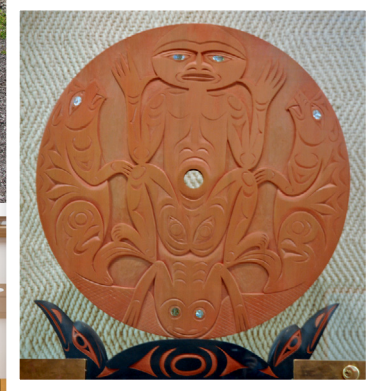


 **20**
years



**The Environmental
Law Centre Celebrates
20 Years**

**Well Aged:
Criminal Law Term
Approaches 40**

**Affirming Engagement:
Sul-Sultan (spindle
whorl) Return Celebrated**

**Accessibility Advocate
Carrie Moffat ('13)**



VISTAS

Vistas is produced by UVic Law at the University of Victoria, British Columbia. The views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of UVic Law or the University of Victoria.

Editors

Doug Jasinski ('93)

Marni MacLeod ('93)

Julie Sloan, Communications Officer UVic Law

Contributing Writers

Sarah Close-Humayun, Conference Coordinator CAPI

Prof. Gerry Ferguson

Prof. Hamar Foster

Prof. Mark Gillen

Prof. Michelle Lawrence

Marni MacLeod ('93)

Holly Pattison, Paralegal Administrator

Laura Pringle, Alumni Annual Giving Officer

Julie Sloan, Communications Officer UVic Law

Jeremy Webber, Professor and Dean

Contributing Photographers

Gillian Calder

Laura Pringle

Dominic Schaefer Photography

Julie Sloan, Communications Officer UVic Law

UVic Photo Services

Design and Layout

Skunkworks Creative Group Inc.

All photographs appearing in Vistas are subject to copyright and may not be reproduced or used in any media without the express written permission of the photographers. Use may be subject to licensing fees. If you would like information on how to contact individual photographers to obtain the requisite permissions please email lawalum@uvic.ca.

In This Issue

Alumni Vistas



**Tax Break:
Professor
Martha O'Brien ('84)
Retires**

By Professor Mark Gillen



**Accessibility Advocate
Carrie Moffat ('13)**

By Julie Sloan,
Communications Officer

Features

All Systems Go on New Dispute Resolution Room 6

By Jeremy Webber, Dean of Law

Environmental Law Clinic Celebrates 20 Years 8

By Holly Pattison, Paralegal Administrator

Well Aged: Criminal Law Term Approaches 14

By Professors Gerry Ferguson and Michelle Lawrence

**Affirming Engagement:
Sul-Sultan (spindle whorl) Return Celebrated** 30

By Julie Sloan, Communications Officer

Plus

**Moving Toward an Accessible Canada:
Carla Qualtrough ('97), MP** 21

By Marni MacLeod ('93)

**10th Annual Canadian Association for
Refugee and Forced Migration Conference** 28

By Sarah Close-Humayun

Class of 2011 Turns Five 25

By Karen Tse ('11), Alumna, Rockies Law Corporation

Aaron Mills Making an Impact 31

By Julie Sloan, Communications Officer

Sections

Dean's Message 4

Alumni Vistas: News and Updates 22

Faculty News 26

Appointments and Honours, Upcoming Speakers,
Publications, Retirements

Hello from Your Alumni Annual Giving Officer 5

By Laura Pringle, Alumni Annual Giving Officer

In Memoriam 24

Kevin Gillett ('78)

Dean's Message: Year of the Presidents

JEREMY WEBBER
Professor and Dean

© UVIC PHOTO SERVICES



Jeremy Webber, Dean of Law

On November 30 I attended the 5th annual Gala of the BC chapter of FACL: the Federation of Asian Canadian Lawyers. It was a great event – and I wasn't alone. This year the gala attracted 340 guests, with featured speakers being Audrey Ho (previously Chief General Counsel and the first-ever female Senior Vice President at TELUS) and the Honourable Suzanne Anton, Minister of Justice and

Attorney General of BC. Professor Victor Ramraj (who holds our CAPI Chair in Asia-Pacific Legal Relations) and I hosted the UVic table. We were joined by four marvellous students and four amazing alumni. There were many more UVic Law alumni at other tables.

One of those alumni was David Namkung ('10), who is currently President of FACL. When he and I spoke at the event, he mentioned that Andrew Aguilar ('08) and Nicholas Issac ('09) had just been elected President and Vice President of the Vancouver Bar Association. UVic alumni often serve prominent roles in the Victoria Bar Association. It is quite something that our folks are also leading that other VBA! Moreover, this year, Bill Veenstra ('90) is Vice President of the Canadian Bar Association (BC Branch).

The leadership of UVic grads doesn't stop there. Now, on the Law Society of BC, 9 of 24 elected Benchers are UVic grads: Jeff Campbell, QC ('98); Pinder Cheema, QC ('83); Lisa Hamilton ('94); Dean Lawton ('80); Steven McKoen ('97); Michelle Stanford ('92); Herman Van Ommen, QC ('84); Sarah Westwood ('01) and Tony Wilson ('85). In the November 15 by-election in Vancouver County, yet another grad, Jasmin Ahmad ('94), was elected. And of course, in January Herman Van Ommen will become the first UVic Law graduate to serve as President of the Law Society of BC.

Jill Perry ('00) secured a similar honour when she served as President of the Nova Scotia Barristers' Society last year (2015-16).

That is quite some record.

I mention all these accomplishments because they are well worth celebrating, but even more because they epitomize the commitment to service that has been so much a part of UVic Law since its very first days. I also see the evidence of that commitment in our students. They continue to be feisty, engaged, keen to participate in our clinical programs, eager to make contributions to their various communities.

We remain committed to attracting a diverse group of students who want to study in a collaborative rather than a competitive environment, and who are keen to give back to their communities. To that end, we are instituting a new class of Entrance Scholarships this year.

Our current Entrance Scholarships are allocated (with some exceptions) on the basis of academic performance and LSAT scores. We certainly value high academic attainment, but our students often bring much more to our school: experience of the working world, knowledge of different cultural communities, the resilience that comes with having overcome a disability, service in NGOs, knowledge of the laws and institutions of Indigenous peoples, talent in the performing arts.

Our new Diversity Entrance Scholarships will allow us to celebrate and support that varied talent and experience. Please let us know if you would like to contribute to them. And in the meantime, enjoy the stories in this issue of Vistas about UVic Law, your classmates, and their impact on the world. ■

Hello from Your Alumni Annual Giving Officer

LAURA PRINGLE

Alumni Annual Giving Officer

© UVIC PHOTO SERVICES



Laura Pringle, Alumni Annual Giving Officer

✉ lawalum@uvic.ca

☎ Direct Line: 250.853.3518

After joining the University of Victoria Faculty of Law last November as the interim Law Careers Officer, I am thrilled to be able to continue with UVic Law as the Alumni Annual Giving Officer. In my previous role, it did not take long to see what makes UVic Law so special: the dedication and passion of the faculty and staff; the range of ground-breaking programs offered; and the high quality of students and the collegiality among them.

In my new role, I look forward to working further with the current faculty, staff, and students, and to reaching out beyond the Fraser Building to the diverse group of UVic Law alumni across Canada and abroad. I hope to meet many of you in person and in the meantime, if you need to update your contact information, wish to plan an event such as a class reunion, or would just like to keep in touch, please do not hesitate to contact me. You may also wish to join the UVic Law Alumni Group on LinkedIn to connect with other alumni.

We continue to raise funds for UVic Law's valuable programs such as the Law Centre and the Environmental Law Centre, as well as for Student Scholarships and Awards. You can expect to receive a letter with further information about funding these initiatives and you can also find information [here](#). Thank you to all of our donors and alumni who have already contributed so much to UVic Law. I look forward to working with you.

