Two recent announcements create new opportunities for Nurse Practitioners (NPs) to play a more advanced role to help relieve pressures facing our province-wide care system.

UVic was home to the first announcement on April 4th when Judy Darcy, minister of Mental Health and Addictions, announced a new approach to save and improve lives. In step with the College of Registered Nurses of B.C. expanded opioid treatment guidelines, NPs can now administer prescribed medication to support the treatment of opioid addiction. The continuing education required of NPs to prescribe opioid substitution treatment is provided through the B.C. Centre on Substance Use's no-cost Provincial Opioid Addiction Treatment Support Program. Of B.C.'s approximate 450 NPs, more than 60 have completed or are now in training.

UBC was home to the second announcement on May 24th when Adrian Dix, minister of Health, announced the Province is creating 200 new NP positions to support patients as part of a shift to a team-based primary health-care system.

Dix said, “NPs are a viable, patient-centred solution to improving access, but we know that compared to other jurisdictions, B.C. has not made the best use of NPs. With the steps we are taking to fully leverage and integrate NPs into the province’s primary care system, this is about to change.”

The positions are being supported by approximately $115 million over three years to secure NPs’ employment in primary care settings throughout British Columbia. Government is also increasing the number of NP education seats by 66%. Read more at news.gov.bc.ca/releases.

PROVINCE EXPANDS VITAL ROLE OF NURSE PRACTITIONERS

Nurse practitioners are health practitioners who can work on their own, or with physicians and other health professionals, to provide care across a person’s life span. This includes diagnosing and treating illnesses, ordering and interpreting tests, prescribing medications and performing medical procedures. There are 426 practicing NPs in B.C. The new positions will make a total of 626 NPs working in communities throughout the province.

UVic’s Master of Nursing—Nurse Practitioner option—prepares family nurse practitioners with the knowledge, skills, and expertise to provide assessment, diagnosis and treatment of common illnesses and conditions to people of all ages.
DEAN’S MESSAGE

Of all the teachings we receive, this one is the most important: Nothing belongs to you of what there is; of what you take, you must share. Chief Dan George, My Heart Soars, 1989, p. 24, Hancock House Publishers.

Sooner or later, most people who give their time, money or other resources to any cause understand the teaching that Chief Dan George of Tsleil-Waututh First Nation, as well as other Coast Salish Peoples, understood all along: Giving is sharing what really best belongs with someone or something else anyway.

This teaching comes alive when you read about PEPAḴIYE Ashley Cooper, a 2017 graduate of the UVic’s Indigenous Language Revitalization diploma program. Ashely teaches young children in the W̱ELṈEW̱ Tribal School’s PEPAḴEṈ HÁUTW̱ nursery program about the SENĆOŦEN names and healing properties of the native plants within the WSÁNEĆ territory [see http://uwgv.ca/finding-her-roots/]. She eloquently describes the power of sharing when she acknowledges United Way’s support for their school with these words: “I’m the first of two generations to speak my language again, and a word I like to teach the children is “JIJEȽ SEN” (I am grateful).

And, if you have ever received teachings from Victor Underwood, May and Skip Sam, Dr. Skip Dick, Ron George, or other Old Ones who share their wisdom with us, you have experienced the deep power of sharing wisdom over time.

I am grateful to everyone who shares their gifts. I raise my hands to them and to all the people, families, communities and organizations, including our colleagues, students, alumni and donors, who steward wisely what comes to them and share wisely wherever they can. Whether it is discoveries, mentoring, partnerships, kindness, listening, teaching, marching, money, or other ways that you shared over this past school year—you made a difference.

Because of what we share, much good work has been done and more will follow. Like Ashley, we have much reason to say to each other: “I am grateful.”

Tricia Marck, Dean
Faculty of Human and Social Development

Family nurse practitioners will be prepared to demonstrate the advanced nursing competencies of clinical practice, leadership, research, consultation and collaboration, and health promotion. They are part of the front-line team providing primary health care in a safe, ethical and compassionate way.

Family nurse practitioner graduates study advanced nursing theory and engage in practice experiences to prepare them to write exams for registration as an NP with the College of Registered Nurses of British Columbia.

“NPs—and all nurses—have a breadth of knowledge and skill rooted in a distinct nursing perspective,” said Dr. Susan Duncan, school director. “With these announcements, NPs can enable a team-based care system and learn even more about the health needs and challenges people face across BC.” Read more at uvic.ca/hsd/nursing.

HUSBAND FATHER DRUG USER CO-WORKER

Learn more about government’s plan to #StopOverdose

ISLAND-WIDE DISCUSSION GROUPS FORMED

Topic: improving support for children and youth with cerebral palsy and other medical conditions.

The Children’s Health Foundation of Vancouver Island is now hosting discussion groups similar to our Ideafest event across Vancouver Island to explore how the foundation and the communities can play a supportive role in the lives of children and youth living with cerebral palsy and other medical conditions.

“We learned so much from the UVic discussion,” says Bronwyn Dunbar, the foundation’s Community Investment Manager, “it helped inform us on the approach we’re now taking with this discussion series.” In fact, Ideafest panelist and UVic student, Melissa Lyon, is now serving on the foundation’s advisory committee for these discussion groups.

Nanaimo: June 18 from 4 – 7 p.m. – Nanaimo Child Development Centre
Comox: July 11 from 4 – 7 p.m. – North Island College
Victoria: July 18 from 4 – 7 p.m.
    July 19 from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
    August 13 from 4 – 7 p.m.
check www.islandkidsfirst.com for locations.

