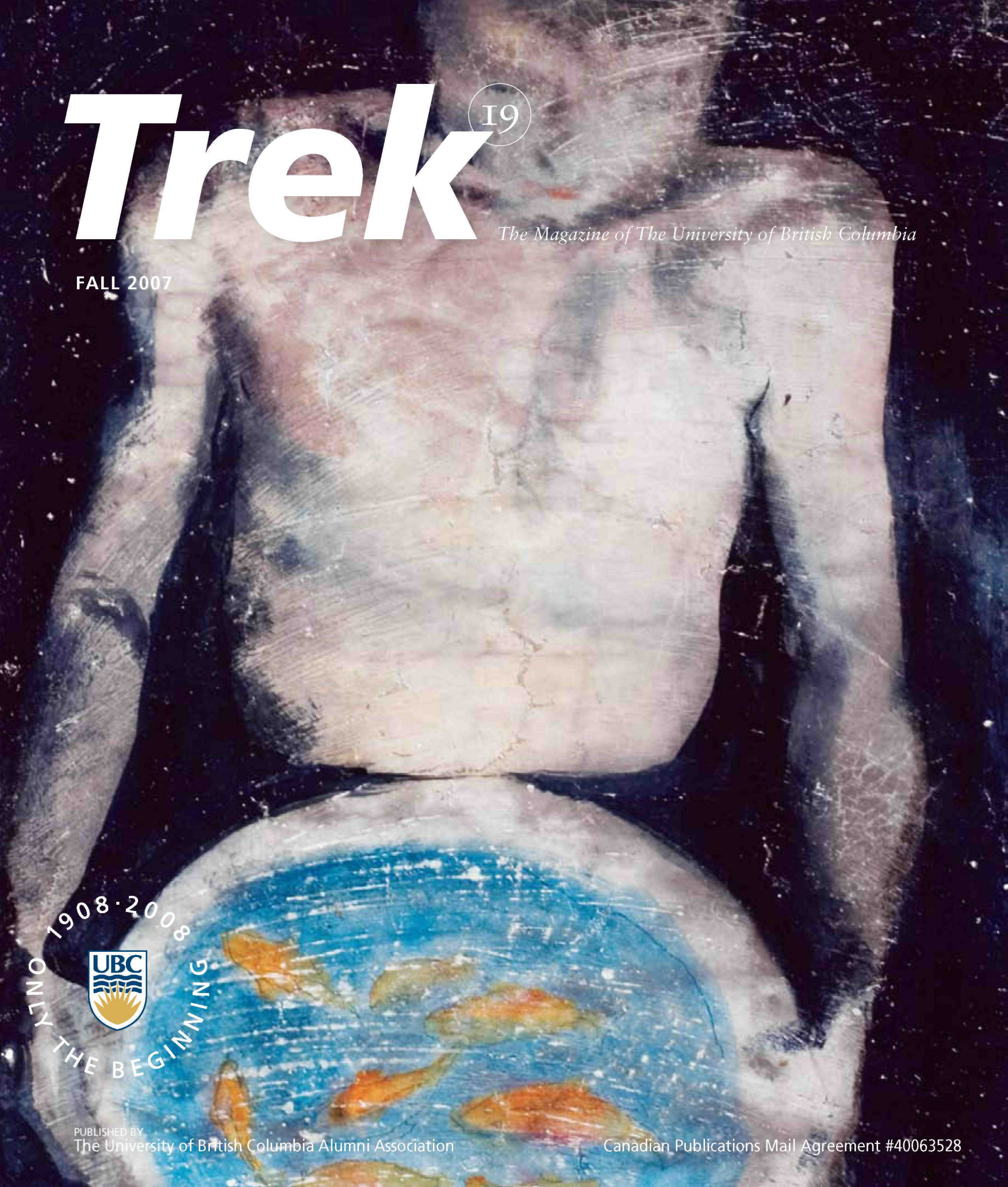
Trek 19

The Magazine of The University of British Columbia

FALL 2007



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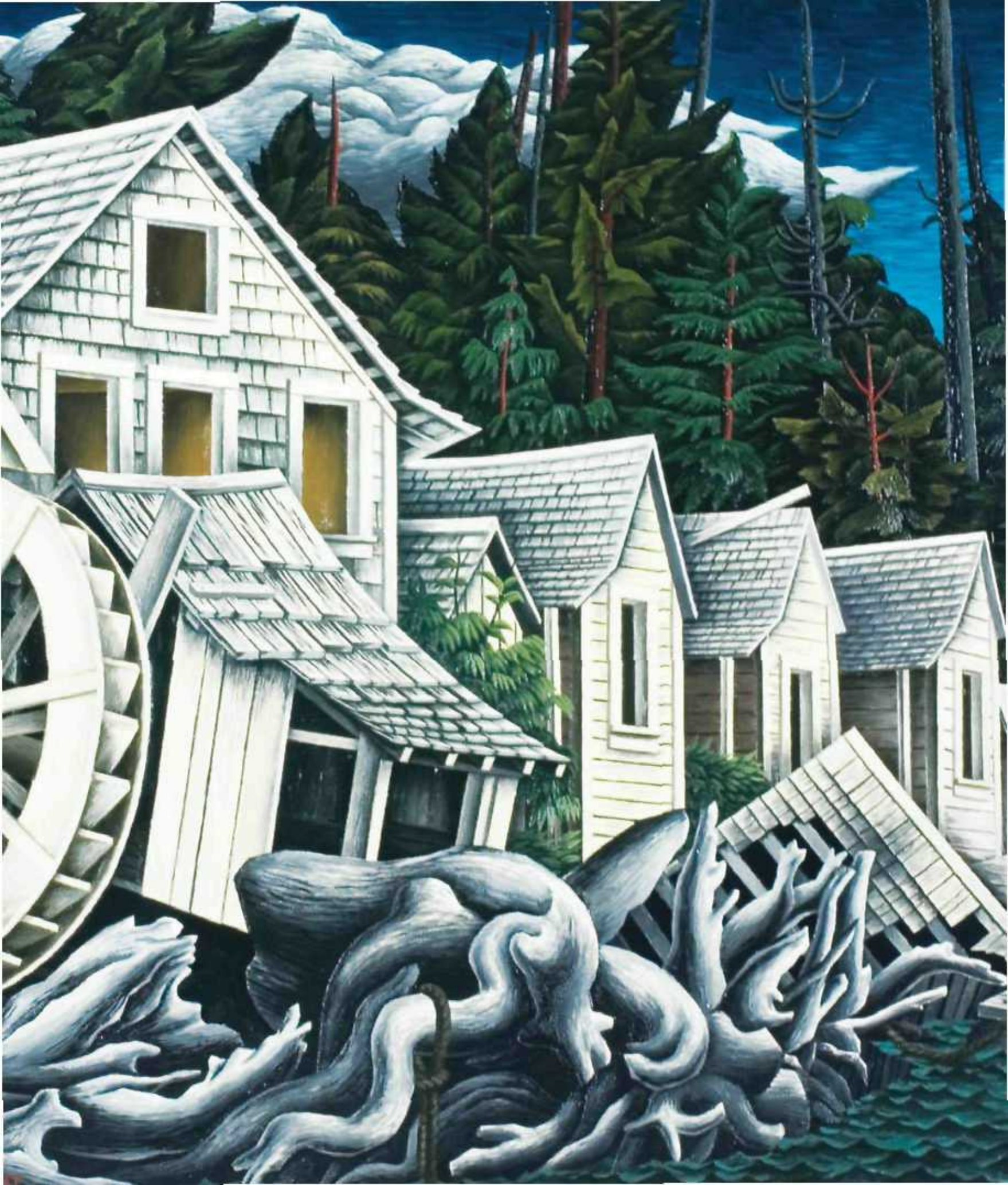

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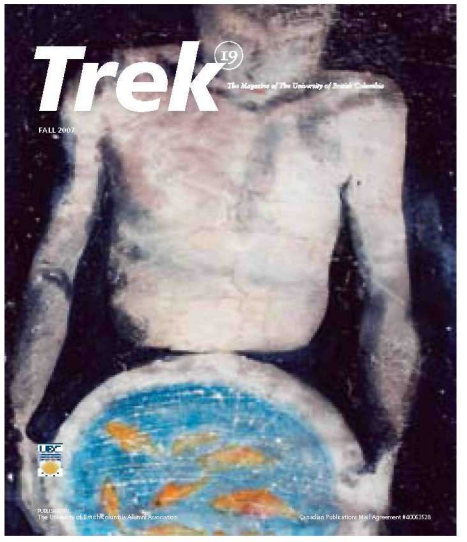

Trek 19

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The Editor,
UBC Alumni Affairs,
6251 Cecil Green Park Road,
Vancouver, BC, Canada V6T 1Z1
e-mail to *chris.petty@ubc.ca*

Letters published at the editor's discretion and may be edited for space. Contact the editor for advertising rates.

CONTACT NUMBERS AT UBC

Address Changes	604.822.8921
via e-mail	*alumni.association@ubc.ca*
Alumni Association	604.822.3313
toll free	800.883.3088
Trek Editor	604.822.8914
UBC Info Line	604.822.4636
Belkin Gallery	604.822.2759
Bookstore	604.822.2665
Chan Centre	604.822.2697
Frederic Wood Theatre	604.822.2678
Museum of Anthropology	604.822.5087

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SEMANTICS, ALTRUISM & THE SEARCH FOR BETTER THINGS

Most editors I know have active inner lives (we can't afford active outer ones), which might account for our pickiness when it comes to expressing ideas through the written word: we've got time to sit around stewing about such things. And, since we're the editors, we get to decide what's clear and what isn't.

This issue of *Trek Magazine* is a good case in point. We don't put issues together with "themes" in mind; while they might make for easier organizational shortcuts, they tend to limit the scope of coverage, and whatever else UBC might be, it is *not* limited in scope. But as we assembled this issue I noticed a certain trend that had to do, in a circular way, with altruism.

Altruism is an odd thing, defined as selfless concern for others. By the time most of us have reached adulthood we've been confronted with altruism as an intellectual construct: if I give $20 to a woman who's digging through a dumpster, then tell all my friends of my good deed, can I consider that deed altruistic? My guess comes down on "probably not." Generous, perhaps, and helpful. Concerned for the less fortunate, for sure. But hardly selfless: my self-congratulation and the admiration I assume I'll get from my peers is, in effect, full payment for my actions.

Our feature story, *Drugs for the Masses* (p. 28), tells the story of a UBC researcher and his quest for a way to get a certain medication to sufferers of a debilitating and disfiguring disease found in typically poor tropical countries. He is working hard to ensure that this drug (and its attendant delivery system) is supplied *at cost* to those in need, effectively eliminating profit to the university or the company that produces it. This is a remarkable shift in the usual developmental chain of drug deployment and UBC and the researcher are rightfully proud of the agreement. But you couldn't call the deal "altruistic" if you were being picky.

There were some interesting choices for me, the editor, to make in preparing that story for print. The researcher himself refers to his work as "altruistic," when, from the definition above, it is not. It's good citizenship, globally responsible, life-saving and admirable beyond measure. Altruistic? Maybe not so much. But I left the comment in.

I did edit out some references to the researcher, made solely by the writer. She calls him "a warm, friendly man," and makes reference to his kindly smile, both of which I deleted as being fulsome. In retrospect, however, I realize that those references helped amplify the altruism angle and I wonder if perhaps I was, subconsciously, trying to de-amplify it.

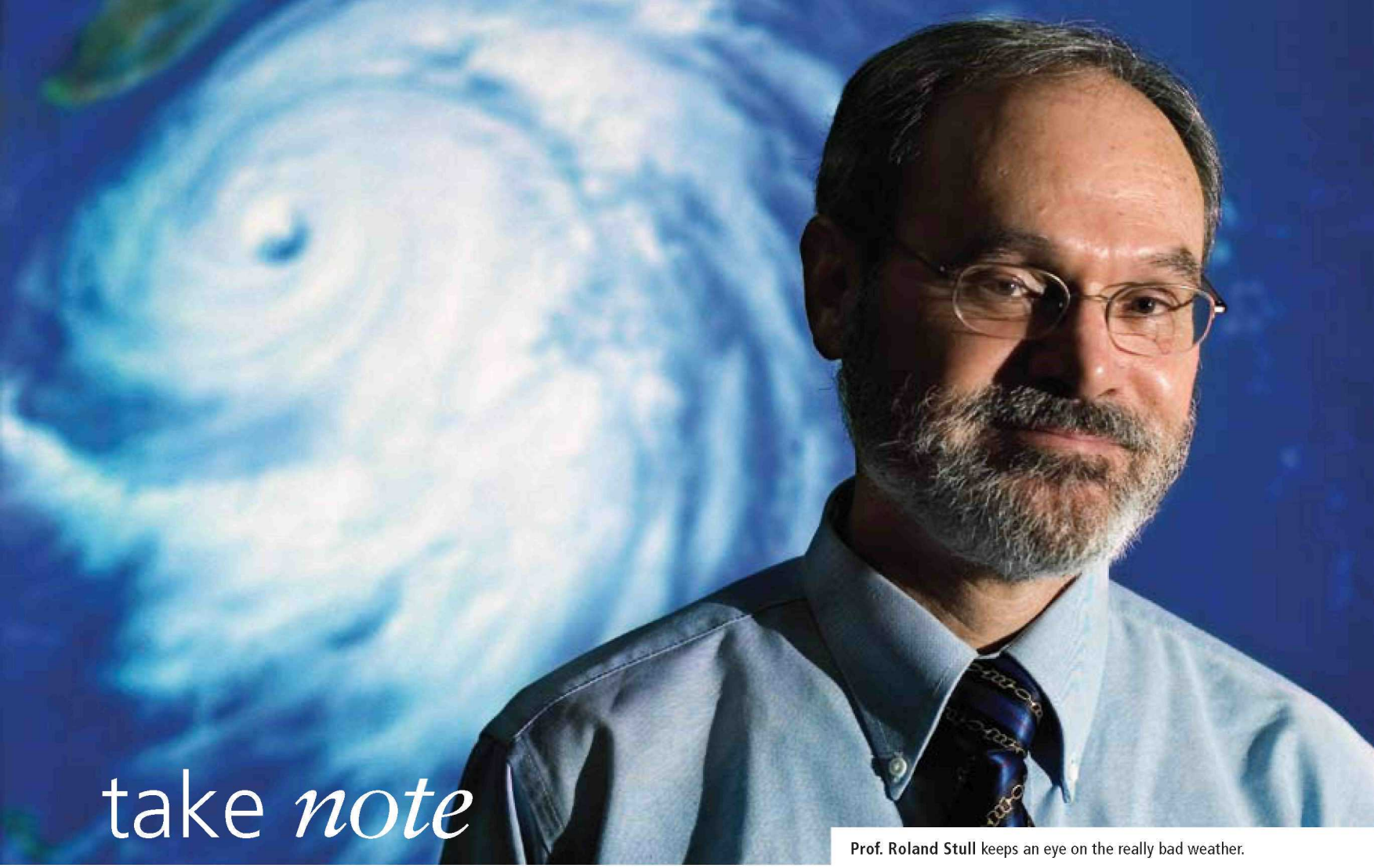
As I said, we have active inner lives.

The writer of our other feature, *Art for Students' Sake* (p. 24), does not refer at all to altruism or even generosity, but there is a strain of altruism in the piece that runs much more closely to the definition of the word. The Alma Mater Society determined, decades ago, to dedicate a small sum annually to the collection and recognition of (then obscure) Canadian art. The idea was to support Canadian artists, encourage them, and, by the way, collect some neat stuff. The neat stuff has turned into a multi-million dollar collection, but that is incidental to the original concept. And that, for my money, is altruism.

But none of these semantic twists and turns take away anything from the search for better things that UBC faculty, staff, students and alumni take on every day: they are just the daydreams of editors. From our "Take Note" items and *Paddling Away from Breast Cancer* feature, to Sabina Hill's furniture, Stephen Owen's philosophy and our amazing Achievement Award recipients, this issue of *Trek Magazine* is full of stories of UBC people in search of better things for themselves and for the rest of us.

And that's good for our inner and our outer lives. ◆

Chris Petty, MFA'86, *Editor*



take *note*

Prof. Roland Stull keeps an eye on the really bad weather.

Disastrously Good Teaching

■ The weather used to be a fairly benign topic of conversation: handy for filling in awkward social pauses or breaking the ice with a stranger. Maybe even boring. But nowadays, extreme weather and natural disasters are hot topics of conversation. A course run by meteorology professor Roland Stull, *The Catastrophic Earth: Natural Disasters,* offered by the department of Earth and Ocean Sciences is proving a hit with today's students. And now it's about to get better.

The course teaches students about the scientific causes and social fallout of natural disasters like tsunamis and earthquakes, and is popular with non-science and science students alike. Its design and delivery is being revamped with the help of funding and expertise provided by the $12 million Carl Wieman Science Education Initiative. (Wieman, Nobel laureate in Physics, joined UBC to launch the initiative last January.)

Based on research suggesting that traditional methods of teaching science can often leave students feeling less than enthused, lecture-based learning is being supplemented with interactive exercises that encourage students to think and engage, as well as simply absorb facts. This promotes a better understanding of scientific concepts and cultivates reasoning ability and creative thinking. Stull's course now includes a higher proportion of learning based on small-group discussion. The students are expected to attend the sessions well-informed on the featured subject.

"I'm guiding them to experience first-hand how scientists brainstorm and work through a problem, and how they incorporate knowledge and apply it," says Stull, who notes an even more enthusiastic atmosphere in the remaining lecture portion of his course. "Our students are sophisticated, bright and caring. It's incredible to see a 250-student lecture filled with excitement about what I'm teaching. The traditional lecturing method is efficient for covering a large amount of course material, if little else. Now I'm teaching efficiently and effectively." New methods of assessment to test a student's understanding of the subject matter and ability to apply it to scientific problem-solving is also under development.

The Science Education Initiative is helping to enhance two other programs and there are plans to expand. It has provided eight UBC science departments with science and learning fellows who have expertise in educational methodology and learning as well as their science disciplines. Stull worked on his course revamp with Francis Jones and Brett Gilley, who are now measuring the success of their strategies on learning outcomes to better hone the teaching methods. "By working with professors to optimize their course, we change the dynamics of a classroom from a 'hand-out' of knowledge to intelligent, thoughtful discourse," says Jones. "In other words, instead of passively hearing about science, they are *doing* science."

Photograph: Martin Dee

Researchers are looking for clues to how we judge attractiveness.

Eye, Robot

■ A team from UBC's Laboratory of Computational Intelligence (LCI) won an international competition in July by designing a robot that can "see" – or at least comprehend visual data and take appropriate action. Competing entries in the Semantic Robot Vision Challenge were compared during a scavenger hunt involving 15 objects placed in plain view in a hotel room. The winning UBC robot, dubbed Curious George, managed to locate seven of them.

The complexities involved in trying to simulate a visual system using robotics are daunting. "Seeing and perception seem so effortless for humans, but it involves many computational steps and problems," says professor Jim Little, director of the lab and member of the UBC team. "We're attacking the whole problem of how robots move around, how they identify objects and how they decide which visual information is important."

A specialist in the integration of robotics and vision systems, Little invented stereo-vision mapping, which uses two cameras to enhance visual data collection. He also developed an algorithm that enables software to find images of an object and compare characteristics when attempting to locate the real thing. Curious George was programmed to search Google for images of the 15 scavenger objects. The robot then used this data to try and locate the corresponding objects in the room.

You might think that the team named its robot Curious George after the cartoon monkey, but the namesake is 18th century British explorer George Vancouver. George the explorer, despite producing detailed charts of North America's northwest coast, managed to overlook two of its biggest rivers: the Fraser and Columbia. George the robot failed to locate half of the scavenger hunt objects. The robot may not be perfect but, much like Captain Vancouver, is a pioneer of its time, out-performing its University of Maryland and Kansas State competitors, both of which located three of the scavenger hunt objects.

But it's not all fun and scavenger hunts. This research has some serious applications, such as smart wheelchairs that can respond to obstacles. The LCI is partnering with assistant professor Alex Mihailidis from the University of Toronto to design a smart chair and produce a prototype within three years.

And You Are . . . ?

■ Prosopagnosia, or face-blindness, is a rare disorder that renders its sufferers unable to process the information received by their brain when looking at someone's face. In severe cases, even the faces of close family members can be difficult to identify. Recent studies suggest that up to two per cent of people have the disorder to some degree, the worst affected typically having to rely on gait, body shape and other cues to help them recognize people they know.

Twenty-six-year-old UBC medical student Chris Waite participated in a study to find out if and how individuals with the condition perceive facial attractiveness. His essay on the work earned him the American Academy of Neurology Award for best student essay. He hopes the first-of-its-kind research will aid in identifying areas of brain function and damage. "We don't know a tenth of what goes on in the brain," says Waite. "Face perception is a highly complex visual skill. Exploring how the brain processes judgments about facial beauty helps us identify the role of various regions of the brain."

A team including professor Jason Barton, Canadian Chair in Neuropsychology of Vision and Eye Movement, and partners at MIT and Harvard studied a group of eight individuals with prosopagnosia to find out what part of the brain is involved in judging facial beauty.

Some scientists think it likely that processes in the fusiform face area of the brain may determine how attractive an observer finds a face. The area is associated with the identification of fixed facial features such as jawbone or nose, and is usually the site of brain damage associated with prosopagnosia, which can be caused by a stroke or a trauma to the head. But other scientists propose that the processing of

Photographs: Martin Dee

social cues, facial expression associated with more changeable elements of the face such as eyebrows and lips, may be responsible for judging attractiveness. This takes place in another part of the brain, the superior temporal sulcus.

Although individuals with prosopagnosia can't identify faces, they are able to pick up on facial expression and accompanying cues. The subjects, heterosexual men and women with the disorder and a control group without, were shown faces and asked to rate them for attractiveness. A second test timed how long they looked at each face in a similar sample. The subject group also looked at a set of famous faces to assess the relationship between facial identification and perception of attractiveness.

The research group rated attractive faces only slightly higher than ordinary faces and looked at the ordinary faces for longer than the control group participants. The researchers concluded that the fusiform region of the brain is used in processing facial attractiveness, and that damage in this area means the function is impaired in individuals with prosopagnosia, along with facial recognition.

Sustaining Forests in a War Zone

■ For a country that has seen the toll of so much conflict and poverty, it's not surprising that Afghanistan has one of the lowest rates of forest coverage in the world at 1.3 per cent. Three quarters of Afghans live in rural areas and farming is one of the practices that is has contributed to a deforestation rate of up to 70 per cent over the past 20 years. "If you're poor enough, you'll cut down and burn every last tree," says professor of Forestry Gary Bull. "Some of Afghanistan's national parks are largely denuded and people are going after the remaining scraps for fuel."

