THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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UBC REPORTS

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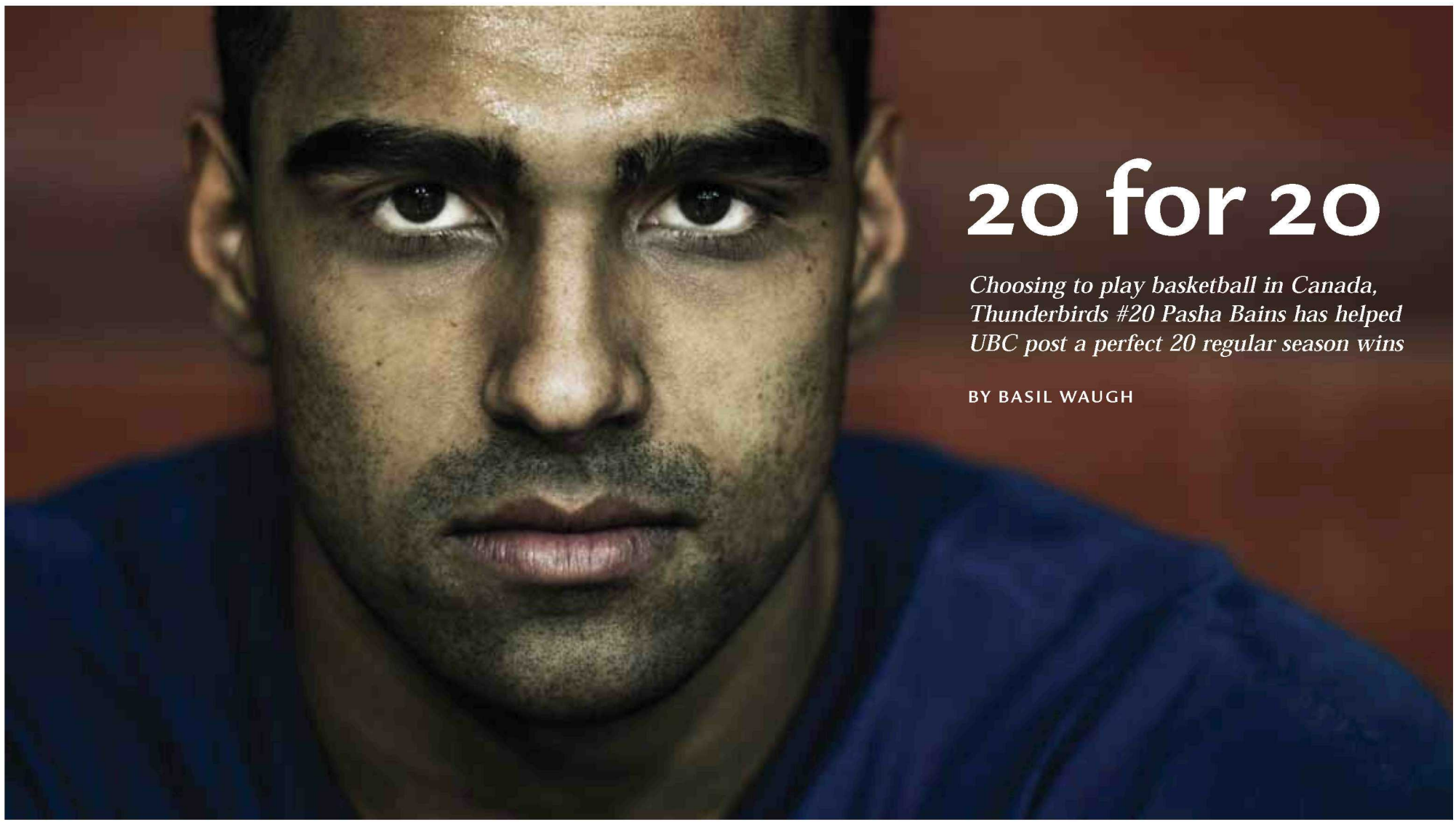

20 for 20

Choosing to play basketball in Canada, Thunderbirds #20 Pasha Bains has helped UBC post a perfect 20 regular season wins

BY BASIL WAUGH

PHOTOS: MARTIN DEE

Scoring more points than anyone else in Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) basketball, player of the year candidate Pasha Bains has led the high octane University of British Columbia Thunderbirds to the first Canada West perfect regular season in 22 years, and is a big reason the CIS championships in Halifax on March 16 is circled on the team's calendar.

While it was once considered a slam dunk that Bains, 25, would spend his university playing days at an American basketball powerhouse, he is just one of many top Canadian athletes who are choosing to return to Canada or bypass the U.S. experience altogether.

Just as Canadian businesses and post-secondary institutions have worked hard to reverse the so-called brain drain and now compete globally for top talent, Canadian athletic programs such as UBC's are increasingly attracting this country's top varsity athletes through a renewed commitment to coaching, player development and athletics funding.

Before returning to Canada, Bains played two years at South Carolina's Clemson University against perennial Final Four favorites such as Duke University and the University of North Carolina. After spending two years at Simon Fraser University, Bains credits Thunderbird (and Canadian national development team) coach Kevin Hanson for his decision to come to UBC.

"When I played for Kevin at the World University Games in Turkey, we just clicked right away," says the six-foot-three. guard. "He gives you so much confidence and really works hard to help you develop as a player. He is a huge role model for me."

"My two dreams are to play pro and then coach. So when Kevin told me about the coaching program here, that pretty much sealed the deal for me – coming to UBC

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At press time, five UBC teams had made the March play-offs: men's and women's basketball, men's and women's volleyball, and men's ice hockey. To stay up to date, visit: www.gothunderbirds.ca

Students "Un" Plug Parking Meters

Invention would do away with coins. BY BRIAN LIN

A fellow student's misery has inspired a team of UBC Electrical and Computer Engineering students to invent a parking meter that could make carrying change a thing of the past.

"We were brainstorming for a class project when a friend of ours walked by, all ticked off about parking on Robson Street," says Aman Mangat, a fourth-year student who has since begun a co-op work term with Telus.

The challenge issued by the team's instructor was simple: build something from scratch that solves a real-world problem, with a modest budget of $400.

"Right away, everybody had a parking-related horror story to offer, and it was clear that the 'problem' was staring us right in the face," says Mangat.

"It always seems that when you're in a hurry to park, you're out of change," says Jasim Tariq, a fourth-year student now working with Research In Motion, the Waterloo-based wireless technology company known for the Blackberry®.

"Plus there are enormous costs associated with manual collection of the tolls that could be saved with an off-site billing system."

The team cherry-picked existing and emerging technologies and crafted a prototype meter that is both convenient and economic, then designed the network and web-based user interface to complete the package.

Reminiscent of the Darth Vader mask, the prototype meter is wired to a magnetic sensor buried a few centimetres under the parking space.

"When a vehicle occupies the space, its bulk distorts the earth's natural magnetic field and triggers a signal to activate the parking meter and begin the transaction," explains third-year student Owen Kirby.

"The customer then simply waves a Radio Frequency Tag to validate his account, and the parking meter verifies it, through wireless Internet connection to the mainframe network, and initiates the transaction," adds Gagan Deep, who worked with Kirby on the microprocessor firmware and electronic circuits of the

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IN THE NEWS

Highlights of UBC Media Coverage in February 2006. COMPILED BY BASIL WAUGH

Making Decisions? Best to Sleep on it

International media including Science magazine, the ***BBC***, ***Telegraph UK***, ***New York Times***, ***Boston Globe***, the ***Sydney Morning Herald*** and most major Canadian dailies, reported on University of Amsterdam research that suggests the best way to make tough decisions is to forget about them. Collect the relevant information, it says, then let the unconscious churn through the options. In the end, it makes for better decisions.