This is a free event open to youth, parents, guardians, caretakers, and service providers with experience in attending to the needs of children and youth living with cerebral palsy on Vancouver Island. For more info and to RSVP, contact Karen Lai at 604-889-7961 or email her at karren.lai@telus.net.

Learn more about government’s plan to #StopOverdose

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School of Public Health and Social Policy

RESEARCH-BASED EVENT INSPIRES SECOND FORUM

“We need to keep this conversation going,” said Sandra Richardson, CEO of the Victoria Foundation, summing up the general consensus of all involved in HSD’s community forum and panel discussion on People in Victoria Living with Disabilities held during Ideafest 2018. Veronica Carroll, CEO of the Children’s Health Foundation of Vancouver Island said, “Thank you for the opportunity to participate and share our perspective. I learned a great deal.” Carroll added she would be excited to host further town hall opportunities.

The event came out of research supported by the Victoria Foundation and Mitacs Canada focussed on supports for, and the needs of, the disability community in the Greater Victoria Region.

In fact, findings from the first-ever Greater Victoria Disability Survey and Report—developed by faculty and student researchers with the School of Public Health and Social Policy—addressed matters relating to health, education, employment, accommodation, equity and inclusion, social policies, programs, services, and assistive technologies.

Researchers talked about what the study showed, revealing how Victoria residents with different visible and invisible disabilities navigate everyday life, what difficulties they encounter, and the supports that exist. An estimated 1 in 7 Canadians lives with a physical or mental condition that limits their movements, senses, and/or activities.

More than 100 members of the community came to the 90-minute event.

“It was clear that a much longer time slot should have been allocated to the event,” said Nigel Livingston. “We will certainly organize some follow-up discussions.”

Livingston noted he was extremely moved by the passion and knowledge shared by all, audience included. “We were united in the quest to provide more opportunities for persons with disabilities or exceptionalities to fully participate in society and to remove the barriers to such participation.” It was agreed some progress has been made, said Livingston, “yet there is much to do.”

Such as simply quantifying the numbers of persons with disabilities living in our community. “There is a shocking paucity of data,” said Livingston, noting that research shared at the event was the first attempt to survey people with disabilities in Victoria.

“Identifying needs and developing policy recommendations is the only way to bring about meaningful changes,” he said, “and that’s what’s required to make our society truly inclusive.”

MEMBERS OF THE SESSION PANEL

Sandra Richardson
CEO, The Victoria Foundation

Veronica Carroll
CEO, Children’s Health Foundation of Vancouver Island

Sandra Marquis
Ph.D. candidate, and a person living with a disability

Melissa Lyon
Student, Elementary Education Program

Dr. Michael Prince
Lansdowne Professor of Social Policy

Michael Hayes
Director, School of Public Health and Social Policy

Nigel Livingston
Professor and Researcher, School of Public Health and Social Policy
Public consultation and a ‘re-imagining’ of community inclusion to come in the months ahead.

Dr. Michael Prince, UVic’s Lansdowne Professor of Social Policy, has been appointed chair of Community Living British Columbia (CLBC) by Shane Simpson, BC Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction.

“He brings a wealth of knowledge, decades of experience, and a commitment to improving policies for people with disabilities,” Simpson said.

Dr. Prince joined the University of Victoria in 1987, and served as associate dean, then as dean, of the Faculty of Human and Social Development from 1997 to 2005. He also served as a member of the Social Policy Committee of the Council of Canadians with Disabilities and is a recipient of the President’s Award from the Canadian Association of Community Living.

“I am excited and honoured to have been asked by Shane Simpson, Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, to become the new Board Chair for CLBC,” said Dr. Prince, who will continue in his role with our Faculty of Human and Social Development and with the Faculty of Social Sciences. “This important provincial Crown corporation provides essential supports and services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. Over the coming months, we will be participating in a broad public consultation and focused visioning exercise to re-imagine community inclusion in BC.”

Prince begins his three-year term as board chair on July 1st and follows Tom Christensen.

The board of directors oversees CLBC’s operations within the overall policy, mandate and budget set by the provincial government.

**FRAMEWORK FOR MEDICALLY-ASSISTED DEATH “INADEQUATE” SAYS POLICY EXPERT**

Michael Prince, Lansdowne Professor of Social Policy is an advisor to the Vulnerable Persons Standard and was invited to write a guest blog for their series titled Monitoring Matters. His blog, posted on April 26, 2018, is titled The proposed regulations for monitoring medical assistance in dying: Minimal red tape, yet multiple red flags. Here is an excerpt—

“A fundamental problem with the draft monitoring of medical assistance in dying regulations, published in December 2017, is not that they are an unduly burdensome set of rules and standards and compliance mechanisms.

Quite the contrary, in fact.

The regulatory framework is incomplete and inadequate to managing the significant risks likely involved. The issue here is certainly not excessive red tape. On a number of critical issues and policy objectives, the draft regulations lack sufficient safeguards to monitor and enforce the provision of medical assistance in dying across Canada.”

The Vulnerable Persons Standard is the first of its to provide evidence-based safeguards to ensure Canadians requesting assistance from physicians to end their life can do so without jeopardizing the lives of vulnerable. Learn more and read Prince’s complete essay at http://www.vps-npv.ca/blog/.

The Vulnerable Persons Standard was created to support the development of Canada’s response to the Carter decision, and assist policy-makers now working to regulate the practice of medical assistance in dying.