Together with PhD candidate KiJoo Han, Bull is involved in a project centred on the remote north eastern province of Nuristan that aims to safeguard and begin restoration of remaining forest land, but one that employs

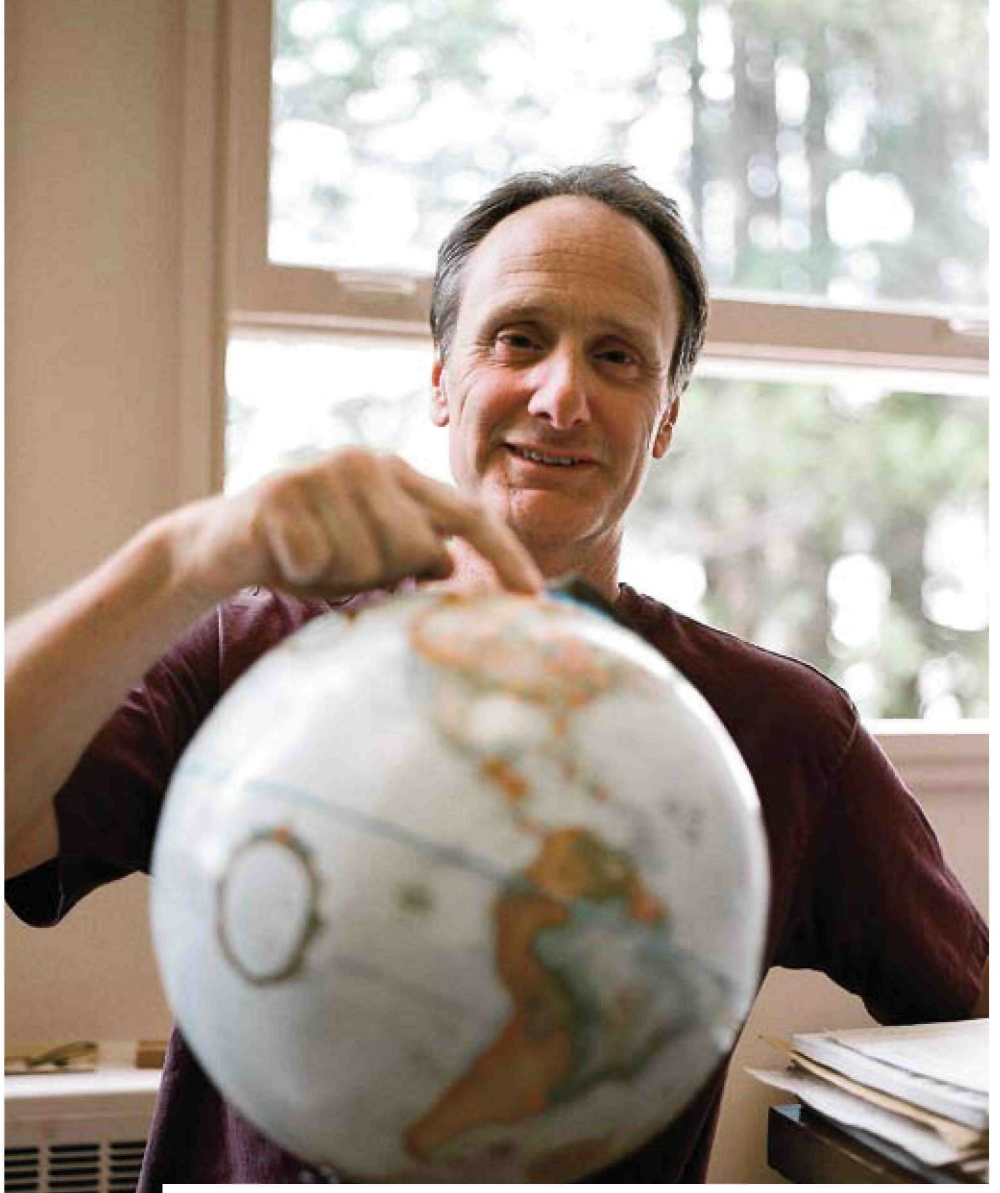
Prof. Gary Bull is working to restore destroyed forest land in northeastern Afghanistan.

policies that take into account the human stakeholders and their often desperate plight.

Involved in a project funded by the Wildlife Conservation Agency and the United States Agency for International development, Bull is training Afghan teams to conduct 350 surveys among the Nuristan population to gather data that will enlighten investigators on forest use and the social structures and other contextual factors that influence it. "If you don't understand what motivates people, you'll never help them rebuild," says Bull.

Afghan enumerators are better able to connect with the local communities and avoid the dangers that foreign field investigators would attract. Sustainable forest practices are developed with input from various disciplines at UBC, including sociology. "We examine the appropriate public policy responses because if you ignore the people, especially the rural population, it'll end up in disaster," says Bull.

The faculty of Forestry is also providing input for major forest plantation projects over vast areas of China, and agro-forestry projects in Mozambique.



Prof. Greg Henry is examining the Canadian Arctic for change in tundra vegetation.

Sponge-Worthy Extract

■ Researchers at UBC have discovered a compound in a sea sponge extract that they plan to develop into a drug for treating blood cancers and immune disorders. Alice Mui (winner of the Outstanding Young Alumnus award in 2003) and Christopher Ong are assistant professors in the department of Surgery and researchers in the VCHRI Immunity and Infection Research Centre and the Prostate Centre at VGH. They collaborated with Raymond Anderson of Earth and Ocean Sciences to find the compound (AQX-mn100) from his library of sea sponge extracts.

"Sea sponges are a rich source of novel bioactive compounds, created by nature, to protect themselves against marine predators, and many of these compounds possess important medicinal properties," says Ong. The team has received grants and funding from multiple bodies to support the clinical development and trials of the new drug and to test its affect in combating multiple myeloma.

The team's research builds on a protein that was discovered by Gerald Krystal of the BC Cancer Research Centre, a professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at UBC and collaborator on the research. The protein, named SHIP, is involved in regulating the activity of white blood cells, the immune system's major defense against infection. When the white cells are not required, it is important that their activity stops. The SHIP protein is responsible for shutting the white cells down by regulating the PI3 kinase pathway, which is also vital for cell growth and survival. Stress on the pathway can lead to inflammatory/immune diseases and blood cancers such as leukemia.

The drug Mui and Ong are developing from the sea sponge compound will stimulate SHIP. "This is an entirely new paradigm for controlling run-away cells," says Mui. "Previous research efforts were aimed at trying to control the cells through blocking stimulation signals. In the run-away analogy this would be like taking your foot off the accelerator and the train will eventually stop when it runs out of fuel, versus this new approach of directly applying the brakes. We are also excited because, since SHIP is only found in immune blood cells, side-effects of SHIP-based therapy on other cells of the body are expected to be limited."

Telltale Tundra

■ Most of Canada's northern territory is tundra with a permanently frozen substrata of soil that cannot support the growth of trees. Summer thawing of the top layer of soil, however, means the tundra is seasonal host to low-growing mosses, lichens, grasses, and small shrubs. This vegetation removes carbon from the atmosphere and stores it in the soil, making the tundra a

Photograph: Nic Fensom

carbon sink that stores approximately one third of this country's soil carbon. There is concern that rising temperatures will cause the permafrost to melt, releasing the carbon into the atmosphere and further contributing to rising temperatures in a dangerous cycle.

The Canadian Arctic has been the focus of Professor Greg Henry's work for more than 20 years. He was recently awarded $7 million in federal funding to examine the tundra's vegetation for telltale change. The funding coincides with the fourth International Polar Year (IPY), a once-every-50-years international collaboration of scientists involved in polar research. This time, the IPY is being spearheaded by the British Antarctic Survey and will run until 2009, covering 200 projects that focus on climate change.

"It's quite exciting, actually," says Henry. "The world's attention is strongly focused on climate change. We can see the effects by looking at data and re-measuring the same areas used 20, or 50 years ago, and comparing them to now."

For more than a decade, Henry has been involved in the International Tundra Experiment, which aims to establish likely outcomes of rising temperatures on vegetation by subjecting small areas of tundra to artificially raised temperatures that match climate predictions. This is achieved using small, open-topped greenhouses. Some of the funding will be used to support this ongoing research effort and to publish findings that are based on the careful collection of data over many years.

The rest of the money will be used in a project that involves communities living in the Canadian north. "Canada's contribution to the themes of IPY was to include human health, and the health of northern communities," says Henry. "This IPY is quite different – there's a push to have northern peoples involved in the research."

People living in the town of Kugluktuk, Nunavut, will have a hand in monitoring the vegetation in their area, with an emphasis on those plants, like berries, that are important to the community. "We will incorporate local knowledge into monitoring the effects of climate on berry production," says Henry.

Our Mutual Responsibility

Doug Robinson, BCom'71, LLB'72

As the incoming chair of the Alumni Association's Board of Directors, I feel it is a real privilege to have the opportunity to communicate with UBC alumni around the world through Trek Magazine. I look forward, during my term, to meeting many of you at some of our great alumni events.

When I graduated from UBC in 1972, I experienced what I think is a common reaction: "Well, that part of my life is over, and I had a great time. But now it's time to get on to other things." UBC became part of my past.

Over the years, though, I realized that UBC was part of my present life as well. In the legal profession, UBC grads are everywhere, and in my current work as a mediator, I am constantly meeting fellow alumni from all walks of life. I have also noticed the increase in news about UBC in the media. From cancer researchers and astronomers to economists and baseball superstars, men and women from UBC are making news for their accomplishments. Every time I read or hear one of these reports, I feel a small jolt of pride. "Hey, that's my university." Today, UBC is recognized as one of the top research universities in the world and your degree, whenever you received it, reflects that reality.

Our Alumni Affairs team works to keep you in touch with UBC because we hope you feel a similar affiliation to your alma mater. But I have a slightly different agenda concerning you and your university. As successful members of our communities, we owe at least part of our success to the quality of education we received. That UBC is able to hire the best faculty, present the best programs and house them in state-of-the-art facilities is due to the financial support of graduates like you. Tuition and government operating grants supply funding for the basics. Money generated through the university's endowment and donations to faculties and individual projects gives UBC an essential edge that separates good universities from great ones.

And UBC will only remain a great university if it has the support and confidence of its alumni.

Over the next few years you will likely be contacted by someone in the university asking you to consider donating to a particular project associated with your graduating faculty. Before you dismiss the idea, consider one thing: if we, as alumni, don't insist on maintaining UBC as a world class institution, who will?

Finally, I'd like to thank the hard-working members of the Alumni Association's Board of Directors and the Association's professional staff for their support during my time as vice-chair, and I look forward to the productive years ahead.

But my most profound thanks must go to Martin Ertl. Martin invested six years on our Board, and helped guide us through one of the most challenging, creative and, ultimately, rewarding periods in our Association's history. His focus and energy ensured that the interests of alumni stayed top-of-mind during all our negotiations with the university. It's individuals like Martin who demonstrate the quality and calibre of our UBC degrees.

Incubation Huts for the Arts

■ Older alumni will remember the WWII army huts that were commandeered by UBC to house and teach the influx of returning veterans. Now huts M-17 and M-18 are being rescued from dilapidation and given a second life. Benefiting from a project to upgrade the university's old building stock called UBC Renew, the huts have been subject to a multi-million dollar makeover that has transformed them from bog-standard ex-classrooms into a cutting-edge arts incubator. The new facilities boast a theatre, art studios, and exhibit spaces.

"The idea is that students can have a space to produce and run their own shows with minimal supervision," says professor Jerry Wasserman who heads the department of Theatre, Film and Creative Writing. Attendees at an opening ceremony in September were welcomed by professor emeritus Norman Young.

The revamped huts were named for two champions of the Arts. BC Binning founded UBC's Fine Arts department and was at the forefront of the modern art movement on the West Coast. "Binning was an inspiring and dedicated teacher who realized the fundamental importance of learning facilities to both the academy and to the creation of a mature arts community," says head of the department of Art History, Visual Art and Theory Professor Rhodri Windsor Liscombe.

Dorothy Somerset sowed the seeds for Theatre at UBC in the late 1930s. She was "incredibly dedicated to students, an inspirational teacher, and she really devoted her life to creating a place where UBC students could immerse themselves in the life of the theatre," says Wasserman. It is hoped that the BC Binning and Dorothy Somerset Studios add more vitality to the heart of campus and become a valuable cultural resource for its growing residential population.

Unidentified man (Wait! That's Norm Young!) entertains at Theatre Dept.'s restored huts M-17 and M-18.

Stairway to Heaven

■ Some people can barely navigate elevators at The Bay without tripping, never mind wrapping their heads around the concept of a space elevator. Space elevators (sometimes referred to as beanstalks) are self-supporting structures on the ground that transport objects into space along a fixed tether using power transmitted from a remote source on the ground. They are proposed as an alternative to rocket propulsion: cheaper, safer and environmentally friendly. This may sound like science fiction, but NASA predicts the first working space elevator might be constructed by 2020.

To encourage the process, the organization has held an international competition for the past three years for the best-performing prototype that demonstrates the principles behind the space elevator concept. The prize is a hefty $500,000.

Even qualifying for the competition is difficult. A team of Engineering Physics students (UBC Snowstar) is one of only two teams to have done so in all three competitions and has received a lot of media coverage as a result. This year, competitors had to design, build and race climbers that could lift a 10-25kg object up a cable at a minimum speed of two metres per second. The goals set by NASA get tougher each year.

"Currently, the cost of launching a space shuttle is high partly due to the amount of fuel the shuttle carries in order to propel itself into space," says team captain Damir Hot. "Using solar or other beamed power sources to efficiently fuel space vehicles could be the key to eventually providing space transport at significantly lower financial and environmental costs."

This year's winners were a team from the University of Saskatchewan, but they missed meeting the targets that would secure them the prize purse.

Holistic Approach to Treating MS

■ An international expert in multiple sclerosis and neuroimmunology has been appointed the MS Society of Canada Research Chair. Peter

Photograph: Kellan Higgins

Rieckmann from Germany's University of Würzburg is now based at UBC and Vancouver Coastal Health, where he plans to redevelop the MS program with a more holistic approach to the disease.

"So far, the history of researching and treating MS has been handled as one of massive disease, with researchers looking for the correlated genes," says Rieckmann, "but I believe MS is much more varied and we need to find the different genes responsible." He wants to consider the psychological effects of the disease as well as its physiological manifestations, and improve quality of life experienced by individuals with MS.

One way is through a closer collaboration between researchers and care providers. Another might be through the introduction of national code of good practice for the treatment of MS in Canada. He managed to secure

Cultivating an Edge

Stephen Toope, President, UBC

UBC has arrived as an institution. What was once a good regional university with an interest in research has become a world-renowned centre for scientific investigation and scholarly study. This achievement is a testament to the students, faculty, administrators and alumni who seize the opportunities for academic excellence the institution provides, and produce greatness.

However, the institution's ability to present those opportunities depends, to a large extent, on its ability to build and maintain a financial endowment.

Our national and provincial governments know the value of a strong post-secondary system and provide the financial foundation for our core academic endeavours. Students, too, support the university financially through tuition and fees. Without these sources of major funding, UBC, like other public institutions, would not exist.

But a university needs more than generous governments and foresightful students. Endowments make the difference between a good university and a great one. With a strong endowment, we can purchase that suddenly-available collection of Japanese maps; we can attract a Nobel laureate who will bring his or her expertise to our campus; we can create a new chair in international studies to examine the growing influence of emerging nations on our economy; we can guarantee that no qualified student will be refused entry to UBC because of financial constraints. In short, we can aspire to greater heights than we could without a strong endowment.

UBC's endowment began with a provincial government land grant which, by 1989, had become 1,000 acres of academic and residential land meant to generate revenue for learning and research. The University Town development, managed by UBC Properties Trust, has generated millions of dollars through prepaid leases on residential projects. Aside from the direct costs of land servicing, every penny of the University Town proceeds has gone into the endowment. Generous alumni, corporations and individuals who see UBC as an excellent investment in the future have, by 2007, created an endowment fund of just over $1 billion for the university.

The endowment is managed by the UBC Investment Management Trust, which directs five per cent of the endowment value each year to faculty and student beneficiaries. The rest of the year's annual earnings were added back to the capital base, ensuring that the endowment keeps growing to benefit future generations at UBC.

The most significant growth of the endowment comes through gifts from alumni, faculty, students, parents and friends of UBC. Such gifts grow through the magic of compound interest over the years, so while they allow us to use some of the gift immediately, they also produce long-term benefits. A gift of $30,000, for instance, generates enough income for a $1,500 annual student scholarship. That $30,000 gift will provide a significant amount of student aid in perpetuity.

We are cultivating a significant edge by developing our endowment. It's helping us produce exceptional global citizens and research that is changing the world.

For more information on UBC's endowment, or to download a copy of "The UBC Endowment: A foundation for excellence," visit www.treasury.ubc.ca.

support for one in Europe that includes provision of access to social support as well as treatment of physical symptoms.

Early Alzheimer's Detection

■ UBC's head of Neurology is co-leader on an international study that has developed new diagnostic criteria for the earlier detection of Alzheimer's disease. Tackling the disease at an earlier stage of onset means there's a better chance of reducing symptoms, and early detection provides an opportunity to test treatments for timelier intervention, as well as exploring ways of treating the disease's later stages.

The new criteria rely on the use of advanced brain imaging techniques to examine function and structure, and on the examination of spinal fluid. Existing guidelines mean diagnosis may come only when symptoms have reached a significant stage. "Integrating the profound neurobiological advances of the last 20 years allow for diagnoses based on more than declining functional ability," says Feldman. "We now have advanced diagnostic tools, distinctive and reliable biological indicators that can be detected before the patient crosses the dementia threshold of disability."

The researchers wish to test the criteria further and maximize their accuracy. They hope their paper, recently published in *Lancet Neurology*, will shift the current focus for diagnosis. The Alzheimer Society of Canada estimates that by 2031 approximately 750,000 Canadians will suffer from Alzheimer's and related dementias.

Howard Feldman, who also directs the Clinic for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders at Vancouver Coastal Health and is an investigator at the Brain Research Centre at UBC Hospital, co-led the study with French researcher Bruno Dubois and colleagues based in Japan, the US and England.

Non-Groundbreaking Archeology

■ The Musqueam have lived in the Point Grey area for 5,000 years. A few minutes from UBC's Vancouver campus, buried beneath the existing Indian reserve, are four Musqueam villages that have much to reveal about ancient civilization.

A magnet for archeologists, the site has attracted much interest over the years and been subject to major excavation. During the 1960s and '70s it drew the focus of UBC archeologist Charles Borden, who collected extensive data. Unfortunately, this work did not evolve into a form that could shed much light on Musqueam history and remains in storage at the university's Laboratory of Archeology.

Students learn how to weave cedar strips at the Musqueam field school.

Members of the Musqueam Nation have been involved in a pilot scheme with UBC grads and undergrads that seeks to gain more understanding by wading through the material already collected by Borden, and sifting through substantial amounts of soil removed during former digs. Records from former digs were used to help teach the students about archeological field techniques.

Professor Andrew Martindale was the coordinator for the field school, with both undergrad and grad students participating. "The Band's point was 'Why engage in new excavation projects when ones were done in the past, where in some cases hundreds and hundreds of cubic metres of material was removed, and no real understanding has come from that?"

Although it's a new approach, the project is better described as non-groundbreaking than groundbreaking as it uses modern, minimally invasive techniques to examine the site itself. These include radar and percussion coring that gives researchers an idea of what lies beneath the surface without having to break it. The students also learn about Musqueam traditions and crafts from members of the band. Vivian Campbell, for example, taught them how to weave bracelets from cedar bark. "We're trying to juxtapose archeology with other ways of understanding the past," says Martindale. The students also learn about cultural sensitivity and ethics. They are helping to answer questions that have been directed by the living descendants of the villages' inhabitants.

The Greening of Transportation

■ In 2003, UBC students voted to pay a fee that entitles all students to access public transit at a fraction of the usual cost. Since the introduction of this universal pass, ridership on public transport has increased by 40 per cent. In keeping with its green reputation and even greener aspirations, this summer UBC partnered with car-sharing company Zipcars to offer UBC students more green transport options.

Under the arrangement, an annual fee of $30

Photograph: Nic Fensom

entitles students use of a Toyota Yaris or Matrix based on campus, or one of the company's other 126 Vancouver-based vehicles. Gas and maintenance are covered in the $9.75 hourly usage fee (maximum daily expenditure is $69). Students can order the cars online or via their cell phones, and collect them from a designated parking spot on campus. The service provides an affordable alternative to paying to own and run a car full-time.

Carole Jolly directs the UBC Trek program that is responsible for finding greener transport alternatives and encouraging their use among the campus community. Usually, Zipcars require their drivers to be at least 21, but the university negotiated a deal that would allow younger students (from 18 years) access as well. "On average, shared cars replace 20 privately owned cars," she says, "So by reducing the demand for parking, they leave more room for the important stuff such as institutional buildings and greenspace."

Another car-sharing scheme with the Cooperative Auto Network (CAN) was established in 1998 and makes six cars available to staff and faculty and campus residents as well as students. Jolly is working with CAN and university departments on another sharing scheme, the Shared Vehicle Program, which will maximize the use of existing departmental vehicles and prevent the unnecessary purchase of more.

The Feel of Music

■ We're used to the idea of people translating speech into sign language, but a system that does almost the opposite – translates hand movements into synthesized speech and other sound – is a little more state of the art.

A project based in UBC's School of Music (Gesturally Realized Audio, Speech, and Song) is using a computerized glove and software to create sounds that correspond with movements. After about 100 hours practice with the glove, using it in conjunction with a foot pedal, users can become quite adept at controlling and creating speech, song and other sounds generated by the software.

"This gesture-controlled system is not unlike conducting an orchestra, adding elements and moving sound around," says project leader and composer professor Bob Pritchard. He is collaborating with professor of Computer and Electrical Engineering Sidney Fels of the Media and Graphics Interdisciplinary Centre who developed the gesture-controlled speech system called *Glove-Talk*. As well as being a smart piece of technology, it is providing artists with a new tool for creation and performance. The sounds that can be produced are unlimited, and the pitch extremely broad. "As an artist I'm interested in fresh ways of expressing emotion and how we understand the human condition," says Pritchard. The instrument gives artists a lot of scope for novel ways to present their work.

The team continues to improve the technology, working with linguistics professor Eric Vatikiotis-Bateson on analysis of voice production. They hope to develop the tool so that it can translate facial muscle movement into sound. ◆

Making a Habit of Doing Good

Marie Earl, Associate Vice President, Alumni Affairs; Executive Director, UBC Alumni Association

In the corporate arena, forward-thinking employers promote "strategic community involvement" as a virtuous cycle that brings benefit to those who volunteer, the organizations for which they volunteer and the company itself. The bottom line is both positive social impact and economic gain.

UBC Alumni Affairs aims to activate just such a virtuous cycle in providing service to alumni and promoting opportunities for alumni to give back to the institution.

The UBC Alumni Association itself has benefited enormously from a long line of outstanding volunteer leaders over the years. Immediate past Board Chair Martin Ertl, BSc'93, who stepped down in September upon completing his term, is a case in point. In all, Martin served on the board for six years, not counting a tour of duty as an AMS representative during his student years. All the while, he was founding a successful company with friends, meeting and marrying his soul mate, and becoming a father for the first time.

Of course, there is an old saw about giving jobs that need to be done to busy people. And we certainly did that with Martin, relying on him especially for his extraordinarily sound judgment and the principled manner in which he weighed the best interests of the institution and its alumni in making decisions. Martin was a key player in establishing the current relationship between the independent Alumni Association and UBC, from working on the letter of agreement between the two entities to ensuring that our dealings with one another were governed by a spirit of mutual respect and trust.

Fortunately, Martin is in good company. Some 44 per cent of UBC alumni (nearly 100,000 people) told market researchers that they would volunteer for UBC if asked. And many of these alumni contribute to UBC's institutional reputation by doing good in their communities in any number of ways. This year's Alumni Achievement Awards winners (see page 16) have transformed medical and forestry practices at home and abroad, distinguished themselves in the arts, served as Prime Minister, inspired South Asian youth and generations of women to volunteer, brought corporate leadership expertise to the academic domain, and provided critical support for UBC athletes, artists, and scholars.

Bravo to one and all!

Chancellor, Senate Elections: Spring 2008

Sarah Morgan-Silvester, Chancellor nominee.

EVERY THREE YEARS, MEMBERS of the UBC convocation elect the Chancellor and 11 members of UBC's Senate. This election, which will be held in March and April 2008, is an opportunity for alumni to have a direct influence on the governance of the university. The election is organized and executed through the Office of the Registrar.

The call for nominations went out in early November, and the UBC Alumni Association, as it has traditionally done, selected a nominee for the position of Chancellor.

The Nominee

Business and community leader Sarah Morgan-Silvester, BCOM'82, if elected, will become the youngest and only the second female Chancellor in the university's history. Phyllis Ross served as Chancellor from 1961 to 1966.

Ms Morgan-Silvester is currently chair of the Vancouver Port Authority and the Lower Mainland Port Amalgamation Transition Committee responsible for overseeing the merger of the three ports in the Lower Mainland, including Canada's largest port.

She also chairs the BC Women's Hospital and Health Centre Foundation and the Blue Ribbon Council on Vancouver's Business Climate for the City of Vancouver. She is a director of ENMAX Corporation, serves on the David Suzuki Foundation National Business Advisory Council and on UBC's Sauder School of Business Faculty Advisory Board. Currently a director of the CD Howe Institute and Women in the Lead, Inc., she formerly served formerly on the board of Family Services of the North Shore.