"This process of just 'sleeping on it' and 'letting it sit' is not just procrastination but is a valuable, productive technique that is drawing on cognitive processes that seem to really exist," said UBC psychologist **Jonathan Schooler**, who has done extensive research in the field.

"Are we saying that an executive who has just read an important report should not think about it? The research helps us work toward an answer, but I don't think we're quite there yet," said Schooler.

New Kind of Cosmic Object Discovered

National Geographic magazine and Canadian dailies including the ***Montreal Gazette***, ***Ottawa Citizen***, ***Calgary Herald***, ***Vancouver Sun*** and the ***Victoria Times-Colonist***, reported the discovery of an entirely new kind of cosmic object by a multinational team of astronomers. Their findings were originally published in the international science journal ***Nature***.

Named Rotating Radio Transients (RRATs), the small, highly compressed neutron stars are likely related to pulsars, which spin about once a second and are often described as cosmic lighthouses. Their magnetic poles emit electromagnetic radio waves, so each time a pulsar spins, it sends out a radio blip.

"These new objects are basically a new type of neutron star, but we're not exactly sure how they fit together with the other types," said UBC astronomer and report co-author **Ingrid Stairs**. "Instead of a blip every time it spins, there is one every few minutes or every few hours. They're kind of like a flickering lighthouse, one where the power is going out on a regular basis."

Antidepressants May Harm Infants' Lungs, Report Says

Several major North American dailies, including the ***New York Times***, reported findings published in the ***New England Journal of Medicine*** that expectant mothers who took antidepressants like Prozac late in their pregnancy were significantly more likely to give birth to an infant with a rare but serious breathing problem.

Timothy Oberlander, a developmental pediatrician at UBC, said that the new study added to a small but growing literature that was helping clarify the risks of specific drugs taken during pregnancy.

"You're talking about small numbers here, but it's clear that there are a group of babies that have more side-effects from exposure to these drugs than most," Oberlander said, "and women need to weigh this against the risk of untreated depression, which not only affects the mother but the context in which the child is raised."

Poodles get a bad rap, says UBC psychologist Stanley Coren.

And the Top Dog is...

In a story carried by a dozen of U.S. dailies, including the ***Chicago Tribune***, ***Kansas City Star*** and the ***Monterey County Herald***, the American Kennel Club has announced the Labrador retriever as America's top dog for the 16th consecutive year, while the golden retriever hangs in at number two. The rankings differ widely depending on geography, however. While the poodle nosed out the diminutive dachshund as New York City's most popular dog in 2005, it languishes at the bottom of Chicago's top 10.

"A lot of people look at the poodle and call it a frou-frou dog because it doesn't seem a very tough or macho dog. That's wrong," said **Stanley Coren**, UBC psychologist and author of a number of books on dogs, including *The Pawprints of History*, and *The Intelligence of Dogs*.

"People forget that Omar Bradley went all around World War II with a big black poodle named Beau," said Coren, referring to the famous army general. "And everybody associates Winston Churchill with the bulldog because he looked like a bulldog. But the truth is Winston Churchill never owned a bulldog. He owned miniature poodles and they were all called Rufus." □

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Okanagan's Lost Trestles Rise Again

Canadian historic site to get help from UBC Okanagan researchers. BY BUD MORTENSON

Researchers at UBC Okanagan hope to unlock the past and help ensure a sustainable future for a popular historic site in the hills above Kelowna, B.C.

Built in the 1910s, a network of train trestles along a serpentine stretch of the abandoned Kettle Valley Railway (KVR) once hugged rock walls and spanned yawning gaps in Myra Canyon overlooking the Okanagan Valley. Every year, thousands of tourists from around the world came to walk or cycle the route.

A forest fire in the summer of 2003 destroyed 12 of 16 wooden trestles and damaged two soaring steel trestles. The fire did its worst, but also opened up the landscape, revealing new discoveries such as a rail siding previously masked by the forest.

"There needs to be a better record of what's there," says UBC Okanagan Assoc. Prof. of Archeology Richard Garvin. "It's clearly a unique opportunity — you don't get a chance like this very often."

There are gaps in knowledge about the workforce that pushed the railway through the Okanagan, Garvin notes. "We know exactly when the people who built the railway were there, we know where the camps are, and that they were being supplied with the same type of materials," he says. "Now we hope to find evidence of the different ethnic and social groups."

The fire damage meant a loss of about $5 million a year for the B.C. Interior economy. Federal and provincial governments responded with $13.5 million to restore the trestles.

"They'll open in the late summer of 2007," Garvin says. "By that time, we will have a full field school up and running."

In a project expected to take three years, starting this summer Garvin and colleagues Maury Williams, associate professor of History, and Russell Currie, assistant professor of Management, will begin archeological and historic fieldwork, and tourism management planning.

Working with B.C. Parks, the Kelowna Museum, the Atkinson Museum in Penticton, and the Myra Canyon Trestles Restoration Society, they will document how the KVR was built, and the historical and economic impact the railway had on the Okanagan and the rest of B.C.'s southern interior.

While Garvin and his team of graduate and undergraduate students explore the archeological evidence, other teams will be examining historic and economic aspects of Myra Canyon and its trestles.

"Here you have a major economic resource in the southern interior of the province that hasn't really been studied," says historian Williams. "We can look at what the record says, and see if it corresponds with the evidence."

That historical documentation — gathered from museums, public and private archives, and even dusty attics — doesn't always match the physical evidence archeologists find on-site.

"We're looking for the evidence and the records — we will have students finding records, identifying whether or not they are legitimate, and how they can be used. For history grad students and undergrads, there are all kinds of possibilities," Williams says.

"One of the project's missions is to educate the public on the importance of this cultural and historical resource. And we will mobilize the knowledge we acquire through research to help communities make informed decisions about tourism development."

Tourism planning is a big deal for Myra Canyon. "There were 50,000 visitors a year before the fire," says Williams. "With the reconstruction, the visitor count will jump to 100,000 very quickly — and probably well beyond that figure."

"Although the trestles are being rebuilt, there is not yet a management plan that addresses the socio-cultural, economic and environmental impact of this rebuilding on communities and organizations with a vested interest in Myra Canyon," says Currie, whose research interests include tourism marketing and feasibility analysis for sustainable enterprises.

"We want the communities and stakeholders to decide what level of development they want. We will put forth several scenarios depicting different levels of development with the accompanying socio-cultural, economic and environmental impacts — allowing stakeholders to make informed decisions and plan accordingly." □

One of the last trains to cross the trestles of Myra Canyon was for the filming of CBC's dramatization of Pierre Burton's "The National Dream" in 1973.

Researchers Study Blood Flow in Brain

Insights might help prevent damage from clots or constriction

BY HILARY THOMSON

PHOTO: MARTIN DEE

Brain researcher Brian MacVicar and colleagues in Finland are demystifying the mechanics of how brain blood flow is regulated.

"Now we're finally getting answers to the hundred-year-old question of how brain cell activity relates to blood flow and how the 'control dial' works."

New insight into restoring blood flow in stroke and vascular dementia patients, and in newborns with asphyxia, is the goal of a collaborative study between UBC researchers and colleagues at the University of Helsinki, Finland.

Brian MacVicar, Canada Research Chair in Neuroscience, and Kai Kaila of the University of Helsinki, will work together on a two-year project, funded by a grant of almost $330,000 from the Academy of Finland, and from the Institute of Neurosciences, Mental Health and Addiction of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

"We want to understand the basic mechanics of how blood flow relates to brain activity," says MacVicar, who is a professor in the Dept. of Psychiatry and a member of the Brain Research Centre at UBC Hospital. "It's an area that's still not understood despite its high impact for both basic and applied neuroscience."

