Monday, March 2

**Serious comics**
3:30–5:00 PM | CLEARIHUE BUILDING, A206
Graphic literature has developed in many different directions, but the use of it for serious themes and even "comics journalism" are among the most fascinating. Our panel of humanities scholars and students will present brief slide talks encapsulating what they have learned in reading, researching and teaching some of these graphic works. Explore what happens when contemporary "comics" get serious.

**Research Reels: Video showcase**
5:00–6:30 PM | STUDENT UNION BUILDING, CINECENTA
Get a taste of the amazing research and creative activity taking place at UVic as told by our talented students, faculty and staff. A juried collection of short videos highlighting UVic research and how it’s having an impact on our lives and our world will be showcased for one night only. Grab some free popcorn and prepare to be amazed and inspired!

**Healthy family living: Powered by innovations**
7:00–8:30 PM | MCKINNON BUILDING, 150
Ever wonder how to keep your family healthy? This interactive workshop showcases current research innovations that can help your whole family achieve a healthy lifestyle. Topics include reducing the risk for childhood obesity, innovative behaviour-changing technologies and using game-based apps for better health.

**Rising tides: Conversations on Indigenous food sovereignty and climate justice**
7:00–9:00PM | FIRST PEOPLES HOUSE, CEREMONIAL HALL
Indigenous cultures are inextricably linked to the land and the food it provides. Climate change will have a major impact on both. This interactive panel explores the ways that individual communities are seeking climate justice and honouring the complex relationships between land, water and food systems. Gain a better understanding of your own land/food connections and how to mobilize for change.

**Everything you wanted to know about sex (research) but were afraid to ask!**
5:30–7:00 PM | BOB WRIGHT CENTRE, A104
Can you make a career out of studying sex? Issues of sex, gender and sexuality are front and centre in our society, including sexual health and violence, history of sexuality, Indigenous gender and sexual body-land sovereignty and relationships. Join our diverse panel of sex, gender and sexuality researchers for a lively conversation on these topics and more. Perspectives will include psychology, public health, history, cultural studies, and children and youth. Bring your questions for a frank discussion on sex, sexuality and gender.
The digital apocalypse and the antique data roadshow
12:00–2:00 PM | MEARNS CENTRE FOR LEARNING - MCPHERSON LIBRARY, DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP COMMONS
Technologies evolve. Data decay. How much outdated technology is in your closet or on your computer? Explore the precarity of digital products and the task of preserving your digital history through a series of four short talks from UVic’s digital preservation experts. Then stay on for the Antique Data Roadshow, where you can consult an expert on the digital technologies you’re using and how best to protect your data, from family photos to research projects.

The land is our classroom
12:30–2:00 PM | FIRST PEOPLES HOUSE, CEREMONIAL HALL
Indigenous professors Sarah Wright Cardinal and Nick Claxton present on education and wellness projects involving Coast Salish and Nuu-chah-nulth communities. The Living Lab Project connects people to land and each other to support youth and eco-cultural learning. Hear the stories of youth who participated in a six-month cultural resurgence project culminating in the Tribal Journeys canoe journey. Members from Songhees, WSÁNEĆ and Pacheedaht nations will share gifts of learning from the land.

Students beyond borders: Stories from the field
2:30-4:30 PM | CLEARHUE BUILDING, A203
Join recently returned interns from the Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives as they share their experiences of living and working in India, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and South Africa. Their multi-media presentations will showcase personal research projects, creative endeavours and stories from their six-month internship placements with leading civil society organizations in Asia and Africa.

Research and community: Provost’s Award in Engaged Scholarship
4:00–6:00 PM | UNIVERSITY CLUB, SALAL AND SNOWBERRY ROOMS
Curious about the impact UVic research has on our local communities? Discover and celebrate the integration of outstanding UVic scholarship and community engagement as the 2020 recipients of the Provost’s Award in Engaged Scholarship share their personal experiences in community-engaged research and teaching. The celebration will include the presentation of the 2020 awards by Valerie Kuehne, Vice-President Academic and Provost.