Ms Morgan-Silvester was nominated by a 12-member committee representing five major stakeholder groups (alumni, students, faculty, staff and the community) which was constituted by the UBC Alumni Association. "Our committee felt Sarah Morgan-Silvester's commitments and accomplishments were consistent with UBC's mission and values. We're excited at the prospect of such a dynamic Chancellor," said Brendon Goodmurphy, current UBC student, VP Academic of the Alma Mater Society and Chancellor Nominating Committee member.

The Election

Under the terms of the University Act, any group of seven UBC alumni can nominate a candidate for the office of Chancellor and for the 11 alumni members of Senate.

To facilitate voting, ballots will be printed in the Spring issue of *Trek Magazine*. Voters will also be able to vote online from March 3 to April 11, 2008. In March, visit www.alumni.ubc.ca for links to the election site.

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

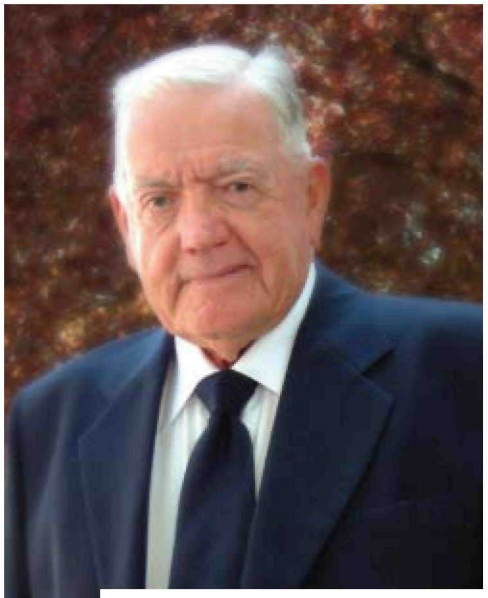
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
for
CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY
and
Okanagan & Vancouver
CONVOCATION SENATORS

All graduates of the University are members of the Convocation and are therefore eligible to stand for office and vote.

For more information, visit www.students.ubc.ca/elections or okanagan.students.ubc.ca/facultystaff/elections.cfm, call 604.822.9952, or email elections.information@ubc.ca.

Nominations are due on Friday, December 7, 2007 by 4:30 pm.

Brian J. Silzer
Secretary to the Convocation



Retiring Chancellor, Allan McEachern

The Job

Within the administrative structure of the university, the position of Chancellor is largely ceremonial. He or she is the official face of the university, and it is the Chancellor who has the power to admit new graduates to the university's convocation. As a result, he or she must attend all graduation ceremonies (UBC has 30 annually), and tap the head (or shake the hand) of each of the 6,000-plus graduates.

In reality, though, the job is more complicated than that. The Chancellor is an ex-officio member of every Senate and Board committee, which means he or she can become involved in those areas of university governance that most closely match his or her skills and interests.

Chancellor Allan McEachern, who steps down from the position after two terms, was closely involved with various aspects of university governance, bringing his talents as a negotiator, lawyer and judge to the tasks. Former Chancellor Bob Lee who served from 1993 to 1996, used his knowledge of real estate and property development to help create UBC Trust and generate millions of dollars for UBC's endowment.

Throughout UBC's history, the Chancellor has played a key role in the development of the university. For more information on UBC's illustrious chancellors, visit UBC Archives at http://www.library.ubc.ca/archives/chancelr.html. ◆

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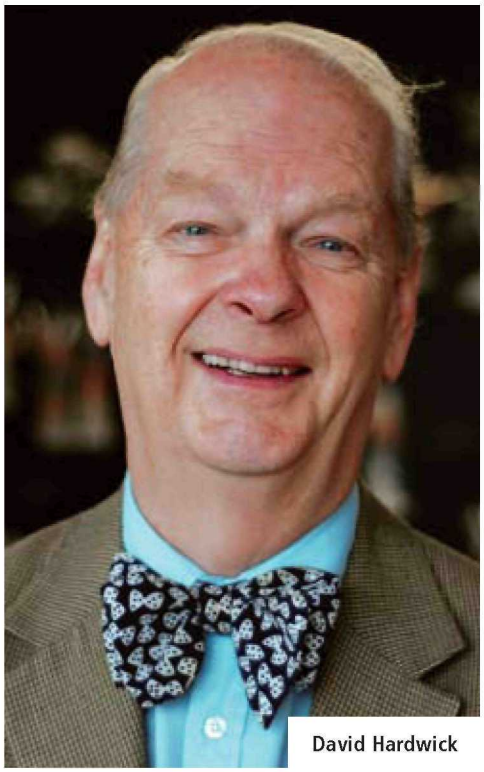
2007 *alumni achievement awards*

On November 15, 2007, the Alumni Association recognized members of the UBC community for exceptional achievement in their respective fields and for exemplary behaviour as contributing members of society. We received many worthy nominees deserving of recognition and this year's recipients reflect that high standard.



David Hardwick

David Hardwick MD'57, LLD'01

Lifetime Achievement Award

Professor Emeritus David F. Hardwick has been involved with UBC for the best part of six decades, and during this time been party and witness to much change. Despite his formal retirement in 1999, he remains an energetic presence on campus and influential leader in the affairs of the university, especially those concerning the faculty of Medicine.

Dr. Hardwick has watched the faculty develop from modest beginnings. He joined during its infancy in 1953, one of a class of 60, and remembers the energetic young department heads recruited to drive development. More than fifty years later classes number 256 and UBC boasts one of the largest medical schools in North America, partnering with two universities and more than 100 affiliated teaching hospitals and clinics.

From the 1960s, Dr. Hardwick has been a major influence behind the faculty's decision-making. He was Head of Pathology for 14 years from 1976, attracting and producing many other talented educators, researchers, and practitioners during his tenure. He then became Associate Dean of Research and Planning and on retiring was invited to stay on as Special Advisor on Planning. He was heavily involved in the recent expansion of the undergraduate medical program to counter a shortage of medical practitioners, especially prevalent in rural areas.

Dr. Hardwick, who has a strong interest in inter-institutional systems, can claim a lot of credit for optimizing the relationship between UBC and its teaching hospitals and for establishing teaching and research facilities at those sites. One of them, the BC Children's Hospital, he was instrumental in founding. His senior UBC appointments, as a member of University Senate (1969-75) and of successive presidents' advisory committees from 1990, have also allowed him to help maximize UBC's positive impact in the community. His input

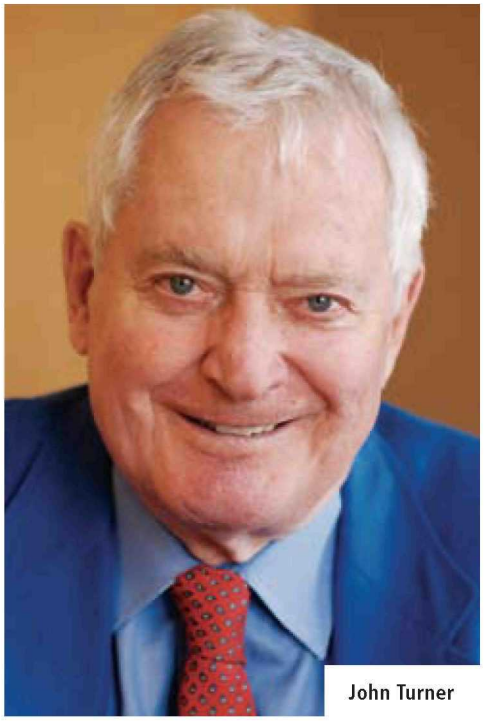
Photographs: Clancy Dennehy

was rewarded with a President's Service of Excellence in 1997 and a few years later an honorary doctorate. He is profoundly grateful for the platform afforded him by UBC, which has allowed him to pursue teaching and research but also other projects that pique his interest. He is exceptionally eager to partner with colleagues in finding common-sense solutions to complex problems.

Dr. Hardwick has helped to strengthen connections between different generations of medical practitioners. He broke the ground, literally and figuratively, for the William A. Webber Medical Student and Alumni Centre, a UBC social and recreational facility close to Vancouver General Hospital. The planning and fundraising for this space precipitated the formation of the UBC Medical Alumni Association in 1984. He is a popular lecturer, receiving the Certificate of Excellence Master Teaching Award from UBC in 1974 and the University Teaching Excellence Award and Prize in 1994. Students' fondness for him is illustrated by the number of nominations he has clocked up for teaching awards determined by the student body, which has elected him as faculty advisor to the Medical Advisory Undergraduate Society for 18 consecutive two-year terms. He was rewarded with a Just Desserts Award from the Alma Mater Society in 2003.

Dr. Hardwick has seen his profession adapt through many social changes, including the current growth in information technology. Early on he grasped its potential and currently serves on UBC's E-Strategy Committee that examines how cutting-edge technologies can best be employed for learning, research and enhancing the campus community. He also conceived and helped develop a free online resource for fellow practitioners called The Knowledge Hub for Pathology, currently serving more than 20,000 practitioners in 100 countries.

Dr. Hardwick is a leader of his profession and last year was elected Secretary of the International Academy of Pathology, the oldest international pathology organization established in 1906 by Sir William Osler and colleagues that included Frank Wesbrook, UBC's founding president. He has received many accolades from respected professional organizations, and is a popular guest speaker with more than 100 publications to his name.



John Turner

John Turner BA(Hons)'49, LLD'94

Alumni Award of Distinction

Preceded by Pierre Trudeau and succeeded by Brian Mulroney, the Right Honorable John Napier Turner, PC, CC, QC, was Canada's seventeenth Prime Minister. He was born in the south of England but spent his formative years in Ottawa, which would later serve as backdrop to his formidable career with the federal Liberals.

When his family moved to the West Coast, Mr. Turner enrolled at UBC, majoring in Political Science. Outside the classroom he was an accomplished track and field athlete, and sports editor for student rag The Ubyssey. He was also an active member of the Alma Mater Society and the Radio Society. After graduating, he returned to his country of birth as a Rhodes Scholar to read Law at Oxford. Back at home after further study in Paris, Mr. Turner secured his membership in the Canadian bar and joined the Montreal-based law firm of Stikeman & Elliott in 1952.

Ten years later, equipped with extensive knowledge of international law and having made some contacts within the federal Liberal party, he ran for office and was elected MP for St-Laurent-St-Georges (a seat he held through a further two elections). Under Lester Pearson's government, he was appointed Minister without Portfolio in 1965, two years later became Registrar General, and shortly after took on the new portfolio of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. When the Prime Minister resigned a year later, Mr. Turner decided to stand for party leadership, but the young minister lost to the Right Honorable Pierre Elliott Trudeau.

In 1968, Mr. Turner was appointed Solicitor General of Canada and after the general election of that year became Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada. He held the position during the October Crisis in Quebec when Prime Minister Trudeau invoked the War Measures Act. From 1972, he spent three years as Finance Minister until resigning in 1976 and resuming his legal career, this time with Toronto law firm McMillan, Binch.

Mr. Turner returned to the political arena when he was elected leader of the Liberals at the party's convention in 1984, and was sworn in as Canada's seventeenth Prime Minister that June. In September, the Liberals were defeated at election, but Mr. Turner was voted in as representative for Vancouver Quadra and became leader of the opposition, remaining in that position until his resignation in 1990. At that point he joined another Toronto-based law firm, Miller Thomson.

Mr. Turner is remembered for his opposition to the Free Trade Agreement, fearing that Canada would be surrendering aspects of its sovereignty to the United States. As Minister of Justice, he put an end to the partisan appointment of judges, reformed the Criminal Code, and established the Law Reform Commission. He shares the rare distinction with two others MPs of having represented constituents in three different provinces (Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia).

Mr. Turner remains involved with the university, and recently lent his support to the UBC alumni network in Toronto by backing the establishment of a new annual tradition there, the Great Trekker Alumni Luncheon (he became a Great Trekker in 1992, the highest honour bestowed by UBC's Alma Mater Society). He was MC at the inaugural event in March, and his stature was invaluable in attracting other distinguished guests. On campus, he has proved a popular speaker, urging students to engage in politics and inspiring in them a sense of public responsibility.

Richard Van Camp

Richard Van Camp MFA'03

Outstanding Young Alumnus Award

A member of the Dogrib (Tlicho) Nation from Fort Smith, NWT, Richard Van Camp was born into a community of storytellers. He is honouring that oral tradition by sharing its treasures with a wider audience through the written word. He forms part of a new surge of Aboriginal writers breaking into mainstream literature, and a decade ago showed early flair when he won the prestigious Air Canada Award for Most Promising Canadian Author Under 30. Now with several published works behind him, Mr. Van Camp tours extensively at home and abroad, and is a popular Creative Writing instructor at UBC.

Mr. Van Camp started writing his first novel at the age of 19 because he couldn't find the books he wanted to read: ones that explored the underpinnings of his own life experiences. *The Lesser Blessed* (1996) is the first novel to be published by a member of the Dogrib Nation and is largely influenced by Van Camp's upbringing. The protagonist is a teenage boy. Although the novel's subject matter is often brutal, describing violence, alcoholism, and other colonial fallout, it is countered with humour and optimism, traits that have come to trademark his writing.

Mr. Van Camp draws much of his material from the traditional tales he heard many times growing up. He believes the stories, often involving transformation and redemption, have a powerful healing quality and should be shared. Among the many literary awards to come his way is one from the Living History Society of the Northwest Territories acknowledging his work as a writer, editor and storyteller. In 2003, Mr. Van Camp was presented with the Queen Elizabeth Golden Jubilee Commemorative Medal for his career as a storyteller and author. He was also awarded the Tina and Morris Wagner Foundation Fellowship and the University of BC Graduate Fellowship while attending the MFA Program with the Department of Creative Writing at UBC.

Since publishing his first novel, Van Camp has reached an ever-widening audience by embracing a number of different writing genres. These include children's books, short stories, radio dramatizations (he is currently writer in residence for CBC Radio's *North by Northwest* program), stage plays (he co-wrote the Vancouver Opera's interpretation of Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, which visited more than 48,000 children throughout BC), and screen-writing. Film rights for *The Lesser Blessed* have been purchased by Toronto-based First Generation Films, and shooting will begin next spring. The novel crossed another boundary when it was translated into French and German and won the 2001 *Jugendliteraturpreis* (juvenile category), the highest award for a translated work awarded by the German government. His latest publication is *Welcome Song for Baby: A Lullaby for Newborns*. Every newborn baby in BC will receive a free copy of the book through the Books for Babies initiative of the BC Libraries Association.

Beyond his writing, Van Camp has contributed to the social fabric of Aboriginal communities around the world by partaking in conferences and programs designed to promote literacy, address past misportrayal of Aboriginal people in popular culture, and help tackle some of the problems still facing communities today. He co-created a suicide prevention comic book, *Darkness Calls*, for the Healthy Aboriginal Network. After touring France in 2003, he was invited by Jacques Chirac's government to join a panel of delegates from across the American continent that was consulted on policies concerning indigenous peoples under French jurisdiction.

Back at home, Van Camp is a respected member of the UBC community. He is recognized in particular for his teaching and mentoring of Aboriginal students, encouraging them to find their voices and become the next generation of Aboriginal writers.

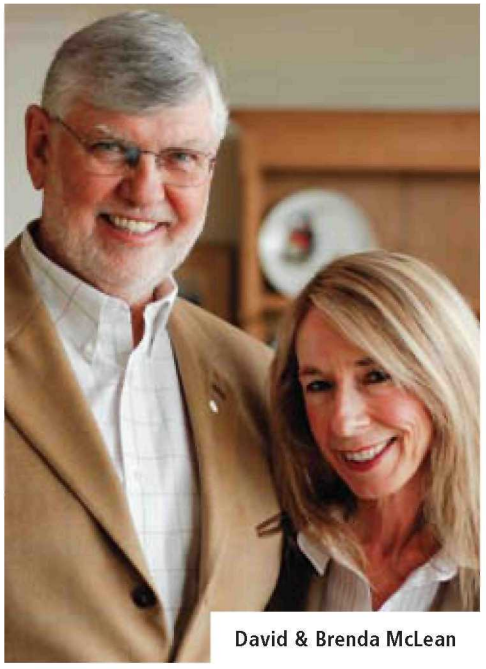
David McLean LLD'94 and Brenda McLean

Honorary Alumnus Award

Dr. and Mrs. McLean have been involved in the life and advancement of the university for many years and have taken on numerous leadership and volunteer roles. They have made generous financial donations to the faculties of Arts, Law and Medicine, and the department of Athletics and Recreation.

They realize the vital role that UBC plays in the local community and wider society, admire the wealth of arts and culture based or generated on campus, and understand the importance of education in cultivating responsible and productive leaders for tomorrow.

Dr. McLean is a keen supporter of men's Basketball at UBC, twice attending national championships with the team in Halifax. He hosts the annual UBC men's basketball golf tournament in Whistler, with funds raised going towards a scholarship endowment. Now total-



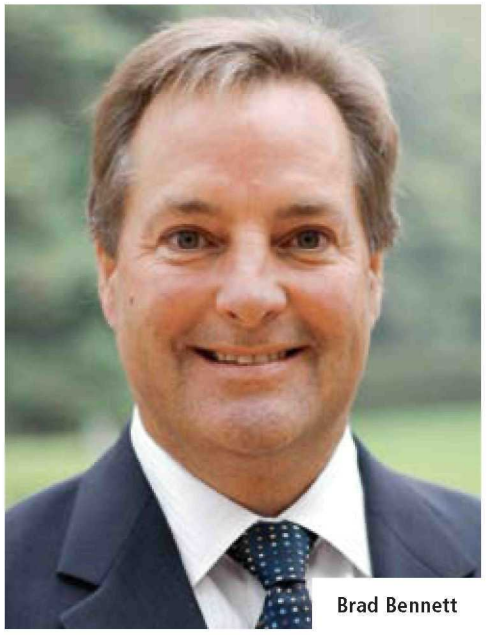
David & Brenda McLean

ling more than $500,000, the fund provides academic and athletic opportunities for team members. Recently, Dr. McLean has taken on the task of luring the CIS men's basketball championships to UBC. (The championships have been held in Halifax for the past 24 years, but UBC now possesses the facilities required for hosting them.) In 2001, Dr. McLean was appointed senior federal representative to the board of the 2010 Olympic bid corporation.

The McLean's interest in UBC doesn't end with Athletics. Mrs. McLean is a former director of the Vancouver Art Gallery and the couple supports creative and performing arts through two endowment funds established during the university's World of Opportunity fundraising campaign. In 1992, they funded the Brenda and David McLean Chair in Canadian Studies in the Faculty of Arts. In so doing they have encouraged more scholarly discourse and research on Canadian issues and made this accessible to the public through lectures and a publication series. Their influence brought Canadiana to university curricula at a time when its absence in many institutions was causing concern. Dr. McLean is currently on the advisory board of the Institute of Canadian Studies at the University of California, Berkeley. Perhaps the McLean's greatest passion, though, is the support of student awards that encourage productive student activity and leadership. They also provided the initial funds for the Bob Hindmarch Scholarships and they established in 1985 the McLean Awards to fund annual awards to the three student members of the UBC Board of Governors, which are designed to cover their tuition.

Through extensive board and committee work, the couple has helped to steer UBC's course. Dr. McLean served on UBC's Board of Governors from 1981 to 1987 (he was Chair from 1983-1986) and is now a member of the Thunderbird Council for the department of Athletics. He also served on an advisory committee for the Faculty of Law and at one point was an adjunct faculty member and guest lecturer. Two chairs in Law have been funded by the McLeans: one in Legal History, and the other in Feminist Legal Studies. Dr. McLean is an active member on the Advisory Board of the National Centre for Business Law in the Faculty of Law. Mrs. McLean is a vigorous participant on the Faculty of Arts Dean's Advisory Board and is also involved in its Alumni Relations and Development Committee.

Dr. McLean heads the McLean Group, a family investment firm, which owns Vancouver Film Studios, Signal Systems Inc., and Blackcomb Helicopters. Mrs. McLean is vice-chair and the couple's two sons are also actively involved. Dr. McLean is also chair of CN Rail and has been behind generous CN donations to the university, in particular a gift of $1,250,000 for the CN Chair in Transportation and International Logistics. The McLeans are both members of the President's Circle, a designation that acknowledges lifetime financial contributions to UBC in excess of $250,000.



Brad Bennett

Brad Bennett

Honorary Alumnus Award

The son and grandson of two former premiers of British Columbia, Mr. Bennett is no stranger to public life and has continued the family tradition of community service in a variety of capacities. Centrally involved in the affairs of UBC, he has chaired the university's Board of Governors since 2005, heads the UBC Okanagan Regional Advisory Council, and also directs the UBC Properties Trust, an organization responsible for managing the university's real estate assets and building its endowment.

As Board chair, Mr. Bennett leads a professionally diverse group that guides all aspects of the university's affairs in its mission to be a world-renowned institution of higher education and research. He has shown himself to be a strong and effective leader, ensuring that the university's interests are always kept to the fore, that the quality of a UBC education is maintained at the highest level, and that students will derive the best possible experience from their attendance at UBC. He was a key figure in the complex and demanding process of selecting and appointing UBC's 12th President and new Deputy Vice Chancellor. Currently UBC is engaged on another large project, the renovation and expansion of its Vancouver campus core, an issue which occupies much of Mr. Bennett's time and attention, and which has already benefited greatly from his experience and understanding.

Mr. Bennett brings to his UBC role a successful business background and years of experience in driving and shaping social and business development in the Okanagan. Since 1989 he has been president of McIntosh Properties Ltd., a real estate investment and holding company based in Kelowna, where he lives with his family. Prior to this he gained several years-worth of experience in Alberta's consumer finance industry and a decade familiarizing himself with Vancouver's real estate industry.

He is a founder and past co-chair of the Okanagan Partnership Regional Economic Development Strategy, a group that seeks to drive economic growth and create a favourable climate for new businesses and investment. He is committed to attracting high-tech investment, growth and job creation to the region. At the provincial level, he serves a similar purpose on the Premier's Technology Council. Past responsibilities include chairing the Kelowna General Hospital Foundation, the City of Kelowna's Building Committee for the development of the Rotary Centre for The Arts, and the former Okanagan University College (OUC). He is currently board director for the Quail's Gate Estate Winery.

Mr. Bennett's UBC Board work has come at a particularly significant time in the university's history. In 2004, the provincial government announced its decision to transition OUC's two campuses into two new institutions: UBC Okanagan and Okanagan College. Mr. Bennett played a key role during this important time, serving the UBC Okanagan President's Com-

munity Advisory Council from 2004, involving stakeholders and winning support for the expansion, and helping to ensure the implementation was beneficial for the Okanagan region.

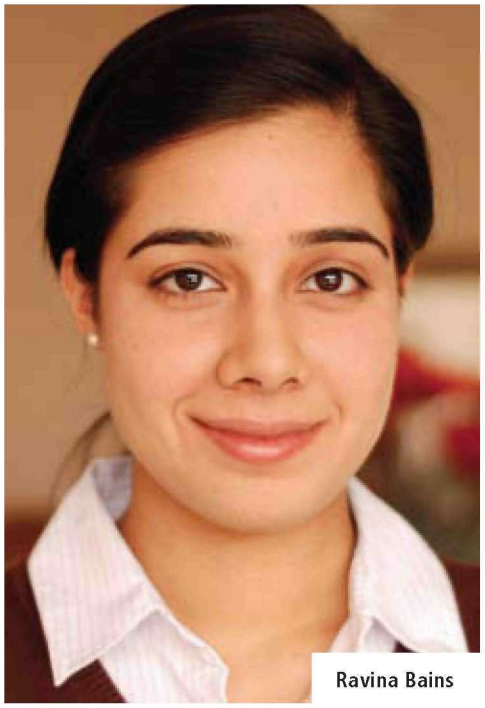
Mr. Bennett was the recipient of the Queen's Golden Jubilee Award Medal in 2002 and the City of Kelowna's Businessman of the Year in 2005.

Ravina Bains BA'07

Outstanding Future Alumnus Award

Ravina Bains doesn't just talk about social justice, she acts to try and secure it. Her volunteer work on campus and in the local community has demonstrated a willingness to tackle issues head on and assume responsibility for resolving them. She is a role model for the type of graduate the university strives to produce: one that believes she has a role to play in shaping a better future for society.