The Standard incorporates five evidence-based safeguards intended to protect the lives of Canadians. These safeguards help to ensure that Canadians requesting assistance from physicians to end their life can do so without jeopardizing the lives of vulnerable persons who may be subject to coercion, inducement to suicide and abuse.

Read more at www.vps-npv.ca
School of Public Administration

WHAT I HOPE TO GAIN FROM MY STUDIES

An open letter from Maxine Joseph Bruce of the Lil’wat Nation.

Maxine is the Fisheries Manager for Lil’wat Nation Lands and Resources, as well as an elected leader in her community. She is currently enrolled in the online diploma program of Indigenous Community Development and Governance. Here is her response to a question posed by school director Astrid Brouselle to all students in the program — What do you hope to gain from your studies?

Ama sqit Nsneknuqwa7— (Good day, my friends and relatives)

My parents were very politically involved. They served their community in many aspects. My mother served on the school board and coordinated a cultural dance group. My father was an elected official for well over 30 years.

I have learned much from my parents as they served and helped our community. I strive to do the same. I am currently an elected official in my community, serving my fifth term. My focus is around economic development and I tend to many other community needs. In addition, I am on my eighth year as the President and Chairperson of the Lil’wat Business Corporations. I enjoy working for my people, working for positive change.

I feel that my studies at the School of Public Administration will indeed make a positive impact to my personal and work life and will benefit my community substantially as we move forward with our Inherent Right to self-government.

INCREASE IN POST-SECONDARY ENROLMENT “A VICTORY” FOR YOUTH OUT OF FOSTER CARE

The number of youth who have aged out of government care are pursuing post-secondary education at B.C. colleges and universities like never before. Statistics show enrolment jumped 20 per cent after the NDP government waived tuition fees last fall 2017.

Lindsay Kines with the Victoria Times Colonist reported, “A total of 229 ex-foster kids received tuition waivers from September to December 2017 compared with 189 for the entire 2016-17 school year, the government said.”

The Province has invested $443,000 on the program so far to cover tuition and fees at 17 post-secondary schools, including UVic.

“When we created the policy, they said: ‘What’s going to be the measure of success? What’s success going to look like?’ And I said: ‘One. If one more student goes to post-secondary, that’s a victory,’” says Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education.
CAN THE IMPACT OF DEMENTIA BE REDUCED THROUGH SINGING AND SOCIALIZING?

Debra Sheets, Associate Professor with the School of Nursing, is asking this very question.

Debra Sheets (School of Nursing) and Stuart MacDonald (Department of Psychology) are the Principal Investigators of a research study examining the impact of an intergenerational choir on persons with early or moderate dementia and their caregivers. Students from St. Andrews High School provide friendly support as they sing and learn about aging and dementia. About 50 people comprise the Voices in Motion choir which meets once a week at Saint Joseph the Worker Parish in Saanich.

The interdisciplinary research team is studying the impact of the choir on a range of health outcomes including social connections, quality of life, wellbeing, and cognition. The research team also includes Drs. André Smith (Department of Sociology), Mary Kennedy (School of Music), and Carl Asche (a health outcomes researcher).

“By singing and getting to know one another, we hope the choir provides a safe and supportive community that is meaningful, fun, and shows that learning and rewarding interaction can occur despite the challenges of dementia,” said Sheets. “There are few dementia-friendly activities in our communities. People with dementia and their caregivers often become socially isolated which negatively impacts their health and quality of life,” she added.

Singing has been shown to improve mood, increase energy, reduce stress and support self-esteem. Led by professional musical director Erica Phare-Bergh, the choir rehearsed over a 14-week period and held a public performance on May 2nd at St. Aidan’s United Church.

All participants (persons living with dementia and their caregivers) undergo an assessment process that can take up to 90 minutes. They are also expected to complete ongoing neuropsychological assessments, with a minimum of six more tests next year, to help determine the benefits of choir and social interaction on cognitive health and psychological wellbeing. Two choirs will be launched in Fall 2018 and membership is open to people living with dementia and their caregivers who are willing to contribute to this important research study.

The project is titled “Voices in Motion: An Intergenerational Community Choir for Persons with Dementia and their Caregivers.” Anyone interested in taking part or learning more can contact Debra Sheets at 250-721-3947 or dsheets@uvic.ca.

SUPPORTS FOR UVIC STUDENTS WHO HAVE LIVED IN CARE

UVic is dedicated to supporting the success of BC youth who have lived in government care. Before, during and after their time at UVic, we would like to connect students with educational, financial and cultural resources on campus, around BC, and across Canada. Information intended to help students with their post-secondary journey is available on the UVic website > Office of the Registrar. Details are listed under the tab marked Awards and Financial Aid. Here is the link: https://www.uvic.ca/registrar/safa/youth-in-care/index.php.

Questions?
Email Debra McIldoon, UVic Financial Aid Officer, at debram@uvic.ca.
School of Nursing

GENEROUS FAMILY SPIRIT BEHIND NEW SCHOLARSHIP FUND FOR NURSING UNDERGRADS

Faculty, staff and students extend profound gratitude to Terry and Leslie Farmer for establishing a $25,000 scholarship endowment for academically outstanding undergraduate students attending UVic’s School of Nursing.

Leslie Farmer enjoyed an impressive career in nursing and health care. She started her nurse training at UVic and went on to earn a degree in Nursing Administration from the University of Western Ontario. She returned to Victoria and became Head Nurse of Pediatrics at the Royal Jubilee Hospital. She later served as Board Chair with the Queen Alexandra Hospital for Children.