The poetry of change
5:00–7:30 PM | UNIVERSITY CENTRE, A180
Poetry is a powerful vehicle for imagining, interrogating and transforming. Join UVic’s Social Movement Poets Collective and guests for a participatory experience exploring how poetry engages with many of the big issues of our times: global warming, colonization, water crises, human-nonhuman disconnects, gender inequality, racism, poverty and education access. Participants are welcome to join in or just sit back as poetry is examined as a tool for helping us address the daunting issues of our time. This event features live music, a dynamic lineup of poets and opportunities for participation.

Food sovereignty in the era of climate crisis
5:00–7:00 PM | HARRY HICKMAN BUILDING, 105
What can communities do to sustainably manage local and regional food systems in a time of climate crisis and deepening inequality? Join UVic researchers from the Departments of Geography, History, Indigenous Studies, and the School of Public Health & Social Policy for a conversation about food security initiatives in urban Victoria, the Canadian North and around the world. Learn what local actions make a difference across the spectrum of food challenges facing our world, from access and waste, to packaging and contamination.

WISE: Wellness and Indigenous sustainable economies
6:00–8:30 PM | FIRST PEOPLES HOUSE, CEREMONIAL HALL
This thought-provoking session, presented by the National Consortium for Indigenous Economic Development (NCIED), provides a rare opportunity to learn about the diverse and unique journeys of six Indigenous Nations. Community leaders share their personal experiences of balancing economic development and well-being, through a consideration of culture, modern treaties, resources, governance, demographics and trauma. Audience members are invited to join this critical dialogue in the following Q&A.

Tuesday, March 3
Changemakers: Bright minds and big ideas
7:00–9:00 PM | BOB WRIGHT CENTRE, A104
Three of UVic’s internationally recognized researchers share their stories of innovation in a series of fast-paced, interactive conversations on some of the most pressing issues facing our world. Be inspired by fascinating discoveries in mental health, materials science and the impact of climate change on our oceans.
Host: Lisa Kalynchuk, Vice-President Research
Panel: Hector J. Caruncho (Canada Research Chair in Translational Neuroscience): Mental health research in the 21st century; Roberta Hamme (Canada Research Chair in Ocean Carbon Dynamics): Transforming the way we observe the ocean; and Ian Manners (Canada 150 Research Chair in Materials Science): Growing nano-sized solutions to global challenges.

Jamie Cassels Undergraduate Research Awards (JCURA) Student Fair
11:30 AM–3:00 PM | STUDENT UNION BUILDING, MICHELE PUJOL ROOM AND UPPER LOUNGE
Meet the next generation of leading Canadian researchers at UVic’s Jamie Cassels Undergraduate Research Awards (JCURA). Awards go to exceptional undergraduate students to carry out research in their chosen field of study. The JCURA research fair will feature over 100 of these inspiring projects, ranging from the effects of mindful meditation on exam prep to improving emergency water treatment in refugee camps.

What’s in my water?
12–1:00 PM | ANTECHAMBER, VICTORIA CITY HALL
In Greater Victoria, we are lucky to turn on the tap and know that safe drinking water will come out. But when harmful microbes and molecules are too small to see, smell or taste, how do we know our water is safe? Prof. Heather Buckley talks about how researchers “zoom in” to see what is in our water and the projects at UVic aimed at designing new sensors for hard-to-spot molecules, that are helping people around the globe monitor and protect their drinking water.

Where are the women composers?
12:30–2:20 PM | MACLAURIN BUILDING, B037
Even in 2020 there are significant challenges and barriers to women who are composing music. How did a patriarchal concept of art music routinely ignore historical and contemporary achievements by women in the classical music industry? Through performances of four solo flute works by female composers and a discussion with the performers and scholars, this session will explore the reasons why female composers have been excluded, ignored or sidelined.

Artistic alliances: Indigeneity and fine arts
4:00–6:00 PM | ENGINEERING/COMPUTER SCIENCE BUILDING, 116
Indigenous arts engage people in multiple ways. Some works are more visible than others for some audiences and for different reasons. What is the social impact of Indigenous arts? The research and creative activity happening in the Faculty of Fine Arts reflects the dynamic range of contemporary work being created, Indigenous knowledge and both the written and spoken word. Join fine arts teaching faculty and graduate students at this timely interactive session to learn about some of the surprising and engaging approaches to contemporary practices.