As an undergraduate Ms Bains majored in Sociology, but a lot of her learning took place outside the classroom through volunteer work. One of her long-standing commitments has been to Access Justice, a pro-bono legal organization serving disadvantaged members of the community. She ran the weekly small business clinic at the People's Law School and now manages the organization's appointment hotline. She feels it important to underline to legal professionals the importance of pro bono work, and inform low-income communities about ways to access affordable or free legal assistance. She plans to continue studying at UBC for her masters in Asian Pacific Policy Studies. Afterwards, she hopes to study Law and although keeping her options open as to an area of specialization she has a keen interest in human rights issues.



Ravina Bains

Ms Bains has demonstrated her commitment to UBC on many levels, from fundraising efforts and personal donations, to her participation in campus groups whose activities reflect her own notions of equity and justice.

Ms Bains chose to lend her financial support to the UBC Learning Exchange Trek Program that organizes volunteer placements for UBC students with schools and non-profits in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. She believes that by giving back to UBC she is making an investment in society. Ms Bains' dedication to the university makes her an engaging ambassador and she has volunteered at a number of donor events. She was also employed as a supervisor at the UBC Annual Giving Call Centre, providing leadership for groups of up to ten other students. She's raised more than $60,000 for campus projects and inspired in her team the dedication, discipline, and morale required to meet its nightly campaign goals.

On campus, Ms Bains' extensive volunteering included her work with the UBC Equity Office helping to eliminate prejudice based on race, gender or sexual orientation. She participated in a workshop series designed to promote social change on campus, and also in events such as International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in 2005. She also helped produce the office's annual newsletter *Think Equity*. She participated in the World Peace Forum in 2006, and went to Geneva in 2007 as part of a student delegation participating in United Nations model conferences. Her efforts on behalf of UBC and her fellow undergraduates were celebrated at a Student Leadership Recognition Banquet in 2006.

Ms Bains also represents UBC to potential students. As part of a project called *Home for the Holidays* she has presented to secondary students about student life at UBC, and as a volunteer for the *UBC Student Shadowing Initiative* she provides campus tours to grade 12 students. At her local Sikh temple, she guides South Asian youth through the sometimes daunting university application procedure. She encourages these prospective undergraduates to make the most of what's on offer at UBC and to get involved.

Marjorie Ratel BSN'95

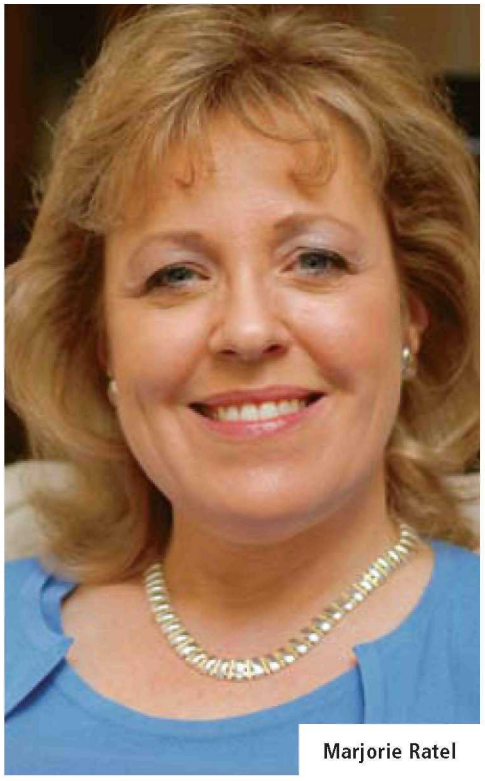
Global Citizenship Award

A Neuroscience staff nurse at Vancouver General Hospital since 1978, Ms Marjorie Ratel is a strong advocate for access to quality healthcare in developing countries and is spearheading a project to help improve healthcare in West Africa. She possesses a tenacious drive to improve the lot of others, and a natural aptitude for inspiring key figures and organizations to support her vision.

For the past seven years, she has been working with colleagues in Vancouver and at the University of Ghana's College of Health Sciences in Accra to improve the skill base of the local Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital's (KBTH) neurosurgery unit. The ultimate goal is to establish a Centre of Excellence in Neurosurgery and Clinical Neurosciences that will provide high quality health service and conduct contextually relevant teaching and research. Ms Ratel has been a driving force in turning these ambitious aspirations into results and opening up channels for a fruitful exchange of expertise between KBTH and VGH.

Collaboration with Ghana began when Ms Ratel met Dr. Thomas Dakurah, a young neurosurgeon from Ghana taking advanced training at VGH. She learned of severe shortages in medical and educational resources in his country, and became deeply committed to assisting her Ghanaian counterparts. She founded the Korle-Bu Neuroscience Project in 2000, and by the following year she and colleagues began organizing the shipment of good-quality used medical equipment together with new medical supplies to KBTH. Over the past six years, 11 containers have been shipped to Ghana with an estimated value of more than $5 million.

In Vancouver, she established (and chairs) the non-profit Korle-Bu Neuroscience Foundation, and two accompanying fundraising charities.



Marjorie Ratel

A sister Board in Ghana was also launched in 2002 under her leadership. Since then, she has been instrumental in establishing teams in Los Angeles, New York and across Canada to help promote the project and raise funds. The first phase of the neuro-hospital building project will focus on the Ambulatory Care Center, an international house for visiting professionals and a Nursing / Paramedical residence for local personnel of the neuro-hospital.

The project has attracted the interest and support of key players including the Vice President of Ghana, the Ministry of Health, the University of Ghana, KBTH itself, the Canadian High Commission, academic bodies and major corporate bodies. In 2003, Ms Ratel headed a team of Canadians and Ghanaians that met with Ghana's Vice President, winning his support and gaining the project high profile attention. A sisterhood Memorandum of Understanding has been signed by The Ghana High Commissioner for Canada, the Consul General for Ghana and VGH.

Much of Ms Ratel's career has been spent providing clinical education to other nurses, devising nursing policy, and developing standards of care. She is respected as an expert nurse (in Geriatric care as well as Neuroscience), compassionate caregiver and highly capable administrator. She has inspired key UBC faculty to become involved in the work of the Foundation and in the exchange of expertise. The university hosted and assisted a group of Ghanaian nurses who traveled to Canada to receive specialized training at VGH in the care of critically ill neurosurgery patients. These nurses returned home and are transferring their acquired skills to colleagues in Ghana. Ms Ratel still finds time to mentor students at UBC and to inspire in them a global perspective on health. Since 2005, she has been a coach on the UBC Global Student Speakers' Bureau.

Last year in Toronto, Ms Ratel, was presented with the Ghanaian-Canadian Achievement Award for her efforts in improving the health care delivery to Ghanaians. She gives much credit to her colleagues and partners who have rallied behind her vision and mission to advocate for Africa.

Joanna Bates MD

Faculty Citation Community Service Award

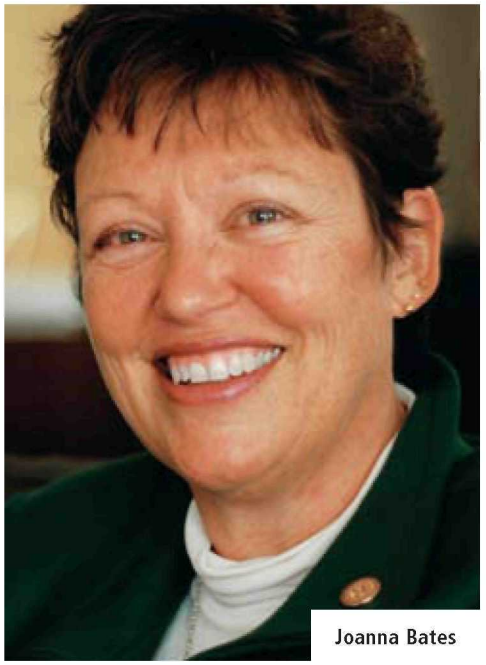
Dr. Joanna Bates oversees all educational programming for UBC's Faculty of Medicine. She is at the forefront of new practices, and has a strategic approach to developing high quality programming that helps meet the expanding health requirements of British Columbia. Her research has led to innovations that have been adopted as educational models for institutions elsewhere in Canada as well as abroad.

Dr. Bates' background includes 25 years of community practice in Family Medicine, during which she developed an interest in clinical teaching in practice settings. She became director of the Hospital Internship Program at St. Paul's Hospital in 1989 and five years later joined the UBC Family Practice Residency Program, which established clinical training sites in the interior and other areas of the province. In both roles she was involved in establishing curriculum objectives and evaluation, with a heavier emphasis on community-based training.

This work served as a valuable foundation for a major expansion of UBC's medical undergraduate program. In 2001, Dr. Bates was appointed head of the strategic committee that explored a distributed model of medical education. It was an innovation to remedy a shortage of medical practitioners (especially prevalent in rural areas) by doubling the output of graduates and distributing sites of learning throughout the province. The following year, Dr. Bates was appointed senior associate dean of the MD undergraduate program and oversaw the planning and implementation of the distributed program.

Among many complex considerations, the task involved developing community-based education programs, seeking Aboriginal input, recruiting faculty, and exploring new learning technologies. Despite the multiple parties involved in these deliberations – other provincial universities, the BC ministries of Health and Education, six health authorities, local practitioners, faculty, students, and community members – Dr. Bates was able to establish a shared vision and create an operational model in northern BC on which an expansion into other areas of the province, such as Prince George and Vancouver Island, was based. The new program represents a huge milestone in the history of the faculty and is testament to its good governance. The first intake of students was in 2004 and the program is now gaining worldwide attention. Several other Canadian schools have adopted their own versions of the model.

Dr. Bates' efforts have also helped bring some of the country's best young talent to UBC's Faculty of Medicine. In 1997 she was



Joanna Bates

appointed Associate Dean of Admissions, and developed an innovative assessment method for written applications that has attracted much interest from other institutions. Under her tenure, an initiative to increase the Aboriginal student intake evolved from working closely with local Aboriginal communities. Now with one of highest Aboriginal intakes among Canadian medical schools, UBC serves as a model for admissions processes.

She is a leader in the field of Family Medicine and very involved in the College of Family Practitioners of Canada (of which she is a Fellow). She was one of four members invited to plan a conference on the future of the field in 2000. She has been central to the development of national evaluation and accreditation policies and procedures and is co-founder of the Clinical Competency Program of British Columbia.

Dr. Bates has four children, one of whom is studying Engineering physics at UBC. She is currently on academic leave, taking a break from her extensive administrative responsibilities. The UBC Medical Alumni Association named her an honorary alumna this year.

Beverly Field BA'42

Blythe Eagles Volunteer Leadership Award

Although Beverly Field studied for her degree at UBC, and later taught for six years in the department of Chemistry, these early ties with the university were only the beginning of a lifelong relationship. Cementing it are many years of volunteer service, including her term as president of the Alumni Association and as a member of the UBC Senate and Board of Governors.

Beverly Field

Mrs. Field's lasting interest in UBC was foreshadowed by her enthusiastic participation as a student, including her duties as an editor of student newspaper *The Ubyssey*. She maintains a keen nose for university news and affairs. An early sense of social responsibility was evidenced by volunteer work for a Boy's Receiving Home run by the Children's Aid Society, driving carloads of eager 12-year-olds to hockey matches.

On completing her degree (majoring in Math and English), she was employed as a meteorologist at Sea Island Airport in Vancouver. It was during the war, and she was one of the first women to be appointed in such a role. She married Fred Field, BCOM'40, and his air force service saw them moving to a number of locations around the country. They settled in West Vancouver, and the height of Mrs. Field's UBC activities occurred during the 1970s.

As a member of Senate, she was instrumental in persuading the provincial government to amend the new Universities Act, which increased student representation in the Senate, but reduced that of alumni. Members elected by convocation (all grads and faculty) had been dropped from 18 to four, but the decision remained a topic of debate. Negotiations resulted in the allocation of 11 extra Convocation representatives. Another period in the university's history she recalls with pride was clinching approval from the provincial government for architectural plans that conceptualized UBC's Museum of Anthropology.

Mrs. Field lent her services to many committees during this time, and was adamant that UBC maintain the high standards of education that she had experienced in the '30s and '40s under the guidance of mentors like professors Shrum, Nowlan, Sedgewick, Wood and Gage. (It was Professor Gage's course in Celestial Mechanics that first awakened her abiding interest in astronomy.) She served on the Curriculum Committee and volunteered with other campus groups such as the Cecil Green Lecture Series and the Walter Koerner Master Teaching Awards. More recently, she was invited to join the UBC Alumni Affairs Centenary Committee, struck to mark the university's upcoming centennial.

Beyond UBC, there are countless beneficiaries of her 71 years of public service. She has had a longstanding commitment with the Junior League of Vancouver, an organization she initially became involved with in 1952. Other organizations to have benefited include the Vancouver Foundation (with which she has been involved for 17 years), the Vancouver Art Gallery, where she was a docent under the direction of Doris Shadbolt, the Vancouver Aquarium, the YWCA, Vancouver Museum, the United Way, and the BC Medical Foundation Board. Former recognition includes the Queen's Medal in 1977, the Elsje Armstrong Award for Volunteerism in 1985, and the 1990 United Way Volunteer Recognition Award. She is a life member of the University Women's Club, West Vancouver.

Sopron School of Forestry

Alumni Milestone Achievement Award

One of the most interesting stories in BC's immigration history began in 1957 when UBC's Faculty of Forestry "adopted" close to 300 Hungarian refugees from the Forest Engineering University of Sopron and established a Sopron division, enabling the students to complete their education in Canada in Hungarian. A profound cultural and educational exchange ensued. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Hungarians' arrival.

The story begins in the aftermath of the failed Hungarian Revolution of 1956, when students and faculty from the Sopron school escaped their Soviet oppressors by fleeing over the border into Austria. The group remained mostly intact, intent on eventually resuming their studies and research in Hungary. But with Austria receiving upwards of 100,000 refugees in the space of a month, and its proximity to the soviet troops, Sopron director Kalman Roller knew an immediate solution was required if the school was to survive, and wrote to 20 countries requesting assistance. Although he received several responses, the most generous one was from UBC's Faculty of Forestry.

On January 1, 1957, 28 Sopron faculty members, 200 students, and 65 wives and children

left for Canada to establish this new Forestry division at UBC. They initially stayed in Powell River (housed in a construction camp for a few months) to culturally acclimatize and learn English. Many of the students found work.

The first academic year began at UBC in September 1957 and was not without difficulty. Some of the Sopron group still had family members in Hungary, few owned any possessions, and all had to adapt to a profoundly different Canadian context. The language barrier was a major challenge. The Sopron students were taught in their own language at first, with the gradual introduction of lectures in English from UBC professors. But eventually most of these difficulties were overcome and by 1961 the last Sopron class had graduated. Five years later, 80 per cent of the Hungarians were still in Canada and a high proportion of them obtained a post graduate degree. Almost 100 Hungarian foresters were employed in BC during the late 50s and early 60s, and many became influential in the field. A group of Sopron alumni has met monthly for the past five decades.

These graduates and Hungarian faculty members represent a handful of the 38,000 Hungarian refugees who came to Canada during this time – the '56-ers as they became known. Their impact on Canada included a shift in the nation's refugee policy, influencing a more open-door approach.

At a ceremony in July 2007, to mark the 50-year anniversary of their arrival, Sopron alumni presented a *kopjafa*, or post, to UBC carved by one of their own, Les Józsa, out of an 800-year-old Western Red Cedar from Stanley Park that fell victim to wind storms at the end of 2006. It was erected next to a traditional Hungarian gate (also carved by Józsa) that was presented to the people of Canada, UBC and the Forestry Faculty in 2001. While the Sopron Gate is inspired by traditional Hungarian folk art, it also represents the extreme shift in cultures that the Sopron foresters experienced. It conveys the foresters' personal struggles and gratitude for their acceptance at UBC and into Canadian culture. ◆

More information on how to nominate a canidate for next year's awards can be found on our website at www.alumni.ubc.ca/awards.

Sopron School of Forestry

Congratulations award recipients and a special thanks to our partners

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North South Travel
Sharp's Audio Visual
Minuteman Press (Burrard)
North South Travel and Club Med
Leader Frames

Art for Students' Sake

Begun in 1948, the AMS art collection has grown into a significant repository for Canadian art.

by **ROBIN LAURENCE**

Aliyah Shamsher, AMS Art Gallery Commissioner, sits amidst the riches of the student collection.

Photographs: Martin Dee

THE SETTING WAS BOTH ODD and appropriate. It was also a little tacky. For two weeks in September, seven works from the art collection of UBC's Alma Mater Society sat on metal easels in the Welcome Centre in Brock Hall. It was a kind of return for the art, which was originally acquired to hang on the walls of this old student building. Squeezed between green glass partitions and clusters of tables and chairs, however, the recent presentation was reminiscent of a trade fair in a hotel lobby. And yet, the works on display are of unquestionable aesthetic and historical importance. They might as readily have been hanging on the walls of the National Gallery of Canada.

Among them was a 1947 oil painting, *Abandoned Village, Rivers Inlet, BC* by the late E.J. Hughes, one of our country's most distinguished – and collectable – artists. Also on view were two powerful, flame-like abstractions painted by Lawren Harris, founding member of the Group of Seven, and a chilly-looking northern landscape by his equally famous colleague, A.Y. Jackson. Students, family members and counsellors came and went, apparently oblivious to the cultural wealth in their midst. Only a vigilant young man, posted at the door as a volunteer security guard, signalled its significance.

Obliviousness is a condition that Aliyah Shamsher aspires to change. An undergraduate student in art history, Shamsher holds the part-time administrative position of AMS Art Gallery Commissioner. In addition to organizing temporary shows of student art in the small gallery of the Student Union Building, she is responsible for overseeing the little-known treasure that is the AMS collection of Canadian art and arranging for its occasional (very occasional) exhibition. She also participates in the committee that purchases new works for the collection. "Buying a piece of contemporary art for what has become a historic collection is a really daunting task," Shamsher says. There must be a commitment to work that will last and that will hold accord with works already acquired. "We have such iconic pieces in the collection that you should really take them into

consideration when you're purchasing new work."

Now numbering some 67 objects, including prints, drawings and sculpture along with paintings and photographs, the collection represents esteemed Canadian modernists such as Yves Gaucher, Claude Breeze, Jack Shadbolt and Takao Tanabe. It also includes the work of acclaimed realist painters Jack Chambers, Ken Danby and Robert Young and 1960s avant-gardists Gathie Falk, Roy Kiyooka, Greg Curnoe and N.E. Thing Co. One of the most recent additions to the collection is *Development #1*, a large archival pigment print by Vancouver artist Roy Arden. An internationally renowned photographer, Arden is currently being honoured with a major, mid-career retrospective at the Vancouver Art Gallery. Falk, who is represented in the collection by her funky 1976-77 ceramic sculpture, *Picnic with Red Watermelon #2*, launched a stunning new installation of work in a solo show at the Equinox Gallery in October. Clearly, the collection continues to be relevant and well-chosen – if little seen by the people who own it.

The UBC student body might be pleased to know that the AMS owns an art work that has appreciated up to 73,000 per cent in the past 60 years.

Shamsher sketches out its origins. "It was initiated in the 1940s," she says. "An English professor wanted to start a collection to decorate the walls of Brock Hall." That professor, Hunter Lewis, taught in the department of English from 1929 until 1962 and had a passion for contemporary Canadian art. He sat for a period on the Board of Directors of the National Gallery in Ottawa, served as president of the Federation of Canadian Artists, and advocated on behalf of First Nations art. Undoubtedly, he would have been pleased by the AMS's purchase in 2003 of a large painting by acclaimed Okanagan-Salish artist Lawrence Paul Yuxweluptun.

Writing in a catalogue published in 1988, then AMS Art Gallery President Sarah Mair, now McLeod, expanded on the collection's history. Soon after Brock Hall opened in 1940, McLeod wrote, Professor Lewis proposed to the student council that a modest portion of student fees be directed toward the acquisition of outstanding examples of contemporary Canadian art. Initially, the amount was ten cents per student per year. (The rate was eventually changed to a flat commitment of $1,500 per year.) It was not until 1948 that enough money was in place to undertake the first purchase: the Hughes painting, at a cost of $150.

Ian Thom, a senior curator at the Vancouver Art Gallery and the scholar responsible for the definitive 2002 book and touring retrospective exhibition of Hughes's work, observes that *Abandoned Village* was pivotal in the artist's career. It helped secure him a long-term relationship with the Montreal-based art dealer and collector, Dr. Max Stern. Stern first encountered Hughes's work while visiting UBC in 1951, Thom recounts, and was so impressed that he tracked the artist down at his Vancouver Island home, bought all the work in his studio, and signed him to a contract that ensured he could devote himself entirely to painting.

A somewhat comparable painting by Hughes, *Fishboats, Rivers Inlet*, completed in 1946, commanded a price of over $90,000 at auction in 2004. The UBC student body might be pleased to know that the AMS owns an art work that has appreciated up to 73,000 per cent in the past 60 years. Not that the AMS wants to send the painting off to an auction house any time soon. Other plans are afoot.

Brief individual histories of the works and their makers are documented in the collection's 1988 catalogue. McLeod put this important document together with the help of two assistants, Trevor Smith and John Sinal, and with funding provided by an AMS summer project grant. "We interviewed as many of the local artists as we could find," McLeod recalls. They also spoke to Jessie Binning, widow of the famed B.C. Binning, who founded the department of Fine Arts in 1955 and later established the Fine Arts Gallery at UBC. He was also instrumental, through his enthusiasm, advice and advocacies, in shaping and enlarging the

AMS collection. More recently, art history professor John O'Brian has contributed his expertise to the selection of new work.

Shamsher and her colleagues at the AMS are working on an updated catalogue of the collection, to be published in print and possibly on-line format. "The 1988 catalogue is very encyclopedic," Shamsher says, citing the research behind each individual entry. "This year, we were hoping to focus more on the history of the collection, to celebrate it."

Energy and optimism are also being directed towards finding a permanent exhibition space in which to showcase the work. As things now stand, the collection is exhibited only once or twice a year, for brief periods of time, in the SUB gallery. The rest of the time, it resides in a high security vault, a situation Thom feels should be redressed.

"Art has a significant role to play in the culture," he says, "but only if it's accessible to people within that culture." He cites the $20 million collection of Canadian art at Hart House, a social, recreational and cultural centre on the St. George campus of the University of Toronto. Many of Hart House's valuable historical and contemporary works are hung in its hallways and reading rooms, for the pleasure of all who pass by. About the usually invisible AMS collection, Thom says, "It seems silly to continue to buy art unless the work is going to be seen by students."

Shamsher agrees, then adds, "The majority of students on campus don't really know about the collection, which is what we're hoping to change this year." The updated catalogue and a publicity push with increased media coverage underlie aspirations for a new gallery. Such a facility could happen at some still undisclosed time in the future, within the context of a new Student Union Building, which the AMS executive are currently discussing. A proposal for a new structure and a decision about its location will go before the student body in the form of a referendum. When, how, and how much have yet to be determined, but an expanded presence for the AMS art collection, whether in its own designated gallery or in secure locations around the building, is a must. "We want the art to be up all the time," Shamsher says. "We want UBC students as well as the public at large to know that we have a collection." ◆

Robin Laurence is a Vancouver freelance writer and critic. She is visual arts critic for The Georgia Straight *and a contribuing editor of* Border Crossings *and* Canadian Art.

Drugs for the Masses

A new approach to developing and marketing a life-saving drug puts human welfare above mere profit.

by **ELLEN SCHWARTZ**

The tiny protozoa, leishmania, introduced to the body via a sandfly bite, causes debilitating disease in 200 million people worldwide.

REMEMBER THOSE choose-your-own-adventure stories that were popular in the 1980s? Often written as if the reader were the hero of the tale, the story led you, the protagonist, through one hair-raising adventure after another, until it left you in imminent danger of sure death, hanging by your fingernails from the edge of a sheer cliff. Then the story posed alternative plot developments. Do you fall to your death? Are you attacked by a ravenous tiger? Are you saved by a helicopter that swoops down and carries you away? You, the reader, make your choice, and then follow that plot thread into more adventures… until the next fork in the road.

This story – a story about science and business, about pharmaceutical sciences research and human rights – is like a choose-your-own-adventure. In this tale, UBC comes to a fork in the road. The university can pursue business as usual. Or it can choose the path of global citizenship.