The Farmer family, including son Devlin and daughter Mandy, have a longstanding interest in community wellbeing. They support those in need and continue to give back while building a thriving family business and encouraging civic pride across their extensive relationships particularly among staff.

Born and raised in Victoria, as were his parents, Terry earned a commerce degree at UBC, which he put to good use with the Victoria Chamber of Commerce. By 1972, after ten years in various roles, he became their youngest President to serve since the Chamber’s inception in 1863.

The Farmers are perhaps best known as successful business leaders who created Accent Inns Inc., an award-winning B.C. hotel chain with properties—including two retro-themed Hotel Zeds—in Vancouver, Richmond, Kelowna, Kamloops, as well as Victoria.

Accent Inns was named one of the top five businesses to work for in 2011 by BC Business magazine, with daughter Mandy serving as President and CEO since 2008. Under her leadership, Accent Inns and Zed Hotels were named Hotelier of the Year by Hotelier magazine in 2016, and Mandy was named one of Canada’s top female entrepreneurs in 2010 by PROFIT magazine. Son, Devlin Farmer, is a lawyer who specializes in family law and mediation with a practice here in Victoria and in Boston, Mass.

The Farmers and their staff have joined together repeatedly to volunteer, raise funds, and enable youth through outdoor activities and community involvement across BC. Thank you, Terry and Leslie Farmer. Your generous spirit inspires us all.

ANDRÉE LACASSE AWARDED HSD EXEMPLARY ALUM AWARD FOR 2018

Well known for her passion and commitment in supporting children, youth and families—locally, nationally and internationally—Andree Lacasse was celebrated during UVic’s annual Alumni Week as HSD’s Exemplary Alumni for 2018.

Lacasse is co-founder of the Isa Mundo Foundation and works as Manager of Policy in the Lands and Economics Development Sector of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada. She is also mother to an Inuk son.

In addition to her Bachelor of Child and Youth Care degree (BCYC – class of 2014) she holds two Schiller International University degrees: a BA in International Relations and Diplomacy, and an MA in Business Communication.

She credits her BCYC degree with providing her with the “knowledge and skills to make sense of concrete and tangible issues facing Indigenous communities.” She explains how the degree shaped her thinking about child and youth development and notes that the CYC field is “relevant in influencing how our society progresses.”

Lacasse also serves the Ottawa Inuit Children Centre board and remembers being amazed to see Inuit children dressed in their traditional wear, throat singing and drumming with their cultural teacher. “This Center is so vibrant and makes such a difference in the lives of Urban Inuit children in Ottawa. I am not Inuk myself, but the OICC is providing my son with the sense of belonging that he needs to grow up to be a strong and proud Inuk.”
School of Child and Youth Care

A PROMISING START FOR CHILD CARE IN THE NEW CENTURY

Over three years, an investment of more than $1 billion will set the Province on the path to a universal child care plan that will make child care affordable for parents and caregivers, create more than 22,000 child care spaces across the province, and ensure those spaces meet rigorous quality and safety standards.


The commitment to children’s early learning and care announced in February’s provincial budget has sparked some cautiously optimistic excitement among my colleagues and I about the possibilities for children, families and communities in B.C.

While there is a significant amount of work to be done to meet the long-term goal of a universal child care system that is “affordable, accessible” and of “high quality,” the B.C. Government’s proposed investments are a promising start.

It is almost 20 years since I worked Monday to Friday ‘on the floor’ in early learning and care. From that experience and from my work as a pedagogical facilitator and researcher with UVic Child Care Services and the School of Child of Youth Care, and beyond, I know how vital such a system is to the wellbeing of children and families.

Importantly, I recognize that utilizing 19th and 20th century ideas and practices is not sufficient for building a system for 21st-century realities. The federal government’s support for a Multilateral Early Learning and Child Care Framework between Canada’s federal, provincial and territorial governments notes that “early learning and child care systems are operating in increasingly complex and challenging environments” and that “innovative practices can help develop solutions that better meet the complex needs of children and families, and can support more integrated and higher-quality early learning and child care systems.”

This will not happen without supporting the conditions that make such work possible, including the education and ongoing support of the early childhood educators who are the foundational backbone of this system.

I am particularly relieved to see that the B.C. budget included the development of a provincial, unified network to facilitate ongoing support of early childhood educators within their local communities, which my colleagues and I have been granted the opportunity to implement over the next four years.

I look forward to being part of building the Early Childhood Pedagogy Network, and know that UVic Child Care Services will serve as a model of what early learning and care can be. I am hopeful these provincial and federal investments will create a unified system where all children and families will have access to such early learning and care environments.

Written by B. Denise Hodgins, Pedagogist and Researcher with UVic Child Care Services, and Adjunct Assistant Professor with the School of Child and Youth Care.

BC GOVERNMENT CHANGES

Dec. 2017—UVic Child Care Services received a $500,000 grant from the province towards expansion and revitalization of its child-care facilities. Funds will go toward renovations to create 32 new spaces for pre-school aged children of UVic students, faculty and staff.

BC BUDGET ANNOUNCEMENT

Feb. 2018—A new child care benefit was introduced to reduce child care costs by up to $1,250 per month per child, plus up to $350 per month to licenced child care providers to reduce fees. Both actions are to become effective in 2020/21.