About me:

Before joining UVic Law, I practiced personal injury, family, and wills and estates law at the Victoria firm of MacIsaac and MacIsaac. I earned a BA in English from the University of Victoria and a JD from Queen's University. I recently completed seven years on the Board of Directors of the For the Love of Africa Society, including two years as the Society's President. I look forward to meeting more of UVic Law's wonderful alumni. 🍷

All Systems Go on New Dispute Resolution Room

JEREMY WEBBER
Professor and Dean

The new dispute resolution room is now fully operational!

We began planning the moot court renovations in Fall 2014, initially intending simply to renovate the room. It soon became clear that the renovation was an opportunity to achieve something much more substantial.

We have consciously re-designed the room to accommodate a range of types of dispute settlement. Less formality, together with an emphasis on accessibility and transparency, has become typical of today's court design. In addition, we have designed the room so it can easily accommodate other dispute settlement processes — mediations, arbitrations, and processes influenced by Indigenous processes that are conducted in a circle. Flexibility in function has been one of our watchwords.

We have also consciously sought to introduce technology into the new facility. That technology includes high-quality video-conferencing, which is of course exceptionally useful for our teaching programs. We already bring visitors into our classes by video-link; we have co-taught joint courses with McGill University, Australian National University, UBC, and others through the internet; we frequently hold doctoral defences using video-conferencing; and we webcast some of our special events. This facility improves our capacity to do all of these things.

The renovated room also allows us to introduce students to the use of technology in legal proceedings. We are consulting closely with Court Services at the

Before...



PHOTOS: JULIE SLOAN, COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER UVIC LAW

Ministry of Justice, those responsible for providing services to administrative tribunals, and the courts themselves to ensure the technological fit-out allows for parties to appear and give evidence at a distance. Moreover, monitors and cameras have been arranged

to facilitate mediations, negotiations, and indeed all sorts of seminars and meetings, with the monitor serving, in effect, as the fourth side of a table. Each of our three clinics — the Law Centre, Environmental Law Clinic, and Business Law Clinic — already serve clients outside of Victoria. The new room will, we hope, allow them to do so more effectively. The video-conferencing equipment will also allow the easy recording of participants when that is appropriate. This will be especially useful for skills training.

We have designed the technology so that it can support the use of an electronic record now being trialed in the Court of Appeal. The room will be an amazing opportunity for our students to test the strengths and weaknesses of technology in a variety of proceedings, and to explore how processes and styles of advocacy need to be adapted to the new environment.

This project is supported by significant funding from within the University of Victoria. It is also the subject of a fundraising initiative, aimed especially at those associated with the law school in its early years, for which Anne Fraser, the widow of our founding Dean Murray Fraser, is serving as patron. We have received generous support already. Please let us know if you would like to assist.

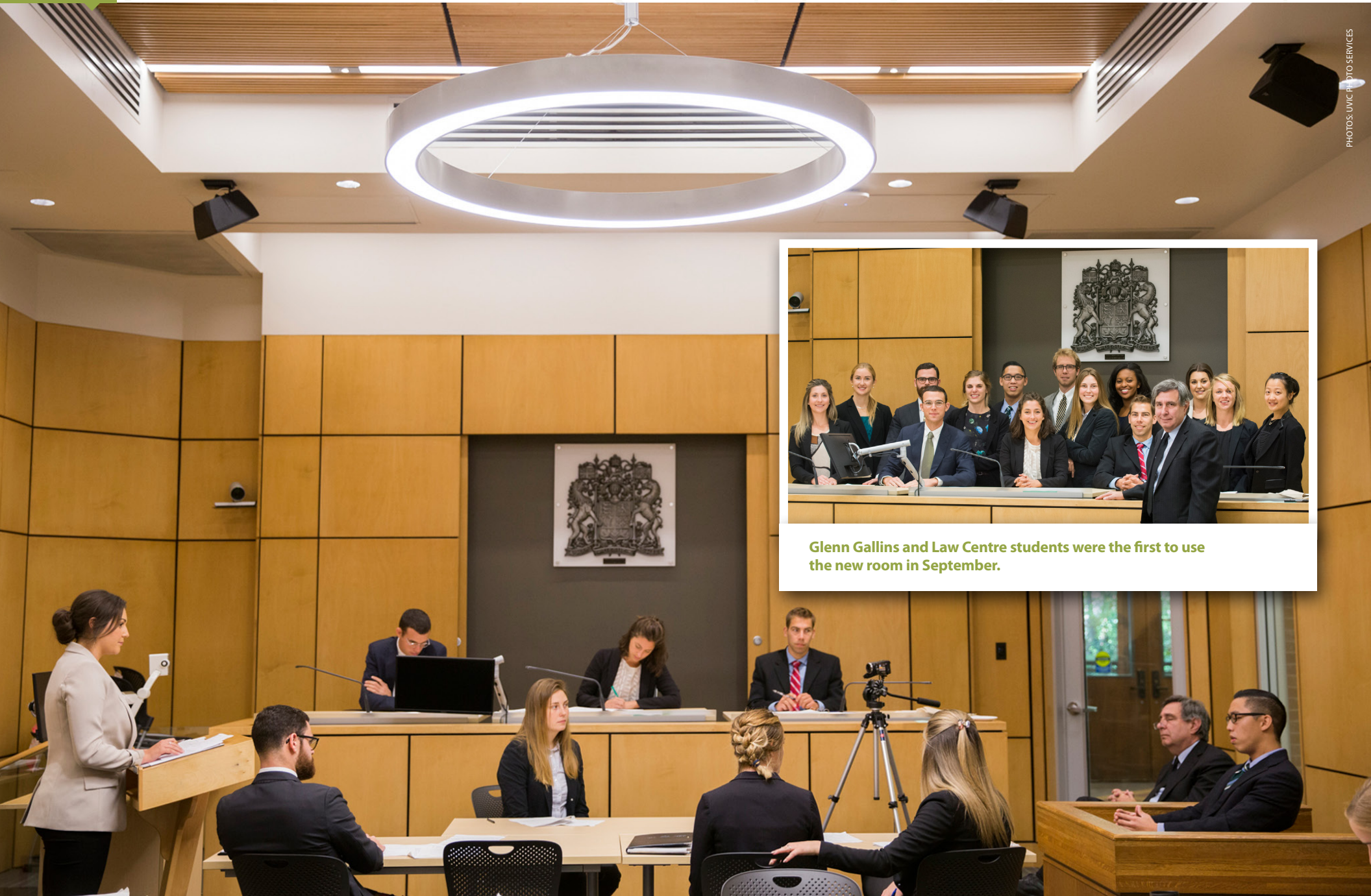
An open house will be held in the new year to celebrate this incredible new facility at the law school. We hope you can join us. 📺

...and after.

PHOTOS: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES



Glenn Gallins and Law Centre students were the first to use the new room in September.





The Environmental Law Centre celebrates 20 years

— BY HOLLY PATTISON, PARALEGAL ADMINISTRATOR

This fall the Environmental Law Centre (ELC) celebrated its 20th anniversary. In early October, the ELC hosted a gathering to celebrate the anniversary, recognize student leadership, and thank supporters.

One of the night's highlights was hearing from former ELC client John Snyder, who first came to the ELC in 2010 shortly after news came out about a coal mine proposal for the Comox Valley.

In a moving address to the audience, John expressed his appreciation for the guidance Comox CoalWatch had received from the ELC, and announced a donation from the group to the ELC.

As the ELC marks its 20th anniversary, there are two significant changes to note this year. Deborah Curran, recently the Hakai Professor in Environmental Law and Sustainability, has stepped into the leadership role as the Acting Executive Director. Professor Curran was also named the Real Estate Foundation of British Columbia's "Land Champion" for 2016 — a very great honour, recognizing her many contributions to environmental law reform in BC, especially on water law and sound environmental practices in municipalities and the built environment.

Second, the ELC has worked to diversify its funding base. For the last ten years, the ELC benefited from generous funding from the Tula Foundation. That partnership fostered a significant expansion of the ELC's activities, substantially increasing its impact throughout British Columbia and beyond. The ELC will always be grateful for that support. It came time, however, for the Tula Foundation to scale back its funding, and the ELC has received gratifying assistance from its many friends and supporters, some of whom we thank below.

