action](http://bit.ly/5D-action)



## SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRIES ARE THIS BUSINESS GRAD'S NEXT GOAL

Adams on the soccer pitch for the Vikes. PHOTO: AP SHUTTER

1,400+

DEGREES  
CERTIFICATES  
AND DIPLOMAS  
TO BE AWARDED  
TO FALL 2022  
GRADUATES

### Graduates' journeys through UVic reveal new horizons of opportunity, achievement and connection

BY ASHLEY CAMPBELL

If you told Will Adams during his first year at UVic's Gustavson School of Business that four years later he would be starting a master's program in engineering, he would likely have replied, "that's impossible." Playing for the UVic men's varsity soccer team was the pivot, and his future career path was unclear. With convocation approaching, Adams' future has grown to be much more certain—and it's a path that's devoted to a better future for all of us.

With his bachelor of commerce in hand this November, he's continuing his passion for sustainability in business at UVic's industrial ecology program, a path he says the BCom program helped to inspire.

"I definitely wasn't always planning on

attending grad school, things just kind of unravelled that way," Adams says. "That decision was influenced by me wanting to explore topics in greater depth that we touched on in undergrad."

For Adams, the passion for helping the environment and making a difference was always something that mattered personally, but he wanted to gain more context on how he could achieve it. The exposure to so many different fields, the diversity in perspectives and opinions, and the lens of sustainability found through Gustavson professors, students and mentors took Adams onto unexpected avenues in education, making choices about how he could make an impact.

Adams explains his choice of master's degree as a balance between environmen-

tal and economic considerations.

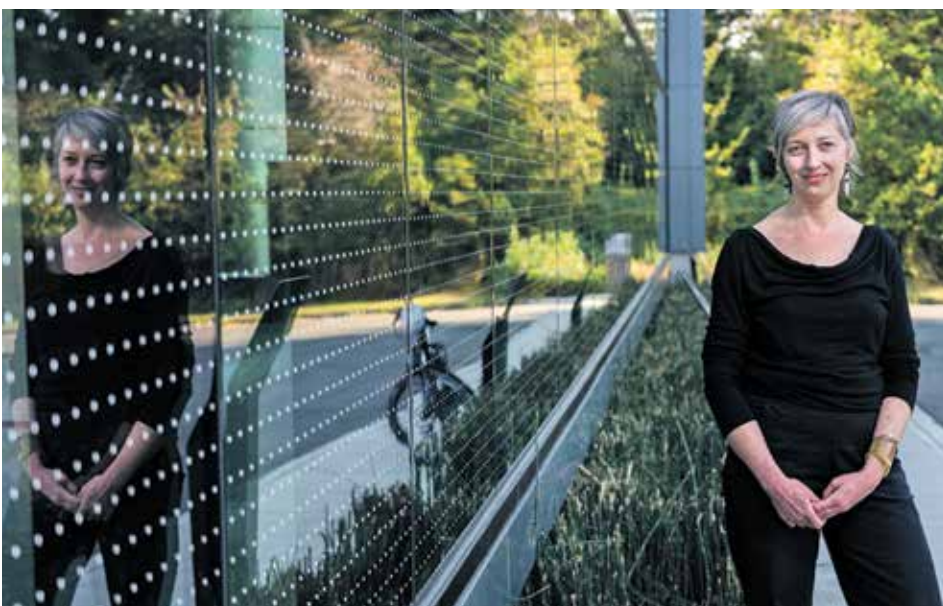
"Since a lot of the stress humans put on the environment is a result of industrial economic activities associated with business, the focus of my future studies is how to help make these processes more sustainable on an industrial level, so that economic growth is still possible without the same level of stress on the planet. It's about looking at business with an industrial ecology lens and identifying ways to transition to more sustainable operations. For this to work, it's important to look at both the consumer and the producer side."

Throughout the wide range of topics Adams studied in Gustavson's commerce program, including a dual specialization in service management and international business and varying co-op opportunities, Adams earned a wide range of business

SEE WILL ADAMS, P.4

### CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE

## Wind and solar power poised to rebalance urban-rural divide



Hoicka. UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

BY ANNE MacLAURIN

Rural and Indigenous communities are poised to play a central role in Canada's low-carbon energy future, according to one of Canada's top energy transition researchers. UVic geographer and civil engineer Christina Hoicka explains that as the impacts of climate change—heat waves, storms, fires and flooding—grow, a massive upscaling of renewable energies will be required.

Electricity will be at the core of Canada's energy transition—especially in transportation and heating. Electric vehicles and heat pumps will need to be deployed on a large scale, and the most promising way to support this new electricity demand is solar and wind. The latest data shows solar and wind technology are market-ready and cost less than coal to implement—and often the best land for the purpose is far from the cities where the bulk of the energy is needed.

Making the best of that divide is essential.

As Hoicka points out, renewable energy can be a source of local economic development and community revitalization that provides jobs for those in industries under transition. "Indigenous communities can be at the heart of this shift to solar and wind systems," says Hoicka. "When we understand the local socio-economic benefits, we can design good (and just) policy."

"Globally, it will take \$130 trillion in investment to scale up renewable energy," says Hoicka, who is also the Canada Research Chair in Urban Planning for Climate Change.

Canada's share of that investment is sizeable, and communities will need to direct land-use decisions about where solar and wind renewables will be installed as local and regional energy grids get developed. As an international expert on energy transformation,

SEE CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE, P. 3



UVic was ranked by *Maclean's* magazine as Canada's second top-performing comprehensive university this year, out of a list of 15 schools. Universities are ranked in 11 categories, with UVic ranked first for faculty awards and medical/science grants, second for student awards and third for scholarships and bursaries, libraries and in the reputational survey. *Maclean's* has listed UVic among the top three comprehensive universities in Canada for over 10 years, and among the top two since 2018.

In October, UVic was also ranked among the top 350 universities in the Times Higher Education World University Ranking—and among the top 10 Canadian universities for research citations.

More: [uvic.ca/rankings](http://uvic.ca/rankings)



The University of Victoria acknowledges and respects the *lək̓'áŋan* peoples on whose traditional territory the university stands, and the Songhees, Esquimalt and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

Printed using vegetable-based inks on 100% post-consumer recycled paper.

Next issue: January 5, 2022

The Ring is published eight times a year by University Communications + Marketing.

Associate Vice President Lindsey Fair, 250-721-3860, [arpuacam@uvic.ca](mailto:arpuacam@uvic.ca)

Director Denise Helm, 250-721-7639, [director.ucom@uvic.ca](mailto:director.ucom@uvic.ca)

Editor Marc Christensen, 250-721-6022, [marcdk@uvic.ca](mailto:marcdk@uvic.ca)

Production Marc Christensen

Display ads Bonnie Light, 250-388-5321, [adstring@uvic.ca](mailto:adstring@uvic.ca)

Distribution Mandy Crocker, 250-721-8587, [speakers@uvic.ca](mailto:speakers@uvic.ca)

Material published in *The Ring* does not necessarily reflect official university policy.