For more details, go to www.bcbudget.ca
The Sisters of St. Ann arrived in B.C. on June 5, 1858. Their 160th anniversary reception was held on June 2, 2018, at the Royal BC Museum to celebrate their historic contributions to the lives and education of all those they have helped and educated in Victoria and beyond.

The University of Victoria and the Faculty of Human and Social Development honours the Sisters’ vital past, ongoing work and supports the Sisters of St Ann as they carry on their unique legacy in many different ways.

In particular, the Sisters of St. Ann gave a gift of $2-million to UVic to create the Sisters of St Ann University Support Award endowment which provides financial assistance to students who have lived in government care. This gift continues the order’s legacy of enabling education to young people most in need.

The Sisters of St Ann University Support Award builds on a $217,000 pilot program where donors contributed to the award and to the associated Mischa Weisz Cost of Living Bursary.

“We reflected on the needs of young people previously in care and thought, this is exactly the kind of void our predecessors would have responded to,” says Sister Marie. “Their amazing story and spirit, has continued to compel us to help provide education for all, especially those whose life circumstances might make it unattainable. This gift represents our trust in the University of Victoria to carry on this vital aspect of our mission”.

The source of this legacy, founder Blessed Marie Anne Blondin, was illiterate until her early twenties. Her resolution to make education accessible to all brought four members of the religious order from Quebec to Victoria in 1858 (a two-month journey by rail and sea via Panama) to establish the first school outside of the Hudson’s Bay Fort Victoria.

You can visit the Archives of the Sisters of St Ann at the Royal BC Museum in person or online at https://royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/bc-archives/info/sisters-st-ann-archives.

Sister Marie Zarowny stands in front of St. Ann Schoolhouse where the sisters founded their first school in Victoria in 1858. The sisters lived and taught children in the small cabin, now located on the grounds of Royal B.C. Museum. Visitors welcome. Photo by Darren Stone, Times Colonist.

Sister Marie on June 4, 2018, welcoming guests to the 160th anniversary event held at the Royal BC Museum. Photo by Lynn Milnes UVic – HSD.
ALUM AT ISLAND HEALTH SHOWCASE HEALTH INFORMATICS FOR CURRENT STUDENTS

The real world of health informatics can seem like an elusive dream for students immersed in four years of study with the Bachelor of Science program at our School of Health Information Science (HINF). Just ask Jane Ho, Julia Pearson, and Lauren Zeleschuk, three alum who wanted to give back to their alma mater by showcasing their work with Island Health.

The trio developed the Workshop for Emerging Health Informatics Professionals, a day-long event held Jan. 26, to show 37 HINF students how their studies translate into the real world of health informatics at Royal Jubilee Hospital campus. The workshop facilitators included 16 Island Health professionals, of which six are also HINF alum.

“We are so grateful to our Island Health colleagues and the UVic students for making this event a reality,” said Jane Ho, a manager with the Office of the Chief Medical Information Officer led by Dr. Mary-Lyn Fyfe.

Dr. Fyfe opened the workshop with a warm welcome to all noting how opportunities continue to grow in health informatics. “We look forward to future collaborations with UVic and the informatics community.”

The morning session involved a re-enactment of a day in the life of a patient where students could experience health technology in action. A student played the role of the patient, while nurses and a physician acted as the care team.

“My classmates and I really benefited from watching real clinicians interact with the health information system. We learned a great deal about their practice,” said Zeleschuk, a co-op HINF student working as an analyst with the Office of the CMIO.

The afternoon included mini-sessions with subject matter experts who initiated conversations with students about career paths and specializations in health informatics. Highlights included project management, system architecture and design, and clinical informatics.

Students expressed increased confidence with their future career choices and commented positively on the exposure to informatics specializations. Feedback showed 100% of participants would, given the chance, attend the event again.

There was a certain degree of excitement around the learning, said Dave Hutchinson, co-op and career advisor for the HINF program. “We watched back-end health informatics professionals interacting with front-end clinicians who use the electronic health record on a daily basis,” said Hutchinson. “It was fascinating to see these interactions and the technological complexities that form the basis of our modern health care system.”

What employers look for in health informatics professionals

- Critical thinking and analysis skills.
- Strong communication skills and the ability to listen effectively.
- Translators—those who can build bridges between clinical and technical teams.
- A continuous learning mindset, being open to change as informatics evolves steadily.

Where health informatics rank among the caring professions

When compared to other leading occupations within Canada’s health sector, health informatics ranks fourth in numbers employed which is growing as professionals remain in high demand.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Profession</th>
<th>Number (as of 2019)</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Nurses</td>
<td>298,743*</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Physicians</td>
<td>82,198 *</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Social Workers</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>(source: Canadian Institute of Social Work Assoc)</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Health informatics</td>
<td>48,465*</td>
<td>(39,900 working, 8,565 more needed)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Pharmacists</td>
<td>41,000*</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Physiotherapists</td>
<td>17,653 *</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Occupational therapists</td>
<td>13,000*</td>
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* source: Canadian Institute of Health Information
School of Child and Youth Care

CANET FOUNDATION SUPPORTS CHILD AND YOUTH CARE STUDENTS

A new endowed graduate student award was established by the Canet Foundation and a ten-year funding strategy was created to support the Forest and Nature Therapy and Indigenous Land-Based Learning program offered through the School of Child and Youth Care and taught by associate professor Nevin Harper. A portion of funds also made a workshop possible for girls aged 10-12 from the Penelakut Tribe's girls leadership group. They attended the event at UVic's First Peoples House, led by associate professor Sandrina de Finney. The foundation also pledged $300,000 over 10 years for graduate scholarships in the school.