Deborah Curran described what will be the principal orientation of the ELC in the years to come: "The ELC is a proven and successful model for providing legal services and training law students through clinical legal education. Our core approach





**Environmental
Law Centre**
UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

**20
years**

will remain the same. Our work over the next 20 years is to be more strategic and transparent in how we support lawyers, First Nations and community organizations. While everything the ELC does is based on partnerships, I look forward to those partnerships extending into multi-year projects and moving beyond client-based work for one term.”


The first order of business as Deborah Curran took the helm a few months ago was to formalize, in collaboration with the board of directors, a new strategic plan for the ELC. By focusing on the ELC’s areas of expertise, and building on the work they have already done in the areas of water law and management, mining, public legal education, watershed protection, and oil and gas (to name a few), a strategic plan was created that centres around 5 areas of focus:

- ▶ Healthy watersheds and airsheds;
- ▶ Sustainable communities;
- ▶ Resilient coast;
- ▶ Climate change and energy equity; and
- ▶ Environmental justice.

“We are privileged to operate the ELC as a partnership between three very effective sectors” says Curran. “First, students and the Faculty of Law provide the core infrastructure and energy to get the work done for community organizations and First Nations. Second, lawyers and clients across the province provide mentorship and access to good cases, as well as lend their expertise to our work. Third, we have a core of supporters from diverse backgrounds

— foundations, individuals, families and law firms — who fund our efficient operations.”

In addition to the generous support of the Tula Foundation, which provided core operational funding, the ELC would also like to thank the Law Foundation of BC for its continued, indeed expanded, support, as well as the great generosity of the North Growth Foundation, Isaac & Judy Thau and Oasis

Foundation, Real Estate Foundation, and many generous individuals. As the community co-chair of the ELC, Tim Leadem, stated at the 20th Anniversary celebration, when UVic students work with a community organization on an issue that is important to all of us, these folks stand beside them. 



(L-R) Deborah Curran (ELC Acting Executive Director), John Snyder (Comox CoalWatch), Calvin Sandborn (ELC Legal Director) and Holly Pattison (ELC Paralegal Administrator)

Patrick Kelly (Governor of the Law Foundation of BC) and Jeremy Webber (Dean of UVic Law)

PHOTOS: LAURA PRINGLE

**20
years**



Tax Break: Professor Martha O'Brien ('84) Retires

— BY PROFESSOR MARK GILLEN

Winning 2015 Bowman National Tax Moot Team:
(L-R) Brian Beitz, Yaroslavna Nosikova,
Professor Martha O'Brien, James Parker, Virginia Zhao



In the latter years of the 1990s no law faculty member at UVic devoted their scholarship to issues in taxation or EU law and the Faculty had been struggling to provide a course in taxation. Finding a genuine tax expert to join a law faculty can be a challenge. But, lo and behold, there in the applications for an available position beginning in July of the year 2000 was an application from Martha O'Brien. Here was a genuine tax expert with several years of tax practice experience first with Lawson Lundell & McIntosh from 1992 to 1994, then with the accounting firm of Coopers & Lybrand from 1994 to 1997 and from 1997 to 2000 with Blake, Cassels & Graydon. Her expertise was not, however, limited to tax. Martha had an LL.M. in EU Law from Université Libre de Bruxelles (1991–92). This fit well with the importance of Europe in international trade and a growing student interest in European law. Martha also had civil litigation experience, having practiced in that area at McCarthy Tétrault in Vancouver from 1986 to 1990. Before articling with McCarthy Tétrault, Martha had also clerked for Mr. Justice McIntyre at the Supreme Court of Canada from 1984 to 1985. In the midst of these sources of experience Martha had also managed to slip in a little over a year as Director of Research and Planning at the Law Society of British Columbia and five months as Associate Counsel for the Victoria Commonwealth Games Society in the spring of 1994.

Over the course of her sixteen and a half years at the Faculty of Law, Martha taught not only the in-

troductory tax course but two versions of "Advanced Taxation", one on corporations and the other on international taxation. She also taught Business Associations and Law of the European Union. She assisted in the delivery of a course on European Integration: Socio-Economic and Political Developments in the University's European Studies program. In several years she participated as well in the delivery of the first year Legal Process course. In more recent years she taught the now mandatory course in Legal Ethics and Professionalism. In her last pre-retirement term of teaching, apparently undaunted by (or perhaps having forgotten?) the amount of work that goes into teaching a new course, she bravely offered a new course in tax policy.

An important contribution on the teaching front came from Martha's scholarship. She was a co-author of *Materials on Canadian Income Tax* with Tim Edgar and Arthur Cockfield. Together with Arthur Cockfield she also addressed the discomfort, both physical and financial, caused to law students in introductory tax courses across the country who were asked to acquire a massive commercially produced version of the *Income Tax Act* and regulations only to then, mercifully perhaps, have their attention drawn to only a very small portion of it. They published a much lighter and less expensive *Student Edition of the Income Tax Act* containing only the provisions most introductory tax professors would normally draw to the attention



of students. This stroke of genius might be dismissed as altogether too obvious if not for the fact that apparently no one else had thought to publish such a book.

Martha's contribution to scholarship since joining the Faculty of Law has been remarkable in quantity, quality and breadth of topics. She has written on a number of topics in Canadian taxation including Aboriginal taxation. She has written on links between international taxation and EU law, international trade law and investment law. Her research has included the implications of the general anti-avoidance rules under the *Income Tax Act* for interprovincial tax planning and the OECD project on base erosion and profit shifting (or "BEPS" — tax avoidance by companies shifting profits from high tax jurisdictions to low or no-tax jurisdictions). Recently it has included looking at the EU-Canada taxation implications of guarantees of the free movement of capital under the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement ("CETA").

As someone who also teaches tax I have had occasion to read several of Martha's articles, finding them models of depth of knowledge, thoughtfulness, thoroughness and clarity. My perception is clearly widely-shared given the frequency with which Martha is invited to write papers for and present at conferences in Canada and Europe. She was also invited to be a visiting professor at Nagoya University, Japan, in 2010 and at the Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne in 2013. While some, perish the thought, may not have been inclined to seek out Martha's writings on taxation in Canada and the European Union or its relationship to international trade and investment law, they may yet have had the benefit of Martha's scholarship through Martha's several television and radio media appearances on topics such as **legal issues related to Brexit**, offshore tax cheats, the HST and Federal budget tax and policy issues.

All faculty members are expected to contribute to the administration of the law faculty and possibly also to the University and the community. As administrative assignments go, serving on the law school admissions committee is arguably among the more demanding of one's time and it can present some challenging issues. Martha served on this committee on a number of occasions and also served



as the committee chair for two years. The Law Faculty curriculum committee was another of the administrative assignments Martha frequently drew and also chaired a number of times. She served on the University curriculum committee for several years as well. Fortunately for UVic faculty in general, Martha volunteered her wisdom and expertise in serving as an elected trustee on the University of Victoria Pension Board. She also served as an elected member of the pension board's Policy and Procedures Committee.

Those of us in an occasional lunch gathering of retired and near retired law faculty members (known as the "out-of-the-loop" or "over-the-hill" group) know, as no doubt many others have discovered, that Martha is knowledgeable on a wide range of subjects. In particular, she keeps abreast of and is profoundly knowledgeable about global economic and political issues. We also know of Martha's passion for tennis, long bike trips and travelling. Conversations on tennis reveal an in-depth knowledge of the game based on many lessons and singles and doubles matches. She can also discuss in detail the strengths and weakness of many of the professional tennis players on both the women's and men's side of the game having acquired her knowledge not just from avidly watching the professionals play on television but from going to their tournaments. Her biking has included, most recently, a bike and boat trip



in Croatia, and in 1987 she did an eight-day bike trip across Austria.