Material may be reprinted in whole or in part without permission, but with appropriate credit to *The Ring*.

The Ring, PO Box 1700, University of Victoria, Victoria, BC V8W 2Y2  
Tel: 250-721-7636 Fax: 250-721-8955  
Email: [ring@uvic.ca](mailto:ring@uvic.ca)

Printed in Canada by Black Press  
© 2022 University of Victoria  
Canadian Publications Mail Agreement  
No. 40014024

# Q&A on reproductive health gaps in Canada

BY RICHARD DAL MONTE

When the US Supreme Court struck down *Roe v. Wade* in June, it threw into turmoil the issue of reproductive rights south of the border and made abortion activists in Canada and around the world take notice.

Two UVic faculty members paid particularly close attention, as they'd been working on a research project on access to abortion services for Indigenous people.

Now, Renée Monchalin, an assistant professor in UVic's School of Public Health and Social Policy, and Astrid Pérez Piñán, an assistant professor in the School of Public Administration, are embarking on a new phase of research to improve culturally safe abortion care for Indigenous women, two-spirit and LGBTQIA+ people in Canada. Funded by a \$448,000 SSHRC grant, Monchalin and Pérez Piñán are partnering with Abortion Support Services Atlantic, ekw'ítl Indigenous doula collective, Northern Manitoba Abortion Support and Northern Reproductive Justice Network to talk to Indigenous people across the country about their experiences accessing abortion services and the care—or lack of care—they received.

In September, Monchalin was also awarded a prestigious 2022 Michael Smith Health Research BC Scholar Award, aimed at attracting and retaining BC's best and brightest health researchers. Monchalin will receive \$450,000 over five years to dedicate time to her research with Pérez Piñán and to expand on other health research projects.

**Q: Can you explain the difference in scope and approach with this next progression in your research?**

**Monchalin:** With our partners, we are working to expand on our pilot research. We refined some of the ques-

tions that we wanted to ask around people's experiences with abortion access, and how to improve it. We're hoping to get at least 40 participants—Indigenous people across the country—and we are also creating a survey for abortion service providers, and specifically service providers who work with Indigenous communities.

It's a three-year project: The first year, we're exploring and learning about abortion access in Canada. In the second year, we're going to convene to review and share the results with service providers and community members because our pilot project really highlighted how communities want this information to be shared in their community settings due to the stigma around abortion. Then, based on that, we're going to decide what to do in the third year of the project. However, our one goal is to really take this global if possible, and learn from what people are doing around the world.

**Q: In between the last project and this one, the US Supreme Court struck down *Roe v. Wade*. How does that affect your approach to or your thoughts on this research?**

**Monchalin:** In the American context, it is devastating for so many people. *Roe v. Wade* really put the spotlight on abortion again because a lot of people thought, "Oh, it's not something that we need to talk about anymore. It's legal here." But so many people in Canada don't have access to it based on travel restrictions, financial restrictions. We still need to fight for equitable access amongst all people and recognize that not everyone has the same experience. And in the Indigenous context, it's even less talked about. Through our work, we're able to reveal the layered complexities with abortion access in the Indigenous community. One thing that came out



Pérez Piñán and Monchalin. UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

of the recommendations of our pilot project was people would love to see abortion services be more culturally safe, honouring local traditions or knowledge while, at the same time, recognizing that people in Indigenous communities are unique amongst themselves and may not all carry the same belief systems.

**Pérez Piñán:** For me, it brought an increased sense of responsibility. It raised my awareness of how important it is that we do this well because we cannot take for granted our rights here. These [anti-abortion] ideas from the US carry; there are currents that are seeping into Canada. There are certain views that affect how people see women's rights. So we need to have that complex conversation, from the policy frameworks to the specificities of where to get one and how much it costs. It's an important time to be very thorough about this work and about making sure that we cement and consolidate this.

Also, we're going to be using some of the funding towards education and awareness. And as we move forward, we want to peel back the layers and show how cultures and communities all around the world have been practising methods of abortion, contraception, prevention—all of this for centuries. If people were aware of that, and realize that it wasn't this new Western kind of development, there may be more acceptance.

**Q: Abortion is legal in Canada but that that may not be enough to ensure safe and accessible reproductive care here. How do you hope your research can remove barriers**

# UVic launches first campus-wide sustainability plan

UVic's new Climate and Sustainability Action Plan 2030 (CSAP) is the first sustainability plan to reach every corner of campus. This is a plan that moves beyond established sustainability units and initiatives to involve students, staff and faculty across campus, including research, operations and the wider UVic and Vancouver Island communities.

The plan provides an integrated approach to respond to the challenges of climate change and embrace the many opportunities for positive action by guiding the university's approach to sustainability in every domain. CSAP has been informed by internal and external engagement—most notably engagement with Indigenous communities—to emphasize the importance of valuing Indigenous ways of knowing and being, particularly here on Vancouver Island.

As part of the larger university strategy, CSAP is comprised of an overall strategy and an associated action plan, which guide the univer-

sity's contributions to sustainability and planetary health and encourage all community members to work together towards positive change.

"Universities have a critical role to play in encouraging governments, industry and communities to act in a concerted effort towards solutions, mitigation and adaptation; it is for our planetary wellbeing now and generations ahead," says Associate Vice-President Research Cynthia Milton. "Given our place, values and strengths, UVic has the ability to take bold action at a large scale, incentivize change, as well as model and enable the microchanges that are needed."

CSAP outlines our commitments and our work by setting three key targets and three integrated initiatives, each supported by goals and specific actions:

- Three integrated initiatives involving collaboration across campus and in the broader community:
  - the seedling project
  - campus as a living lab, and
  - climate and sustainability hub.

Three targets supported by 11 goals:

- Reduce campus operations greenhouse gas emissions by 50% below our 2010 baseline by 2030 and Net Zero by 2040.
- Achieve Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System (STARS) Platinum rating certification by 2026.
- Each year, advance our UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

In addition, four themes to approach the work we are choosing to do, each with its own set of goals.

**ᓄᓄᓄ ᓄᓄᓄᓄ | XAXE TEJEW | Sacred Earth**

When considering the scope of our future work together, we ask how our actions will benefit the lands, waters and communities of this area.

**Innovator and partner**

UVic supports diverse research as it relates to climate and sustainability. We have opportunities to build research and innovation capacity across campus, in every department, to en-

sure UVic is an incubator of solutions across all disciplines.