The brain has high energy demands. The organ represents only about two per cent of body weight, but accounts for up to 20 per cent of the body's energy when at rest.

Blood flow supplies energy for brain activities, and the brain's blood vessel contraction and dilation — with resulting increase or decrease in blood flow — is a normal part of brain functioning.

However, improperly regulated flow can result in brain disorder or damage. The interruption of blood flow due to a clot or blood vessel constriction (ischemic stroke) or the rupture of blood vessels (hemorrhagic stroke) causes brain cells in the affected area to die. Vascular dementia can develop when arteries feeding the brain become narrowed or blocked.

MacVicar says understanding of brain blood flow has advanced significantly in the past decade.

"We didn't know all the players 10 years ago, nor did we understand the machinery," he says. "Now we're finally getting answers to the hundred-year-old question of how brain cell activity relates to blood flow and how the 'control dial' works."

MacVicar is an expert in how astrocytes — star-shaped cells that surround nerve cells and blood vessels in the brain — regulate blood flow within the brain. In research published in *Nature* in 2004, MacVicar and post-doctoral fellow Sean Mulligan found that a calcium signal to astrocytes created constriction in vessels resulting in decreased brain blood flow.

Now MacVicar wonders if astrocytes also have a role in increasing blood flow. He will study the interplay between synaptic activity — information flowing from one brain cell to

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CELEBRATE RESEARCH WEEK

MARCH 4–11, 2006 | www.research.ubc.ca

MARCH 4

Undergrad Research Conference
9:00AM to 6:00PM
This conference celebrates the contributions of undergraduate research at UBC by providing a unique forum that exemplifies UBC's commitment to undergrad curricula. Keep your eyes on www.research.ubc.ca/UGConf.aspx for updates!

Vancouver Institute Lecture – The Best Ideas You'll Hear Tonight
8:15PM
Bernie Lucht, Executive Producer of CBC Radio's Ideas program, has won many awards and received national and international recognition. He will talk about the show, how it began, how it evolved, and some of the characters involved. Visit the VI website http://psg.com/~ted/vaninst/ to see their full line up of lectures.
IRC Bldg. – 2194 Health Sciences Mall

MARCH 6

Forestry Research Day
12:00PM to 8:00PM
The faculty is hosting a poster session by graduate students and a feature presentation by Dr. Peter Arcese, Professor, and Co-Director, Centre for Applied Conservation Research. More details at www.forestry.ubc.ca/research/talks.html.
Forest Sciences Centre Atrium – 2424 Main Mall

UBC Health Clinic Grand Opening
Daily March 6 to 10, 12:30PM to 1:30PM & Wednesday evening 6:00-7:00PM
UBC's Health Clinic is announcing their Grand Opening to showcase their brand new facilities. Meet the care team and tour the state-of-the-art facility. Refreshments will be served. Daily event info at www.familymed.ubc.ca or call 604-822-5431.
David Strangway Bldg, Suite 300 - 5950 University Blvd (above Shopper's Drug Mart)

Traffic & Vancouver: Approaches, Solutions, and Futures
Reception 5:30PM to 6:30PM
Presentation 6:30PM to 7:30PM
Vancouverites, like residents in other major North American cities, face increased lost time, pollution and accidents from growing traffic congestion and reduced mobility. Join Sauder School of Business faculty members and TransLink as they discuss solutions to these issues. More info available at 604-822-6801 or email alumni@sauder.ubc.ca.
UBC Robson Square, Room C100 – 800 Robson St.

Internationalization & Education: Perspectives, Practices, Issues & Controversies
6:30PM Poster Session
7:30PM Lecture
Join two excellent researchers as they open and expand your knowledge of education in other parts of the world. Maureen Kendrick will focus on education initiatives in three Ugandan communities and Handel Wright will speak about "Researching Multiculturalism in New Times." This is a free event open to everyone. Visit www.educ.ubc.ca for more details.
UBC Robson Square Theatre – 800 Robson St.

MARCH 7

Now What Do I Do? Career Opportunities After Graduate School
1:00PM to 4:00PM
The Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences will focus on Graduate Students and assist them as they explore their career opportunities after graduate school. Get answers to questions like: How did I get here? What was I missing? What do I wish I had known? Refreshments will be served. Go to www.pharmacy.ubc.ca to register.
St. John's College – 2201 Lower Mall

The Battle Against Infectious Disease
7:00PM to 9:00PM
SARS, Mad Cow, Bird Flu, Super bugs, TB, Influenza, Pandemic…. What are we doing to keep ahead in the fight against infectious disease? Join Dr. John Blatherwick, Dr. Janet McElhaney, and Dr. William Bowie for a closer look at managing outbreaks, influenza, antibiotic use and resistance. To learn more visit www.vchri.ca.
Vancouver General Hospital – 899 West 12 Ave. Cordula & Gunter Paetzold Health Education Centre in the Jim Pattison Pavilion

Science of a Changing Planet
6:00PM to 8:00PM
Understand the fascinating science behind Earth's ever-changing state. This series of short talks featuring UBC-based research on problems and solutions associated with our rapid climate changes and ways you can realistically reduce GHG emissions. Everyone is welcome. For more details call 604-822-2624.
UBC Robson Square Theatre – 800 Robson St.

Green College Lecture
5:00PM to 7:00PM
"The Changing Social Contract of Health" talk by Dorothy Porter, History of Health Sciences, and Chair, Department of Anthropology, History and Social Medicine, University of California San Francisco. Limited seating. www.greencollege.ubc.ca.
Green College – 6201 Cecil Green Park Rd.

MARCH 8

Sci-Trek Science & Research Trade Show
10:00AM to 4:00PM
UBC Supply Management presents Sci Trek to all Faculty and Staff. Check out this amazing science and research related Tradeshow, visit UBC's Major Suppliers, discover new scientific products and services and make new contacts at this event.
www.supplymanagement.ubc.ca
Life Sciences Centre, West Atrium - 2350 Health Sciences Mall

Venture into UBC Research Developments
5:00PM
Discover the new companies being generated by UBC research and find out how they are being supported by our first UBC Entrepreneur-in-Residence, Gary Albach. . . let the Add Venture begin. Check out www.uilo.ubc.ca for further details.
UBC Robson Square, HSBC Hall – 800 Robson St.

Ingredients for a Healthy City
6:00PM to 8:00PM
Rob VanWynsberghe and others will talk about issues of sustainability and community as they relate to Vancouver's development towards an Olympic host city. This is a free event and due to space limitations, pre-registration is required via their website: www.wuf3.ubc.ca/program/living.html
UBC Robson Square Theatre – 800 Robson St.

MARCH 9

Obstetrics & Gynaecology Academic Day
8:00AM to 5:00PM
UBC Dept. of Obstetrics & Gynaecology Annual Academic Day is the opportunity for clinical trainees and graduate students to present their ongoing and/or completed research to the University. To register or find out more, visit the website at www.obstgyn.ca or contact Lisa Cattulo at 604-875-2171.
Women's Hospital, Chan Auditorium – 4500 Oak St.

UBC Discovery Tour
3:00PM to 5:00PM
Discover what UBC has to offer. This is a unique tour is the first of its kind. Participants will receive a guided tour using technology from their cell phones or iPods – so bring yours! The podcast will be available for download prior to March 9 – we'll keep you posted at www.research.ubc.ca. Highlights include:
- The Faraday Presentation in the Hebb Theatre - an entertaining look at Physics Principles
- A presentation in the new Life Sciences Building by the Ubiquitous Computing Group
- A guided tour of the UBC Space telescope
- A draw for Apple iPods. This is an excellent opportunity for students to discover UBC in a fun and exciting way. Many of the tour stops are brand new facilities that the public normally would not be able to access.