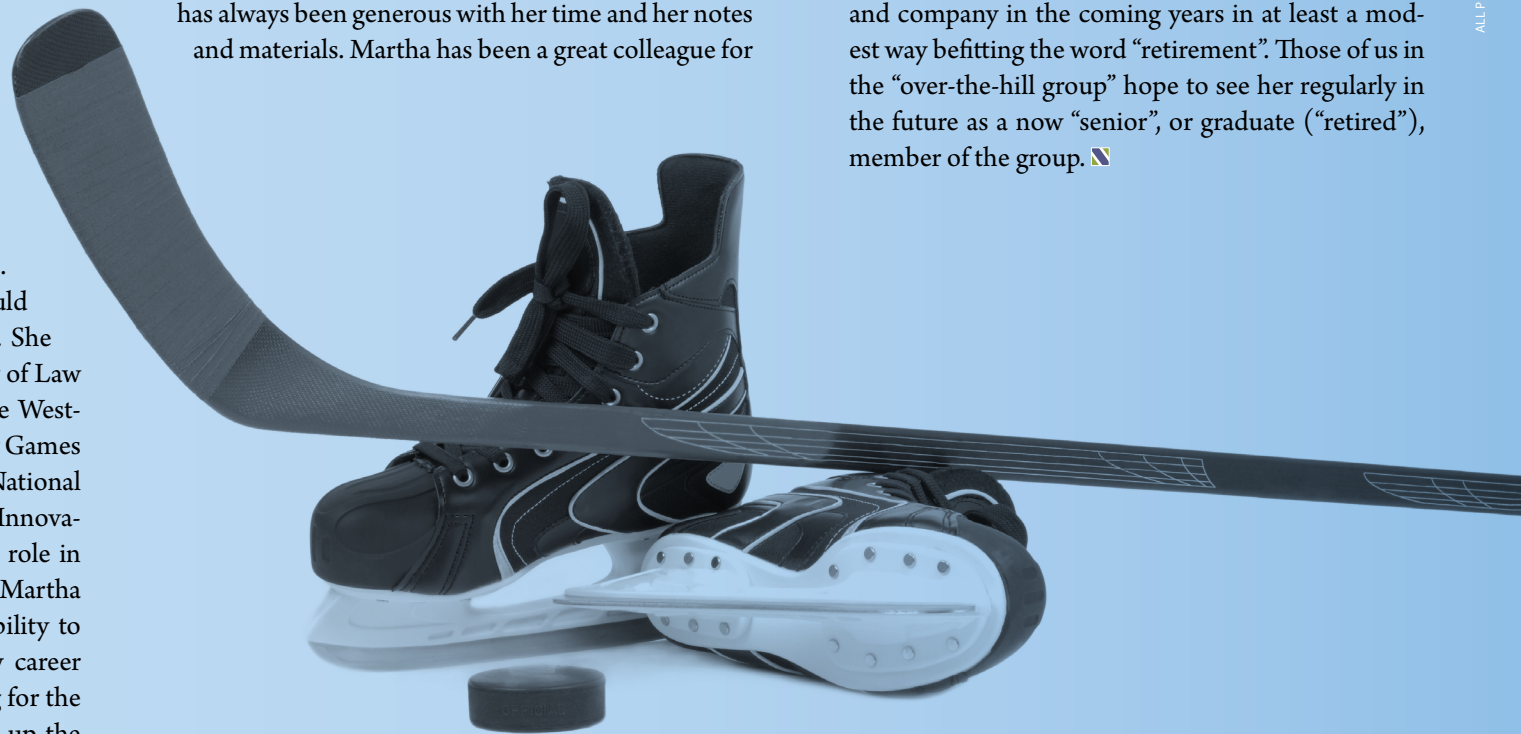
Martha's association with the University of Victoria dates back to well before her appointment as a faculty member. In the 1960s she would roll chairs with casters (or "chaises avec roulettes") down hallways on Saturdays outside her dad's lab at UVic while her dad checked on his experiments. This UVic-provided learning opportunity apparently sufficiently impressed her that she chose UVic as the obvious place to obtain a B.A. in French language and literature. Martha then continued her association with UVic entering the law school and graduating in 1984 with the Law Society of British Columbia Gold Medal for achieving the highest marks in her class. Martha had another noteworthy accomplishment while a law student. It was an accomplishment that for some would surely be the pinnacle of law school success. She played for two seasons with the UVic Faculty of Law Women's Hockey Team that won at both the Western Canada Law Games and the National Law Games in 1983 and were runners-up in the 1984 National Law Games (losing to McGill in the final). Innovative coaching may have played an important role in the team's success given the decision to put Martha on defence in spite of her self-admitted inability to skate backwards. She continued her hockey career playing a last season while in Ottawa clerking for the Supreme Court of Canada. She had to hang up the

blades for fear that another season, even while playing defence, might blemish her perfect three-season record of having scored no goals (apparently not even against her own team which, speaking from experience, is a remarkable accomplishment).

For me, the tax expert who stepped in to provide a needed extra body for teaching the basic tax course, I have learned a lot from Martha's vast knowledge and expertise. The depth of detail in her knowledge of Canadian tax law and tax policy is truly astounding. She has always been generous with her time and her notes and materials. Martha has been a great colleague for

me as I know she has been for others. In addition to sharing her knowledge in the tax area, she has always been willing to take time to chat and commiserate (i.e., she listens well while I whine!). Although I am "technically" the more senior faculty member (having arrived in 1987), I have received much guidance from Martha over the years and regard her as one of my key mentors.

Hopefully we at the Faculty of Law can prevail upon Martha from time to time to share her expertise and company in the coming years in at least a modest way befitting the word "retirement". Those of us in the "over-the-hill group" hope to see her regularly in the future as a now "senior", or graduate ("retired"), member of the group. 🏒





Well Aged: The Criminal Law Term Approaches 40!

— BY PROFESSORS GERRY FERGUSON AND MICHELLE LAWRENCE

The criminal law term (CLT) was one of UVic Law's pioneering curriculum innovations, along with clinical legal education at the Law Centre, a new focus on process ("law in action") rather than simply black letter law, and new courses such as Legal Process, Law, Legislation and Policy, Social Welfare Law, and Children and the Law. Indeed, the CLT was one of the three term programs which the Faculty launched, the other two being the Public Law Term (directed by Professor Bill Neilson) and the Solicitor's Practice Term (directed by Professors Mary Anne Waldron and the late Jim Ellis).

Term programs were designed to deliver legal education to our students in a different format. Rather than taking five discrete courses in two 1.5 hour blocks each week, students devoted their full semester of class time to a one term program in criminal, public or business law. This type of program design immediately opened the door to specialization, innovation, creativity, and flexibility that regular course programming could not deliver. For example, the term programs included field placements with lawyers and government agencies, one, two or three day conferences on specialized topics, attendance and observation at courts and tribunals, skills exercises like conducting a full day trial, a public law hearing or a complex commercial negotiation. The term programs have been the academic highlight for many of our law students. For example, Andrew Petter, class of '81, later Professor Petter, Attorney General Petter, Dean Petter and now (SFU) President Petter reports that

the Public Law Term was one of the most enlightening and motivating parts of his law degree.

The highlight of the Faculty's first criminal law term in 1978 (directed by Professor Lyman Robinson) was the murder trial of John Aiken. Gordon MacDonald of Victoria was defence counsel and he was assisted by the entire CLT class (12 students) who, with Professor Robinson's guidance, produced legal memos and undertook very valuable leg work for him. When a verdict of not guilty was rendered, the CLT students injudiciously broke into applause. The trial Judge, Mr. Justice McKay, was not pleased and he promptly summoned Professor Robinson into his chambers to scold him for the students' inappropriate outburst. This year's CLT may have lacked that moment of courtroom drama, but Professors Gerry Ferguson and Michelle Lawrence, who taught this year's CLT, made sure it was filled with many other memorable experiences:

- ▶ The Honourable Frank Iacobucci, C.C., QC moved the class to near tears in describing his experiences interacting with First Nations members in Northern Ontario with respect to their experiences with the criminal justice system; and in later recounting highlights from his diverse and distinguished career, he provided students, in his humble, humane and caring style, with an inspiring model of how to live a rewarding professional life.