**Educator and learner**

Climate and sustainability are integrated into UVic's academic curriculum in nearly every major field. We are developing new academic programs and courses, including experiential learning, and focusing on educating and inspiring the next climate and sustainability leaders.

**Climate solutions and sustainability leader**

University operations support climate mitigation, adaptation and sustainability practices across campus operations and planning. We continue to prioritize sustainability and low-carbon resilience across campus.

CSAP 2030 is a living document that will be updated as goals are achieved and new priorities emerge. It will be reviewed annually and will undergo a more formal review process every three years.

[bit.ly/22-csap](http://bit.ly/22-csap)

## CLIMATE RESEARCH

# Accounting for Canada's "blue" climate solutions

An ambitious research project will create the first Canadian assessment of the storage capacity of blue carbon ecosystems to help mitigate climate change, while also offering ways to protect Canada's coastal communities from rising seas and flooding.

So-called "blue carbon" ecosystems—including salt marshes, sea grass meadows and kelp forests—store carbon within plants and sediment along the country's 243,000-kilometre coastline. Canada has not yet fully accounted for ocean climate solutions, including these natural carbon sinks, in its greenhouse gas accounting inventories, says Julia Baum, principal investigator and marine ecologist at the University of Victoria.

"Climate change is the greatest threat to society and our planet," says Baum. "Research bringing together the brightest minds from across disciplines and sectors is needed to help develop solutions that will ensure Canada can meet its greenhouse gas emission goals. Our new partnership project is an exciting example of how this can be done."

The interdisciplinary team—climate scientists, marine ecologists, biogeochemists, economists and policy experts—includes Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Parks Canada, BC Parks, Oceans North, the Kelp Rescue Initiative, Nature Trust and BC Parks.

Academic partners include UBC, Dalhousie and Laval. The \$1.59-million, three-year project is supported by n5eac and Mitacs.

"Together, we will produce the first nationwide assessment of the natural climate solutions capacity of Canada's oceans—advancing scientific understanding of the extent to which



UVic researchers surveying kelp distribution on Vancouver Island. PHOTO: KEVIN BRUCE

Canada's ocean carbon sinks can contribute to emissions reductions," says Hansi Singh, climate systems professor at UVic. "By working directly with policy-makers and conservation practitioners, our results will be readily translated into action."

In 2021, Canada set new targets to cut GHGs by 40 to 45 per cent below 2005 levels by 2030, as it tries to adhere to the Paris Agreement. Achieving these targets will require an accounting of all mitigation options, includ-

ing Canada's natural ocean carbon sinks. Blue economy ecosystems are believed to sequester two to 10 times more carbon than terrestrial forests, which is why they are considered a key component of nature-based solutions to climate change.

The project team will focus on quantifying the full extent and carbon storage potential of all blue carbon ecosystems on Canada's Pacific, Atlantic and Arctic coasts.

Blue carbon ecosystems, especially

kelp forests, are also particularly vulnerable to climate change, with recent marine heatwaves knocking out some of BC's kelp forests. Recognizing this duality, the team's climate scientists—led by Singh—are set to predict where blue carbon ecosystems might occur in the future on Canada's coastline, under different climate change scenarios. The project will assess storage capacity of marine sediment carbon sinks, as well as evaluate areas of the country's coastline where protection

and restoration would provide the greatest natural climate solutions. The first year will focus on conducting a rapid assessment of the potential for kelp and other seaweed species to serve as forms of blue carbon in Canada, as well as developing new high-resolution ocean data products to help better estimate where Canada's blue carbon ecosystems are located, adds Singh. Last month's project kickoff also includes a new website: [bit.ly/22-blue](http://bit.ly/22-blue).

## CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE

CONTINUED FROM P. 1

Hoicka knows there must be socio-economic benefits to communities that adopt renewables.

"Renewable energy is a more landscape-specific technology than fossil fuels, affecting land uses, communities and natural settings—and every context is different in terms of industrial and community needs and transitions," explains Hoicka.

In collaboration with First Nations representatives, Hoicka has partnered with Clean Energy BC and New Relationship Trust—a government-to-government body leading investment decisions and change management in BC's Indigenous communities—to document local community experiences of the socio-economic benefits of producing renewable energy.

Starting this fall, Hoicka and her grad students will interview up to 92 Indigenous communities about how renewable energy generation has benefited their local economies and communities.

Since the socio-economic benefits to local communities are not well documented, Hoicka and her team hope this new project will contrib-

ute first-hand information to help decision-makers advocate for a First Nations power authority.

"Many First Nations communities have already expressed an interest in renewable energy," explains Hoicka. "It can contribute to community revitalization and provide new forms of revenue."

"Meta studies show the distribution of benefits around renewable energy in local communities affects public acceptance," says Hoicka.

Scaling up renewable energy capacity means rural communities will eventually be delivering power to cities—so the socio-economic benefits need to be understood and fairly distributed to communities.

"Power systems in the future will be more of a web or network connecting local to regional; much different than what we have now," says Hoicka.

"Renewable energy transitions won't be easy," adds Hoicka, "and to ensure a just transition it requires planning and implementing changes by bringing together communities, workers and decision-makers under a short timeframe to limit a warming climate."

# Stay safe

Register your mobile phone to receive UVic alerts  
[uvic.ca/alerts](http://uvic.ca/alerts)

Download the UVic SafetyApp



# Campus life is busy!

**Why go off campus to fill a prescription?**

Save yourself some time and use our on-campus pharmacy, conveniently located in the SUB. Our professional staff are ready to listen and help you with all your health needs.

**Drop by and experience our Heartfelt service.**

**We're in the SUB!**

UVIC SUB, 3800 Finnerty Rd., 250 721-3400 • Monday - Friday 9:00-5:00

[www.HeartPharmacy.com](http://www.HeartPharmacy.com)

- SERVICES INCLUDE:**
- Fill / Transfer Prescriptions
  - Prescription Billing (including staff and student plans)
  - Medical Reviews
  - Vaccine Injections
  - Process Paper Claims to Blue Cross



## UVic Campus Pharmacy

**AFTER HOURS SERVICE**

**Heart Pharmacy IDA at Cadboro Bay Village**  
Monday - Saturday 9:00-6:00  
Sunday and Holidays 12:00-5:00  
250 477-2131



## Lawyer & Notary Public



Bob Reimer

- Real Estate—Purchase/Sale/Mortgage
- Estate Litigation
- Wills & Estate Probate/Administration
- Power of Attorney/Representation
- General Legal Advice & Referral

4195 Shelbourne Street  
(two blocks north of Feltham Rd.)

250-721-2441





## FACULTY OF EDUCATION

### Connecting language, land and education

Addie Elliott will receive a certificate in Indigenous Language Revitalization this fall, earned in a partnership program between UVic's Department of Indigenous Education and the **wsáneč** school board.

