International Initiatives in Education

In partnership with the Office of International Affairs, the Faculty of Education hosted two visits by Chinese scholars this past spring. On April 17th, UVic faculty and staff from the East China Normal University (ECNU) in Shanghai, came to campus; and on May 7th, visitors from ECNU were joined by colleagues from Chongqing Normal University, Chongqing; Central China Normal University, Wuhan; and Nanjing Normal University, Nanjing.

These visits were in response to President David Turpin’s trip to Shanghai last October to help celebrate ECNU’s 50th anniversary and to mark the 30-year relationship between ECNU and the University of Victoria. We, in the Faculty of Education, are very excited about funding initiatives announced by President Turpin at that time that will foster scholarly exchange between our universities. We are particularly pleased that our faculty will be the first at UVic to host a visiting scholar from ECNU. This will no doubt strengthen our research collaborations and open up a new chapter in our relationship—a relationship we hope will grow even stronger over time.

Making a Difference in Education

Whether they become teachers, athletic coaches, counsellors, kinesiologists, health and recreation specialists, or follow another path, Education students will make our world better—and you can help.

For information on making a financial gift to the Faculty of Education, contact Irene Fenemar in the UVic Development Office, 250-721-6007 or irenef@uvic.ca or call toll free at 1-877-721-7624.

The Faculty of Education
University of Victoria
P.O. Box 3010 STN CSC
Victoria, BC V8W 3N4
www.educ.uvic.ca
tel: 250-721-7157
tax: 250-822-1603

Events

Funding Alumni event: Dean Ted Reckien, Associate Dean Administration Jillian Roberts, and Associate Dean Teacher Education Alison Preece met with UVic Education alumni and friends at the Vancouver Island Conference Centre in Nanaimo on August 31, 2011. The event theme was “Learning in the 21st Century.”

Legacy Awards: Dean Reckien hosted the Education tables at the 2011 Legacy Awards held at the Victoria Convention Centre on November 22, 2011. Drs. Norma Mickelson and Alison Preece, pictured above, were among the guests.

Calgary Alumni event: Jillian Roberts and Corey alumnos at the Fairmont Palliser on January 26th. Among the attended were Darren E. Lund, MA ’06, Kendra M. Bissett, MA ’04, Adrianne Britten, BEd ’98, Jack Blasowski, BEd ’77, Lisa Marmion, BEd ’98, Sheryl Cains, MA ’99 and Alaina Tuba, BEd ’98.

Alumni Week: The Faculty of Education welcomed more than 150 alumni and friends to its annual Alumni Week celebration on February 16th. The event featured retired EPHE professor and well-known motivational speaker Dr. Martin Collins and live music from the popular “Bald Eagles” ensemble.

ConnectED

DEAN’S WELCOME

Welcome to the 2012 ConnectED. It is always a challenge trying to decide what to include in this yearly newsletter to you, our alumni and friends. We know that you want to hear about those of you who are making a difference in our world, but with such a vast and talented group to consider, narrowing it down is difficult. We have tried to include a range of stories here, and I hope you will enjoy our selections.

It is an exciting time on campus, as UVic approaches its 50th Anniversary. The Faculty of Education will be participating in the Homecoming Festival the final weekend of September. Mackinnon Building will be open to the public on Saturday, September 29, between 11:00 am and 4:00 pm—see page 3 for more details.

We also report in this issue on the 2012 Distinguished Alumni Awards (Education recipient Simon Bell and I are pictured here), the Faculty’s first annual Convocation Reception, award-winning Education Vikes, and more. Enjoy ConnectED—and come and visit us in September!

Ted Reckien, EdD
Dean of Education
This year, the Faculty of Education proudly named Simon Ibell as its UVic Distinguished Alumni Award recipient. Simon was one of twelve outstanding individuals representing all of UVic's faculties and disciplines who were honored during the Distinguished Alumni Awards Night on February 8th.

Simon is an alumnus of the Health & Recreation Administration Program in the School of Exercise Science, Physical and Health Education. He is one of 30 people living with MPS (metachromatic leukodystrophy), a metabolic disorder caused by the inability of crucial enzymes to break down the sugar carbohydrate chains in human cells that help build bone, cartilage, tendons, corneas, skin and connective tissue. Over time, the result is permanent, progressive cellular damage affecting appearance, physical abilities, organ and system functioning, and, in most cases, cognitive development. As founder and CEO of the iBelieve Foundation, Simon spreads awareness of MPS and generates support to ensure the underlying research efforts are not only sustained, but aggressive and comprehensive.

“Simon is a remarkable person who is caring and compassionate, lives his values, takes care of others, and finds ways to deal with very challenging situations on a daily basis, always commenting on how fortunate he is to have wonderful friends and family helping him along his way. He is most deserving of this award.” - Lara Lauzon, Simon Ibell's partner

Gala Research Connections
In early March the Faculty of Education hosted Gala: Research Connections to coincide with the University of Victoria’s 50th Anniversary celebrations. Macaulay Building (MAB) will be open to the public on Saturday, September 28, between 11:00 am and 4:00 pm. Please drop by and visit one of the following sites. Faculty and students will be on-hand to welcome you and provide information.