- ▶ Justice Russell Brown (class of '94) provided the CLT students with a wonderfully informal, frank and practical view into the realities, challenges and privileges of serving as a Supreme Court of Canada judge.
- ▶ Bill Smart, QC gave the students unique insights into changes over the years in criminal law practice and the challenges ahead based on his experiences as a distinguished criminal lawyer, then a BCSC judge and now a practitioner once again.
- ▶ Justice Barbara Fisher (class of '82) and visiting judge in residence painted a fascinating picture of the similarities and the differences between the common law adversarial system and the inquisitorial system in France.
- ▶ Peter Wilson, QC and Bernd Walter, Chair of the BC Review Board gave students a comprehensive and behind the scenes view of the challenges of dealing with mentally disordered clients, unfit accused and NCRMD patients.
- ▶ And the list of other distinguished guests went on and on including Brian Rendell and John Cliffe, QC on the nuts and bolts of the prosecution of federal and provincial offences; Judge Sue Wishart (class of '94), Dale Marshall (class of '88), Nomita Bali (class of '96) and Gordon MacDonald on some of the realities of criminal law practice today; Richard De Boer

(class of '90) on BC Criminal Justice Policy; Mark Benton, Andrew Pilliar and Roland Kuzma on Legal Aid, Robert Mulligan, QC on police interrogations, Drs. Don Read, Stephen Lindsay and Steven Porter on psychology's knowledge and insights with respect to eyewitness evidence, memory and suggestibility; Sergeant Kerrilee Jones, Gisela Ruebsaat (class of '82), Clark Russell and criminologist Dr. Margaret Jackson on practices and responses in domestic violence cases; Liane O'Grady (class of '84) on prosecution of "K" files; Fernando de Lima (class of '11) on criminal and civil forfeiture; Simon Owen (class of '05) on Aboriginal justice practices; Doug King, Adrienne Smith and D.J. Larkin from PIVOT on their advocacy with respect to their four priority areas: police accountability, homelessness, sex workers and drug policy; and Jessica Rourke and Shanna Grant-Warmald on restorative justice.

CLT students also had wonderful experiential learning opportunities. Each student had a 35 to 40 hour field placement; five students acted as mini-law clerks for five provincial court judges and the remaining students had similar placements with Victoria defence counsel. Crown counsel were unable to host any students this year but they have indicated they will do so in future CLT programs. Students participated in police station and prison visits; they also visited Victoria Integrated Court and they had a

"fantastic", "spectacular" and "inspiring" visit to First Nations Court in Duncan as described [here](#). The students also conducted mock sentencing hearings, engaged in a simulated client meeting in which the right to silence had to be explained prior to police questioning, and conducted mock examinations-in-chief of reluctant or recanting complainants in domestic violence cases. The term program also tackled current criminal law issues being addressed in the media. That included discussion of issues surrounding the prosecution and defence of former CBC host Jian Ghomeshi in Ontario, as well as the Netflix series "Making a Murderer" dealing with the controversial conviction of Steven Avery and Brendan Dassey for murder in Wisconsin.

CLT students capped off their term program by completing major research papers on issues of interest to them and of significance to the profession. Topics ranged from the constitutionality of mandatory minimum sentences to the controversies of Mr. Big sting operations. Students presented the results of that research at a continuing legal education event hosted at the law school in March with 35 to 40 members of the bench and bar in attendance. Law Society President David Crossin, QC opened the event with an uplifting keynote speech which addressed the important role of the criminal defence lawyer in the criminal justice system. Judge Carmen Rogers, John Labossiere (class of '90), Paul Pearson (class of '98), Michelle Lawrence (class of '98) and Simon Owen

(class of '05) provided comments on the papers, challenging students and those present to consider the potential impacts of the research on the everyday practice of criminal law.

According to Kirsty Broadhead, a third year law student and past president of the Indigenous Law Students Association, "...the Criminal Law Term was an experience in understanding, holistically, how the criminal law system works and its flaws. It gave us an opportunity to think about what we could do to fix those flaws. The externship component placed some students with defence lawyers, others with judges which made us privy to the actual experience of criminal law in practice. We were allowed and encouraged to explore what is new in the criminal law world, like First Nations courts, innocence projects, and inquiries. Learning from the best, it was challenging both academically and mentally, but it was an experience that has shaped my future aspirations and one that I would never take back."

Sarah Chaster is also a third year law student and is currently doing a term in the UVic Law Centre. She spent the summer working at Peck and Company, a criminal law firm in Vancouver, and saw the Criminal Law Term as a foundation for her future career.

"The criminal law term was a phenomenal, immersive learning experience. While I've enjoyed law school overall, I found that often the various classes were hard to connect and felt somewhat siloed. The criminal law term departed from this by immersing

students in classes which had purely criminal focuses and allowed us to study similar issues from slightly different angles (from the perspective of sentencing, criminal procedure, fundamentals of criminal law, and always engaging very practical components). From a methodological perspective, I felt like I was drawing better connections and engaging much more deeply in the material than I had up until this point in my law school experience.

In terms of career aspirations, the practical component of the criminal law term was hugely beneficial. I have an interest in criminal law and, immediately after finishing the criminal law term, I summered at a criminal defence firm in Vancouver. Having the CLT as a springboard for that career experience was incredibly helpful. Through the CLT, I was connected to the legal community in Victoria. I got to know the criminal bar, and had an externship through the CLT wherein I worked directly with a local criminal defence lawyer and had the opportunity to see how his practice operated and watch him conduct cases.

The program also made excellent use of guest speakers, who helped give me a very big picture sense of how the criminal law operates, and also gave me a very practical foothold as opposed to learning in a more theoretical, removed classroom setting.

Finally, I immensely enjoyed the size of the program. The CLT accepted only 14 students by lottery, meaning we were able to work closely with our peers. We also had a lot of close time with Gerry and

Michelle, who were wonderful mentors to all of us throughout and beyond the program.

Ultimately, the CLT was a highlight in my law school experience and equipped me more than I ever could have anticipated for my first experience working in a criminal law firm.” ■





Accessibility Advocate Carrie Moffat ('13)

— BY JULIE SLOAN, COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Carrie Moffatt wasn't your typical law student. Not only did she have a few different careers before coming to law school, but she also has a rare condition known as Usher Syndrome. She was born with hearing loss and then began to lose her sight at the age of 16, becoming legally blind by the time she was in her late 20s. She is paired with her second guide dog, Axel, a black lab from Guide Dogs for the Blind, who she relies on to travel safely.

Carrie grew up in the Lower Mainland, then in Ontario, but returned to BC to do her undergrad at UVic with a double major in political science and environmental studies. She always had an interest in the law, but wanted to make very sure it was what she wanted to do. After undergrad she worked in the non-profit sector and went on to complete a certificate in communications at Camosun College. Carrie worked in communications for the BC government for several years and still felt she needed a creative outlet so she began making glass jewelry as a side business. But she was still restless:

"I wasn't feeling very intellectually fulfilled with the communications route. I love learning and I love school and academics, so I wanted to use my brain more. I thought that law school and a career in law would provide the intellectual challenge I was seeking."

Carrie finally decided to take the plunge, and was surprised at how much studying law satisfied her creative side. "I think it's pretty true that law can be creative. You're problem-solving a lot and you have to be creative with solutions — it's not all formulaic. There's a lot of translating complicated subject matter into plain language."

UVic was an obvious choice for her because she and her husband already lived in Victoria, as did most of her family. But it was also the calibre of the school, the size, the collegiality and the great professors that made it an easy decision.

After graduating from law school, Carrie articulated for a municipal law firm in Vancouver and

worked there for three and a half years before recently moving back to Victoria to work as the Assistant City Solicitor for the City of Victoria.

I met with Carrie last January to talk about her career, advocacy, and taking on Air Canada.

At UVic Law you won several awards, including a research fellowship,* which means you were a remarkable student. Were you always such a good student, and where does that drive come from?