BY CLAYTON SHELDON

"ÍY, SCÁCEL SIÁM MEQ SÁN! STOLZELOT I, Adelaide Elliott TTE NESNÁ. ČSE LA, E SEN ET WJOLELP I, lək "əhən. Good day everyone! My name is STOLZELOT, my English name is Adelaide Elliott. I am from WJOLELP community which is located on **wsáneč** territory."

STOLZELOT Adelaide "Addie" Elliott is graduating this November with a certificate in Indigenous Language Revitalization, a partnership program between UVic's Department of Indigenous Education and the **wsáneč** school board.

Both of Addie's great grandparents were residential school survivors, and her father is a survivor of an Indian Day School. Growing up on reserve, Addie witnessed and heard about unremitting attempts to steal culture and language away from future generations of Indigenous peoples. She developed a strong sense of resolve in reclaiming her identity—a birthright—through language.

"I feel like I'm regaining and re-learning ways of being," she says. "A lot

of that is through the language. Everyone has their own ways of reclaiming identity, and learning the language is a big part of that for me."

Addie's experience in this program was unique in that several of her family members doubled as her instructors. She comes from a long line of Indigenous educators: Her older brother and sister-in-law both hold master's degrees in Indigenous education. Her father has two doctorates. Growing up around these influences proved that hard work could pay off and that a successful future in Indigenous education was possible for Addie. "There's something special about learning beside the people you grow up with," she said. "Nothing beats that."

#### Embodied language learning

The **SENČOTEN** word **WUZEN** means "kindness." Addie explained that the root of the word means good, and the suffix refers to "being inside of"—making the direct translation "being kind inside." Addie's father explained it to her as being "kind inside of your soul," or "having a kind soul."

"This gives you a glimpse into the **SENČOTEN** worldview. It shows how strong the word is to their culture and community, and how their ancestors used it with one another. It can be easy to throw around the word 'kind', but what does it really mean? It's to have kindness deep within yourself."

Even though Addie grew up in an Indigenous community, she began to connect with her homeland in a new way once she began learning the language. Many words in **SENČOTEN**, especially place names, have reasons for why they were chosen. Learning these stories, many of which are sacred and go back thousands of years, has largely contributed to her reclamation of identity through the language.

#### A future for land-based education

"Land-based learning has been a huge innovation that's been added to our learning in this program" Addie notes. "I can see that being beneficial for students in all areas of study. Just grounding yourself through land-based learning and connecting on the community level is such a huge game changer in my opinion."

Addie believes in knowing the system to beat the system. After graduating, she plans to continue her formal education and use her teaching certificate to work within the community, bringing language learning into spaces outside traditional class-



STOLZELOT Addie Elliott

rooms. She encourages other students to "Speak your truth. Be honest when you're having discussions in class and don't be afraid to ask for support. Just always be honest with yourself and who you are in your learning journey."

It's not a competition with anybody else. So, whatever you have to do to make yourself feel comfortable and take care of your mental health, make that a priority."

## FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

### Studying support and inclusion: a curriculum of community

BY ANNE MacLAURIN

For sociology grad Jasmine Webster, community-engaged learning courses at UVic focused her passion for a career in the non-profit sector.

"The skills you learn simply from engaging with people with different lived experiences shape your approach to community-based work," says Webster.

Webster started at UVic as a three-year transfer student from White Rock, BC, after completing courses online. In 2021, she decided to finish her degree on campus where she enrolled in a pair of community-engaged sociology courses.

"I received an email from sociology professor Bruce Ravelli and I was immediately interested in the course," says Webster.

"After seeing the challenges my brother faced growing up when seeking inclusion, I am specifically interested in supporting the voices of people with disabilities," she adds.

The community-engaged sociology courses combine volunteering with non-profit agencies and skill-building while sharing reflections in the classroom. Webster was matched with Our Place Society where she developed training materials and resources for new volunteers.

"The interconnectedness of the staff, volunteers and family members [clients] at Our Place Society is incredible to witness and it does embody the feeling of hope and belonging. I loved seeing an organization where it felt like everyone had a place and was wanted in that space," says Webster.

"As I was working alongside members of the community who were experiencing homelessness, living with minimal income and facing vulnerable situations, there was a shift in the way I was approaching my project—it became very person-centered and involved as I wanted to create solutions that would best serve all groups of people using these resources," says Webster.

Throughout her program, Webster relied on the UVic library as a quiet place to focus and work, as well as the peaceful outdoor spaces on campus—often with some deer to photograph!

"I love to take photos, so while living downtown I would walk around with my camera and photograph buildings, the ocean and sunsets," says Webster.

After finishing her final courses in August, Webster moved back to the Lower Mainland and started working with Special Olympics BC as a community development coordinator.

"I am thrilled to be working in the non-profit sector and creating inclusive opportunities for individuals with intellectual disabilities through sports initiatives," says Webster.

"Community to me means inclusion and oftentimes, especially for individuals who are marginalized, there are challenges to find those spaces that are accessible and built for people to thrive. I would love to think that my experiences working with



Webster

different groups of people will better support inclusive communities in the future," she adds.

Webster hopes to return to UVic as a graduate student in sociology.

## WILL ADAMS

CONTINUED FROM P. 1

knowledge he can apply to a different discipline. From business analyst positions with XPS Group and the Canadian Department of National Defence to an executive search intern position with Japan-based Apex KK, Adams had the opportunity to work in both the private and public sector, as well as gaining international experience. This range in industries gave him the space to think more critically about the different stresses on our plant as part of business practices.

"My goal would be to link my business background with my interest in

sustainability and the tools I am learning in my industrial ecology master's degree—eventually finding a niche that allows me to help businesses transition their practices into being more sustainable," says Adams.

Adams points out that without his time spent at Gustavson, he wouldn't have gained the same level of exposure that allowed him to find this career path. The exploration of sustainability in business helped him discover that his passion could be a lot bigger than just himself and his personal choices. When placed in real-world experiences

during his co-op, Adams saw firsthand the opportunity for more sustainable decision-making to be made by both companies and consumers, through industrial economic practices, and saw a space for change.

With a BCom degree under his belt and at the start of his next big journey, Adams is now "figuring out what I want my impact to be; I know I want to have one, but I don't know what it is just yet." As someone who enjoys a challenge, whether that be on the soccer pitch, in the classroom or the business world, Adams is ready to

start exploring sustainable solutions to environmental challenges brought on by economic activities.

Of course, he didn't make it this far on his own. "You've heard that saying: it's sometimes not about what you know, but who you know," Adams says of the people he met and the relationships he developed along the way: classmates, professors, mentors, work term colleagues, teammates on the soccer pitch and members of the Vikes community, all combining to support him in following this path.