All events are free and open to the public. Unless noted, no registration is required.
Impact investing: Getting better at doing good
4:30–6:15 PM | DAVID STRONG BUILDING, C113
Can we achieve our social/environmental goals as investors alongside financial returns? The answer is YES. This is the foundation of impact investing, a fast-growing concept that strives to mobilize more capital and eliminate existing financing gaps to advance social and/or environmental goals. This panel brings together researchers and experts in impact investing to talk about how it’s working at UVic and in the broader Vancouver Island community. The interactive event highlights research and collaborative initiatives between UVic’s Gustavson School of Business and community leaders. Join us to learn about the opportunities, the challenges and how you can contribute to advancing impact investing in your community and beyond.

What’s truth got to do with it?
7:00–9:00 PM | VICTORIA CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBER
In the age of post-truth and “truthiness”, Truth seems to have lost a lot of its former friends. This event brings together four UVic thought leaders to define truth and its limits. They’ll explore truth as it relates to cross-cultural encounters, post-modern assertions that it doesn’t exist, historic abuses of truths, and current government administrations in the US and elsewhere. Bring your own thoughts on truth for a lively Q&A following the panel.
This event is free but a ticket is required. See website for details.

Beyond plastic: Exploring the issue of waste in Canada
7:00–9:00 | BOB WRIGHT CENTRE, A104
How do we move beyond plastic? Will a soft plastic ban actually work? What are the politics of waste in Canada? And can mechanisms be created to support a plastic-free economy? These are just some of the questions our panel of social scientists will explore as we move toward solutions to our plastic problem. Join the discussion on how to solve Canada’s waste dilemma.

Thursday, March 5

Mystic Vale tree walk
12:00–1:00 PM | GLOVER GREENHOUSE FACILITY
Researchers from the Centre for Forest Biology lead a spring walk through Mystic Vale, sharing the power of plants. Learn about the Indian plum tree, the knees of Douglas firs and the burls of big-leaf maples. Discover the raphide crystals of skunk cabbage, and how red cedar and sword ferns use water efficiently. This informative walk starts and ends at the Bev Glover Greenhouse in Parking Lot #1. Dress for the outdoors!

Should I call 911? Youth, overdose and police
3:30–5:20 PM | ENGINEERING/COMPUTER SCIENCE BUILDING, 125
The impact of fentanyl has heightened public awareness of what to do in the event of an overdose, and led to new harm-reduction services and policies such as the Good Samaritan Act. However, fear of dealing with police can be a barrier to calling 9-1-1. This panel will explore key findings from the Youth Experiences Project and how these new policies are being implemented locally. Centering on the experiences of youth, what barriers still have to be overcome to save lives when overdose happens?

All lit up: Creative writing’s bright lights
7:00–8:30 PM | INTREPID THEATRE, 1609 BLANSHARD ST
Meet the next generation of Canadian literature as Master’s of Fine Arts students from UVic’s legendary Department of Writing read (and perform) groundbreaking graduating manuscripts in fiction, poetry, screenwriting, playwriting and creative non-fiction in this lively literary cabaret. Doors 6.30 pm
Three Minute Thesis competition  
7:00–8:30 PM, MACLAURIN BUILDING, A144  
An 80,000-word thesis would take nine hours to present. Their time limit is three minutes. Three Minute Thesis is an exciting competition that challenges graduate students to describe their research in a clear, engaging and jargon-free presentation using just one slide—in 180 seconds. Master’s and PhD students from across campus will participate in the final round of the UVic competition in front of a panel of esteemed judges.

Religion, spirituality and ecology in the Anthropocene  
7:00–9:30 PM | STUDENT UNION BUILDING, CINECENTA  
Religious tradition and spiritual practice have long guided humans through mysterious and sometimes threatening aspects of the natural world. But we live in an era some call the Anthropocene, with humans now the force threatening world ecology. Has religion played a role in that? How can religious communities respond? Join filmmakers, activists and scholars for a viewing of the documentary Anthropocene: The Human Epoch and discuss the implications of this human-driven geological era.