Yes, I've always been very driven academically and with what I wanted to do. I think that drive comes from two things: my parents and dealing with adversity. I had to prove myself growing up with hearing loss and worked extra hard to compensate for any perceived disadvantage, and I just enjoy the process of learning and studying. My parents also instilled a strong work ethic in me.

Any professors or courses that have really helped you in your career?

I took Constitutional Law with John Borrows and he was amazing. I took an interesting seminar with Freya Kodar in Disability Law. And of course Hamar Foster and Mary Anne Waldron were fantastic too.

When at UVic Law you were the co-president of the LawAbility Club and organized an event to discuss disability and how to approach people with disabilities.

Jessica Vliegenthart (now a personal injury lawyer in Kamloops who played wheelchair basketball for five years on Canada's national team) and I organized this event because there is a lot of discomfort around how to talk about disability and we wanted to address that with fellow students. We had really good

attendance at the event. It's something I would have liked to have seen repeated. It helped, at least, to open the discussion a bit.

Is this something you still do in your professional life?

I organized a fundraiser for the Foundation Fighting Blindness called Cycle for Sight before I started law school. I've been involved with FFB over many years (www.ffb.ca). I've spoken at several FFB conferences to youth and parents about advocating for yourself when you have vision loss.

Working as a lawyer with visual and hearing impairment, do you face discrimination in the legal community, or is it generally accepted that you are as capable as any other lawyer?

Because I worked incredibly hard growing up to learn how to speak orally, and my hearing and vision loss is invisible to most people, I present as able-bodied, so it's difficult to say. I have law school colleagues who use a guide dog, wheelchair or white cane, that cannot find work. I think I found work in part because I was able to present as able-bodied, and I had work experience and the academic credentials to back me up. There are many issues in the profession in terms of accessibility and awareness of disability and sensory impairments in particular. It's just not well understood.

Do you feel that your impairment has limited your aspirations as a lawyer in any way?

It hasn't limited, but it certainly shapes how and what I do. I know that I can't bill ridiculously long hours because part of having just a little bit of sight and hearing means there's a lot of fatigue due to the energy required to communicate with hearing and sighted people. Even just getting to work takes a lot of effort for me as I have to concentrate so hard to navigate safely. So with that in mind, I knew that I didn't want to work at a large firm, nor did I want to be in the

courtroom. Courtrooms are simply not accessible to people who are deafblind. I've been very clear in my career direction that I do not want to be a litigator, so I've chosen to work more behind the scenes on litigation files, conducting research, and writing which I prefer to do anyway. So it definitely shapes my career path, but my personality and preferred work style also play a role.

Where are you working now?

I'm currently working as in house counsel for the City of Victoria. I've been practicing municipal law since I graduated from UVic Law, and I find it very interesting with a diverse range of issues and different types of work. Municipal law encompasses areas such as planning, zoning and land use, constitutional, administrative, environmental, real property, conflict of interest, freedom of information, council procedure, bylaw drafting, interpretation and enforcement, contracts, and procurement, so I'm constantly learning and never feel bored. It's rewarding to have a municipal corporation as a client because you act for the municipality and not for an individual person or politician. So for those like me who are interested in public interest law, it's a good field to be in.

You've traveled a lot, and I imagine your experience travelling must be quite exhausting. How do you manage that and how do you take things in differently?

My most recent international trip was to Italy and I had my husband with me, and when we do those kinds of trips for pleasure it's very planned. So we know exactly where we're going to be staying. Backpacking days are well over and we're not going back to that style of travel! We typically pick a base camp and go from there. Having Casey (Carrie's first guide dog, now retired) with me was a huge help as well. And Casey got to go to Italy, which she loved!

* Carrie received a \$12,000 BLG Research Fellowship to assist Professor Freya Kodar on a research project on consumer debt between first and second year.

There was a lot of press about your fight with Air Canada to change a policy that discriminated against people who are deaf and blind, requiring them to fly with a companion. What made you take that step, and what has come of it since the Canadian Transportation Agency instructed Air Canada to amend its policy in December of last year? Are you happy with Air Canada's response?

When I called Air Canada to let them know I would be flying with my guide dog on a flight between Vancouver and Victoria, I was told that I needed an adult companion to fly with me, because I am both hearing and visually impaired, and therefore not capable of taking a flight by myself.


After that phone call, I knew that I had to take this on and get this discriminatory policy changed.

Air Canada fought me every step of the way for the two years that it took to obtain a decision. It was a long fight, and I was thankful to have the assistance and representation of the Community Legal Assistance Society (CLAS). It's not something that should have taken that long. In the end, the re-written policy essentially says that if you're partially deaf and blind, you're able to fly on your own and determine for yourself whether you are capable of flying alone.

What's your next big challenge? Any advocacy projects?

I have been working a lot with guide dog teams to seek changes to the BC *Guide Dog and Service Dog Act* that was recently enacted. The legislation has made it more difficult for guide dog handlers in BC to travel freely without being harassed, denied access to public spaces, and arbitrarily stopped for identification. There has been a lot of emphasis on fake service dogs, which is certainly an issue, but the measures the government implemented have had unintended consequences on the guide dog community. The legislation is now in force, but we're continuing to work to try to make amendments so that it is effective and non-discriminatory.

Are you still involved with the law school?

Yes, I'm currently participating in the Environmental Law Clinic Associates Program. Basically it's a group of lawyers around the province who practice in public interest environmental law. It's nice to hear other lawyers' perspectives and, having participated in the ELC for two terms when I was at UVic Law, it's great to be involved and re-connect again. 



Moving Toward an Accessible Canada

—BY MARNI MACLEOD ('93)

Federal Minister for Persons with Disabilities, Carla Qualtrough ('97), was recently interviewed on CBC's *The Current* about what an accessible Canada means. The interview was part of a public consultation campaign to solicit input for a new (and unprecedented) "Canadians with Disabilities Act."

Existing disability programs, services and standards have been developed under federal legislation enacted in the 1980s and a patchwork of provincial legislation. The current initiative is intended to create legislation that codifies equality and inclusion for disabled Canadians in a meaningful way to be achieved by a balance between regulation and incentives.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the consultation process and planned public consultation sessions. ▣

Click to listen to *The Current* interview:

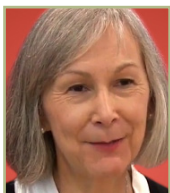


Alumni Vistas: News and Updates

The 1980s



Dean Fortin ('84) joined Pacifica Housing as Executive Director in Aug 2015, where he leads the not-for-profit society into a new era of growth and development. A proud leader in social housing, Dean is eager to continue to find solutions in affordable housing so that more people can lead healthier lives. Dean also serves as a Director on the Vancity Community Foundation Board.



Marion Buller ('87) and **Qajak Robinson ('05)** were named Commissioners of the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women's inquiry.



Shelagh Kinney ('87) joined the Family Law Group at Watson Goepel LLP as Associate Counsel in July 2016. In addition to advising and representing clients in family law matters, Shelagh is a certified in BC as a mediator, arbitrator and parenting co-ordinator. You can contact her at skinney@watsongoepel.com.

The 1980s



Nicola Marotz ('88) was inducted into the BC Public Service Hall of Excellence for 25 years of extraordinary public service dedicated to provincial interests, the interests of communities and regions, and the well-being of her colleagues. Nicola is with the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development.

The 1990s



Honourable Leonard Marchand ('94), a judge of the Provincial Court in Kamloops, BC, received the Special Contribution Award at the Aboriginal Lawyers Forum of the BC branch of the Canadian Bar Association.



Catherine Boies Parker ('94), the gold medalist for the class of 1994, was awarded the Canadian Bar Association of BC's highest honour: the Georges A. Goyer, QC Memorial Award for Distinguished Service. CBABC president Michael Welsh commended Boies Parker, stating that she "...has

The 1990s

worked tirelessly to improve the legal standing of Victoria's homeless population and, in turn, has elevated legal practice in our province."



Sarah Klinger ('97) was appointed as an Executive Officer of the Canadian Bar Association BC Branch. Sarah is a sole practitioner in Victoria, British Columbia, where she practices personal injury, employment law and estate litigation.