Adams encourages others who

may not have a clear picture of their post-grad life to spend time on what they are passionate about and use the support of people and mentors around them to gain insight into the diversity of educational and career paths.

"Gustavson definitely encouraged me to come out of my comfort zone, ask questions and try to connect with people who might have interesting stories to share," he says. With one journey over and another just beginning, Adams looks forward to diving into the world of sustainability and discovering his impact on the world.

## FACULTY OF SCIENCE

### On track for great discoveries

BY ALF WILSON

Matthew Thibodeau will be crossing the Farquhar Auditorium stage this November to receive his Bachelor of Science degree—and if he maintains the pace he set for himself at UVic, you might see him sprint across. During his undergraduate studies, Thibodeau ran on the Vikes track team, did several co-op terms in Heather Buckley's lab, won UVic's 2022 Honours Fest competition, earned co-authorship on four research papers, and is first author on a research paper due to be published soon.

Thibodeau grew up in Victoria and entered UVic with a general interest in science, especially chemistry, biology and microbiology. He gravitated towards biochemistry and microbiology because that program offered a good balance of those interests.

Athletics—specifically track—has long been an important part of Thibodeau's life. Although being on the Vikes team while carrying a full science course load kept his schedule very full, Thibodeau appreciates the synergistic relationship between mental and physical exertion. "It can get a little busy, but athletics actually help me do better in academics—it keeps me sharp," Thibodeau says.

Looking for laboratory co-op work in biology, he followed a tip and spoke

with Heather Buckley, professor of civil engineering and chemistry. Thibodeau did all his co-op terms in Buckley's Green Safe Water lab, where they are exploring the use of green chemicals to treat biofilms, a form of solid bacteria. Biofilms foul reverse-osmosis water filtration systems, so this research could ultimately lead to technology that would provide fresh drinking water to millions. The interdisciplinary nature of the research also led him to work with Jeremy Wulff's chemistry lab. Thibodeau's work focussed on growing the bacteria.

"Eventually I got to lead the microbiology part of that research—basically, growing bacteria on antimicrobial coatings and measuring biofilm formation," Thibodeau notes. "But I also needed to develop various assays to quantify the amount of growth."

Managing to get one published paper as an undergraduate student is a rare achievement, but those co-op terms also earned him a co-author credit on four publications.

Thibodeau also pursued a fourth-year honours project with UVic biochemist John Burke. They investigated how specific proteins, with and without chemical modification, regulate and alter the growth of cilia (short eyelash-like filaments that extend from exterior cell membranes). He was



Thibodeau in the lab at UVic

awarded the first prize in Honours Fest 2022, an annual event that showcases the research projects of honours undergraduate students from across the Faculty of Science. He continued the project, and because of his additional work, Thibodeau is now awaiting the publication of his first lead-author paper.

But it wasn't always a walk—or run—in the park. Thibodeau struggled through some athletics injuries while still maintaining his busy academic schedule. "It was hard sometimes," Thibodeau recalls, "but pushing through and healing from injuries has made me stronger."

What's next? Thibodeau has hit the ground running in a UBC master's program, working on antibiotic resistance. "We're working on understanding the mechanisms of antibiotic resistance with a focus on bacterial membrane proteins," Thibodeau explains. "Hopefully we'll also find new targets for antibiotics."

## MUSIC AND COMPUTER SCIENCE PROGRAM

### A coding career composed of science—and sound

BY JOHN THRELFALL

When Calgary-based Logan Wood was looking for a leading post-secondary music and computer science degree program, he quickly realized that there was only real choice for him. "In comparing programs across the country, UVic stood out for me," he says.

Despite landing squarely in the pandemic years, Wood managed to not only excel academically and creatively in his Bachelor of Science program, but also complete four software-development co-op terms with a pair of tech start-ups in his hometown. His interest in music production and re-recording have already seen him release a mixtape album and three charting EPs (including his latest, 2022's *Pardon My Name*), all of which helped him land a full-time position fresh out of classes.

Now a corporate systems developer with the Calgary branch of energy company Petronas Global, Wood feels it was his unique combination of skills and experiences that helped him secure his new position. "I definitely got it because of my co-op experience . . . but my music background certainly helped my application," he says. "Employers are looking for in-

teresting, well-rounded people—not just a straight-A student whose life is all about grades—so my recording successes showed that I wasn't one-dimensional."

While he's currently leaning into the computer science side of his new degree, Wood clearly isn't giving up on his hard-earned recording skills. "Coming into the program, I knew I wanted to release music but didn't really have a plan," he admits. Thanks to the School of Music's fully equipped Creative Research Technology (or CReaTe) Lab, Wood was able to learn everything he needed to record, mix and master his tracks, including producing, engineering, plug-in development and all the required hardware. "It was definitely a catalyst in bringing my music to life."

One unintentional COVID highlight was the opportunity to work with local label Cordova Bay Records on a unique recording project. "We were able to produce some ambient music for them to consider, which was really great." (Hear Wood's "Cloudwalker" track on the UVic Library's "Library Lullaby" Soundcloud playlist.) "Not only did we get some professional feedback on our tracks, but it opened a window into the world of record labels and gave most of

us our first experience doing ambient music, which is more of a low-fi/study-beat. My personal work is more either old-school jazz boom-bap hip hop or trappy upbeat anthem-y party vibes."

Other degree highlights include courses in music technology and music production, and serving as communications director for the Computer Music Course Union (CMCU). "I'm really happy with what the CMCU grew into—not only did we increase student involvement but the academic funding we received let us invest close to \$10,000 in recording equipment, instruments, microphones and software back into the studio," Wood says. "Looking back, those were the standouts: fun projects, great experiences, good friends."

Ultimately, Wood says he wouldn't hesitate in recommending the program to future students. "If you're passionate about computer science and you want to learn about music—or vice-versa—this is the program for you," he says. "This is where you get the experience and the opportunity to network and build relationships with your peers and professors and the industry: I really don't think there's a better program in Canada."



Wood in the School of Music's CReaTe Lab. PHOTO: EMILY ERICKSON-FLEGG

# IMAX VICTORIA

## IMAX VICTORIA ANNUAL PASSES ARE BACK

### WITH PERKS AS BIG AS OUR SCREEN

**ON SALE NOW** [imaxvictoria.com](http://imaxvictoria.com)

\$55

EARLY BIRD PRICING\*

Available November 1–30

\*Price increases on December 1, 2022.



# Asking new questions and building new friendships

BY PHILIP COX

When aliens appeared over Montana in the 2016 blockbuster film *Arrival*, Caroline Allen—a linguistics undergraduate at the University of Montana at the time—was thrilled. Only a linguist could save the day? Great fiction. Now graduating from UVic with an MA in linguistics, Allen could argue that the premise of the film is not so far-fetched: when the COVID-19 pandemic arrived in Victoria and threatened to fracture her community, it was she who stepped up.