Best of all, it's FREE! Pre-register with Kally Basra at 604-822-6010 or kally.basra@ubc.ca.

Celebrate Research Week Gala
5:00PM to 9:00PM
This spectacular event celebrates selected research award winners and recognizes their outstanding achievements - highlighted with video vignettes. The program also includes special performances by UBC School of Music and UBC Opera. This is a free event and pre-registration is required. Contact Kally Basra at 604-822-6010 or kally.basra@ubc.ca to order your tickets.
The Chan Centre for the Performing Arts – 6265 Crescent Rd.

Planners for Tomorrow
6:30PM to 8:30PM
Who should be the planners for the cities and towns of tomorrow? What should be their knowledge, skills and attitudes? Join the us to hear initial results and contribute to advancing the dialogue. Engage anytime at www.plannersfortomorrow.ca.
UBC Robson Square, Room C150/180 – 800 Robson St.

MARCH 10

Workshop on Future Wireless Systems
8:30AM to 5:00PM
Dr. Salim Hanna from Industry Canada and Dr. Andy Molisch from Mitsubishi Electric Research Labs will give keynote presentations on ultra-wideband wireless technologies. More details visit http://bul.ece.ubc.ca/workshop.html or call 604-822-3237.
Kaiser Bldg. – 2332 Main Mall

Engineering Open House
10:00AM to 4:00PM Friday & Saturday
Say the word "doctor" or "lawyer" and an immediate picture springs to mind of what these careers entail. Now try "engineer." It's a little harder, isn't it? Join us and learn about the exciting and diverse world of engineering at the free Engineering Open House. Visit www.apsc.ubc.ca for complete details.
Kaiser Bldg. – 2332 Main Mall

AERL Official Opening
2:00PM to 5:00PM
Everyone is welcome to attend the grand opening of the Aquatic Ecosystems Research Laboratory (AERL), an exciting new building that encourages and enhances the collaborations between natural and social scientists. There will be demonstrations and presentations of research, results and innovations. For more info call 604-827-5547.
AERL – 2202 Main Mall

MARCH 11

Diabetes Research Forum & Webcast
10:00AM to 12:00PM
A free public research forum where leading UBC researchers in the field of Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes speak on their current research. Seating is limited so those who are interested should call Canadian Diabetes at 604-732-4636 to reserve a seat. If you can't attend in person, you can still take part by logging on to www.ikebarberlearningcentre.ubc.ca.
Life Sciences Centre, Theatre 2 – 2350 Health Sciences Mall

Excellence in Research Lecture – Accelerating Sustainability in BC
8:15PM
The Vancouver Institute presents Dr. John Robinson, Director, Sustainable Development Research Initiative at UBC. Find out about the Centre for Interactive Research on Sustainability (CIRS) and it why it will be the most innovative and high performance building in North America. Visit the VI website http://psg.com/~ted/vaninst/ to see their full line up of lectures.
IRC Bldg. – 2194 Health Sciences Mall

CELEBRATE UBC RESEARCH

Weeklong Activities Reflect Scope of UBC Research

BY HILARY THOMSON

PHOTOS: MARTIN DEE

Investigators will showcase creativity and problem solving — symbolized by the astrolabe, an ancient astronomical computer — from March 4-11.

From martini-mixing robots to strategies for squashing super bugs, research to be showcased during UBC's Celebrate Research Week ranges from the amusing to the extraordinary.

This year's celebration is themed *Our Place in the World* and will held March 4-11 at UBC's Vancouver, Okanagan, and UBC Robson Square campuses as well as partner hospital sites.

"UBC has a global reputation for research and this week allows us to showcase just how we have earned our place in the world," says John Hepburn, UBC Vice-president, Research. "It is also an opportunity to invite the public, who funds much of our research, to celebrate our accomplishments with us."

Communicating the scope and impact of UBC research is the goal of this year's Celebrate Research Week, says Sid Katz, Executive Director, Community Affairs and Celebrate Research founder.

"With Vancouver hosting the **UN World Urban Forum on Sustainable Cities** in June, it really seemed appropriate this year to highlight the many accomplishments of UBC researchers at the international level," says Katz.

How to battle **global infectious diseases** will be explored by Chief Medical Health Officer John Blatherwick, Janet McElhaney, influenza expert and head of geriatric medicine at UBC and Providence Health Care, and UBC Prof. of Infectious Diseases William Bowie. SARS, bird flu, mad cow and other communicable diseases will be discussed on March 7 from 7 – 8:30 p.m. at the VGH education centre. Audience members will be able to ask questions of the speakers. The session is jointly presented by Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute and Providence Health Care Research Institute.

At Engineering's Open House March 10 and 11, students will demonstrate a variety of projects, including an automatic **martini-making robotic bartender** that senses when glasses need filling. Neither shaken nor stirred, martinis mixed by the robot are gravity-integrated using a device like an IV drip. There will be more than 30 lab tours and hands-on activities such as a mini-shake table to simulate earthquakes and a demonstration of an ultrasound-based sensor system to detect blood clots. For the full schedule of Open House events, visit www.apsc.ubc.ca.

It could be the **greenest building in Canada**. On Sat. March 11, John Robinson, director of UBC's Sustainable Development Research Initiative will introduce the **Centre for Interactive Research on Sustainability** (CIRS). Described as a living laboratory of sustainable technologies and services, CIRS is heralded as the most innovative and high performance building in North America. The Excellence in Research lecture will be held at 8:15 p.m. at the Woodward Instructional Resources Centre on the Vancouver campus.

On March 6, a UBC Okanagan interdisciplinary, multi-media project examines responses to **how the 2003 forest fires affected the lives of Kelowna residents**. On March 7, the university opens the Species at Risk and Habitat Studies (SARAHS) centre in the Science Bldg.

On March 8, UBC Okanagan and Genome BC will host Dr. Bruce McManus for a public talk, titled ***Me and My Transplanted Heart — From a Stormy Love Affair to a State of Bliss***. McManus is co-director of the iCAPTURE Centre, a partnership of Providence Health Care and UBC, that seeks solutions to heart, lung and blood vessel disease. The presentation will be held 8 p.m.-9:30 p.m. at the Coast Capri Hotel, Kelowna.

How to fix **Vancouver's traffic congestion** is the focus of UBC's Sauder School of Business faculty members Yossi Berechman, CN Chair in Professor in Transportation and International Logistics; and David Gillen, YVR Professor of Transportation Policy and director of Sauder School of Business Centre for Transportation. Along with Clive Rock of Translink, they will look at lessons and cautions from abroad as well as considers solutions that will work in an environment of aging baby boomers. The presentation will take place March 6 from 5:30 p.m.–7:30 p.m. at Robson Square.

A highlight of the week is the **March 9 Celebrate Research Gala**, where UBC honours its outstanding investigators. The accomplishments of more than 200 UBC research award winners will be celebrated with video vignettes and performances by members of the UBC School of Music. A partial list of researchers who will be recognized can be found in the Kudos section of the Feb. 2 issue of *UBC Reports* at www.publicaffairs.ubc.ca/ubcreports.

For a complete listing of Celebrate Research Week events, visit www.research.ubc.ca and click on the information box. For invitations to the gala, contact kally.basra@ubc.ca. □

A highlight of the week is the March 9 Celebrate Research Gala, where UBC honours its outstanding investigators.

Two Camels Leave Cairo, One Heading West . . .

BY LORRAINE CHAN

Two camels leave Cairo, one heading west at eight kilometres an hour, the other traveling north at six kilometres an hour . . .