Pamela Cyr ('99) has left her role as Assistant Dean of Career Services at UBC's Allard School of Law. She is now Director of Student Programs for Bull Housser and Tupper, which will merge with Norton Rose Fulbright in January 2017.



Jason D. Roth ('99) was called to the British Columbia Bar on March 31, 2016. Jason was previously called to the Alberta Bar in 2001. He is currently a Partner at Bennett Jones in Calgary and the head of the firm's construction law practice group.

The 2000s



In June of this year, **Jill Perry ('00)** completed her one-year term as President of the Nova Scotia Barristers' Society. Ms. Perry is the Managing Lawyer of the Family Division for the Nova Scotia Legal Aid office

in Sydney. She has worked there as a staff lawyer since 2001. She was first elected to Council in 2007 as a member for the Cape Breton District, completing three terms in that position before becoming Second Vice-President in 2013 and First Vice-President in 2014.



Jo-Anne Kahan ('04) has moved her sole practice to join the firm of Stevenson Luchies & Legh. Jo-Anne practices in the areas of Family, Wills and Estates and Civil Litigation.

Brooke MacLeod ('05) has left the firm of Duncan and Faber to start her own practice, Brooke A. MacLeod Law in Victoria, BC. Brooke practices in the areas of Family Law, Wills, and Real Estate.



Alumna **Jennifer Bond ('06)**, a law professor at the University of Ottawa, won the Walter S. Tarnopolsky Award for her humanitarian and refugee work. In the midst of the 2015 refugee crisis, she created the Refugee Sponsorship Support Program which brings together law students, lawyers and sponsorship

The 2000s

experts to provide free legal advice to Canadians wishing to sponsor refugees. Read more [here](#).



Emma Thomas ('06) has moved from Jawl Bundon to join Jones Emery Hargreaves Swan.

The 2010s



Laura Atkinson ('10) has moved from Brown Henderson Melbye to her own practice. She is also a long-time supervisor for the University of Victoria Law Centre.



After practicing at a prominent Victoria, BC law firm, **Christopher McDougall ('10)** has moved to Preszler Law LLP in Vancouver, BC to practice plaintiff personal injury law.



David Namkung ('10), Partner at The Counsel Network, has been elected President of the Federation of Asian Canadian Lawyers (FACL) BC chapter. David previously

The 2010s

served as Vice-President of FACL BC. FACL is a diverse coalition of Asian Canadian legal professionals working to promote equity, justice, and opportunity for Asian Canadian legal professionals and the wider community.




Since joining Quadra Legal Centre in 2013, **Gavin J. Ma-ther ('12)** has now completed his accreditation to become a family law mediator.



Micah Goldberg ('14) has joined Watson Goepel LLP as an associate after finishing articles with the firm and his call to the British Columbia Bar in 2016. While at UVic Micah served as the Law Student Society President and won the Fasken Martineau Shield in recognition of his performance at the Gale Cup Moot. You can contact Micah at mgoldberg@watsongoepel.com.



Recent graduate **Yaroslavna Nosikova ('16)** won the 2016 Harvey T. Strosberg Essay Prize for the best student essay on class actions in Canada. Read more [here](#). 

In Memoriam: Kevin Gillett ('78)

—BY PROFESSOR HAMAR FOSTER

Kevin Gillett ('78) died of a sudden heart attack on September 1, 2016. An accomplished actor, guitarist and squash player even before he enrolled in law school, Kevin then became an excellent lawyer, as well.

After graduating from high school in 1966, he and his friend, Hamar Foster, travelled to Prince Rupert where they spent the summer working in a fish cannery. They roomed together at UVic in 1966-67, and both eventually returned: Kevin as a member of the law school's first class (1975-78) and Hamar as a faculty member (1978-2015).

While at UVic Kevin and his friend Julian Greenwood took breaks from their studies by entertaining fellow law students with songs such as *Mr. Bora Laskin — dissents* (to the tune of *Bo Jangles*) and many others they had written. These songs were also performed at skit nights, class reunions and at the law school's 25th anniversary in 2000. After his class's 30th reunion in 2005 Kevin told *The Torch*, UVic's alumni magazine, that these performances were in "the tradition of many aging rock stars" and that the weekend reunion "demonstrated once again that, the older we get, the better we were."

Kevin met his wife, Geneviève, in France on one of his early visits to that country, was fluent in French, and had a graduate degree in Civil Law as well as his UVic LLB. In recent years he and his family holidayed annually on the boat they kept in the south of France, cruising the canals.



PHOTO: PERSONAL ARCHIVE / INTERNET

Kevin spent some time in private practice, including a stint as one of the counsel at the APEC Inquiry, and served for many more years as Crown Counsel in Vancouver. He prosecuted a number of high profile cases, including *R. v. Wirick*, described by the *Financial Post* as the biggest legal fraud case in Canadian history. But work was not everything. As one old friend put it, Kevin was "a master at work-life balance — heavy on the 'life' part." His priorities were family, friends and travel.

Kevin is survived by Geneviève, daughters Sarah and Elodie, three grandchildren Eloise, Felix, and Johnny, and siblings Nigel and Joanna. A memorial celebration was held on September 15, 2016 at the home of Glenn Paruk ('78) and Marion Paruk ('78). Many tributes were given and memories shared — too many to include here; and Julian reprised their classic, *Mr. Bora Laskin — dissents*. He will be deeply missed by so many. ■

2011 Class Reunion

KAREN TSE ('11)

Alumna, Rockies Law Corporation

On a warm July evening this summer, UVic Law's Class of 2011 gathered for their 5th year reunion at the Swans Hotel & Brewpub. Organized by Karen Tse of Rockies Law, Fernie and Fernando de Lima of the Legal Services Branch, and with the support of the Alumni Association, sixteen graduates and their spouses and partners had a fantastic evening of reminiscing about old times at 'Fraser High.' They were joined by the associate dean, Gillian Calder, who taught many of the attendees. The best part of the evening was discussing over a tasty meal the varied and exciting paths many have taken since graduation. It was great fun to catch up on all the weddings and babies, trials and challenges faced, as well as dissertations and travels. 🍷

2017

Reunion Years

1982 — 35 year

1987 — 30 year

1992 — 25 year

1997 — 20 year

2002 — 15 year

2007 — 10 year

2018

Reunion Years

1983 — 35 year

1988 — 30 year

1993 — 25 year

1998 — 20 year

2003 — 15 year

2008 — 10 year



PHOTOS: GILLIAN CALDER

Appointments and Honours



Deborah Curran was **named** the Real Estate Foundation of BC's 2016 Land Champion. She received the award at the Land Awards Gala in Vancouver on October 21st.

Val Napoleon was **honoured** with the Indigenous Peoples' Counsel Award from the Indigenous Bar Association on October 14th, recognizing her commitment and contributions to Indigenous law. ▼



Dean of Law Jeremy Webber was elected to the Royal Society of Canada, the highest award for an academic in Canada. Read more **here**.

Emeritus Professor Donovan Waters **received** the Society for Trust and Estate Professionals (STEP) Lifetime Achievement Award in London, England on September 8th.



Upcoming Speakers

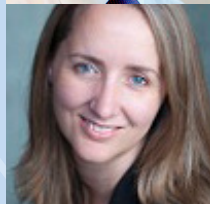
On March 1, 2017, The Fraser Lecture will be presented by Justice Michael Moldaver of the Supreme Court of Canada. Following the lecture, Justice Moldaver will present the Anne Roberts Humanitarian Award.

On February 1, 2017, John Borrows will hold an Author-meets-readers seminar for his book *Freedom and Indigenous Constitutionalism* from 12–1:20 pm in the Fraser Building, room 152, at the University of Victoria.

Publications



Professors Gerry Fergusson and Michelle Lawrence have co-authored, with Steve Coughlan, the book *Annual Review of Criminal Law 2015*.