Speaking the land: Tā’ sqaqwélʔ lə Tə’ Tə’exʷ?  
7:00–9:00 PM | BELFRY THEATRE, 1291 GLADSTONE AVE  
Join University Chancellor and celebrated broadcast journalist Shelagh Rogers for an intimate conversation with Indigenous language champions Lorna Williams, Renee Sampson and Leslie Saxon. Here in BC and around the globe, Indigenous peoples are continuing their work to ensure languages are thriving and shape identity and a sense of place and belonging. Learn the vital role of Indigenous languages in maintaining the histories, knowledge and wisdom of a people, and how language holds the key to heal people and the land.  
Hosted by: Vice-President Research Lisa Kalynchuk  
Facilitated by: Shelagh Rogers (UVic Chancellor and Honorary Witness to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada).  
This event is free but a ticket is required. See website for details.

Identity disrupted: Impacts of forced migration on youth  
2:00–3:30 PM | CORNETT BUILDING, B112  
Imagine being forced to leave your home, community and country. Does this change how you see yourself, where you belong, and your future aspirations? Learning about the ongoing Youth Migration Project in Southeast Asia, which uses a unique arts-based Story Board method to explore the impact of forced migration on youth, this interactive session invites attendees to explore these questions themselves through discussion and the Story Board method.

Engineering for a sustainable future  
4:00–5:00 PM | ENGINEERING/COMPUTER SCIENCE BUILDING, 125  
Discover some of the latest civil engineering solutions to environmental challenges and explore the critical role of engineers in creating a sustainable future for our planet. Themes include: creating a sustainable food, water and energy supply; curbing climate change; designing a future without pollution and waste; creating efficient and healthy cities. Join two leaders in sustainable engineering research for a thought-provoking and lively discussion.

All events are free and open to the public. Unless noted, no registration is required.
Saturday, March 7

Class of 2030: Your UVic library of the future
10:00 AM–2:00 PM | MEARNS CENTRE FOR LEARNING - MCPHERSON LIBRARY, MAIN FLOOR LOUNGE
Discover the library of the future at this family-friendly event. With over two million books and digital creative spaces providing equitable access to technology, the library is a community jewel. Activities include the tech petting zoo, 3-D printing demos, all-ages Story Time, button making and tours of our new Retro Computing Lab!

Successful aging: Cognitive health booth
11:00 AM—1:00 PM | CORNETT BUILDING, B335
How are exercise, sleep, blood pressure, and changes in ability to smell related to brain health? Join Andrea Piccinin, co-director of the Integrative Lifespan Lab, and PhD students to explore the latest research in cognitive health and factors associated with cognitive decline through a series of hands-on demonstrations. This interactive event includes examples of mobile cognitive health trackers, smell testing, near-infrared spectroscopy brain imaging and more.

How to make an irritating Sudoku puzzle
1:00–4:00 PM | DAVID STRONG BUILDING, C118/C124
Do you strive to complete the Sudoku puzzle in the paper? Or are you distracted by the geometric patterns of the tiled floor? Learn how the two are more related than it seems and how new research can help determine what makes a puzzle solvable or impossible in a presentation and discussion session. Then enjoy a hands-on exploration of the research by modelling and solving some puzzles for yourself.

Getting up to speed with nature’s imagination
2:00-5:00 PM | ENGINEERING/COMPUTER SCIENCE BUILDING, 660
Computer science has much to teach us about how to use, mimic and understand the mysteries and innovations found in nature. Learn how quantum computing, machine learning and intelligent systems are giving scientists and engineers the ability to tackle problems that are yet to be solved satisfactorily. The work opens the doors to breakthroughs in new medications, diagnosing illnesses, algorithms that optimize resources and financial strategies for living well in retirement.

Luff: An exploration of kites
8:00 AM–6:00 PM DAILY | VISUAL ARTS BUILDING, COURTYARD
Take a stroll through UVic’s Fine Arts courtyard for an outdoor exhibit on kites from third-year drawing students and other contributors. With a history dating back more than 10,000 years, the kite has entranced inventors and creative thinkers from Benjamin Franklin to Alexander Graham Bell and the Wright Brothers. This exhibit seeks inter-disciplinary connections and philosophical insights grounded in a fundamental truth: Without good design and careful construction, nothing flies.

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2020 FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

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