“Caroline began working in the Sociolinguistics Research Lab in 2018 and very quickly emerged as a leader,” recalls lab director and Humanities Associate Dean Research Alexandra D’Arcy. “When the lab had to close during the pandemic, she actively fostered a sense of connection and belonging by organizing Zoom movie and trivia nights, which kept our team strong.” Behind the scenes, Allen confides the team helped her as well. Born and raised in Tacoma, Washington, ongoing border closures and strict quarantine rules kept her isolated from close friends and family back home, which made for hard times.

“The pandemic was challenging in many ways, but hanging out with other people who care about what you care about is just good for your soul,” Allen shares. “Being a part of this research lab was the high point of my experience at UVic. I don’t want to say ‘it helped me grow’ or ‘it expanded my mind’ or ‘it made me a better person...’ but... it did. That’s actually how I feel.”

It also helped that her team was working on a fun task. In the Kids Talk project, led by D’Arcy, the group

tracked changes in how kids (aged three to eight) talk over a five-year period, as a means to understand language change more generally.

## How language shifts

“We know language changes over time, but we also know that people generally don’t change how they talk after the age of 17, so the broadly-held assumption is that kids advance language change,” Allen explains. “That’s been assumed for a long time, but it’s never been directly observed, so that’s what this project aims to do.”

Allen’s personal research, which she conducted for her MA thesis, analyzed English language variation and change within the passive voice, from the mid-19th century to the end of the 20th—a subject perhaps more esoteric than that of the Kids Talk project, but no less exciting for her, or potentially helpful in understanding how language functions in a social context.

“So, saying ‘the ball was hit’ versus ‘the ball got hit,’ for example. My research showed that people born in 1865 said ‘got hit’ only 3% of the time, while people born in 1995 said it 60% of the time. It’s possible that in 100 years people will only say it that way, and that’s what they will think is the standard,” Allen explains. “People often criticize or make assumptions about the way other groups speak, but studies show that language variation and change are very natural, human and inevitable processes, and that these biases are mostly rooted in racism, classicism, sexism or xenophobia.”

The most commonly cited example of this in North America is white attitudes toward what is known as African-American English—a dialect

of English that has been stigmatized and politicized for centuries.

“How language is politicized and weaponized by people who use it as a tool for hoarding power is a question I didn’t even know to ask before starting my degree here,” Allen shares. “Language always changes over time and from group to group; that’s the nature of language itself. We shouldn’t need academic research to prove that different forms of human expression have value.”

## Immersing herself in communities and cultures

For her part, Allen is very much in love with people, culture, community and all the joys of being a person in a culture among a community. Her love of language, she says, was shaped in part by her time living in a small city in West Bengal, India, throughout her teens and early twenties, where she was immersed in—and captivated by—the Bengali language. It is clear, though, that her true love is music.

“I love choral singing. I’ve been singing in church choirs since I was 15. I love classical music... and opera. And folk music. I love writing songs.... And I’m learning fiddle!” Allen says with fitful enthusiasm, as if realizing her love of old 1980s and 90s lesbian newsletters in the UVic Libraries’ archives, and a non-competitive soccer team that Allen and a few others started together.

In response to the pandemic, my friends and I—like many people—were missing tangible ways of connecting,” she recalls. “And, in general,



Allen. PHOTO: PHILIP COX

that pushes her to join communities of practice or build them when one doesn’t already exist.

In addition to her work as manager of the Sociolinguistics Research Lab, manager of the Kids Talk project and music director at Abbey Church, Allen has been heavily involved in “a lot of lesbian community-building initiatives” on- and off-campus while completing her degree. This included supporting a lesbian newsletter started by a friend who found a trove of old 1980s and 90s lesbian newsletters in the UVic Libraries’ archives, and a non-competitive soccer team that Allen and a few others started together.

In response to the pandemic, my friends and I—like many people—were missing tangible ways of connecting,” she recalls. “And, in general,

that’s the case for a lot of queer people who live in isolation, so we wanted to start something that feels like ‘us.’”

Now that she’s finished her degree, Allen will move back home to Washington to spend time with her family, connect with old friends and see what premonitions of the future appear.

Despite her departure, it’s clear that Allen is just one of those people for whom there is no single point of arrival—just one long, wandering, joy-filled journey filled with new people she can’t wait to meet and new mysteries she can’t wait to uncover.

“I feel like I’ve done what I came here to do. I’m proud of my degree. I’m proud of my thesis. I pursued my passions. I gained a lot of transferable skills in quantitative research and project management. What will I do next? I just want to enjoy this moment.”

# App design course expands ways students can help others

BY ANNE TOLSON

When Emma Bradley-Island signed up for a course in computer science to meet the requirements of her psychology degree, she never imagined it would open the doors to a whole new way of helping people.

The introductory computer science course on web and mobile applications was offered fully online this summer in order to reach a broader audience, including members of the wider community and students like Bradley-Island, who don’t live in Victoria.

The popular course is aimed at non-specialists, who are tasked with developing the front-end of their very own web-based apps, using 2D and 3D design strategies and deployment technologies.

“I didn’t realize this course would potentially change my life when I registered—I figured it was just going to be something I had to just check off the box for,” says Bradley-Island, a part-time UVic student who lives in Ontario. “But the course work I did has turned into this passion project and a potential business plan. It has been very empowering.”

Bradley-Island is clearly interested in helping others. She works as a firefighter in Caledon, a community

located about 60 kilometres outside Toronto, and volunteers both as a crisis line responder and a rescue instructor.

For the app development course, Bradley-Island drew on previous volunteer experience at a palliative care facility.

“As a volunteer in palliative care, I was working with people one-on-one, writing down their life stories so that these could be shared with their loved ones,” recalls Bradley-Island. “There was a huge demand for it, but I just couldn’t meet that demand as one person. I figured an app could be a way to reach a much bigger audience and help people to create their stories themselves.”

Using the skills gained during the course, she designed a web-based app that enables people nearing the end of their lives to easily compile their life stories online and share them with others. Users are provided with a series of online prompts to answer questions and to upload media files.

## Supporting inclusion in STEM

Yvonne Coady, the computer science professor who taught the course this summer, is passionate about encouraging students from diverse disciplines to bring new ideas and



Bradley-Island

approaches to web and mobile app design. One of several faculty members who have taught the course over the years, Coady sees the hands-on course as an effective way to bring greater empathy to computer science and app development.