Brainteasers like these have been circulating since the time of the ancients, but 4,500 years of history haven't eradicated math word problems, nor people's strong reactions to them, says Education Asst. Prof. Susan Gerofsky.

"Most of the people I spoke with during my research hate them," says Gerofsky, a curriculum studies expert who's exploring ways to improve math instruction.

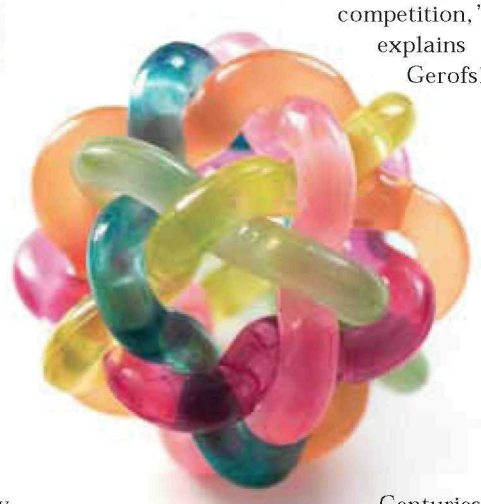
Gerofsky says she's intent on finding new teaching methods that will engage learners, including those with math "phobia." Her future research includes developing software that will allow high school math students to use touch, musical sounds and whole-body movements to experience mathematical concepts.

"Many life choices are shut down to those who are fearful of math," says Gerofsky. "I feel it's vital we open our minds to what mathematics is and how we teach it. Besides, math gives us an incredible way to understand and appreciate the beauty of the world."

Gerofsky comes to the discipline with a linguistics background and she advocates more awareness of language in math instruction. She traces the origins of math story problems in her 2004 book, *A Man Left Albuquerque Heading East: Word Problems as Genre in Mathematics Education.*

Gerofsky says these riddles date back to Sumerian and Babylonian cultures, which used them to teach mathematical methods. For millennia, they also flourished as "traveling salesmen jokes" along the Silk Road and other bustling routes of central Asia.

"Traders used these as icebreakers to socialize with people of another culture and to build trust through friendly problem-solving competition," explains Gerofsky.



Centuries later, these word problems have infiltrated every textbook, from Grade 2 onward and through university in all undergraduate math and physics courses.

Given their ubiquity, Gerofsky says she'd like to see better use of these "odd little stories."

"When you talk to really little kids and ask them, for example, how long it will take a snail to crawl out of a well at a certain rate, they'll take your question to be a real life problem and want to solve it," she says. "They'll ask for extra information and offer up some really creative ideas, which may not have much to do with the mathematical ideas you intended them to learn."

Gerofsky adds that by Grade 4, most children learn that these tales operate in their own strange universe and submit to them as a kind of drudgery.

"...math gives us an incredible way to understand and appreciate the beauty of the world."

"Students realize they're math calculations dressed up as a story. It doesn't matter whether it appears to be about two trains, a camel, birds or an emissary of the pope, their task is to strip the story down and solve the problem embedded there."

For effective use of the genre, Gerofsky suggests that teachers stop presenting them as applications of math to real life situations.

David Lidstone, an instructor of mathematics and statistics at Langara College, concurs. Lidstone jazzes up math textbook offerings with his own word problems that give students a more immediate context.

"For problems pertaining to motion, which is common in calculus, I ask students to study two cars traveling along 12th Avenue and Kingsway," says Lidstone. "And there's a wealth of trigonometry problems in the angles on the face of a wristwatch."

When teaching children, Gerofsky recommends that teachers admit upfront that these stories are symbolic. "Kids recognize that they're not realistic at an extremely young age. If anything, word problems are closer to parables."

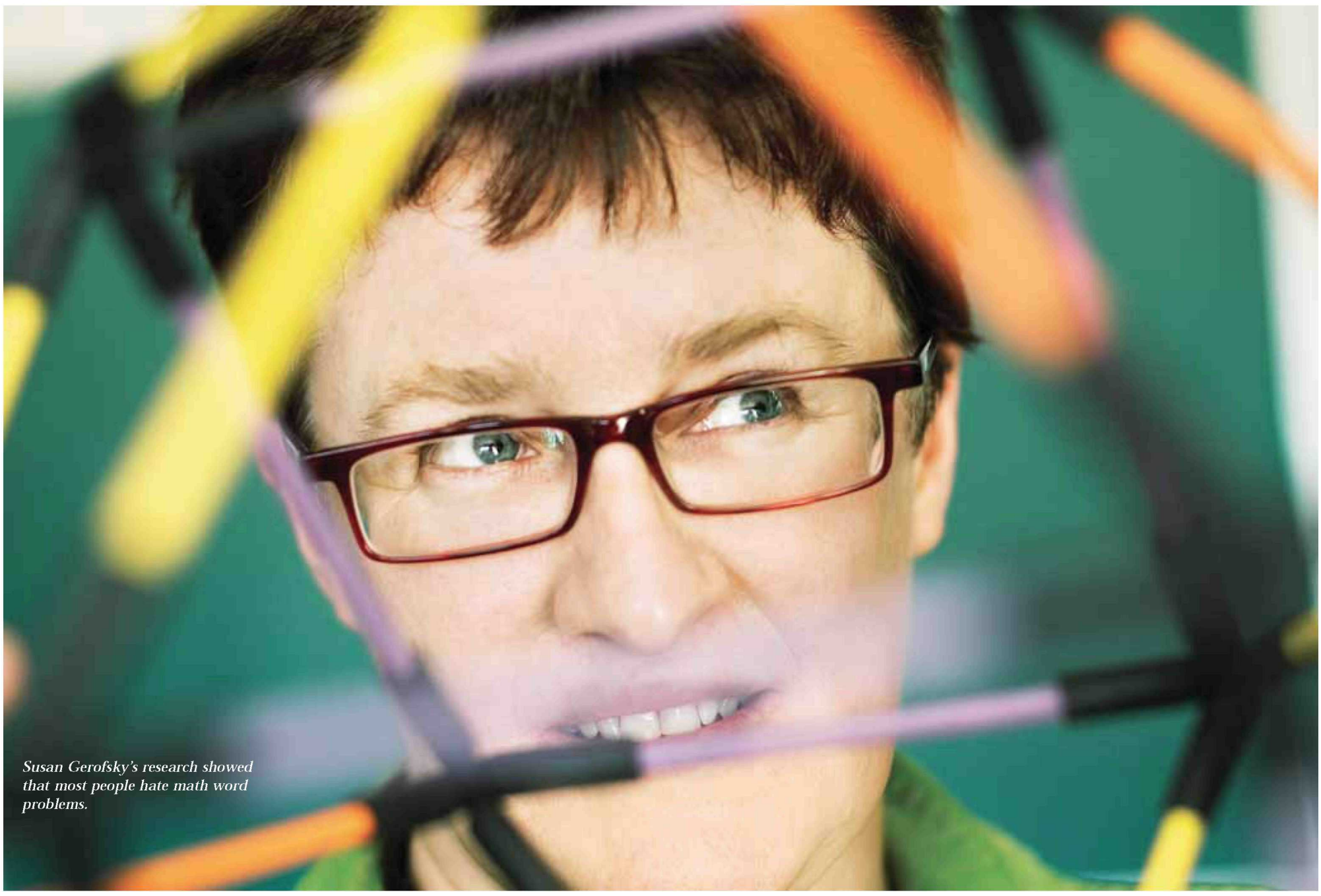
However, Gerofsky insists the genre can still work. "Teachers can use the vivid imagery to help kids remember certain ideas and principles they can draw upon later.

"Sometimes these images are most memorable when the stories are nonsensical. For example, given a calculus problem that involves quadratic functions, it may help to say, 'This is just like that story about shooting an arrow on the moon!'"