The Canet Foundation promotes and advances education and awards scholarships to graduate and undergraduate students in the fields of arts, literature and social welfare.

FACULTY RETREAT AT SPIRIT BEAR FARM

The family behind the Canet Foundation has offered their Spirit Bear Farm property in East Sooke for learning sessions and retreats to students, faculty and staff with the School of Child and Youth Care.

Here is a photo of faculty and staff, along with representatives from the foundation, at a recent retreat where they discussed their responsibilities in enacting a de-colonizing praxis to their teaching and research.

Back row l to r: Jacob Moreno, Canet Foundation; Nevin Harper, Associate Professor; Alison Gerlach, Assistant Professor; Caitlin Torkovai, Canet Foundation.

Middle row: Mandeep Kaur Mucina, Assistant Professor; Christine Shelton, Manager of Distributed Learning; Shanne McCaffrey, Assistant Teaching Professor; Caroline Green, Graduate Program Assistant; Margo McCarney, Administrative Assistant.

Front row: Jennifer White, Director and Associate Professor; Michelle Koroll, Practicum Coordinator; Samantha Corrington, Assistant Teaching Professor; Sandrina de Finney, Associate Professor.

2018 Canet Fdtn recipients: (l to r) Shantelle Moreno, Caitlin Torkovai (Canet Fdtn), Priscilla Healey, Ashleigh Martinflatt, Patricio Obee, Jacob Torkovai (Canet Fdtn), Sandrina de Finney (Associate Professor and Graduate Advisor), and Addison Mott. (Audrey Wolfe and Sasha Routley were not available).
CELEBRATIONS

School of Public Health and Social Policy

Congratulations to Leo Rutherford

Leo Rutherford, PhD student in the Social Dimensions of Health program, won his heat and went on to place second at the university level in our Three Minute Thesis competition, held annually during Ideafest. His presentation is titled *What Will Happen to My Sex Life? Trans Men and Bottom Surgery.* Watch the videos of Leo and his competitors making their presentations posted on UVic’s Graduate Studies web page.

VICTORIA COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AWARD

This annual awards program recognizes people and organizations who demonstrate commitment, inspiration, encouragement and accomplishment and are made possible through a shared interest between Leadership Victoria, the Victoria Foundation, Van City, and the University of Victoria.

Bruce Wallace, Assistant Professor
School of Social Work

His research to improve access to dental care for people with low or no incomes led to the creation of the Cool Aid Community Dental Clinic. Today, the clinic books more than 5,000 visits each year with four chairs and two dentists working daily. Wallace continues to advocate to government and health care leaders on the dental health needs of people living in poverty. Also a collaborating scientist with the Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research, Wallace is conducting research on the current illicit drug overdose crisis. He is the principal investigator of a CIHR-funded project on harm reduction responses to the opioid overdose crisis in collaboration with AIDS Vancouver Island, Society of Living Illicit Drug Users, and Victoria Cool Aid Society.

Lindsay Shaw, Graduate Student
Social Determinants of Health, School of Public Health and Social Policy

Her research paper on menstrual product equity led to her studying needs for Victoria women living in poverty. Shaw learned two women’s homeless shelters were in constant need for feminine products. To raise awareness and support, Shaw started the Period Posse campaign. She signed up 15 businesses, raised $25,000 in products and cash, joined forces with the United Way and the BC Labour Congress, and recruited 14 members to help take her campaign across Victoria and Vancouver. Her key goal now before heading off to UBC to earn a PhD in Population and Public Health is to install free menstrual products in women’s washrooms on campus.

Bruce Wallace, Assistant Professor
School of Social Work

Shaw launched her Period Posse campaign at Sandy Merriman House, a women’s shelter in Victoria.

BRUCE WALLACE RECEIVES UVIC’S 2018 PROVOST ADVOCACY AND ACTIVISM AWARD

Bruce Wallace, an assistant professor in the School of Social Work, was one of three UVic members recognized as campus leaders in the 2018 Provost’s Advocacy and Activism awards. The awards program, co-sponsored by the offices of the Provost and Equity and Human Rights, acknowledges individuals who address systemic or institutionalized barriers and act as champions for others.

Karen Lithgow, a biochemistry and microbiology graduate student, and Hannah Charnock, a chemistry undergraduate student, were also honoured with Wallace for fostering a learning environment that supports and nurtures activism.

Wallace has long advocated for the establishment of supervised drug consumption services and heightened our awareness of the need for action to reduce drug overdose deaths in the community.

“Bruce’s voice is one of compassion, reason and responsibility in an area that is often fraught with myths and stereotypes about people who use drugs, and the need for harm reduction services,” said Valerie Kuehne, Provost and VP Academic.

“This award is important to me,” said Wallace, “because my employer recognizes that advocacy and activism are valued as part of our engaged scholarship and our community-based research in the School of Social Work. I think the award program speaks to the value UVic places on these activities.”
Jasmine Desjardins,  
Research and Coordinator  
HSD Research Centre  
Jasmine joined UVic after moving to Victoria from London, UK. She previously worked at Western University as a Research Lab Coordinator in Clinical Developmental Psychology. In that role, she provided pre-grant and ethics support, while also actively participating in data collection and analysis.