“My sense is that this course could really help students from many

disciplines and backgrounds to see a pathway for changing the world through technology,” says Coady. “We’re working hard to improve diversity in computer science because society needs diverse perspectives and more empathy in the design of its apps. After all these years, it’s really the missing piece.”

Coady hopes to teach the web and app development course fully online each summer for the next several years. Her goal is to try to bring the course to many people and communities that might not be regular UVic students but could really benefit from learning the skills to develop their own web-based applications.

## CONVOCATION

# Get to know the new UVic parchment

For the first time in 27 years, the University of Victoria parchments—the diplomas issued to its graduates—have a new look. Students graduating this fall will be the first class to receive the new design.

Key features:

- Territory acknowledgment is a foundational element in the new design.
- Enhanced security features make it difficult to fake or copy.
- Primary area of study provides a more detailed description of the degree earned.
- More authentic and official-looking document with heavier paper and an embossed gold seal.

More info: [uvic.ca/new-parchment](http://uvic.ca/new-parchment)



## HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS

This fall, UVic is awarding three honorary degrees that recognize notable achievements in scholarship, research, teaching, creative arts and public service.



### Renée Masching

HONORARY DOCTOR OF LAWS (LLD)  
WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 9, 2022 | 10:00 A.M.

Renée Masching is a member of Six Nations of the Grand River First Nation and Irish descent. She was adopted as an infant and grew up in a family of Eastern and Western European heritage. Her career has been dedicated to working to improve and strengthen health services for Indigenous People, particularly in the area of HIV/AIDS. For more than two decades, she has brought her skills and passion to work ranging from supporting community-based HIV/AIDS organizations to the development of government policy in the Atlantic provinces and federally. Masching is the past executive director of Healing Our Nations, and she is currently director of research with CAAN Communities, Alliances and Networks.



### Elizabeth Denham

HONORARY DOCTOR OF LAWS (LLD)  
THURSDAY NOVEMBER 9, 2022 | 2:30 P.M.

Elizabeth Denham CBE is an internationally recognized champion for data protection and government transparency. Denham worked with Alberta’s Information and Privacy Commissioner before becoming Assistant Privacy Commissioner of Canada in 2007. She was BC’s Information and Privacy Commissioner from 2010-16, then became the United Kingdom’s Information Commissioner and helped guide that country through Brexit and COVID-19. Advocating for data ethics and children’s safety online, Denham now serves as an international consultant on data and tech policy as well as on the boards of charitable organizations and national bodies.



### Nitsil’in (Chief) Joe Alphonse

HONORARY DOCTOR OF LAWS (LLD)  
THURSDAY NOVEMBER 10, 2022 | 10:00 A.M.

Nitsil’in (Chief) Joe Alphonse has been the Tribal Chair of the T’silhqot’in National Government (TNG) for 12 years and the elected chief of Tl’etinqox Government since 2009—the longest elected chief in the history of that First Nation. Prior to becoming chief, Alphonse served as the director of government and services with the T’silhqot’in National Government and was a council member for Tl’etinqox from 1989-93. These years were high-profile for both the T’silhqot’in and Alphonse, featuring a lengthy and ultimately precedent-setting court battle which led to the Supreme Court of Canada declaring Aboriginal title for the first time in Canadian history, in favour of the T’silhqot’in Nation in 2014.

**COMFORTABLE, PROFESSIONAL FINANCIAL PLANNING FOR UVIC RETIREES SINCE 1988**

Mutual Funds, stocks, bonds, and financial planning are offered through Manulife Securities Incorporated. Insurance products are offered through Solguard Financial Ltd. Please confirm with your Advisor which company you are dealing with for each of your products and services.

[mark.gouws@manulifesecurities.ca](mailto:mark.gouws@manulifesecurities.ca) | [www.solguard.com](http://www.solguard.com) | 250-385-3636

**Manulife Securities**

**J. MARK GOUWS**  
CFP, CLU, ChFC  
Senior Financial Advisor, Financial Planner,  
Manulife Securities Incorporated  
Life Insurance Advisor,  
Solguard Financial Ltd.

Manulife Securities Incorporated is a Member of the Canadian Investor Protection Fund and a Member of the Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada.  
Manulife, Manulife & Stylized M Design, Stylized M Design and Manulife Securities are trademarks of The Manufacturers Life Insurance Company and are used by it, and by its affiliates under license.

**Victoria Bead Town Designs**

- natural crystals
- semi-precious beads & stones
- custom design jewelry & beaded repairs
- largest selection of specialty beads: Miyuki Delicas & Seed Beads

1317 Broad St • 250-590-7690

**15% OFF**  
with this ad

Long-time residents and UVic grads, Dave and Tara are helping to guide local residents and new-comers on their way through the real estate market.

Whether buying or selling, they will assure smooth sailing — just ask their many clients at UVic.

**Let us help you navigate the ever-changing market.**

**Dave & Tara Lynn REALTORS®**  
250-592-4422 info@thelynnteam.ca

**THE LYNN TEAM**

ROYAL LEPAGE  
Coast Capital Realty  
INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED

**Truly Independent. Truly Local.**

As one of the few true independents left, Pepper’s has the ability to form close ties with local producers and are committed to bringing you new local products every week.

Autumn means it’s time to start bringing the entertaining indoors, visit our deli for a selection of soups and take n bake breads to warm you on autumn nights. Or stop in with our butcher for that savoury roast to get your taste buds watering.

Big store selection in an intimate setting, taste the difference local makes.

Celebrating Over 50 Years of Good Food

10% Student Discount 7 days a week

**PEPPER’S**  
100% Locally Owned • [peppers-foods.com](http://peppers-foods.com)  
250-477-6513 • 3829 Cadboro Bay Rd.  
[www.peppers-foods.com](http://www.peppers-foods.com)

Hours Mon-Fri: 8 am-9 pm, Sat: 8 am-7:30 pm, Sun: 8 am-7:30 pm  
Quality & Service Guaranteed - 100% Victoria Owned

QUALITY & SERVICE GUARANTEED  
**PEPPER'S**  
100% VICTORIA OWNED



# Broadway veteran directs *Spring Awakening*

BY JOHN THRELFALL

When mounting an acclaimed Broadway musical, it's always good to have somebody in the director's chair who knows of which they sing. Enter veteran performer Michelle Rios, whose impressive credits on and off Broadway include a number of Tony Award-nominated productions—including starring alongside reigning musical theatre king Lin Manuel Miranda in a little show called *In the Heights*.

Now a university instructor, applied theatre facilitator and director herself, Rios was invited to the Department of Theatre this year as both a sessional and the director of the main-stage production *Spring Awakening*, the coming-of-age high-school rock musical that swept the Tony, Grammy and Drama Desk awards back when it debuted in 2006.