In general, Gerofsky advises math teachers to inject more "liberal arts" into math instruction to widen its appeal to different types of learners. She believes this is especially important given that many academic and career paths require math and physics.

"Math concepts are taught as if they exist in a void. They're presented as fully formed, like a cold and distant crystal, as if this knowledge didn't come through people living and struggling."

Gerofsky would like to see the "messy parts of human history" included in math classrooms. "Wouldn't it be interesting to say to students, here's something that came from an ancient Egyptian papyrus manuscript or a Babylonian clay tablet? Give the history, explain that scribes were being taught this to help them feed the workers that built the pyramids." □



Susan Gerofsky's research showed that most people hate math word problems.

PHOTOS: MARTIN DEE

20 for 20

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meant I could play for Kevin and do the exact program that I was looking for," says Bains, now in his final year in a joint Masters program in Coaching Science and Sports Psychology in the School of Human Kinetics.

In addition to Bains, other recent transfers to UBC include: from the University of Kentucky, Nanaimo-born world junior high jump champion Mike Mason; in baseball, from the University of Hawaii, Vancouver-born catcher Steve Bell-Irving; and, from the University College of San Diego, Washington State's Fletcher Vynne; and in basketball, from St. Francis University in Pennsylvania, White Rock's Chad Clifford; from South East Missouri State, junior national team's Leanne Evans, and from Illinois State, the tallest woman in university basketball, Calgary's six-foot-six Katie Ward.

In addition, Vancouver-born Canadian junior javelin champ Liz Gleadle has just announced her decision to attend UBC in September.

"I think people are realizing that if you're on a losing squad, not getting along with the coaches, or not getting enough playing time, it doesn't matter how big your scholarship is," says Theresa Hanson, manager of Intercollegiate Sports for UBC Athletics and Recreation.

"More and more, varsity athletes just want to go to the school where they will have the best possible overall experience and they are finding that here," she says. "One of our goals is to give top Canadian athletes the opportunity to compete in Canada at the very highest level."

Theresa Hanson believes that the number of UBC coaches with national or provincial team experience in sports such as women's volleyball and men's and women's basketball is a major draw for athletes. She notes also that UBC is the only university in Canada to hire full-time assistant coaches for sports other than football, which gives players the opportunity for more one-on-one workouts.

UBC is the only university in Canada to hire full-time assistant coaches for sports other than football, which gives players the opportunity for more one-on-one workouts.

Theresa Hanson cites the UBC baseball team as another major destination for home-grown athletes. The team has nine transfers on its roster and alumnus Jeff Francis now pitching for Major League Baseball's Colorado Rockies.

"In 1998 we started what is still the only university baseball program in Canada that competes in the U.S.-based National Association for Intercollegiate Athletics. Now all these Canadian athletes who never had the chance to play at a high level in our country are coming back.

"A big reason UBC can compete so well for athletes," says Theresa Hanson, "is our administration's financial commitment to athletics and our fundraising efforts, which allows us to pay for things like extra coaches and offer up to full scholarships." She cites the upcoming Telus Millennium Scholarship Breakfast on March 6 as the best example of athletic fundraising at UBC. Having raised $3.3 million in six years, the annual event is the single most successful fundraiser ever staged by a university athletics department in Canada.

Theresa Hanson says CIS regulations permit Canadian universities to pay tuition for athletes, while the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) permits U.S. schools to pay for athletes' living expenses, in addition to tuition.

"Money is not as much of a reason to go to the states anymore," says Bains. "Canadian scholarships are more than I think most people realize, especially when you consider the tax you have to pay on U.S. scholarships and the cost of all the flights back and forth."

Having played university basketball on both sides of the 49th parallel, the 2004 CIS player of the year is able to give some insights into the differences and similarities between Canadian and U.S. sports cultures.

"I'd say athletes down south generally approach scholarships as if they were lottery tickets for the NBA or the NFL – despite what are often pretty long odds – and aren't really as interested in the academic side," says Bains.

"Varsity athletes in Canada are just as focused on development, but I think we generally are more interested in learning with an eye to life after sports."

As for similarities, Bains says, "Unless they are a varsity athlete, I don't think people realize how much work it is." Bains says by the time he begins his daily studies at 10 a.m. he has already hit the weight room, watched game footage, and had a one-on-one workout with his assistant coach, and physiotherapy for a nagging groin injury. After four hours of academics, it's back to the gym for a team practice, followed by a game or a night of homework. He says he tries to end his day by catching an NBA game on TV.

Bains feels that the experience of being a varsity athlete can be extremely rewarding, given the right situation.

"I think the challenge of balancing school and sports makes you a better person and I can't tell you how happy I am that I came here," says Bains. "We are so supported by everyone from the president, to the athletics staff, to the students high-fiving us on our way to class. This is easily the deepest, most talented team I've ever played on and I can't tell you how good it feels to be a part of something so special." □

PHOTO: RICHARD LAM / UBC ATHLETICS

Bains says this year's squad is "the deepest, most talented team I've ever played on."

UBC From the Air colour poster is now available at the UBC Bookstore. **$13.95**
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Geographers, Planners Explore Future of Okanagan Cities

BY BUD MORTENSON

Are mid-sized cities up to the challenge of sustainability?

A team of geography professors from UBC Okanagan is examining sustainable urban development in mid-sized cities — places like Kelowna and Vernon in B.C.'s Okanagan Valley — on March 21 as part of UBC's Living the Global City eight-month series of panel discussions and lectures.

The Living the Global City events are exploring the rapid urbanization of our globe in preparation for the coming United Nations' World Urban Forum in Vancouver in June 2006.

For the Kelowna event, urban planners from some of B.C.'s fastest-growing communities will join scholars from UBC Okanagan, the University of Toronto, and the University of Waterloo to explore sustainable development strategies for mid-sized cities — focusing on the rapid urban and population growth experiences of cities in the Okanagan Valley.

"We're just at the point where we have to ask 'where we are going?'" says Bernard Momer, associate professor of Geography at UBC Okanagan in Kelowna. "We have passed the psychological barrier of 100,000 people and that's when everything seems to happen at once."

Kelowna's burgeoning population is now 109,500 — up from 76,000 in 1991. Water, roads, affordable housing, public transit, and air quality are on the laundry list of social and servicing issues that have challenged the Central Okanagan through more than a decade of fast growth.

Donna Senese, an associate professor of Geography with an interest in sustained community planning, points out that the experiences of Okanagan cities are typical for mid-sized cities elsewhere.

"What's different about the Okanagan is that it's almost like the walls of the valley encapsulate it — it's a perfect microcosm of Western suburbanized cities," says Senese.

Fellow UBC Okanagan geographer Carlos Teixeira agrees. "It is an excellent urban and social laboratory to study issues such as urban growth and sprawl, population growth and change, lack of affordable housing, traffic, pollution, water supply and demand, homelessness — it has a lot of challenges," he says.

For information about the March 21 panel discussion in Kelowna and other Living the Global City events, see www.wuf3.ubc.ca/program/living.html

More than 166 Works from UBC Authors

BY GLENN DREXHAGE,
the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre

What have UBC authors done lately? An awful lot, actually — and the results will be on display at the Sixteenth Annual Authors' Reception on March 30. The event profiles the contributions of campus talent and will feature at least 166 titles published by 158 UBC scholars during 2005 — including current and retired professors, staff and students. A complete list of UBC authors and their works is available at http://www.library.ubc.ca/authorsweek.

The range of expertise on offer among UBC books reflects what's been going on campus-wide in research and teaching, says Margaret Friesen, a UBC librarian and chair of the UBC Authors Committee. But it goes beyond, she says, "because we have bedtime reading, music CDs and videos here as well."