The disease

Every good story has a back story. In this case, it's about science.

Leishmaniasis is a debilitating disease that afflicts some 200,000,000 people worldwide, mainly in India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sudan and Brazil. Every year, 500,000 new cases occur. The disease, caused by a parasite transmitted by the bit of a sandfly, is characterized by fever, anemia and weight loss and is fatal unless treated. It kills an estimated half-million people each year. Worse, it is spreading to new areas as populations migrate in response to conflicts, poverty and deforestation.

Leishmaniasis also has social and economic impacts. Because it often causes profound scarring of the skin and disfiguration, those affected suffer social isolation. Afflicted women, many of whom form the economic backbone of their communities, are unable to marry in many of the countries where the disease is endemic.

Immune suppression due to AIDS increases the risk of *leishmaniasis* by 10 to 100 times. Before highly active antiretroviral medications became widely available, *leishmaniasis* was the third most common parasitic infection in southern Europe.

Other debilitating afflictions common in third-world countries are caused by fungal infections, which can weaken and kill people who are weakened by other diseases or whose immune systems have been compromised. But people in all parts of the world are vulnerable to fatal fungal infections when their immune systems are compromised: cancer patients and AIDS sufferers, for example.

Fungal infections have become an issue in

Getty Images

North America, too. A form of *candidiasis* called *candidemia* is the fourth most common bloodstream infection among hospitalized patients in the US, especially low-birth-weight babies and surgical patients, occurring in eight of every 100,000 people per year. One study looked at 35,232 HIV-infected patients who attended outpatient clinics in 10 US cities between 1990 and 1998, and found that the incidence of *aspergillosis*, another fungal infection, was between five and 10 per 1,000.

The treatment

There is an available treatment common to *leishmaniasis* and fungal infections: Amphotericin B, developed 60 years ago. AmpB, as it is known, is highly effective, with cure rates of nearly 100 per cent. But AmpB has two serious limitations. It causes severe kidney toxicity, which means that it can be given only in small doses and for short periods. And it must be administered intravenously. This means that patients have to be hospitalized for four to five weeks while they are closely monitored, which in turn taxes health care systems that are already overburdened. The enormous challenges of cost, accessibility and storage, not to mention the possible side effect of infection that often results from IV treatment itself, mean that the effectiveness of AmpB is limited in the countries where it is needed most.

The professor

Enter Dr. Kishor Wasan, professor and chair of Pharmaceutics and Biopharmaceutics, and a Distinguished University Scholar. His office in the Cunningham Building is cramped: bookshelves and filing cabinets overflow with texts, papers and journals, while various awards and plaques are tucked inconspicuously onto shelves and the corner of his desk.

But the laboratory next door, the Wasan Lab, is state-of-the-art, and this is where Wasan has been mounting a campaign against *leishmaniasis* and fungal infections for the past 13 years.

With the support of a grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, and the collaboration of his wife, Dr. Ellen Wasan, a faculty member at BCIT, Wasan worked on developing a lipid formulation of AmpB, a formulation in which the drug molecules are suspended in a fatty solution. This version proved to be just as effective as the original in reducing the amount of infection, and with greatly reduced renal side effects, since the lipids protect the body's organs from exposure to the medication. This allowed the dosage to be increased, from about 1 mg per kilogram of body weight to 5 mg per kilogram, which was a major breakthrough. But the lipid version still had to be administered intravenously, bringing with it the same problems of cost and accessibility, and putting it beyond the reach of most third-world countries.

So Wasan set out to develop an oral formulation of AmpB, one that would have the same effectiveness and reduced kidney toxicity of the intravenous lipid version.

The breakthrough

Back to the lab. Wasan was doing two studies, one using the intravenous lipid formulation of AmpB to fight fungal infections in animal models, and another working on oral lipid formulations of other drugs, to see how the lipids improved absorption of the drugs.

The two streams collided.

"We took the lipid experiments and combined them with AmpB for oral use," Wasan says. "Then we tested the resulting formulation on fungal infections in animals. We got results we couldn't believe. The oral version produced a significant decrease in fungal infection in rats, with no kidney toxicity."

With considerable excitement, Wasan took his discovery to Barbara Campbell, associate director of the University Industry Liaison Office (UILO), the agency that brings UBC discoveries to the private sector and arranges for licenses to develop them and bring them to market.

At this point, in true choose-your-own-adventure style, Dr. Wasan's discovery could have evolved in one of two directions: business as usual or business with a global human rights ethic.

Business as usual

We now pick up the other part of the story, the business saga.

Prof. Kishor Wasan heads the fight against leishmaniasis.

Traditionally, when a new drug or technology is discovered at UBC, the UILO looks for a partner who will advance the research and then commercialize and market the product. A portion of the revenue resulting from the license comes back to UBC and is shared with the original researcher.

Usually, the partner gets exclusive access to the property, which means that it is up to that company to determine how the product is marketed. Consider a new cancer drug, for example. Because it is extremely expensive to take a new drug through the clinical trials and regulatory approvals needed to bring it to market, the licensee could market the drug at a profit to countries in the developed world, earning back its investment and returning a profit to shareholders. UBC could suggest that the company make the drug available at cost to countries in the developing world. But that is at the company's discretion.

Some of UBC's past partnerships *have* incorporated humanitarian principles into the

Photograph: Martin Dee

business licenses. For example, UBC has been a leader in creating partnerships for bioactive compounds through the research of Dr. Ray Andersen. These partnerships return revenue from the commercialization of the therapeutic compounds to the country of origin for the benefit of the people and environment of the region. But in the past such provisions have been technology-specific, one-off instances, not the general rule.

Business the new way

"UBC did not have university-wide principles to guide the development of our commercial licenses from a global perspective," Campbell says. "So we began the process of defining a set of principles that would ensure global access to UBC discoveries."

The intellectual and social climate for such thinking was ideal. Martha Piper, during her years as president, defined the university's role to "promote the values of a civil and sustainable society, and conduct outstanding research to serve the people of British Columbia, Canada, and the world." Current president Stephen Toope fosters the idea of UBC as a global citizen, urging the development of university spin-offs not only for profit but also to benefit those in need around the world.

Activist students

Behind the scenes, another force has been at play. Universities Allied for Essential Medicines (UAEM) is an international student group that lobbies universities to fund research on "neglected diseases," such as *leishmaniasis*, that don't catch headlines but that affect millions of people around the world, mainly in poor countries. The organization also pushes universities to incorporate principles of global access to medicines into the commercial licenses they negotiate.

The UBC chapter of UAEM was, according to Barbara Campbell, instrumental in bringing the issue to Professor Toope's attention, and, from there, to other administrative levels. "This raised awareness on campus and gave UILO the leverage we needed to advance the idea of global access as a university-wide principle."

As a result, UBC has become the first university in Canada to put forward a broad strategy to provide global access to appropriate technologies, and these principles are now an integral part of all of the university's licensing decisions.

Global access

While these global access principles strive to ensure fair access to relevant technologies for the developing world, they still recognize the legitimate needs of industry licensees. For example, one of the principles says that UBC will endeavour to ensure that underprivileged populations have low-cost or at-cost access to our research innovations. Another states that the university will support environmentally friendly research and green alternatives, and will take the lead in community sustainability.

How will these principles be put into effect? The policy sets out a number of strategies, ranging from seeking partnerships with not-for-profit and charitable organizations, to provide funding for neglected disease areas, to negotiating licenses that ensure low-cost or at-cost access to technologies that have potential relevance to the developing world.

Developing AmpB

Back to Dr. Kishor Wasan and his discovery. Through UILO, UBC has partnered with iCo Therapeutics Inc., a Vancouver-based biotech company, to advance the development of AmpB. iCo is funding Wasan's continuing research in the quest to develop an oral, effective, heat-stable and long-lasting formulation of AmpB.

It will take a great deal of work to get there. The next step is to conduct pre-clinical studies using the oral formulation in animal models, which will be conducted in the Wasan lab. Then further research and development will be needed to advance the drug through clinical trials on humans and on through regulatory approvals.

The next stage of research will benefit both the first-world and the third-world applications of the drug. At some point, though, the research will likely branch off in two directions: one formulation of AmpB targeted to the kinds of fungal infections associated with immune suppression, and another specifically designed to fight *leishmaniasis* and the virulent fungal infections prevalent in the third world. At that point, considerably more funding will be needed to develop the anti-*leishmaniasis* applications. That is where, Wasan hopes, a charitable organization such as the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation may step in. In the meantime, Campbell says, "UBC's partnership with iCo ensures that its development of the formulation will embrace our global access objectives."

Kishor Wasan is eager to take his research to the next level, and his team, including research associate Dr. Sheila Thornton, as well as a post-doctorate fellow and a research assistant, is already designing the next pre-clinical studies. Wasan is delighted with the synergy between science and business that has emerged in this case. "Three things came together: the medical need for the oral delivery of AmpB, our initial discovery, and the intellectual and social climate at UBC to support human rights and global access in the developing world."

Financial Priorities

There's no escaping the fact that UBC stands to make less money from a license that requires low-cost or at-cost access for poor populations than one that allows companies to develop, commercialize and market products entirely as they see fit. "Part of the global access approach is fair pricing, which could affect UBC's return and the return to the researcher," Campbell acknowledges. "But this is important to the university community. We want to see a societal impact for research that takes place at UBC in every instance where it matters to the third world."

Kishor Wasan couldn't agree more. "It would be lovely to make piles of money from my discovery," he says. "But I don't need it. I do fine. It's a once-in-a-lifetime dream to be able to do this altruistic work."

Wasan admits that, because of his family's origins in India, he has a personal connection to the battle against *leishmaniasis*. Smiling wistfully, he says, "I would love to be there to see health care workers administer an oral dose of AmpB to an Indian child."

Thanks to his own brilliant research, UBC's commitment to global access and the support of a local biotech company in the further development of this life-saving drug, he may get his wish.

And the story looks to have a happy ending for millions of people around the world. ◆

– Ellen Schwartz, MFA'86, is a Vancouver writer.

Paddling Away From Breast Cancer

By Marlisse Silver-Sweeney

Abreast in a Boat team, 2007.

Last June at the Alcan Dragon Boat Festival in Vancouver, dozens of teams and bystanders lined up to watch one inspiring race. It wasn't the finals, or the infamous "Guts and Glory" 2-k dredge. Only one man was in this race, amongst the hundreds of women. And even though the participants had been training for months – years in some cases – no one particularly cared who won.

As the hundreds of survivors got off their boats from the Breast Cancer Survivors Race, they were followed by Don McKenzie MPE'72, MD'77, founder of the dragon boat breast cancer survivor movement and the only man allowed on board. A myriad of pink stormed out onto the dock and through the kilometer long archway formed by the paddles of other team members. The carnations they had dropped into the water to commemorate the women who haven't survived the disease floated in the distance, but the visceral cheers, laughter and tears of the women on the dock made it clear that they were winning their race against breast cancer.

Margaret Hobson BED'64, MED'79, is a retired teacher and current president of the Abreast in a Boat Society.

Margaret joined Abreast in a Boat in 1999 after undergoing breast cancer treatment the previous year. "I could hardly wait to finish surgery and treatment so I could join the team" she says, matter-of-fact, as if it's like waiting for a broken bone to heal. Paddling a dragon boat on False Creek however, isn't a walk on the seawall.

"I thought I was going to die the first couple of practices. I was very fresh out of treatment and I had started going to the gym but it was not enough."

Eventually though, the sore muscles and the strenuous exercise worked itself into a routine, and Margaret got more from her dragon boat team than the need for a hot bath twice a week. "I never joined any support groups but I think Abreast in a Boat gives you one. If a person has a problem related to a medical condition there is someone on the boat who knows something about it."

That someone is generally Dr. Don McKenzie. Dr. Don (as he's called) started the first dragon boat team for breast cancer survivors in 1996. Abreast in a Boat was part of his plan to combat the idea that upper body exercise in breast cancer survivors would increase their chances of developing lymphedema. Besides lab and hospital-based studies, Dr. Don wanted to develop a "visible demonstration that women treated for breast cancer could do strenuous, physical upper body exercise and not develop lymphedema."

The first team, made up of 24 breast cancer survivors, started his study. The women trained for two months in a gym before getting in the boat, and they were measured and tested. Starting slowly, they gradually built their strength and competed at the Alcan Dragon Boat Festival. Dr. Don's hypothesis was correct. "People got stronger, people got fitter, and they showed that they didn't develop lymphedema."

But what happened afterwards was a huge surprise. "It got totally out of control," he laughs. What started as a study of 24 women turned into a movement of thousands of women worldwide including teams in New York, Tasmania, Singapore, Poland, Dubai, Cape Town and now six teams in the Lower Mainland alone, with Dr. Don coaching a new novice team every year. "It went way beyond the physical things we were doing. When you push off from the dock at False Creek we're all in the same boat. This isn't about cancer anymore. It's about exercise and health and the rest of your life. When we push off we're paddling away from breast cancer."

And then there's the sisterhood.

"We own a lot of pink clothing," Marg says, and I remember the Ten Years Abreast Festival in Vancouver two years ago. Pink boas, wigs, shirts, shoes, dogs and husbands were littered across the park, proudly removing any possible stigma from the disease.

"There is a real bond among breast cancer survivors." Once, Margaret tells me, she met a woman at a party and they started talking about Abreast in a Boat. When Margaret came home that night, there was an e-mail from that woman telling her that she had just been diagnosed with breast cancer and hadn't told anyone. She wanted to join the team.

"Just the fact that we're out there, we're paddling, we're vibrant and enjoying life, I think it's contagious. We certainly spread the word that there's life after breast cancer." And spread the word they have. These faces of the disease are consulted on any big decisions by the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation, they're helping women around the world come to terms with a serious illness and they're tough competitors. From a medical study to a world-wide movement, these women are Busting Out (a team in Ottawa), Bosom Buddies (a team in Nova Scotia), and are Paddling for Life (a team in Powell River). They're simply inspirational. ◆

Marlisse Silver-Sweeney is a 4th year student in the Creative Writing department.

chronicle

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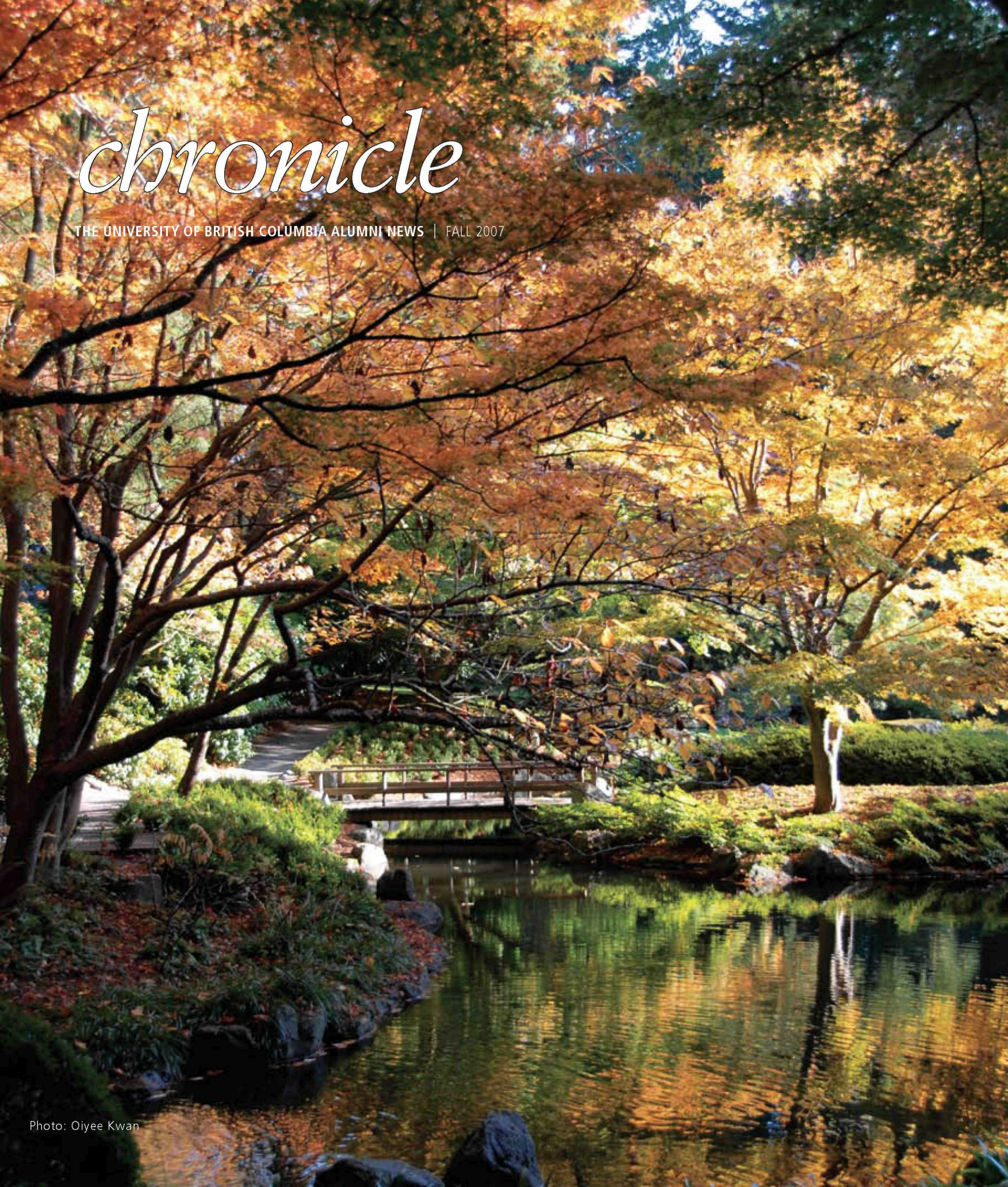
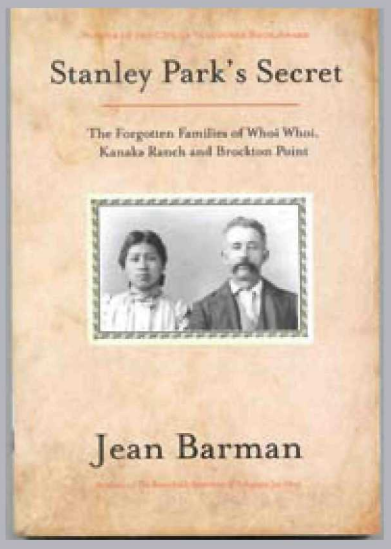
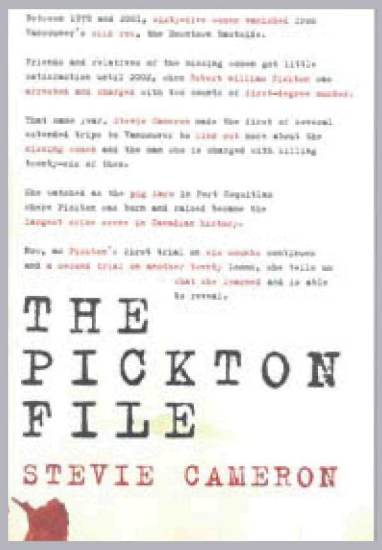
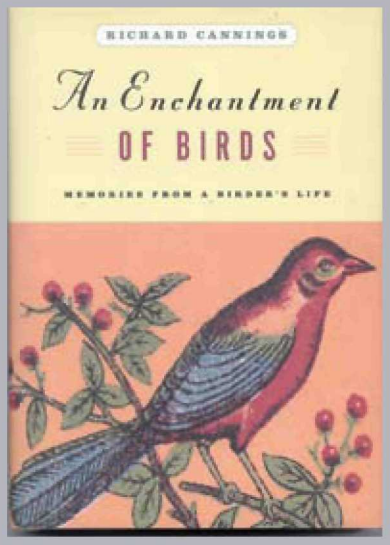


Photo: Oiyee Kwan

BOOKS







Stanley Park's Secret

The Forgotten Families of Whoi Whoi, Kanaka Ranch, and Brockton Point
Jean Barman, BED'82
Harbour Publishing, $24.95

Each year, over eight million people visit Stanley Park, but few visitors stop to contemplate the secret past of British Columbia's most popular tourist destination. Officially opened in 1888, Stanley Park was born alongside the city of Vancouver, so it is easy to assume that the park was a pristine wilderness when it was first created. But this was not always the case. Much of it was once logged and home to a number of different settlements including Aboriginal people that lived at the villages of Whoi Whoi, now Lumberman's Arch, and nearby Chaythoos.

Working in collaboration with descendants of the families who once lived in the park area, historian Jean Barman skilfully weaves together the families' stories with archival documents, Vancouver Parks Board records and court proceedings to reveal a troubling, yet deeply important facet of BC's history. Winner of the 2006 City of Vancouver Book Prize, Stanley Park's Secret is an analysis of the suppressed history of First Nations and Kanakan occupation of Stanley Park and explodes the myth that it was once a pristine wilderness.

The Pickton File

Stevie Cameron, BA'64
Knopf Canada, $24.95

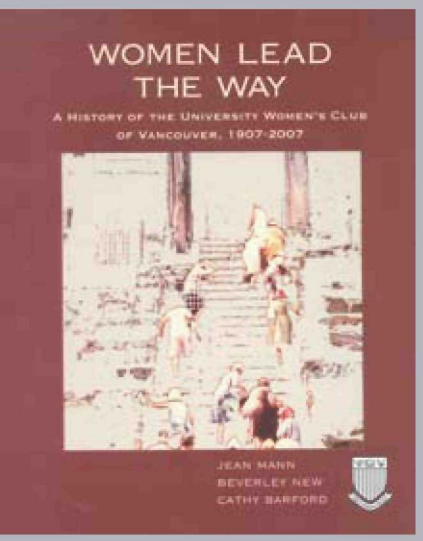
A story about the hunt for a serial killer who preyed on some of Vancouver's most vulnerable residents, *The Pickton File* is Cameron's first-person account of working on the Missing Women/Pickton story for five years. Since the arrest of Robert William "Willie" Pickton in February 2002, Cameron has sought to find out more about the missing women and the man who, if convicted, will have the horrific distinction of being the worst serial killer in Canadian history.

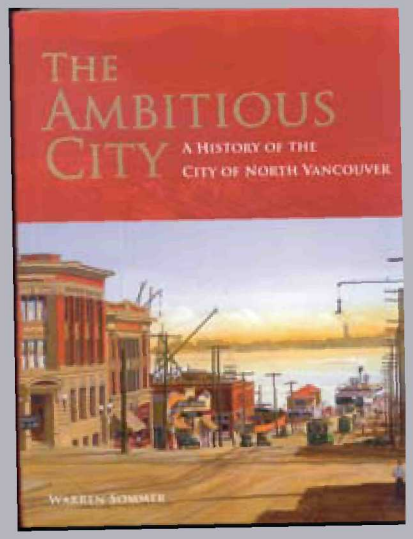
Cameron is considered to be one of the country's best investigative journalists. In this book, she pulls together all the stories swirling around the case – the missing women, questionable police tactics, support workers, families, friends and advocates – to help understand how this could happen to so many women over so many years in Vancouver. Cameron outlines all the key players and what actually happened leading up to the trial.

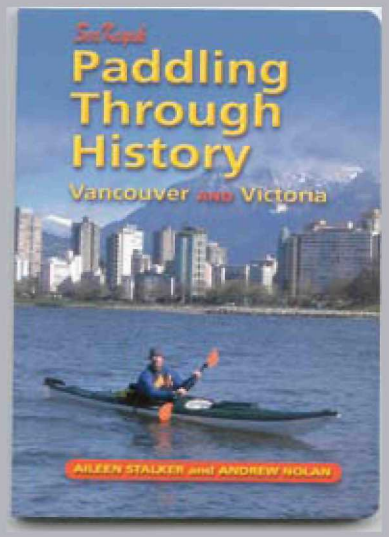
The Enchantment of Birds
Memories from a Birder's Life

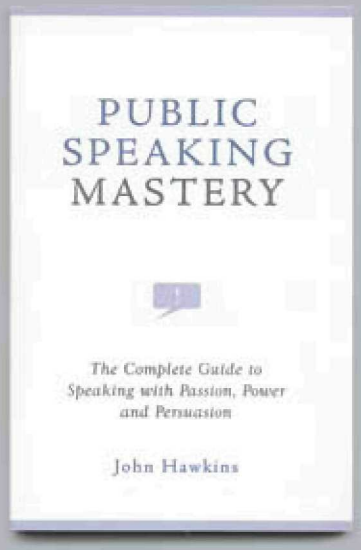
Richard Cannings, BSC'75
Greystone Books, $29.95

Veteran biologist and bird lover Richard Cannings reminisces about encounters with his favourite feathered friends and describes the wonders of birdlife. The author weaves his personal experiences with fascinating descriptions of the behavior, anatomy, and evolution of birds all across North America. Each piece in the book is enhanced by one of Donald









Gunn's illustrations.