Laura Landertinger,  
Assistant Professor  
School of Public Administration  
After completing her doctorate at the University of Toronto’s Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, Laura came to UVic as a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council—Postdoctoral Fellow. For the duration of her fellowship, she has joined the School of Public Administration as a limited term Assistant Professor. Her focus is centred on the institution of child welfare and her research engages questions around race, settler colonialism, and Indigenous sovereignty. Her current project examines gendered enactments of colonial violence by focusing on the role of the Canadian Association of Social Workers in the lead-up to the ‘Sixties Scoop.’

Ally Poniedzielnik,  
Admin Assistant  
HSD Research Centre  
She has lived in Victoria all her life and is proud to be a UVic grad. Ally is extremely excited to be working part-time with the research centre providing pre-grant support, and hopes to get to know all the faculty, staff and researchers that help make UVic such an amazing place. Ally loves reading anything and everything and will spend hours down at the beaches along Dallas Road with her nose in a book.

Joni Sam,  
Administrative Assistance  
Indigenous Student Support Centre  
IY SCACEL SIEM, THAATLIA NE SNA TSARTLIP.  
GOOD DAY MY FRIENDS, RELATIVES, and RESPECTED ONES. My given name is Thaathlia, but most know me as Joni. I am from Tsartlip First Nation and I’m a mom to three little men and soon to be a wife. I look forward to learning as much as I can while I am here. Please stop by so we can meet or just say a quick hi. Let me know who you are and what you do at UVic. I look forward to working with you and meeting everyone. I love making friends.

Tricia Roche,  
HSD Fundraising and Development Officer  
She could not be more excited to join our faculty with her many experiences in human rights, social justice and community development. Interacting with our faculty and students over the past eight years as Associate Director of the UVic Centre for Youth and Society, Tricia remains passionately connected to community strengths and needs. Her specific experience in equitable campus-community partnership development, community-engaged research and research capacity building with vulnerable populations. Tricia obtained her MA in Human Rights from McGill University and worked in international human rights before engaging with non-profit organizations on domestic anti-poverty issues involving children, youth and families. She has also secured funding for innovative educational, research, and community engagement initiatives. Tricia looks forward to hitting the deck running this June.

Dr. Elizabeth Borycki, a professor and researcher with the School of Health Information Science, was awarded the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research Health Professional Investigator Award. Her research project is titled Improving the safety of health information technology: From international knowledge to local application. This is a four-year study and comes with a research grant of $750,000.

Borycki’s research will address concerns raised by Canadian and international health care organizations about safety issues arising from our use of health information technology—from digitized health to electronic health records. Her goal is to conduct several interconnected studies and develop a comprehensive approach to improving the quality and safety of health information technology including clinical simulations to better understand how errors arise.
CHANGES

Jeff Corntassel, Professor
Indigenous Studies
Faculty of Humanities

We wish Dr. Corntassel well as he starts his new position with the Indigenous Studies department within the Faculty of Humanities. Jeff joined HSD in 2003 and for the past 15 years has contributed to the Indigenous Governance (IGOV) program as an associate professor, graduate advisor, and as program director. Jeff will continue to supervise and mentor IGOV students, work with his many HSD colleagues, and continue teaching at UVic.

In his own words, Jeff says: “It has been an honor to work on the unceded homelands and waterways of the Lkwungen-speaking peoples, the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations, as well as the W̱SÁNEĆ First Nations. I am thankful for the relationships that have emerged and grown over the past fifteen years with Indigenous nations locally, regionally and internationally, as well as crucial mentorship and guidance from colleagues — and especially students who I have been so fortunate to mentor and support. I am committed to continuing my work on promoting the resurgence, governance, and health of Indigenous nations.”

We are grateful for Jeff’s generous mentoring with so many of us in our decolonization work across the faculty, and we look forward to ongoing partnerships with him and with Humanities as he takes up his new academic home.

Judi Baker, Assistant to the Associate Dean
HSD Dean’s Office

Judi has made the leap from the School of Nursing to the Dean’s Office effective April 30th. Before joining UVic in September, Judi worked with the provincial government for four years and served as a secretary with the University College of the Cariboo’s Science and Health Sciences Division for 10 years. Judi is excited to make this transition and looks forward to working with all of us folks here at HSD by way of the Dean’s Office.

Mary Ellen Purkis, Professor
School of Nursing and Former Dean

Mary Ellen holds a doctoral degree in Nursing from Edinburgh University (1993). She has held an academic position at University of Victoria since 1993 where she taught, served as dean of our faculty for two terms, and completed research in home care and health services, to name a few of her many achievements.

During her visionary deanship, HSD recruited increasing numbers of Indigenous students, opened our Indigenous Student Support Centre, established our School of Public Health and Social Policy, and created with the School of Nursing’s support our HSD Research Centre. An avid supporter of the work of the United Way of Greater Victoria since the mid 1990s, she serves as Past Chair of the Board of Directors. Mary Ellen will retire from UVic in May 2018, but plans to continue with her volunteer work in the community.