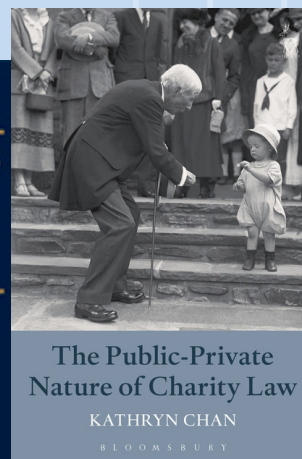
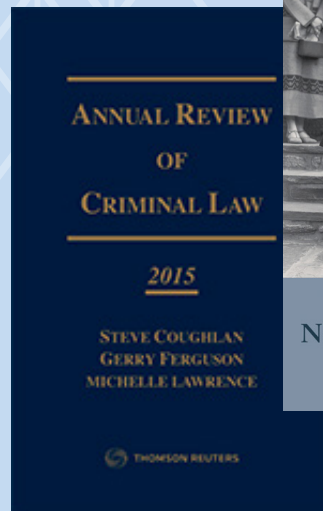


Professor Gerry Fergusson has just completed the 30th Annual Update to Canadian Criminal Jury Instructions (BC CLE, November, 2016)

and presented a paper on international perspectives on corruption and money laundering at the Interna-

tional Centre for Criminal Law Reform and Transparency International Canada sponsored Conference “Follow the Money: Corruption, Money Laundering and Organized Crime” in Vancouver, October 28, 2016. He was also a guest speaker at the Italian Anti-Corruption Agency in Rome, May 19, 2016 and is currently working on a revised edition of his free, open access, electronic book “Global Corruption: Law, Theory and Practice” available at [here](#).

Kathryn Chan published her first book, *The Public-Private Nature of Charity Law*, on November 17th by **Hart Bloomsbury**.



Upcoming Events

On January 13th, 2017, the annual Student Awards and Donor Recognition Reception will be held at the Inn at Laurel Point in downtown Victoria.

In June 2017 the Law Centre will celebrate its 40th Anniversary. UVic Law and the Law Centre will also welcome the 8th Annual Conference of the Association of Canadian Clinical Legal Education (ACCLE) and the annual conference of the Canadian Association of Law Teachers (CALT) from June 8–10, 2017.

Retirements



Martha O'Brien will retire in December 2016 after 16 years teaching tax and European Union law in the Fraser building. She will be missed! Martha was a panellist at Carleton University on September 23rd speaking about the legal implications of Brexit for the EU. 🇬🇧

10th Annual Canadian Association for Refugee and Forced Migration Conference

—BY SARAH CLOSE-HUMAYUN, CONFERENCE COORDINATOR CENTRE FOR ASIA-PACIFIC INITIATIVES

Overturned boats. Barbed wire fences. Shattered families. Lives mortgaged. From May 15–18, 2017, the Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives will host the 10th annual Canadian Association for Refugee and Forced Migration (CARFMS) conference at the University of Victoria. Panelists will take a close look at asylum and refugee law, recent developments in human rights, recent migration patterns and dynamics, and a wide range of related law and policy topics. Keynote speakers include environmentalist Sheila Watt-Cloutier, UN Office of Human Rights Section Chief Jyoti Sanghera, and LSE lecturer Romola Sanyal. Register now [here](#).



CARFMS17 CONFERENCE
CONFÉRENCE ANNUELLE DE 2017

MAY 15-18, 2017
VICTORIA, BC

FORGOTTEN CORRIDORS

Global Displacement & the Politics of Engagement



University
of Victoria

Centre for
Asia-Pacific Initiatives



Affirming Engagement: *Sul-Sultan* (spindle whorl) Return Celebrated

—BY JULIE SLOAN, COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

The foyer of the law building was full on the afternoon of Friday, September 30, for the ceremony to re-install the spindle whorl that was stolen early in the summer. The ceremony was led by Dean Jeremy Webber and First Nations elders Fred Charlie, Skip Dick, and Skip and May Sam. Carver Charles Elliott was also on hand to tell the story of the spindle whorl that he carved over 20 years ago for the Faculty of Law.

Jeremy Webber was interviewed on CBC Radio's All Points West on October 3rd, and spoke of the significance the art holds in terms of the partnership between the faculty and local Indigenous communities.

Many thanks to Darcy Lindberg, Jittiya Dearden, Jordan Forbes, Rosemary McCutcheon, Associate Dean Gillian Calder, and ILSA co-chair Clay Gray, for their help in preparing for the ceremony, and especially to Heather Raven for her important contributions both before and in the ceremony. And special thanks to UVic's Legacy Gallery. Director Mary Jo Hughes, Caroline Riedel and Roger Huffman received the spindle whorl when it was initially returned, did a light repair on its mounting, took good care of it, and then returned it for the ceremony.

It's wonderful to have the spindle whorl restored to the entrance of the building for all to see.

Read more [here](#). ▣



PHOTO: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

Making an Impact

—BY JULIE SLOAN, COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

UVic Law PhD student Aaron Mills was awarded the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) Talent award — one of its five “Impact Awards” — at a ceremony in Ottawa today. The Talent Award is the Impact Award for graduate students. It is given to a single student each year across all the disciplines of the humanities and social sciences in Canada whose research “brings forward ideas that help us understand and improve the world around us.” Mills’ work is at the forefront of restoring changing and revitalized Indigenous systems of law. It speaks to central recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission report. Mills will receive \$50,000 to support his graduate research.

The strength and impact of Mills’ work, teaching, and research has made him highly sought-after. He is currently a Trudeau Foundation scholar and completed his masters at Yale on a Fulbright Scholarship. He has received numerous academic awards, including a National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation Scholarship, the Casino Rama’s Award for Excellence, the Gladys Watson Memorial Scholarship, and the Foundation for the Advancement of Aboriginal Youth Scholarship.

“Recognizing the accomplishments of the best researchers in Canada is essential to building a vibrant and long-term culture of discovery and innovation in our country. Now and in the future, what will keep our country competitive is our ability to help people understand, shape and adapt—which is wholly with-

in the realm of social sciences and humanities. Congratulations to the five researchers we are celebrating today,” said Ted Hewitt, SSHRC president.

“Aaron Mills is one of the most creative, innovative and thoughtful students I have taught in my twenty-five years as a law professor,” says John Borrows, Mills’ doctoral supervisor at UVic’s Faculty of Law. “It’s rare to encounter someone as well prepared to make an immediate impact through his scholarship and leadership skills.”

Mills has already made an impact with his article “Wapshkaa Ma’iingan — Aki, Anishinaabek, kaye tahsh Crown,” published in the Indigenous Law Jour-

nal, which applies Anishinaabe law to natural resources conflicts in Canada and demonstrates how these laws can create a more peaceful and respectful path to development.

Mills says: “We can’t have an honest conversation about reconciliation without taking Indigenous constitutional orders seriously. What is it we think we’re reconciling? This nomination is recognition of the amazing supervision, guidance, and support I’ve received from so many at UVic, Couchiching, and other communities, and I’m greatly encouraged to have my efforts at articulating Anishinaabe constitutionalism considered important.”



(L-R) Award winners Lise Milne (McGill), Aaron Mills (UVic), and SSHRC president Ted Hewitt

Share your Vistas

Vistas is always interested in receiving story ideas from UVic Law alumni. Although we are unable to guarantee the inclusion of materials that are sent to us, we are deeply interested in shining a spotlight on the stories that you, the alumni, care about. If you know of a UVic Law graduate who could be profiled or have other interesting story ideas or materials worth highlighting, please feel free to contact us at lawcomm@uvic.ca.

Errors? Omissions?

If you spot something incorrect in Vistas please accept our apologies. If you send the corrected information to lawcomm@uvic.ca we will happily publish the correction in the next issue of Vistas due out in Spring 2017.



University
of Victoria
Law

Faculty of Law

University of Victoria
Murray and Anne Fraser Building, Room 102
McGill Road at Ring Road

PO Box 1700 STN CSC
Victoria British Columbia
V8W 2Y2 Canada

Tel 250-721-8151
Fax 250-721-8913
www.uvic.ca/law