Whether you are a devout birdwatcher or someone who just enjoys learning more about the winged beauties, Cannings' compilation of memorable sightings and stories of birds native to North America will entertain any bird aficionado.

Women Lead the Way

History of the University Women's Club

Jean Mann, Beverley New, Cathy Barford

The University Women's Club was founded in 1907 by a group of women with university degrees whose goal it was to advance the status of women in the young city and provide a social and intellectual outlet for its members. Over the years, the club established bursaries and scholarships for deserving women to attend university, and joined the struggle to modernize provincial and national laws as they applied to equality, opportunity and social justice. This book covers the first one hundred years of the club, illustrated with historical photos and profiles. Contact js.mann@telus.net for information.

The Ambitious City

A History of the City of Vancouver

Warren Sommer, BA'73, MA'77

Harbour Publishing, $44.95

North Vancouver is one of the most historic areas of BC's Lower Mainland, with a district population of more than 120,000 people, and more than 45,000 living in the City of North Vancouver itself. The area's easy access to downtown Vancouver, its multi-use waterfront and many recreational opportunities have made it one of the province's most desirable places to live.

But how did this thriving multicultural city develop from a hodgepodge of wood frame buildings and muddy trails in just 100 years? Published in honour of the City of North Vancouver's 2007 centennial, *The Ambitious City* details the story of North Vancouver that includes first-person accounts as well as a host of archival photos and illustrations. Warren Sommer skillfully connects the community's history with that of the province, covering ethnic relations, colonialism, labour history and politics.

Sea Kayak Paddling Through History

Vancouver and Victoria

Aileen Stalker, BSR'77, MA'92 and Andrew Nolan

Rocky Mountain Books, $19.95

Enjoy inner-city paddling with this guide that tells the story of BC's biggest city from water level. Discover the tales behind the people, bridges, lighthouses, museums and watercraft that come to life in this guide, which also includes a section on Victoria.

Paddling through History explains place names, geology and other highlights, and is illustrated with maps and photos.

Public Speaking Mastery

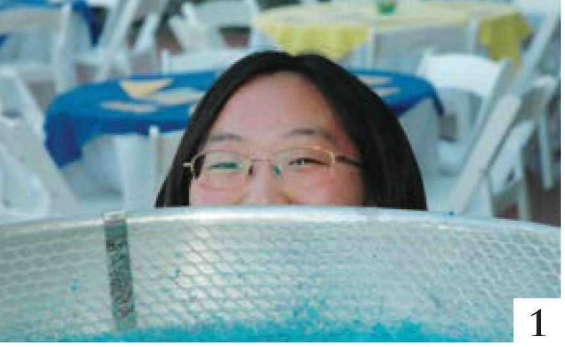
Complete Guide to Speaking with Passion, Power and Persuasion

John Hawkins, BA'74, MA'76, MBA'78

Hawkins Communications, $19.95

It is commonly heard most people would rather have surgery sans anaesthetic than speak in public. For me, as someone comfortable with public speaking I would rank writing a book as a major fear!

John Hawkins appears to have overcome both fears and created a very practical guide to public speaking that will serve a wide audience well. This is a great book for anyone who wants to do their best regardless of the event, from a small group at a family celebration to a first time conference speaker to a reluctant key note speaker. His style is engaging and his suggestions practical and applicable. *Barney Ellis-Perry* ◆



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UBC Alumni Weekend September 14 – 16, 2007

It had all the makings of a perfect Vancouver event: spectacular campus, great food (West Coast specialties), BC wine and more than a thousand of UBC's alumni and friends. Whether you were craving academic stimulation or simply one of UBC's infamous cinnamon buns, there was something to please even the pickiest of UBC's former students. Thank you to all those who attended for making it a great weekend.

And, a special thank you to all the wonderful volunteers that made it happen – we could not have done it without you!

Blue and Gold Party

On Friday afternoon, Alumni Affairs held a party for UBC staff who are also UBC alumni. Cocktails, snacks and frisbee on the lawn. Photos 1: Mari Takeda, student intern, hides behind the candy floss machine. 2: AVP Marie Earl tosses a dart at the balloon board. Photo 9: AA staffers Christina Harley, Adrienne Watt and Marlisse Silver-Sweeney glam it up.

Breakfast Television

Photo 5: Fred Lee BA'88 helped Breakfast TV host Tasha Chiu BA'03 and the crew at Breakfast Television get into the UBC spirit. Tasha spent Friday afternoon broadcasting live from campus.

Alumnae with Goodies

Photo 10: Connie Kadota, Library staffer Merry Meredith and Mayumi Takasaki, all ArtsOne grads, sport fashionable Alumni goodies, including free canvas totes and water bottles.

Bocce

Photo: 4: Young alumni returned to campus to throw some heavy metal balls down Main Mall. The sunny September afternoon and the lush grass at UBC proved to be the perfect location for a bocce tournament.

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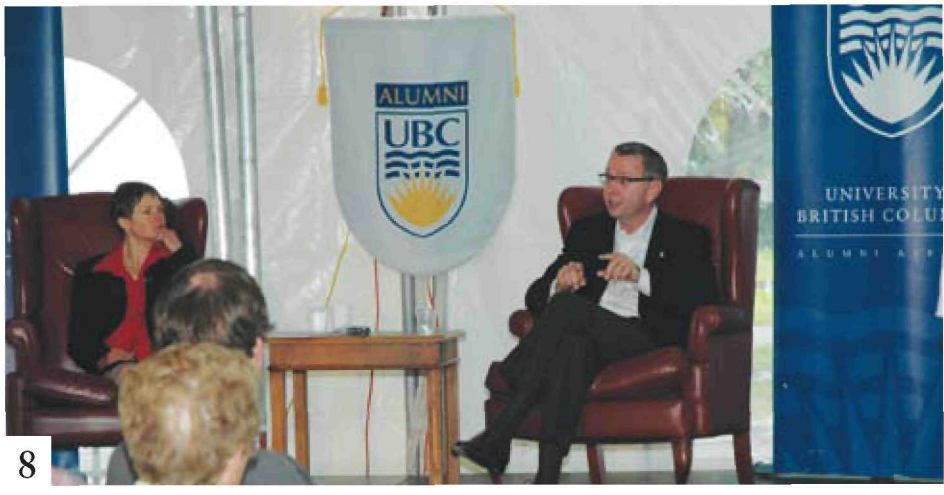

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Thunder! Thunder

Photo 3: UBC Thunderbirds' Mascot, aptly named Thunder, came out to rile up the crowd for the afternoon football game. Fans, including the 1982 championship football team who were having a 25-year reunion (Photo 12), showed up to watch the 'Birds win their game 24-23 against Alberta.

Classes Without Quizzes

Photo 11: Wine, renewable energy, the aging brain, psychopaths and sustainability were just a few of the subjects that alumni could come and learn about – without the stress of an exam at the end. And that's a good thing, because Dr. Max Cynader from the Brain Research Centre taught us in his class that stress is one of the key components in ageing unhealthily. Whether learning how to taste the specific components of wine or why psychopaths talk about food while confessing their crimes, alumni proved that life long learning is a key aspect of a UBC grad.

Pancakes with the President

Photo 8: A job only fit for the president, Professor Toope had the task of waking everybody up over pancakes and conversation with PHD candidate and Trudeau Scholar, Aliette Sheinin. The inspiring conversation was just the thing to energize alumni and welcome them to the weekend.

Alumni Association AGM

Photo 6: On Saturday night, old board members and other alumni came to the 2007 AGM. Past chair Martin Ertl joined George Plant, Doug Aldridge and Gary Moore to hear new VP Academic and Provost David Farrar (Photo 7) and new VP External Stephen Owen talk about why UBC rocks. Well, we all knew why already. ◆

Nursing '57 celebrated 50 years in September at Harrison Hot Spring Resort. Twenty-two grads attended and three even brought husbands. On Monday evening we met in the hospitality suite where we caught up on each others lives. On Tuesday, we visited Minter Gardens, then had lunch in the Garden café. In the afternoon, several viewed the sand sculptures, others golfed or soaked in the hot pools. Before dinner, we gathered in the hospitality suite where we were toasted with champagne and shared many memories of our time at UBC. Each grad received a 50-year alumni pin. Dinner on Tuesday was in the Copper Room. Later on, some met to play bridge and a group met back in the hospitality suite where we laughed a lot and thoroughly enjoyed sharing fond memories. We plan to meet again in 2010. *– Ethel Warbinek*

Reunions

2007 Nursing All Years Reunion Luncheon: The reunion was held on Saturday, September 15 at Cecil Green Park House. More than 65 nursing alumni and guests attended.

The reunion included graduates from 1945 to 2007 who came from as far away as England and Scotland and as near as the UBC Endowment lands. It was also a family affair as Jason Beard entering the program in January 2008 attended with his mom, Sandra PHD '07.

We were saddened to hear that Helen Sandburg BSN'73 who was a regular reunion attendee had passed away earlier in September. Graduates from 1957 celebrating 50 years and 1967 celebrating 40 years included the luncheon as part of their reunion plans.

There were an abundance of great door prizes and many moments of fun and hilarity ensued. One of the highlights was a passionate talk by Dr. Becky Palmer the Chief of Nursing for the Children's and Women's Health Centre as she shared parts of her professional journey.

Calling all anniversary classes

- If you have a 10, 20, 25, 30, 40 or 50th anniversary coming up, why not celebrate with a class reunion?
- If you are already planning a reunion, be sure to post it on the alumni website.
- Do you need some help planning your reunion?
- Do you want to hold your reunion over Alumni Weekend?
- Did you already have your reunion but would like to share stories or photos?

Unless your faculty is listed below, please contact Marguerite Collins for more information at marguerite.collins@ubc.ca or 604.827.3294.
Sauder: www.sauder.ubc.ca/alumni/reunions, contact alumni@sauder.ubc.ca or call 604-822-6027.
Dentistry: www.dentistry.ubc.ca/alumni, contact dentalum@interchange.ubc.ca or call 604-822-6751.
Law: alumni@law.ubc.ca, or contact alumni@law.ubc.ca or 604-827-3612.
Applied Science: www.apsc.ubc.ca/alumni/events or contact 604.822.9454.

Alumni Weekend 2008

Save the Date: May 23 – May 25
This year marks UBC's Centenary. Come out and celebrate 100 years of achievement! Don't miss an action packed weekend of celebration. We've got cultural, academic, social, athletic and family events in the planning stages, so you are sure to find something new and exciting. We promise fun for all ages!

Visit our website for more information and be sure to send us your email address, so we can send you the most up-to-date information in the coming months. **www.alumni.ubc.ca/events/alumniweekend.**

Young Alumni

Student and Alumni Ski Weekend
January 25 – 27, 2008
Sun Peaks Resort
Join fellow UBC students and alumni for a weekend of snowy fun at Sun Peaks Resort. Bring a toque and a friend! Information and registration at www.alumni.ubc.ca/events/ski-weekend.

Positive Networking: Networking and Social Capital
Darcy Rezac, Managing Director & Chief Engagement Officer, the Vancouver Board of Trade
December 5, 2007: 5PM
UBC Robson Square Theatre

Photo: Chris Petty

Regional Events

Focus UBC

Professor Stephen Toope will again travel to cities around the globe in the coming year to meet UBC alumni and friends, like you. Join us to welcome Professor Toope on his first visit to your city!

Professor Toope will talk about what it means to be a global citizen, share his vision of the university and engage you in a forum about UBC's future. Hors d'oeuvres will be served and guests are welcome.

Upcoming Focus Events:

Focus UBC: Toronto, January 14, 2008
Focus UBC: New York, January 16 (tbc)
Focus UBC: London, February 12, 2008
Focus UBC: San Francisco, (tbc)

Centenary Launch in Victoria

To celebrate the signing of the University Act 100 years ago, UBC Alumni Affairs will be in Victoria on March 7, 2008 at the Royal BC Museum. Details to follow in the New Year.

Network News

Affinity Networks

Do you want to stay connected to your student clubs and revel in your experiences from those good ol' days? Your former club members are starting to form alumni networks based on their experiences and the number of these alumni groups just continue to grow.

Wellness Centre

If you were a Wellness Centre volunteer, join the TrekConnect group at www.trekconnect.ubc.ca/ubc/groups/391/index.html to let us know what you think and share more ideas.

Herstmonceux

The UBC Herstmonceux Alumni Association is introducing its Tri-Mentoring program, connecting returning ISC students with current undergrads and alumni of the same faculty. This program will provide support to confused Castle Kids from adjusting to campus to considering career goals, by discussing their options with those who have traveled a similar path before them. UBC's 10-year involvement with the ISC has finally generated enough alumni to launch the Tri-Mentoring Program, but it is up to its members to make it a success. If you would like to become a Tri-Mentor, or if you would like more information about the program, please contact Christine Lee by email at christine.lee@ubc.ca.

Film Production Program

After a successful re-opening of the Film Production Program at UBC, the Film Production Alumni Association will hold a reception in January 2008. We will also host filmmakers' screenings for alumni and the general public. Volunteers, sponsors, and donations are greatly appreciated. For more information contact us at filmalumni@gmail.com or phone 604.616.5055.

Regional Networks

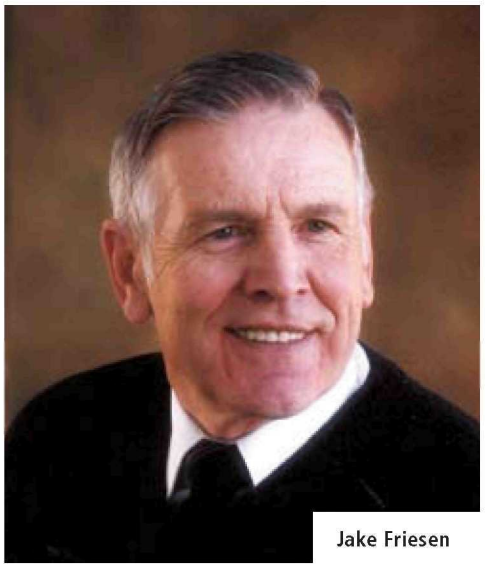
There are now more than 50 contacts and networks around the globe, and the list continues to grow. Check back often to see if there is a network in your area www.alumni.ubc.ca/connect/networks/index.php or contact one of our Alumni Relations Managers and get one started.

Brenda at UBCO: Brenda.tournier@ubc.ca
Tanya at UBCV: Tanya.walker@ubc.ca
Mei Mei at the Asia Pacific Regional Office in Hong Kong: meimei.yiu@apro.ubc.ca

Comings and Goings

Boston: New rep Trudy Loo, BA'04, MA'05, trudy.loo@yale.edu.
Paris: New rep Linda Alexander, BA'82, MA'87. Call our offices for contact info.
Hong Kong: Congratulations to Michael Mak, BCOM'97 for serving another term as president of the UBC Hong Kong Alumni Association.
Japan: Jay Magee, BA'97 has come out of retirement as rep for the Japan Alumni Network.
Seoul: A new UBC Alumni Society of Korea is in place lead by Jacob Joh, BSC'90 as president and Allan Suh, BSC'79, MBA'81 as chairman. ◆

CLASS ACTS



Jake Friesen

1950s

Jake Friesen BA'57 majored in History and English at UBC. Here's his update and some memories from student days: "I always thought the UBC campus must be the ultimate university site, jutting out into the ocean, and beautified with grand boulevards and manicured landscapes. I attended intermittently from 1951 to 1957, and remember the campus population given during that time as 5,555! For me the years at UBC were challenges to hone my philosophy of life, in a secular and multi-cultural environment. Several personal incidents stand out in my memory. I was once out of funds (no big surpise) and walked into Dean Walter Gage's office, asking for help. Without hesitation, he opened his drawer, pulled out a crisp $50 bill, and handed it to me, no strings attached. That blessed me out of my socks. At the age of 11, I had embraced a personal faith in Christ, and many contacts on campus helped me in my Christian journey. I was ordained to the ministry in 1958, at the age of 27. Now retired, and 2000 sermons later, I am sustained by the same faith I had found as a youth. My wife and I are celebrating 52 years of marriage, and enjoy good health. We live in Vernon, near a ski hill, and I'm still skiing at 76, along with various sports in summer, including tennis, hiking and biking. We have also been blessed with four healthy children and nine grandchildren."

1960s

Richard Helmer BASC'66, MASC'69, PHD'77 is based at TRIUMF on UBC's Vancouver campus, Canada's National Laboratory for Particle and Nuclear Physics. He was one of 21 scientists in Canada to receive the 2007 John C. Polanyi Award from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) for his contributions to the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory (SNO). This team of researchers was responsible for solving the Solar Neutrino Problem, a particle physics puzzle that has perplexed since the 1960s ... **Gillian (Richmond) Kydd** BSC'68, PHD(CALGARY)'04 received a Global TV/YWCA (Calgary) Woman of Vision award at a ceremony in March. The award was for initiating and developing the Open Minds/Campus Calgary program in which students enrich their learning experience by spending a full, teacher-led week at a community site such as a museum, zoo, or art gallery. Thousands of Calgary students have taken part, and the program has spread to other cities and countries; in Vancouver the Aquarium operates an Open Minds site. Gillian and her husband **Ron Kydd** BSC'63, PHD'69 have retired to the Sunshine Coast.

1970s

Naresh Dalal PHD'71, the Dirac Professor of Chemistry and former Chairman of the department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at Florida State University (1999-2007), has received the 2007 Florida Chemist Award of the American Chemical Society. A symposium was held in his honor at the annual meeting of the Florida Section of the ACS in Orlando, Florida, on May 11, 2007 ... **Dan Gallacher** PHD'79 received the Canadian Museums Association Award of Distinguished Service (2007). He is curator emeritus, Canadian Museum of Civilization, retiring from his position as Director of History in 2002. He and wife Joan Gallacher PHN'62, BSN, MSN, reside in Kelowna, BC ... **Ben Lucas** BSF'70 and **Joyce (Howarth) Lucas** BED(SEC)'72 are thrilled to announce the birth of their second grandson, Henrik Anthony Lucas, born August 15, 2007, in Vancouver, a brother for Oskar. His parents are **Tony Lucas** BSF'99 and **Kim (Versfeld) Lucas** BSC'99. Uncle **Mark Versfeld** BA'00 celebrates in Toronto ... **Joan Betty Stuchner** BA(ENG. LIT.)'77, DIPED'80 works in the UBC Library Processing Centre. She is also a writer. Her latest book, illustrated by Cynthia Nugent, and published by Tradewind Books, is *Honey Cake*, a chapter book/novel for grades 2 - 4: "David and his school friend Elsa live in Denmark under Nazi occupation. As far as they are concerned Copenhagen is the most beautiful city in the world. Even the presence of enemy soldiers can't change that. Then at Jewish New Year, 1943, a shocking announcement changes their lives. Told with sensitivity and even humour, *Honey Cake* is a book about courage, friendship and the resilience of children."

1980s

James Blair BASC'(ELEC.ENG)'87 has been appointed worldwide director of Operations, Consumer Silicon Services. He is responsible for the worldwide silicon services design operations, delivering power-efficient single chip systems at 90nm and 65nm. Silicon & Software Systems (S3) is the Connected Consumer Technology Company. Our company's

James Blair

technologies, products and professional services enable consumer electronics companies, semiconductor companies, service providers and consumer healthcare providers to deliver next-generation devices, systems and services to consumers at home and on the move … Based in London, England, **Julie Wheelwright** BA'84, MA (UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX '87), has been appointed course director of City University's new Creative Writing (Nonfiction) MA. Julie, who was an editor of *The Ubyssey* in 1982 and reporter for *The Vancouver Sun*, has gone on to become an award-winning film writer, author and journalist whose books include *The Fatal Love: Mata Hari and the Myth of Women in Espionage*, which was translated into five languages and is set to be made into a film directed by Martha Fiennes. Her most recent book, *A Stolen Child: The Story of Esther Wheelwright*, will be published by HarperCollins Canada next year. She has also produced documentaries for the History Channel Canada, WTN and Vision, the BBC and Channel Four in the UK, and has written and presented documentaries for BBC Radio Four. She now takes the helm of this innovative MA, the first of its kind in the UK. The course provides its students with the essential skills and supportive environment to complete a full-length, nonfiction book. It is aimed at students wishing to write narrative nonfiction, encompassing autobiographies, biographies and travel books; critical, polemic and analytical works; as well as reportage works. It is unique not least because its graduates will leave with a completed book. The MA already has industry backing; Andrew Gordon, editorial director of publishing house Simon & Schuster UK, says: "I welcome whole-heartedly the establishment of a new MA course in narrative nonfiction. It makes perfect sense for nonfiction to be part of a wider creative writing program." Julie says: "I'm aiming to support students through the intricate process of writing a nonfiction manuscript, whether it's a biography, an historical work or any other narrative work. City University has a great tradition of offering writing

Julie Wheelwright

and journalism classes which are practical and industry-focused and I hope that this course will fit into that." More information can be found on the university's website: *www.city.ac.uk/journalism/courses*.

1990s

Nancy Pagh PHD (INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES)'96 was the winner of the 2006 Autumn House Press book competition, and her book No Sweeter Fat was published in January. For more information about the press and book, visit *www.autumnhouse.org*. Nancy's poem *I believe I could kneel* was excerpted in the May 2007 issue of O Magazine (Oprah) in a feature on the theme of having faith. It was also featured on the popular Poetry Daily website. Nancy read in the UBC Robson Reading Series on April 12, and gave a lecture called *What does Salmon Mean? Poetry and Environmental Science* at the Georgia Basin Puget Sound Research Science conference held in Vancouver in March. Nancy teaches English and Canadian Studies at Western Washington University in Bellingham. ◆

SAYSON FAMILY: TEN UBC DEGREES

Last June, the Sayson family was the subject of a Vancouver Sun story that described their experiences since immigrating to Canada from the Philippines in 1981. At that time, Vicente and Naty Sayson had been living for several years under martial law declared by President Ferdinand Marcos and believed they could provide a better life and future for their eight children in Canada. They moved first to Vancouver, where Vicente's parents had settled a few years earlier, then purchased a home in Richmond.

Vicente always stressed the importance of family and urged his children to study and work hard in their new country and contribute to society. His death from leukemia and a stroke in 1985 was devastating to them. It also led to financial hardship, and the Sayson children all found low-paying jobs – from telesales to burger flipping – to help supplement the family income. They continued working through college and university. Today, to the enormous pride of Naty, all of the Sayson children have at least one degree and work in a professional occupation (except one, who is currently a full-time parent).

Ten of these degrees were earned at UBC (from left to right): Vina Emily Sayson BA'02, LLB'05, is a Richmond-based lawyer; Beatrice Stephanie Sayson BEd'90, MEd'98, teaches in Surrey; Caroline is a Certified General Accountant and the budget and treasury supervisor for the Vancouver School Board; Patricia earned her BSc in the Philippines and is a full-time mom; (Naty in center); Winston Sayson BA'85, LLB'88, is a lawyer and Crown Prosecutor; Eugene Sayson BA'87, MET'05, teaches ESL at Vancouver Community College; Abraham Sayson BCom'88 is a retail property broker; Vicente Daniel Sayson BA'92 is a videographer and producer.

The family has grown to 25 members and remains close. They are proud to be Canadian citizens and are grateful for the quality education received from UBC.

stephen owen

As the newly appointed VP External, Legal and Community Affairs, Stephen Owen has only been at UBC a few short months, but his connection to UBC goes back generations.