Thirty-six broad disciplines — from anthropology to zoology — will be profiled at the annual reception, with leading topics including literature, political science, medicine, music, education, and English language and literature. Seventy per cent of the works submitted for the event fall under the banner of arts, humanities and social sciences, while the remainder are in the categories of science and medicine.

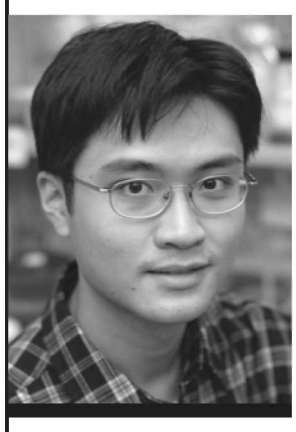
For those wanting a provincial fix, there's plenty of "B.C.-iana" to consider from UBC, including works on First Nations language and anthropology, local history, fine arts and the environment. UBC-authored books on B.C. topics will soon be displayed at Koerner Library, in an exhibit entitled B.C. in Print.

Print continues to be the dominant medium, although UBC authors also use other formats. This year also counts six DVDs, six music CDs, at least one CD-ROM, six e-books, technical reports, conference proceedings, exhibition catalogues and several new musical scores by perennial UBC composer Stephen Chatman.

In 2005, UBC works have been published in at least 15 countries, and appear in a range of languages, including Chinese, French, German, Indic, Japanese, Korean and Slovakian. ☐

LIONEL E. MCLEOD

HEALTH RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER



The Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research (AHFMR) is pleased to announce that Calvin Yip is the recipient of the 2005 Lionel E. McLeod Health Research Scholarship. The award honours Dr. Lionel McLeod, the founding president of AHFMR.

Mr. Yip is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the University of British Columbia. He has received numerous awards and scholarships during his academic career from NSERC (Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada), the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research, the Society of Chemical Industry, and the University of British Columbia. Mr. Yip's research focuses on the structure and function of proteins and protein complexes related to antibiotic resistance. More knowledge in this area could lead to new advances to help battle resistant bacterial "superbugs."

The Lionel E. McLeod Health Research Scholarship is given annually to an outstanding student at the University of Alberta, Calgary, or British Columbia for research related to human health.

Dr. McLeod was the Head of Endocrinology at the University of Alberta, Dean of Medicine at the University of Calgary, President of AHFMR from 1981-1990, and President and Chief Executive Officer of the University Hospital, Vancouver.

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Head, Division of Physical Therapy

The Faculty of Medicine, University of British Columbia (UBC) is searching for a dynamic academic leader for the Physical Therapy Division of the School of Rehabilitation Sciences. UBC currently houses the only provincial university program in physical therapy and the program is in a major re-organization and growth phase. The Head of the Physical Therapy Division is expected to provide academic leadership within the School, the Faculty, the University and the province on issues relating to physical therapy research, teaching and learning, and knowledge translation. The academic leader needs the knowledge and skills to foster an environment which facilitates teaching, learning, and growth in research; a leader who recognizes and strengthens the university partnerships with the physical therapy community, with health care agencies involved in clinical practice, and with the clinical research centres and institutes where faculty are engaged in research.

The Physical Therapy Division is currently comprised of 8 full-time faculty, 1 endowed chair, over 60 clinical faculty and 6 support staff. There are 80 professional-entry master's students in Physical Therapy, 25 MSc students, 5 PhD students, and 2 post doctoral fellows. There is a strong research culture at UBC and the current physical therapy faculty have research affiliations with the Brain Research Centre, the International Collaboration on Repair Discoveries (ICORD), the Arthritis Research Centre of Canada, the Centre for Hip Health, as well as many others.

UBC is located on the Point Grey peninsula, 25 minutes from downtown Vancouver with an exceptional array of cultural, sports and recreational facilities.

This is a full time tenured appointment at an anticipated senior academic rank. Salary and rank are commensurate with qualifications. The administrative appointment as Head, Division of Physical Therapy is a 5 year renewable appointment. Successful candidates will have a PhD degree, a strong research record, exceptional communication skills, a demonstrated record of leadership, evidence of excellence in teaching in the professional entry to practice and research graduate programs in physical therapy, and be eligible for licensure in the College of Physical Therapists of British Columbia.

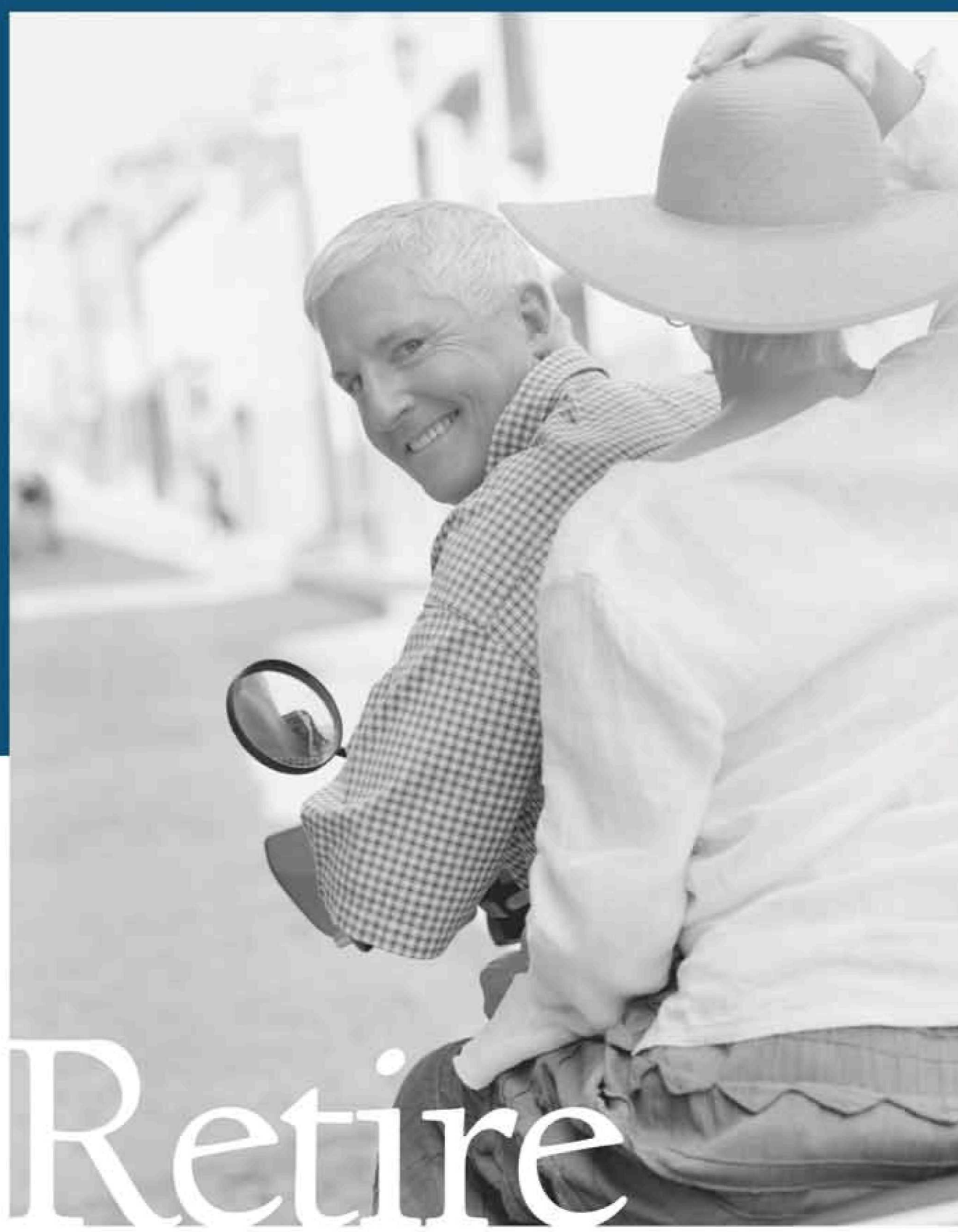
The position is available as of July 1, 2006, subject to final budgetary approval. The deadline date for applications is April 1, 2006.