Christine Upright, Assistant Teaching Professor
School of Nursing

Christine earned her RN diploma at the Misericordia Hospital School of Nursing in Edmonton, a BScN with distinction and a MN from UVic, a Post-Graduate Diploma in Acting from the Guilford School of Acting and Dance in Surrey, UK. Christine has held sessional teaching appointments with Camosun and UVic for the past 22 years. Her impressive and continuing record of scholarship and research is related to practice education models, role play design and performance, simulation, and research into the student experience. Christine brings strong teaching, leadership and practice expertise as well as her commitment to innovative pedagogy and student centeredness to this position.
Heather Keenan, Administrator
Dean’s Office

You may know her as an essential player on the team that keeps our Dean’s Office ticking, however, in her free time Heather is an award-winning fine artist who has been exhibiting her work for the past 25 years at galleries across B.C., primarily in Victoria and Vancouver. She has studied at the Banff Centre, Grant MacEwan University, UVic (also home to one of her collections), as well as San Francisco’s Museum of Modern Art. Her talent for administration includes website development as she led construction on HSD’s first site in 2012. After 14 years with HSD, Heather will retire at the end of April 2018 and devote a bit more time to her art. We will miss her every day—and celebrate her transition to life after work!

Lynne Milnes, Fundraising and Development Officer
HSD

Every dollar donated to an HSD school, program, or student begins and ends with Lynne Milnes. She has mastered the fine art of nurturing great gifts and delicately garnering amazing support during 13 passionate years in her role as Fundraising and Development Officer for both our faculty and university. Lynne is preparing to move to a part-time job at the Victoria Native Friendship Centre in May 2018. Previously a biology major, landscaping gardener, a publisher, technical writer, researcher and photographer, Lynne has applied those transferrable skills to cultivate and grow the support needed to make learning thrive at HSD. Lynne says “It’s been my privilege to work with the wonderful faculty and staff at HSD.” Lynne and her sisters also leave the Roberta Milnes Scholarship endowment for undergraduate students in HSD, in memory of their late mother, who did not have the opportunity to attend university. Total amount raised during her career at UVic: $18.4 million with a $5-million pending signatures.

2018 INDIGENOUS MINI UNIVERSITY SUMMER CAMP
August 13 to 17, 2018

Join us in welcoming Indigenous high school students from across BC taking part in this on-campus event to learn about student life here at UVic.

Students attend academic and cultural workshops throughout the week, and visit local communities to learn from Elders and community members. The camp is a wonderful way for high school students to begin their post-secondary plans. The project also allows our UVic community to rededicate itself to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s calls to action by supporting access to education.

CAREER AND FACULTY FAIR
August 15, 2018

A Career and Faculty Fair will be held on Wednesday, August 15, in the First People’s House Ceremonial Hall from 10 am to noon. Students will visit various booths to learn about what paths they might choose to become a student or an employee.

For more information, email: miniu@uvic.ca
Indigenous Governance and Health Informatics

INDIGENOUS COLLECTION CELEBRATES “TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE”

What does resurgence look like?

A new collection explains resurgence through many voices, gathered through the Indigenous Governance program’s collaborations with scholars and international exchanges between this program’s faculty and students and the Indigenous Politics Program at the University of Hawai‘i, Manoa. This book offers rich decolonizing scholarship and is a pleasure to read. Each of the 22 contributors discuss their experiences with Indigenous resurgence in ‘everyday’ settings—those often unseen, unacknowledged actions that help to renew communities and relationships that promote health and well-being. Indigenous Governance faculty, IGOV alumni Nick Claxton and Jana-Rae Yerxa, and IGOV PhD candidates Senka Eriksen, Erynne Gilpin, Mick Scow, and Gina Starblanket author works in this anthology of decolonizing works, as well as several U Hawai‘i, Manoa colleagues and students. As Mick Scow articulates: “Our stories are a testament to our resistance, resilience, and resurgence as Indigenous peoples.” Published by Intercontinental Cry, Everyday Acts of Resurgence is on sale now at the UVic bookstore. All proceeds go to Intercontinental Cry, a non-profit publisher of Indigenous works.

School of Health Information Science

HEALTH INFORMATICS STUDENT THANKS DONORS, SHARES ASTONISHING STORY

When he was 12 years old, Atem Machar’s village in South Sudan was attacked by unknown gunmen. Separated from his family, Atem became a child soldier, and later, a refugee in Kenya. Through the WUSC program he came to Canada and enrolled at UVic. Support from UVic donors is helping him complete his degree in Health Information Science. In 2017, Atem wrote a letter to Denis and Pat Protti to share his story and gratitude for the bursary. In 2004, a group of generous donors came together to honour Denis and Pat Protti’s contributions to the Canadian healthcare system. Through their efforts, a large endowment was created that supports several undergraduate and graduate students each year through scholarships, travel awards and bursaries. You can watch the video, titled A lost boy’s journey—UVic thank you to donors at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qDZteRQ5dSI. Learn more about the impact of giving at http://give.uvic.ca.

Auden Neuman with Dean Tricia Marck at convocation – June 2018.

GIVING IS GOOD
Your donation can encourage HSD students to achieve amazing things and inspire researchers to solve big questions. Your donation, quite simply, can change the world. Learn more by contacting our development officer, Tricia Roche, at hsddev@uvic.ca or call 250-472-5031.

PLANNING A REUNION?
The UVic Alumni Association can help by promoting your event to classmates, arranging speakers or providing door prizes. Network and keep involved by exploring the list of groups and upcoming events find something right for you alumni.uvic.ca/events/reunions.php.

OUR AUDIENCE
HSD shares news, faculty goals, success stories and profiles with it wide audience of stakeholders, patrons, educators, and alum. Story ideas are welcome. Contact Kate Hildebrandt, our communications officer, at katehild@uvic.ca or call 250-472-4389.

Help UVic reduce waste by switching to our e-news format. Update your email and address by visiting alumni.uvic.ca/connect/preferences.php. Moving? Let us know and we’ll make sure your record is updated.