"UBC is in my DNA," says Owen. "My parents both graduated from here. My sister, my wife, one of my kids, cousins, nieces and nephews, we all attended UBC. We have a tremendous association going back to UBC's beginnings. It feels comfortable being here."

More recently, as MP for UBC's federal riding, Vancouver Quadra, Owen could often be found at the university announcing new Canada Research Chairs or grants from the Canada Foundation for Innovation or attending events in an official capacity.

"I seemed to be here almost weekly helping announce another triumph to the extent that Diane, my wife, joked that I spent more time here than when I was in law school."

So what was it that drew him here and away from politics? He thinks UBC is one of the most exciting places to be right now and the draw of Stephen Toope at the helm sealed the deal.

"Stephen is the rare combination of a globally recognized scholar grounded in the practical world of getting things done," says Owen. "He and I met a few times, exchanged some writings and ideas and we found that we are compatible on where a great public university could go."

Owen believes that a great public university should not only focus on building intellectual capital but should build social capital as well.

"That's the relationship between people and a complex society," he says. "Whether it's Aboriginal justice or climate change or helping people become engaged in self government. It's what makes a democracy. How can we actually inform the public to tell politicians what to do? If we can't, governments don't lead very well."

He believes there has to be a public imperative and that's where public universities come in.

"Being at a university where you have wide range of research from child protection to humanitarian intervention and being able to link them makes it a very exciting place," says Owen. "You think you can do a lot in federal government and in cabinet, but sometimes you can get more done at a university if the resources are properly mobilized and there is vision."

Specifically, Owen feels that UBC has the opportunity to become a leader in the five great global issues of our time: environmental degradation and climate change; infectious disease; poverty and unfair wealth distribution; violence and natural disasters. UBC can do this by providing governance tools.

"How does a democracy approach these global issues and avoid an authoritarian response? A major research university like UBC, with its global characteristics, can actually start working on such things."

Owen's main interests are governance and how to govern wisely and his passion and expertise in these areas are without question.

He has sued government as a public interest lawyer, investigated government as an ombudsman, studied government as a law professor, tried to keep government within the law as a deputy attorney general, and has been a part of government as a member of cabinet.

Stephen Owen speaking at the Alumni Association's AGM in September.

Owen earned his LLB from UBC, his LLM from University College at the University of London and his MBA from the International Management Institute at the University of Geneva. He served as Ombudsman of British Columbia and Deputy Attorney General of British Columbia and during his time as a Member of Parliament, he held a variety of high profile positions ranging from Minister of Public works and Government Services to Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada.

He wants to make UBC a better institution by facilitating social capital and he has some lofty plans and ideas including taking the Learning Exchange in the Downtown Eastside to scale, community service learning as part of every undergraduate course, Aboriginal participation in all aspects of UBC, helping the BC treaty process and facilitating negotiations between First Nations and the government. Owen strongly believes that UBC has the capacity and expertise to excel at and be a leader in these areas in an informed and principled way.

"It is critical that we don't displace intellectual capital but we build on it," he says. "UBC can become the first global university that breaks beyond intellectually capital and becomes a leader in social capital to empower our citizens."

– Adrienne Watt

FACULTY OF ARTS UBC KILLAM TEACHING PRIZES

Once again the University is recognizing excellence in teaching through the awarding of prizes to faculty members. Up to six (6) prize winners will be selected in the Faculty of Arts for 2008.

Eligibility: Eligibility is open to faculty who have three or more years of teaching at UBC. The three years include 2007 - 2008.

Criteria: The awards will recognize distinguished teaching at all levels; introductory, advanced, graduate courses, graduate supervision, and any combination of levels.

Nomination Process: Members of faculty, students, or alumni may suggest candidates to the Head of the Department, the Director of the School, or Chair of the Program in which the nominee teaches. These suggestions should be in writing and signed by one or more students, alumni or faculty, and they should include a very brief statement of the basis for the nomination. You may write a letter of nomination or pick up a form from the Office of the Dean, Faculty of Arts in Buchanan B130.

Deadline: 4:00 p.m. on January 15, 2008. Submit nominations to the Department, School or Program Office in which the nominee teaches.

Winners will be announced in the Spring, and they will be identified during Spring convocation in May.

For further information about these awards contact either your Department, School or Program office, or Dr. Dominic McIver Lopes, Associate Dean of Arts at (604) 822-6703.

PROFILE

sabina hill

Sabina Hill, BARCH'93, uses traditional art of the Pacific Northwest coast as inspiration for her contemporary furniture design.

Hill has always been drawn to the bold motifs that portray the mythology of its indigenous peoples. She is anxious to incorporate them in a way sympathetic to their origin and aesthetic integrity, but which would also extend their artistic impact beyond a traditional setting. "First Nations design is often taken without too much thought and just pasted on an object. I wanted to make a real fusion of the motif and form to create a totally new aesthetic."

In collaboration with First Nations artists, she has produced two collections of furniture, *New Spirit* and *Formlines*, as well as a number of commissioned pieces. Modern coffee tables, consoles, beds and multi-plane wall panels feature frog, orca, eagle, bear or salmon motifs, often laser cut from metal, sometimes wrapped at angles. The use of native woods like vertical-grain Douglas fir and alder alongside tempered glass and stainless steel adds to the sense of the present embracing the past.

Hill, who is not Aboriginal, describes the production process as a team effort and has collaborted with First Nations artists such as Steve Smith, Andy Everson and Corinne Hunt.

The work introduces First Nations art to a whole new audience. "People can imagine these pieces in their homes. It fits, it works, it's high end, it's contemporary."

Hill initially concentrated her efforts in architecture, interior design and landscaping, and much as she enjoys working on private residential commissions, she aspires to large-scale public works.

She is working on four large scale mixed media installations for the new Four Points Sheraton hotel in Langford, BC. She is also developing a new furniture collection that she intends to launch at Vancouver's Interior Design West show in March.

One of Hill's wall panels adorns the lobby of the department of Indian and Northern Affairs in Vancouver. Another is located in the UBC Oral Health Centre's reception area. See more at: www.sabinahill.com

– *Vanessa Clarke*

From top, clockwise:

Yellow Point Residence, 1993-94

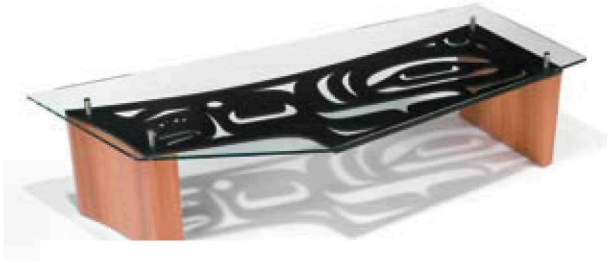
This building was Hill's first commission fresh out of school in 1993. It sits on Scout Point on Vancouver Island, across from the original Yellow Point Lodge built in the 1930s by her grandfather Gerry Hill.

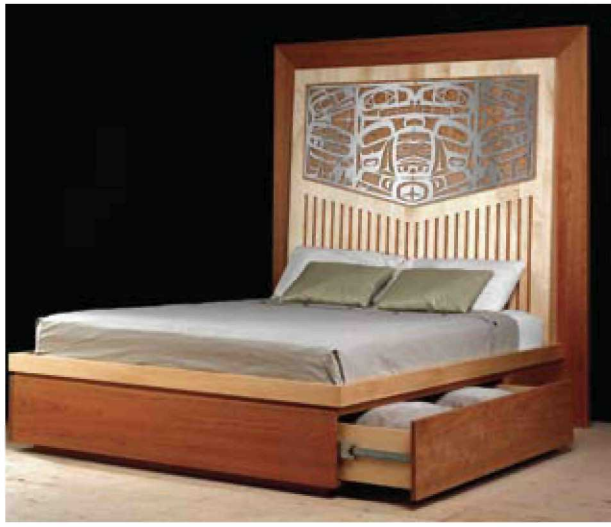
Prow coffee table (with Andy Everson). Whale and human face.

Eagle wall panel (with Steve Smith). Displayed in the reception area of UBC's Oral Health Centre

Chilkat bed (with Corrine Hunt).

Console and mirror.





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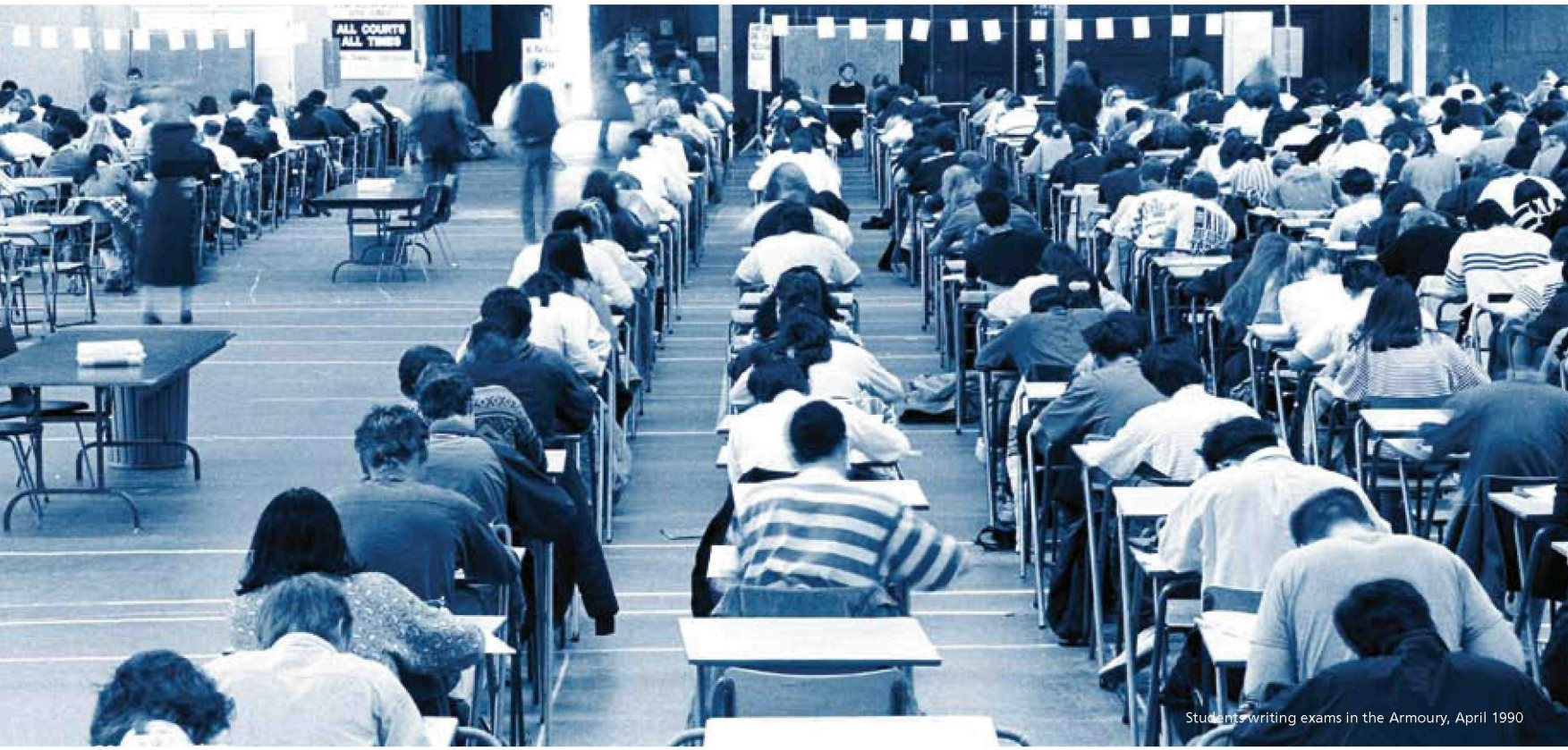

Students writing exams in the Armoury, April 1990

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IN MEMORIAM

We depend on friends and relatives for our **IN MEMORIAM** materials. Please send obituaries to Vanessa Clarke at vanessa.clarke@ubc.ca. We will edit all materials to fit the space available. When sending photos, please send originals or high resolution scans (at least 300 dpi) as separate files.

THOMAS TAYLOR MD, FRCPC

Thomas Taylor, a physician who helped patients on the North Shore for 49 years, a fierce competitor on the rugby field, and a loving father and husband, passed away in North Vancouver on September 5, 2007, with his family at his side after a long and courageous battle with cancer. Tom was born on February 14, 1927, to Robert and Mary (née Maclean) Taylor in Glasgow, Scotland. He is dearly loved and will be remembered by his wife, Sue, sons Robin and Brian, brother Robin, and his many friends, colleagues and extended family.

Tom excelled at his studies and sports from an early age. At Allan Glen's School, he was captain of the school and of the first XV rugby team. He earned his MD at the University of Glasgow in 1951, where he played as a forward on the university rugby team.

Tom's medical career spanned 56 years. He started as a house surgeon in Glasgow in 1951, and in 1952 joined the Royal Army Medical Corps. During his last six months with the army he served as a ship's medical officer, leaving with the rank of Major in 1954. He subsequently practiced in Brampton, England, until moving to Canada in 1957. While obtaining his Canadian licensure he practiced at the RCAF Station Greenwood in Nova Scotia. In 1958 he drove to Vancouver and opened his general practice (with a specialty in Obstetrics) at Lions Gate Hospital.

In 1966 Tom left general practice to study dermatology at UBC. He was awarded the McLaughlin Fellowship in Dermatology, and completed his final year at St. John's Dermatologic Institute in London, England. He passed the University of London Diploma Examination with distinction in 1970. When asked why he had chosen dermatology, he answered that "it was the subject that had been most challenging when he was a student."

Tom opened his North Shore dermatology practice in 1970 and was known for the care and attention he provided to patients. He was active in the medical community, taking on a number of roles including clinical associate professor of Dermatology at UBC, where he taught for more than 30 years; chief of Medicine at Lions Gate Hospital from 1975-77; president of the Pacific Northwest Dermatology Association; member, Board of Directors of the Canadian Dermatology Association; chairman, Economics Committee of the BCMA Section of Dermatology; and director of Northmount Medical.

Outside of medicine, Tom was passionate about his family and about sports. Three years after his arrival in Vancouver he married Susan Baker with whom he had two sons, Robin and Brian. As a sportsman, he enjoyed tennis, golf, skiing, and in particular rugby. Following university he played for the Royal Army team (and was capped) in matches against the Royal Navy and Air Force, and the French Army. During this time he also played for Glasgow and for a combined Glasgow/Edinburgh team against the South African Springboks. When Tom left the army in 1954 he played for the Southern Scotland team, the London Scottish team and Hampshire (earning a county cap).

In Canada, Tom joined the Vancouver Rowing Club rugby team, and played for the BC and Western Canada Reps with whom he toured Japan in 1959. Subsequently, Tom was one of the original members of the Evergreens, an over-40 rugby team who play at Brockton Oval. In addition to the Evergreens' home games, he participated in several tours against teams in Japan, Portugal, Spain, New Zealand, Australia and South Africa, and continued playing until the age of 63.

The family members extend their special thanks to doctors Mutat, Nantel, Haaf, Seger, McCloud and Sugar, and particularly to the wonderful staff in the chemo clinic and in palliative care at Lions Gate Hospital. They also thank the anonymous volunteers who gave Tom more than 300 transfusions-worth of platelets and whole blood. If it weren't for these donors, Tom would not have enjoyed several additional years with his patients, friends, and family. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in the name of Thomas Taylor to the North Shore Hospice through the Lions Gate Hospital Foundation or to Canadian Blood Services.

JOZSEF BODIG BSF'59

Jozsef Bodig, 73, passed away on September 12, 2007, in his home in Fort Collins, Colorado. He was born in Gonc, Hungary, on January 20, 1934, to Matyas and Maria Bodig. He spent his younger years in Gonc before working as a pattern maker in a steel mill in Diosgyor. He finished high school in an accelerated program and enrolled to study Forest Engineering at the University of Sopron. During the uprising against communism, nearly 300 members of his school and their families left Hungary and immigrated to Vancouver, where a Sopron division was established at UBC's faculty of Forestry. After completing his studies at UBC, Jozsef attended the University of Washington where he earned a Master of Forestry in Wood Technology in 1961 and a PHD in Forest Products with a minor in Structural Engineering in 1963.

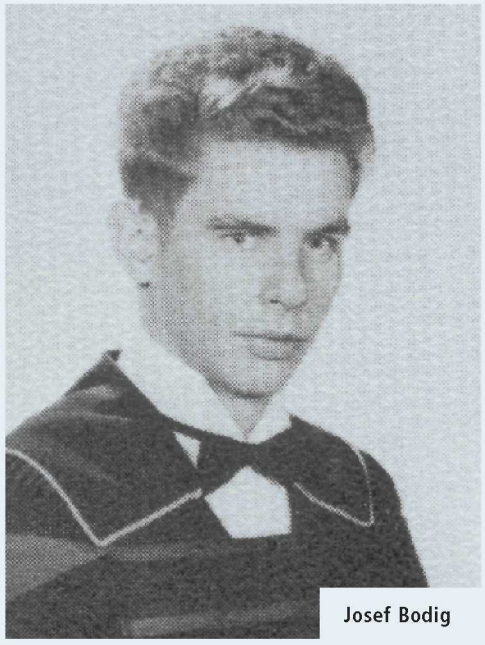
He married Verna Jean West in Seattle on July 14, 1962, and they moved to Fort Collins in 1963 when Jozsef joined the department of Forest Management and Wood Science of Colorado State University. He taught courses on Wood Mechanics, Design of Wood Structures, and Bonding and Finishing of Wood Products both at the undergraduate and graduate level for 27 years. He had more than 160 technical publications, including the senior authorship of the only textbook written in the past 40 years on the subject of Mechanics of Wood and Wood Composites. He conducted numerous research projects on the engineering properties of wood products. He was well known internationally for his pioneering work on the design properties of wood structures. Dr. Bodig received numerous awards for his work in wood science, including an honorary doctoral degree from the University of Forestry and Timber Engineering of Hungary, and the Wood Engineering Lifetime Achievement

Award from the Forest Products Society in 2004. At the time of his death he was emeritus professor of Wood Science and Civil Engineering at Colorado State University.

In 1982 he co-founded Engineering Data Management Inc., a consulting firm (currently EDM International). He retired from CSU in 1989 and managed EDM International until his second retirement in 1999. He was consultant to several hundred wood product manufacturing, construction, and engineering firms. He continued his research and consulting work on utility line structures well into his retirement.

Dr. Bodig was active in the Fort Collins soccer program. He coached the CSU men's soccer team for nearly 20 years. He was instrumental in helping to establish the Fort Collins Soccer Club and the city's high school soccer program at a time when soccer was in its infancy there. He was also a certified soccer referee. He was active in his Catholic religion and was a founding member of Blessed John XXIII University Center and Saint Elizabeth Seton Parish. He served the Wild Goose Ranch Homeowners Association (as president on two occasions). His favourite pastimes included gardening, hiking, fishing and woodworking.

Jozsef is survived by his wife, Verna; daughter Ilona (Gary) Green; sons Marcus (Justine) of Fort Collins, and Peter of Durango; grandchildren Joshua, Ashley, Hannah, Ayla, and Jacob. He is also survived by his younger brother, Matyas Bodig, and other family members in Hungary.


Josef Bodig

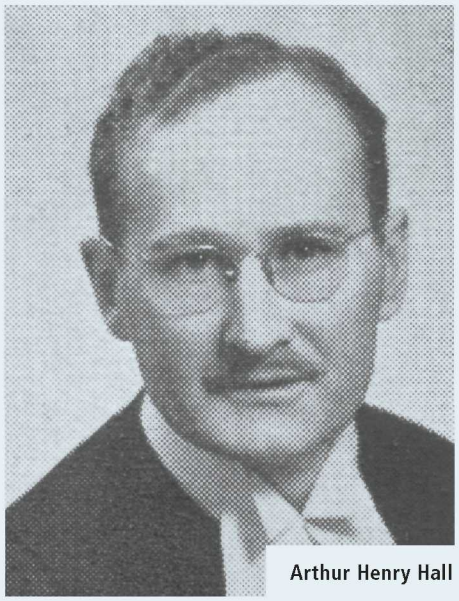
ARTHUR HENRY HALL QC, BA'34, LLB'48

Born in Vancouver on February 12, 1909, Arthur passed away peacefully at home in his 99th year on May 7, 2007, at Somerset House in Victoria. One of two children, Arthur was predeceased by his sister, Violet, his loving wife, Margot, and his dear friend Laura Willows. Arthur leaves two loving daughters, Myra Baynton (Bob) and Grace Smith (Ian) and four grandchildren: Kara and Denise Baynton and Erin and Lisa Smith. He also leaves two nieces, Dorothy Whiton and Myra Haroldsen, four grand-nephews and their families.

Arthur graduated from Vancouver College, obtained his BA degree, then graduated with UBC's first Law class in 1948. At UBC he was president of the Newman Alumni Club where he met and later married Margot McDermott in 1943. In 1948 they moved to Victoria where he became Deputy Registrar of Companies. In 1961 he was appointed Registrar of Companies and Supervisor of Cooperatives in the Attorney General's department. He co-authored the BC Corporation Manual (known as Hall and Loffmark) and was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1971. Arthur was honoured with a lifetime membership in the Victoria Bar Association. He retired from public service in 1974.

During his retirement he sat on the board of directors of the Garth Homer Society and served as a volunteer for several years.

He enjoyed golf, had a keen interest in politics and current affairs and enjoyed a good debate. Arthur, always a true gentleman, enjoyed sailing, walking, travel and spending time with his family, especially in Hawaii. Art had a zest for living, strong family values, a keen sense of humour and a love and appreciation of the beauty in nature. He was a strong role model and we were blessed to know his heart and his mind. He will be greatly missed by all.


Arthur Henry Hall

LORRAINE CONWAY GOLDIE BA'44

Lorraine died peacefully in her home on December 29, 2006, enveloped by the love, affection, admiration and respect of her husband, Michael, and her children, Diana, David, Mary and Christopher: feelings shared by David's wife Suzan and their daughter Tessa Madeira; by Christopher's wife Nada and their sons Michael Ezzat and Laith John and by Mary's long-time friend, Peter Voormeij.

She is predeceased by her parents, John Joseph (Jack) and Sadie Young Conway; her two older sisters and their husbands – Helen, wife of Jack Stewart and Patricia, wife of Reynold Williams – and by her brother John. She is survived by her younger sister Marie and her husband Hugh Percival Legg, and her brother's widow Jill Kerr Conway, as well as many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

Born in Vancouver on June 9, 1921, Lorraine was educated at Little Flower Academy, Prince of Wales High School and UBC, where she became a member of Delta Gamma, a sorority with which she maintained her connection. Upon graduating, she joined the United Kingdom Treasury Delegation, then under the direction of Lord Keynes, in Washington, DC. She roomed with an American who invited her home to rural Illinois, the beginning of her life-long affection for the American people.

After VE Day she returned to Vancouver and became engaged to Michael, who had been

Lorraine Conway Goldie

accepted as a returning veteran by the Harvard Law School. A surprise to her family (but not, it was suspected, to Michael), she obtained employment with The Indian Government Trade Commission in New York City. After an engagement during which Michael hitchhiked between Boston and New York for chaperoned visits, they were married in New York on March 27, 1948, in the presence of the groom's mother, the bride's mother and a few friends including Tony Scott as best man. A reception in the Blue Room of the Plaza Hotel followed.

Lorraine moved to Boston and found work while Michael continued his legal education. For the rest of her life Lorraine would return to Boston with great pleasure. A painting in her den of the Ritz Carlton overlooking Boston Common evoked many happy memories of the early days, as well as those of her brother's long and rewarding career at Harvard and his betrothal to Jill Kerr. Much later, it reminded her of her frequent solo trips to nearby Portsmouth, Rhode Island where her son Christopher attended school.

When Michael graduated from Harvard with an LLB, the two returned to Vancouver where Michael articled. Lorraine worked as a file clerk in a local law firm, where many of the lawyers were known to her on a first name basis, as they had served with her brother John in the Seaforths.

A one room apartment suddenly became too small when the first of her pregnancies occurred. Helpful loans from parents bridged the gap between the commercial value of a nascent legal career and the cost of an elderly house. Unfortunately she was delivered prematurely of twins, who lived only a few minutes. When her next pregnancy occurred, Michael returned from a trip one day later than planned to find the breakfast table set and a note that she had checked herself in to St. Paul's hospital. Diana was born in good time, followed in due course by the three younger children.