Yet, despite its impressive rock-and-roll pedigree, *Spring Awakening*—which runs Nov. 10–26 at the Phoenix—remains a challenging show that never flinches from tackling youthfully sensitive topics like teen pregnancy, abuse, abortion, suicide, homophobia and the crushing pressure of unrealistic academic expectations.

“There are a number of moments in this show that can be triggering for

young actors,” says Rios. “We’ve had several conversations, because some scenes are rather vulnerable. I’m trying to keep this process safe—emotionally and psychologically—because I know that this piece requires a certain level of emotional connection and urgency. Therefore, safety, collaboration and open communication are key.”

In addition to these emotional pressures are the inevitable singing/dancing/acting anxieties that come with mounting a full musical. Unlike the students Rios usually works with as part of the teaching faculty at the Canadian College of Performing Arts, UVic’s theatre program doesn’t specifically focus on musical theatre—despite the fact it was the students themselves who chose to mount *Spring Awakening*.

But Rios says she’s more than up for the challenge, seeing it as an ideal fusion of her experiences both on Broadway and working with young artists. “Teaching is something I really love, even though I come from a strong performance background,” she says. “While I was performing in New York, I was also working as a teaching artist with an organization that used drama as a means of conflict resolution and drop-out prevention.”

The first step in her process was finding out why the students chose



Rios outside the Phoenix Studio Theatre. PHOTO: TORI JONES

this production. “At our first rehearsal, we had a great conversation about where they’re at, what they’re feeling and what they need to say,” she explains. “This was an important conversation. Musical theatre is a multilayered process. This isn’t an easy show to sing, act and dance multiple times a week. But now that the students are immersed in it, they’re learning a lot about the process and the demands of this kind of produc-

tion—they have learned so much material in very little time.”

While Victoria may well be just about as far from Broadway as you can get in North America—both geographically and culturally—Rios feels she’s in the right place at the right time.

“As an artist and educator, I’ve spent a lot of time on the road—directing a musical with 20 young actors is another exciting journey for me,”

she says with a quick laugh. “I’m at a point in my life where I really want to focus on passing the torch by working with young actors and helping them achieve their goals.”

“I also feel lucky to have learned from some great directors and mentors throughout my career, so I try to bring that knowledge into the work. All in all, it’s been a great opportunity and process!”

[phoenixtheatres.ca](http://phoenixtheatres.ca)

## PHILANTHROPY

# Former faculty pledge \$2 million to support research in life sciences

BY SARAH TARNOPOLSKY

Claire and Will Cupples met while completing their undergraduate degrees at UVic in the 1970s, and returned in 2003 to further their

academic careers. Now the recently retired couple is giving back to the institution by creating the Life Sciences Innovation Fund. They have pledged \$500,000 to seed an endowed fund and will add to it with a gift of \$1.5 million

in their wills.

The impetus for this gift grew out of the Cupples’ 60 years of combined professional experience as biomedical researchers in Canada and the United States. The new fund, which will pro-

vide one-time grants for researchers to initiate new life science research projects, is intended to bridge a gap they observed as scientists, grant reviewers and administrators in academia.

“We’re deeply honoured to receive this generous donation from Claire and Will Cupples,” says Peter Look, Dean of Science at UVic. “As former researchers and faculty members here at UVic, they truly understand the strengths and opportunities for our life science research. Their gift will benefit generations of both senior researchers and students, and will impact communities through greatly enhanced research capabilities and innovations.”

### Bridging a gap in current research funding

When applying for major life science funding, researchers at comprehensive universities like UVic are at a disadvantage compared to universities with a medical school. Throughout their careers, the Cupples saw that far less funding is available to researchers to generate preliminary data in comprehensive universities. Determined to bridge this gap, they came up with the idea for the endowment. The new fund will help researchers to conduct high-risk preliminary research and to acquire the equipment needed for their research. “Research is critically important to teaching science, but I know from my experience as a dean that it can be hard to repurpose money to research,” says Claire, who served as acting dean of science at UVic for 15 months, and then became dean of science at Simon Fraser University from 2010 to 2018.

“Investigators at research comprehensives don’t have access to the levels of funding available to investigators at medical schools,” adds Will. “We want to level the playing field a bit.”

The couple have chosen to support two universities in their philanthropic legacy plans (they are making a similar gift to Simon Fraser University). “It was always in our minds that we would do something for universities because we believe in them and we’ve made our careers with them,” says Claire. “We’ve

always been fond of UVic because that’s where we met. And we think it gave us an excellent education.”

### Cupples focused on life sciences during 60 year careers

Will and Claire Cupples built their careers in the life sciences—Will is an integrative physiologist and Claire a molecular biologist. Both remember specific UVic professors (John Hayward and Michael Ashwood-Smith) who kindled their passion for science research during their undergraduate degrees. Claire took on increasing leadership roles alongside her research. “One of the nice things about being a university professor is the combination of teaching, research and service. I’ve enjoyed all of them,” she says.

“The joy of being a scientist was that every day I was dealing with something I didn’t understand and I had to figure out,” says Will. “So I guess the short answer for why we’ve decided to support research is because it’s fun.” The couple decided to endow the fund to ensure it will be available in perpetuity. While the greater portion of the gift will come to UVic through their estate, they started the endowed fund with a gift this year and will add to it over the next five years.

“We have a certain amount of money available to give and we wanted to focus on something that we care deeply about and to a place where it would make a difference,” says Claire. “If we give some now it can start generating income and be useful right away.”

The Cupples hope this gift will spark interest from other academics who recognize the same needs and may be thinking about doing something similar. “This is a small start,” says Claire. “But one of the reasons we didn’t put our names on this fund is that we hope other people might contribute at some point and help us grow the amount over time.”

If you are interested in contributing to the Life Sciences Innovation Fund or setting up a named fund in science, please contact Nicole Boulet, Faculty of Science Development Officer, at [sciencedev@uvic.ca](mailto:sciencedev@uvic.ca).



## Do you have Irritable Bowel Syndrome?

A local reserach site is looking to evaluate a new investigational probiotic on IBS and psychological symptoms of participants who are:

- Age 18 – 70 years with diagnosis of IBS
- Not on antidepressants and/or anti-anxiety medications
- Not pregnant or breastfeeding
- No diagnosis of lactose or fructose intolerance, or celiac disease
- No exclusion diets (unless stable  $\geq 3$  months)

Please feel free to contact PerCuro Clinical Research at 250-382-6270 if you have any questions.



- Ghassan – ext 2480 or [ghassan@percuro.ca](mailto:ghassan@percuro.ca)
- Maddy – ext 2486 or [madelyn@percuro.ca](mailto:madelyn@percuro.ca)
- Claire – ext 2484 or [claire@percuro.ca](mailto:claire@percuro.ca)