- **Gala: Research Connections**
  - **Exhibit: Hub Science, Physical and Health Education**
  - **Exhibit: Portraits in Motion**
  - **Exhibit: Dance and Science**
  - **Exhibit: Technology Integration and Evaluation (TIE) Research Lab**
  - **Exhibit: Rehabilitation Neuroscience Laboratory**
  - **Exhibit: Center for Outreach Education (CORE)**
  - **Exhibit: Sports Science and Engineering Lab**
  - **Exhibit: BMED Lab**
  - **Exhibit: TIE Research Lab**

Homecoming Festival Weekend
**September 28 – 29, 2012**

The Faculty of Education will be participating in the Homecoming Festival this weekend as part of the university’s 50th Anniversary celebrations. Macaulay Building (MAB) will be open to the public on Saturday, September 28, between 11:00 am and 4:00 pm. Please drop by and visit one of the following sites. Faculty and students will be on-hand to welcome you and provide information.

- **Center for Outreach Education (CORE)**
  - CORE is dedicated to enhancing educational outcomes for children and youth—particularly those who are at risk. Its flagship program is CORE Club, which offers afterschool tutoring to local elementary school children. All CORE’s services are offered free of charge to the community. Last year, its programs helped more than 100 children. MAC A343
- **Technology Integration and Evaluation (TIE) Research Lab**
  - The TIE Research Lab features state-of-the-art technology facilitating research on a range of topics that vary from the integration and evaluation of Information and Communication Technologies in education, to computer-based learning environments that support self-regulated learning. MAC A207
- **Behavioural Medicine (BMBED) Lab**
  - The BMBED lab produces and disseminates innovative population-relevant physical activity and health-related research in an environment that fosters collaboration, community, pride, and life balance. Research study results are published in leading academic journals, presented at international conferences, and featured through media such as newspapers, websites and television. MAC D011/013
- **Rehabilitation Neuroscience Laboratory**
  - The laboratory’s main focus is the study of neural control of rhythmic movement in humans, with an emphasis on the role our reflexes play in functional coordination of the limbs. Studies of upper-, lower- and inter-limb responses are designed to answer basic research questions and lead into applied studies with a variety of rehabilitative applications, e.g., stroke and spinal cord injury. MAC D007

For more information about UVic’s 50th Anniversary celebration visit www.unvic.ca/anniversary

Indigenous Education Summer Institute
**June 2012**

Sincere thanks to the Vancouver International Airport Authority for its generous contribution to this year’s Indigenous Education and Community Initiatives Institute. The Institute is a cluster of four IEI courses focusing on Indigenous knowledge, epidemiology, pedagogy and education that is offered to Secondary School or Degree Education students. Courses take place on campus and in local Indigenous communities and give pre-service teachers an opportunity to learn about Indigenous knowledge while making valuable connections to local Indigenous communities.

This will be the Institute’s third year 2011 and 2012 courses featured carriers a traditional Coast Salish canoes and accompanying paddlers with an Indigenous masters classes, as well as lectures in canoe paddling and paddling protocol. Said one participant about her experience: “This course has opened me to the possibility of culture and education connecting; it has inspired me to incorporate cross-cultural experiences into my future teaching career.” The relevance of tradition has made me aware of the vistas available to me as a teacher, and I am motivated to expand my learning of First Peoples’ heritage and values.”

Wendy Gedney | Giving Back

Wendy Gedney is enthusiastically supporting the next generation of elementary classroom teachers through the Wendy M. Gedney Bursary in Elementary Education, which she established this past December. The award will help final-year students in the elementary teaching program, with preference given to mature students and those who are single parents. Those terms speak to Wendy’s compassion and her own struggle to complete her degree part-time while raising a young family.

Wendy taught elementary school in the Victoria area for a number of years and instructed UVic student teachers, both locally and throughout the province, part-time while raising her family and taking courses towards her Bachelor of Education degree, which she completed in 1983. She retired from full-time teaching in 2004. Says Wendy on why she established the bursary: “I wanted to create this bursary, rather than leave it to a future benefactor, so I could meet the winning recipients — our next generation of teachers — in person, and hear their stories, and encourage them where needed.”

Wendy was the Faculty of Education’s Distinguished Alumni Award recipient in 2006 and remains an active alumna. She currently heads up the Faculty of Education’s Alumni Chapter.

Celebrating Education Vikes

The Faculty of Education is incredibly proud of its own Lynne Breecoff (BA, EQ, BEd, ’94), who was inducted into the UVic Sports Hall of Fame at the annual Celebration of Champions awards night on April 4. Lynne is UVic’s current women’s field hockey head coach. She was an outstanding Vikes field hockey player in the early eighties and represented Canada in the 1984 L.A. Summer Olympics. Says Lynne: “It is an honour to be inducted into the UVic Hall of Fame as an athlete especially when there have been so many great athletes who have played at UVic and then gone on to have tremendous success on the world stage.”

Congratulations also to Vikes basketball star and fifth-year Education student Ryan Mackinnon, who was named UVic’s male athlete for the 2011-12 season on the April 4 Celebration of Champions gala. Ryan was also named B.C. university male athlete of the year at the 2012 B.C. Basketball Hall of Fame and Awards dinner in Langley on April 21.