Lorraine was an extraordinary mentor and companion to her children. Through example, she taught them tolerance, compassion and the art of helping others without condescension. Throughout her life many nannies, trades people, gardeners and cleaning ladies and often their children became family friends. Participating in Mary's after school tea parties was as normal as participating in the work of the receiving home for the orphans up the street. Lorraine valued and believed in education, encouraging her children and grandchildren to develop and stretch their minds as well as their bodies.

Lorraine's taste in music was eclectic; Roy Orbison, kd lang, Duke Ellington and all the major bands that defined the swing era shared space with vinyl records of the Harvard Band on its way to a Saturday Ivy League football game. When Frank Sinatra last appeared in Vancouver, she secured two excellent tickets for herself and her youngest child. They attended as enthusiastic co-equals.

Television in its infancy did not appeal to Lorraine or Michael. They thought it as probably detrimental to good talk, and the children grew up in a house without a TV set. It has not stunted their personalities.

She was physically active for all but the very last years of her life: yoga, sailing, parasailing. Swimming at the beaches of Bowen Island gave her the greatest pleasure well into her 80s.

For Lorraine, the halcyon days were spent surrounded by her extended family, particularly her grandchildren, either on the beach at Bowen or in Toronto. Family was all important. Although she was known to have certain clearly held views, she was a good listener (a trait she claimed to have inherited through her father!) and would offer counsel only if it was sought, preferring to lead by example. She always had a special spot in her heart for her many nieces and nephews and their children. Two friends from childhood, Hazel Harrison and the late Joan Banks, were very dear to her. She could spend hours on the phone with her sister Marie, who shared Lorraine's sense of humour to their common delight. Lorraine was, in the best sense of the word, a lady.

DR. ROBERT CLARK BCOM'41, BA'42

In August 2007, UBC lost a distinguished member of one of its oldest teaching families. Dr. Robert Clark, professor emeritus of the department of Economics, passed away on August 11 at the age of 87 years, following a brief illness. Dr. Clark's father, Dr. Robert Harvey Clark, head of the Chemistry department for more than 20 years, taught at UBC from 1916 to 1948, taking part in the Great Trek to the Point Grey campus in 1922.

Robert Clark was born in Vancouver on February 23, 1920. After attending Lord Byng High School, he went on to study at UBC, graduating with the Kiwanis Gold Medal in Commerce in 1941, and with an Honours BA in Economics in 1942. He obtained MA and PhD degrees in Economics from Harvard University in 1944 and 1946.

Shortly after, he accepted a position in the department of Economics at UBC, where he continued to teach until his retirement in 1985. His particular areas of interest were government finance, including provincial and municipal taxation, pensions and related legislation, and the governance of universities.

Dr. Clark is remembered as an enthusiastic and dedicated teacher. His former students recall his emphasis on the philosophy and ethical application of economic principles, sometimes enunciated in verse form, and his willingness to listen and to encourage.

In addition to teaching, Dr. Clark was appointed director of UBC's Office of Academic Planning from 1965 to 1977. He also served on the UBC Senate from 1966 to 1977, where

Dr. Robert Mills Clark

he added colour by composing poetry to commemorate significant university events. An example is his poem to mark the last Senate meeting of Roy Daniells, professor of English, which began:

O shades of Dante and of Milton bright!
Come to my aid as I do sing this night
Of your descendant, Daniells, poet of light.

Master of image, metaphor in verse,
Of gentle wit, evocative and terse.
To wield with patient skill how well he knows
The stainless steel of perfect English prose....

Robert also contributed his time to many other university organizations, including the Senate and Boards of the Vancouver School of Theology and of Regent College. He was instrumental in facilitating the official affiliation of Regent College with UBC, which took place on July 1, 1974. As an expert on pensions and as a member of the Board of Trustees for the Faculty Pension Plan for more than 10 years, Robert played a key role in developing the Faculty Plan in its current form.

Outside of his academic pursuits, Robert was an active member of the Vancouver Board of Trade, the board of Ryerson United Church, the Progressive Conservative party, and many other organizations. He acted as an advisor to Conservative, Liberal, and NDP governments on pension, taxation and other policy related issues over a period of many years. His report on Economic Security for the Aged, commissioned by Prime Minister John Diefenbaker and published in 1959, had a large influence on the subsequent course of Old Age Security Benefits in Canada.

Conservative philosophically and politically, Robert had a great sense of social justice shaped by his strongly held Christian beliefs. He deeply loved Canada, and remained throughout his life a tireless advocate for policies promoting a fair, compassionate and united country. Among many other accolades and honours, he was awarded the 125 Year Confederation Medal in 1992 by the Speaker of the House of Commons for outstanding service to the people of Canada.

Active in organizing the Professors Emeriti and in the Alumni Association at UBC, he was the recipient of the 1992 Blythe Eagles Service Award "in recognition of extraordinary contributions of time and energy made to the Alumni Association."

Robert is survived by his wife, Merle, children Rob, Hilary, Alison, Rosalyn and Jeremy, and ten grandchildren. Continuing the longstanding Clark presence on campus, four of his children are graduates of UBC, and two grandchildren, students Jennifer Alparaque and David Clark, represent the fourth generation of the family to be affiliated with the university. Robert's daughter Hilary Reid has been teaching at the English Language Institute since 1982, representing 91 years of continuous teaching at UBC by three generations of the same family.

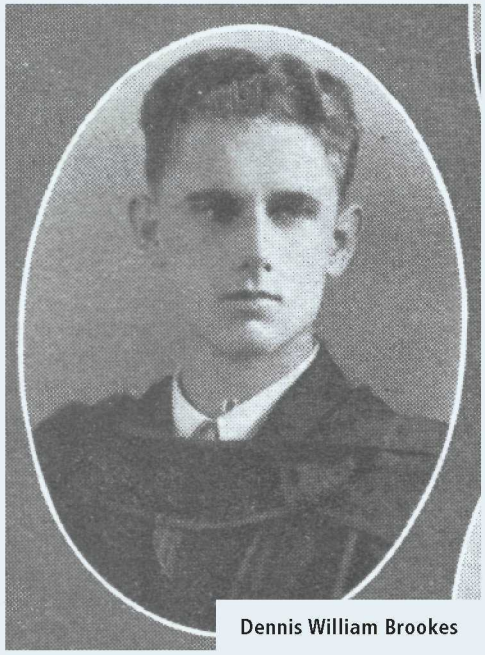
Robert Mills Clark will be remembered by many for his love of teaching, his high ethical principles, and for his strong desire to make constructive contributions to the university, community and country he loved.

DENNIS W. BROOKES BASC(HONS)'35, PENG

The mechanical engineering world has lost one of its best. Dennis W. Brookes, born 20 August, 1912, in Warwick, England, the second son of Dr. and Mrs. William Turley Brookes, died on 12 August, 2007, just days before his 95th birthday. He will be sorely missed and is survived by his wife, Alice, son Gary, daughter-in-law Jane, and grandchildren Ashley and Ted, of whom he was ever so proud.

Dennis and his family immigrated to British Columbia in 1913 when his father accepted the position of veterinary surgeon in Victoria, where they lived until moving to Ladner in 1922. The farm life there remained part of Dennis' favourite memories of growing up and attending East Hope Elementary school. With the family moving to 11th and Yukon in Vancouver in 1927, he attended King Edward High School prior to enrolling at UBC in 1930.

At UBC, Dennis excelled academically, and mechanical engineering stimulated him intellectually for the remainder of his life. He graduated with honours, second in class, in 1935. Initially, Dennis worked at the Morningstar Mine near Oliver for his older brother Norman BASC(MINING)'32, who died on 5 August, 1997. In the late 1930's Dennis was employed with Letson and Burpee on Alexander Street in Vancouver, where he applied his mechanical skills throughout World War II. The post war years found him in Port Alberni as the superintendant of Bloedel Stuart sawmills.



Dennis William Brookes

In 1954 Dennis married Alice and moved to Castlegar to join the new forest company, Columbia Cellulose. He supervised the design and construction of the new Celgar sawmill. As manager of the mill, Dennis served two terms as president of the Interior Lumber Manufacturer's Association from 1967 to 1969. Dennis and Alice led a full social life, including many evenings of entertaining friends for bridge and dinners, and involvement in various community organizations. They hosted the first meeting to start what is now the Castlegar and District golf course. One of Dennis' social highlights was to host HRH Prince William, eldest son of the Duke of Gloucester, on a local hunting trip in 1964. Dennis' lifelong membership with the Professional Engineers Association provided the couple with many friends over the decades

Retiring in 1969 after moving back to Vancouver, Dennis initially spent several years as a consultant to the World Bank lending his expertise to the design and construction of sawmills around the world. But mostly, he studied the stock market. He was often perplexed by both markets and bridge hands which did not go his way. It wasn't until he was in his 91st year that he finally gave up doing his own taxes and trying to solve the market's complexities. Known by many in his earlier years for his ever handy slide rule, he never ever parted with that instrument, nor his sacred tool box. "One never knows when they just might be needed."

A grand old man, honest and humble his entire life, Dennis was fully prepared at a moment's notice to dispense his opinion on the state of civic, provincial or federal politics, and was quieted only by his full loss of hearing in the last couple of years. A gentleman to the end, he gracefully accepted moving to a long term care facility in March of 2007 after a series of strokes and the effects of Alzheimer's disabled this once athletic and very good tennis player.

Dennis' granddaughter, Ashley, graduated with a BA from UBC in 2007, 36 years after her dad Gary received his BA from UBC in 1971 and his was also 36 years after Dennis' grad year in 1935. According to this schedule, the next Brookes grad will be in 2043.

ELAINE CAMPBELL BA'49

Elaine Campbell, co-lyricist of the Anne of Green Gables musical, died in Charlottetown on August 11, 2007, aged 82. She and her late husband, Norman Campbell, BA'44, formed part of the small team that created the musical version of L. M. Montgomery's book that first hit the stage in Charlottetown more than 40 years ago, eventually becoming Canada's longest-running musical and enjoyed as far afield as London, New York and Tokyo.

Elaine created lyrics for three further musicals as well as for CBC TV special programs, and two royal galas, often in collaboration with her composer husband. In addition to her own creative endeavours, Elaine was a great patron of the arts. She was a Jane Austen scholar and long-time board member for the National Ballet of Canada. She also chaired the Coordinated Arts Services in Toronto. She established an endowment fund in Norman's name to support the Confederation Centre of the Arts in Charlotteville, the venue where Anne was first staged. In 1972, she and Norman bought a farmhouse in West Covehead that they returned to every summer. She maintained close links with PEI's annual summer festival and last year received an honorary doctorate from the University of PEI.

Elaine was a native of rural Ontario, and as a child was encouraged by her mother to listen to opera on the radio. She also learned piano and started writing poetry. As an adult she divided her time between Toronto and PEI. She loved to travel, her last destination being Libya. She and Norman had five children and one grandchild. During WWII, she served in the Royal Canadian Air Force.

BETTY PINN (PETRIE) BA'36

Betty passed away peacefully at home in Victoria on May 18, 2007, aged 92. Born in New Westminster, BC, in 1915, she was the only child of the Reverend John A. Petrie and Murray Nairne Fraser. Betty grew up in several small communities in BC (Chase, Quesnel, Golden and Ashcroft) where her father served as a United Church minister.

She had fond memories of UBC, where she studied English and French and performed in the Musical Society's production of *The Mikado*. After graduation she began a career in teaching.

While at Copper Mountain, BC, she met Philip W. Pinn of Gladstone, Manitoba and they were married in 1943. During WWII, Phil then served in northwest Europe with the Canadian Army and after his return in 1946 the couple moved to Port Arthur, Ontario, where he worked as an electrical engineer for the C.D. Howe Company. After Phil's death in 1968 from MS, Betty resumed her teaching career until her retirement in Victoria in 1977.

She was active in the United Church Women and the University Women's Club and throughout her long life was devoted to the care and well-being of those around her. She was part of a generation that considered hard work, social responsibility, and service to others to be perfectly normal. She was also a wonderful cook, an enthusiastic gardener, and an avid reader. She will be greatly missed by her son John of Victoria and daughter Elizabeth Johnson of Comox.

ROBERT GEOFFREY CASTLE BCOM'49

Bob was born on November 13, 1924, and died on May 3, 2007. He was the beloved husband of Violet for more than 50 years. Grieving with her are daughter Roberta (Sylvain), son Linton (Lou), and grandchildren Jeremy, Tyson, Regan and Liam.

Betty Pinn (Petrie)

Robert (Bob) Geoffrey Castle

Bob loved children and was loved by them in return. He is also survived by sister Betty and many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews. He is predeceased by brother John and sisters Barbara and Ruth.

Bob served overseas with the Canadian Navy in WWII. He received a commerce degree from UBC and a teaching diploma from Normal School. He taught first in Rossland, where he met and married fellow teacher Violet. He especially enjoyed singing with the Rossland Light Operatic Society and skiing on Red Mountain. Later he taught in Vancouver schools including Churchill and John Oliver.

Bob was a modest, good, and well liked man. In retirement he enjoyed reading history and playing golf. The latter activity he called "a chastening experience" in his inimitable phrasing. Good bye, dear Bob. Memorial donations may be made to The Heart and Stroke Foundation.

CHRISTOPHER CLEAVE WRIGHT BA'44

Christopher Cleave Wright was born on December 7, 1911, in Kamloops and passed away peacefully on February 6, 2007, in Kelowna. He is predeceased by his wife, Evelyn, and survived by children David (Louise), Patricia (Don) Jones, James (Volga), Norm (Gail), seven grandchildren, three great grandchildren, and his sister Frances Wrightson.

Chris taught in Darlington, Chase, and Kamloops and was principal of Armstrong High. He was superintendent of schools in Smithers, Burns Lake, Vanderhoof, and worked in the Creston-Kaslo and Salmon Arm-Enderby districts, retiring in 1974.

As a resident of Salmon Arm from 1967 to 2000, Chris was active in his church, St. John the Evangelist. He also conducted genealogy research and participated in the United Empire Loyalists Association.

PETER FRANCIS OWEN BA, MA, MED(ADMIN)'64

Peter Owen was a much loved and respected resident of the Cowichan Valley since 1961. He was a veteran of WWII and subsequently an active member of Vancouver Island Legion Branch 226; a devout Christian, lay reader and parishioner of St John the Baptist Anglican Church, Cobble Hill; pioneer educator; Cowichan Rugby Club co-founder; and sports car enthusiast.

Peter died suddenly but peacefully on September 11, 2006, in his 84th year, surrounded by his loving family. A well-attended memorial service in celebration and thanksgiving for his life was held at his local church on October 6 with the Rev Scott Pittendrigh officiating. More than 30 veterans gathered at the service to pay respects to their fallen comrade and form an honour guard for the family.

He is survived by Trudi, his wife of 53 years; sons Robert (Marlene) of Stenløse, Denmark; David (Diane) of Cowichan Bay, BC; Paul (Denise) of McBride, BC; daughter Linda (BSR'77) Brunton (Nick) of Gaborone, Botswana; seven grandchildren; his sister Beulah, brother Bill and their families in Ontario.

Peter was born on December 19, 1921, at Bexley Heath, Kent, England. After completing his Higher School Certificate at Worthing High, Peter was preparing to go into the civil service just as WWII was declared. Instead, he had emergency training as a draughtsman and worked in a reserved occupation at Gosport Royal Naval Air Station modifying Swordfish Torpedo Bomber Aircraft until he volunteered for the Royal Armoured Corps.

Following officer training at Sandhurst, he was commissioned at the age of 21 as a tank troop leader with the Royal Lancashire Regiment. By 1943, a surplus of tank crews and a shortage of infantry officers led to his application for infantry platoon commander. As a lieutenant in the Northamptonshire Yeomanry in the 3rd British Division (Monty's Ironsides), he landed in Normandy next to the 3rd Canadian Division. He saw action in Normandy, at the breakout in Caen, at Escaut Canal in Belgium, at Overloon and Venraij in eastern Holland, fought in a skirmish at Wanssum on the River Maas and finally in the Rhineland Battle, being invalided back to Britain from Goch in Germany.

On demobilization Peter entered Cambridge University on a servicemen's grant. After graduation he began work as an assistant production manager at the Yorkshire Copper Pipe and Tubing Company. His father drowned in 1951, and Peter took over the running of his business interests. Soon after, while a member of the Worthing rugby club in Sussex, Peter had the good fortune to meet Trudi. They were married in Berne, Switzerland, in 1953 and immigrated to Canada six weeks later with little in the way of skills or money.

In Vancouver Peter worked in a plywood factory and on a sheep farm on Gambier Island before securing a teaching diploma at UBC. His teaching career began in Dawson Creek, BC, at Peace River High as a classroom teacher, then department head and finally vice principal.

Peter Francis Owen

In 1961 Peter was appointed principal of George Bonner Junior Secondary School in Mill Bay, BC, where he remained for sixteen years. From 1977 to 1985 Peter served as the supervisor of Secondary Instruction before retiring in 1987 as the director of Instruction for School District 65 (Cowichan).

Peter's passion for education was equally matched by his passion for Rugby and since 1961 was active in the Cowichan Rugby Club as a founder member. One of the most successful clubs in the BC Rugby Union, CRC is the only club which has ownership of its property including the playing fields. The Cowichan Valley rugby influence extends to Nanaimo, Comox, Alberni, Campbell River and Powell River and enrols hundreds of youngsters.

Although very much involved in all aspects of the club's administration, he was always interested in the development of the players that represented both his school and the club. Peter spent his retirement helping to form the Friends of Rugby in the Cowichan Valley to financially assist those junior club members who were planning to attend either an academic or artisan post secondary school institution. With Peter as treasurer and driving force, this group raised more than $15,000 in its few years of existence and many young Cowichan players, both male and female benefited from the bursaries provided by this initiative.

Although Peter seldom talked about his war experiences he proudly wore his service medals on Remembrance Day and other appropriate occasions in memory of his fallen comrades. He was an active member of Legion Branch 226 (Cobble Hill), since 1987 where he also oversaw disbursement of bursary funds to deserving students in the Cowichan area.

His unfailing enthusiasm, wise counsel and good heartedness, coupled with an educated sense of humor, made for a great companion. He will be sorely missed and never forgotten thanks to his multi-facetted involvement and positive impact on so many.

CHARLES MCKINNON CAMPBELL JR. BASC'38

Charlie Campbell was born in the Snowshoe Cottage in Phoenix, BC, on November 25, 1913. British Columbia was still a young province, and UBC had not yet been founded. When he died of old age on September 2, 2007, at Saanich Peninsula Hospital, a lot of history went with him.

Charles McKinnon Campbell Jr.

Charlie came from a family where civic engagement was second-nature. His father, Charles McKinnon Campbell Sr., who ran the enormous mine at Phoenix, near Grand Forks, was an advocate for resource conservation. His mother Lucy was from Vancouver's pioneering and politically active McGeer family.

With his family, he circumnavigated the globe before he was 16, living in Montreal, Cape Town and O'okiep, South Africa, and visiting England, Australia, New Zealand, Fiji and Hawaii. Upon their return to Vancouver in 1929, his father built a house on Bellvue Drive near Blanca. Charlie studied mineral engineering at UBC, and worked in mines at Britannia Beach, Siscoe, QC, and Tulsequah, among many others. From 1959 to 1964, he was mine manager in Bralorne, where his son Charles John was born. He then became manager during the construction and opening of Western Mines on Buttle Lake, east of Campbell River.

Charlie loved his country, and he consistently honoured his family's tradition of unstinting public advocacy. Both he and his father had opinion pieces published in the Vancouver Sun after they were 90. Charlie was involved with school boards in Quebec in the 1940s and stumped for sports fields in Vancouver in the 1950s. In the 1972 BC provincial election, he ran as a Liberal in Vancouver Burrard, and he also served as president of the provincial Liberal party. From 1966 to 1975, he sat on the UBC senate. In 1974, Charlie began 10 years of service as a member and eventually vice-chair of what was then known as the Immigration Appeal Board. His displeasure with immigration administration led to a quarter century of advocacy for more consistent and rigorous immigration policy. When he was 86, frustrated that meaningful public debate was often torpedoed by either bigotry or political correctness, he self-published the book *Betrayal and Deceit: The Politics of Canadian Immigration*.

Charlie lived in West Vancouver for four decades, but Saturna Island was the home he visited for more than 60 years. His brother Jim and sister-in-law Lorraine, both UBC agriculture grads, began farming on the island in 1945. Saturna epitomized the values of community and family that Charlie cherished. He met his first wife, Audrey, at Saturna Beach, where she vacationed with her two young daughters. He spent long summers with his wife Dorothy at the cottage he built in 1991 on the Campbell farm atop glorious Brown Ridge. Finally, he moved to the island permanently, on the verge of his 90th birthday.

He was very grateful for the friendship and care he enjoyed on Saturna, toward the end of a rich life, and he died peacefully with his wife and son at his bedside. He was predeceased by his first wife Audrey and his sister Mary (Mim) McKinnon. He is survived by Dorothy, Jim and Lorraine, son Charles, stepdaughters Jan and Joanna, granddaughter Calla, and many beloved in-laws, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

In keeping with Charlie's commitment to civil society, the Campbell Phoenix Fund to facilitate and honour writing on public policy in British Columbia is being established through the Vancouver Foundation.

ARTHUR SAGER, BA'38

On 22 September, at the age of 91, Art Sager

Arthur Sager

succumbed to cancer of the liver and passed away quietly and peacefully at the Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria. He was born on a Gitxsan native reserve where his father was a medical missionary, but his life took him many places around the world. He lived in Surf Inlet, Port Simpson, Port Coquitlam, Vancouver, London (England), Ottawa, New York, Addis Ababa, Rome, Aix en Provence, and, finally, Victoria.

From early 1942 to 1945 he was a Spitfire pilot in the RCAF, becoming a flight commander and then commanding officer of 443 Squadron. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. He accepted the French Legion of Honour for his role in the liberation of France in the Second World War. That distinction came in 2004. The consul general of France visited Esquimalt to bestow his country's highest order upon Art (who destroyed or damaged 11 enemy aircraft and 40 ground targets) and fellow combatant John Lorimer.

He was employed in a variety of careers both before and after the war including journalist, actor, steamship deckhand, mucker, teacher, CBC radio producer, assistant to the president of UBC, executive assistant to the federal Minister of Fisheries, Public Relations director of the Fisheries Association of BC, director of the UBC Alumni Association, director of UBC's International House, and international civil servant with the United Nations. He finished his career with FAO (the Food and Agriculture Organization) in Rome, and then moved to Aix en Provence in 1978, where he lived for a quarter of his life.

He moved to Victoria in 2000, and spent seven years at Somerset House on Dallas Road. In his last 10 years he wrote three books, *Line Shoot: Diary of a Fighter Pilot*; *It's In the Book: Notes of a Naive Young Man,* and *The Sager Saga*.

Art was married twice (to the late Dorothy Planche of Vancouver in 1941 and to Jacqueline Roussel of Rouen, France, in 1967). He is predeceased by brother Murray and sister Shirley, and survived by his son, Eric Sager of Victoria, daughters Ann Blades and Susan Henry of Surrey; granddaughters Catherine and Zoe; grandsons Jack, Angus, James, Kevin and Ian; brothers Melvin and Henry; sister Elsie Wilson; a multitude of cousins and nieces and nephews; friends in several countries; and his beloved companion of recent years, Scotty Day. ◆

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Jack and Ruth Kermode think so. When Jack's sister Kay passed away, he and his wife Ruth established an award in her name: the **Kathleen Vawden Kermode Memorial Bursary,** which provides financial support to students in the Faculty of Education. The couple also arranged a gift in their will to further increase the fund capital.

UBC was the obvious place for the Kermodes to establish this award. Jack and Ruth are alumni, and feel their university education contributed much to their lives. "With Kay being a teacher, we thought a bursary at UBC would be a fitting way to honour her memory," Jack says.

To establish a planned gift that will honour a loved one while supporting vital programs like awards, please contact ***UBC Gift & Estate Planning*** *at* ***604.822.5373*** *or* ***heritage.circle@ubc.ca****.*

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