The University of British Columbia hires on the basis of merit and is committed to employment equity. We encourage all qualified individuals to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents of Canada will be given priority.

Please forward curriculum vitae, 4 representative publications, and the names and contact information for 3 referees to:

Dr. Brenda Loveridge, Interim Director
School of Rehabilitation Sciences
University of British Columbia
T325-2211 Wesbrook Mall
Vancouver, BC V6T 2B5

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



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AT THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Researchers Study Blood Flow in Brain

continued from page 3

another — and astrocytes in regulating vascular tone and blood flow in the brain.

"If astrocytes prove to be triggers that dictate flow, we may be able to modify the signals and control the flow to prevent brain damage and loss of function, " he says.

At the University of Helsinki, Kaila's lab focuses on molecular and biophysical mechanisms related to synaptic activity. Kaila, and fellow lab member Juha Voipio, have identified a mechanism of brain cell-to-astrocyte communication that generates carbon dioxide — a chemical signal known to have a profound effect on cerebral blood flow.

"The brain is often viewed as an information-processing machine only," says Kaila. "A close look at its energy metabolism, however, reveals complexities of organization, trade-offs and optimizations. Understanding the control of regional blood flow will help us better understand brain diseases and hopefully help in the design of new therapies."

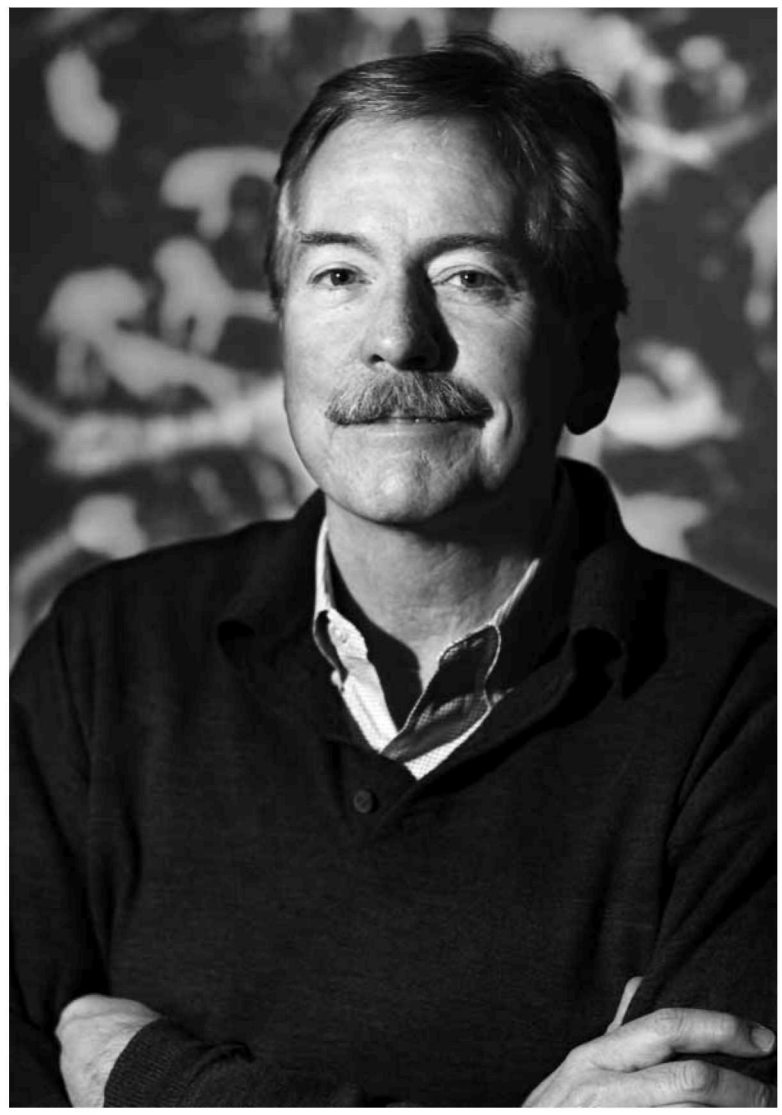

PHOTO: MARTIN DEE

Research findings will also aid in the treatment of newborns experiencing asphyxia, or insufficient intake of oxygen, a condition known as hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy. Symptoms are similar to stroke in adults, and can result in permanent damage such as mental retardation and epilepsy. The condition affects two to four babies per 1,000 births in developed countries.

In addition, more information about brain blood flow mechanics will benefit brain imaging that looks at increased blood flow to determine areas of increased brain function or damage, says MacVicar, who is also a member of the Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute.

Every year, 50,000 Canadians suffer a stroke. Another 300,000 people are living with the consequences of stroke, which is the leading cause of adult disability in Canada.

Vascular dementia is the second most common form of dementia after Alzheimer's disease. One in 13 Canadians over age 65 is affected by Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

The Brain Research Centre comprises more than 150 investigators with multidisciplinary expertise in neuroscience research ranging from the test tube, to the bedside, to industrial spin-offs. The centre is a partnership of UBC and Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute, the research body of the health authority. ☐

Tung Lin Kok Yuen Canada Society
UBC's Institute of Asian Research and Department of Asian Studies welcome:

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Centre of Buddhist Studies, The University of Hong Kong, will be giving two public lectures as follows:

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Wednesday March 15 at 12:30pm-1:30pm
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UBC Robson Square,
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Visit **www.iar.ubc.ca** for further information or call Karen Jew at 604 822-4688.

This lecture is made possible by the generous support from Tung Lin Kok Yuen, Canada Society, and The Tung Lin Kok Yuen Canada Foundation in cooperation with The University of Hong Kong.

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One of the world's most interesting developments in residential community-building is happening right here at UBC. Interwoven with the University itself is the creation of a 'university town' – a new mixed use and sustainable community that already has 3,000 residents and ultimately will have 20,000. Its setting, facilities, and events offer rich opportunities to create a unique lifestyle – truly a very special place to live (see **www.universitytown.ubc.ca**).

The University Neighbourhoods Association (UNA) approximates a municipal council for the local areas on campus, promoting the creation of a vibrant, sociable, safe and diverse university town community at UBC (see **www.myuna.ca**). It has now reached a stage in its growth where it seeks its first Executive Director. This role will be responsible for providing vision and leadership to the organization and for overseeing the daily operations of UNA regarding services, facilities, programs and events, finances, and related issues.

You should have a university degree (probably business-related) with several years of relevant experience, possibly in an association, municipality or service business. You combine creativity and imagination with strong management skills in finance, policy development, and program implementation. Above all you're a natural communicator and relationship builder, who will enjoy working with a diverse group of constituents and stakeholders.

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Students "Un" Plug Parking Meters

continued from page 1

parking meter.

To demonstrate the parking meter's adaptability to existing technology, the team designed it to work with RF ID tag Esso® stick pass, which is a one-inch-long plastic tube that gives customers instant access to their accounts.

"We chose radio frequency identity — or RFID — tags like the Esso® stick because it's widely available and costs less than 40 cents each," says classmate Erik Schortinghuis. "The only information stored on the tag is the customer's account number. All other pertinent information is stored on the server, protected by firewalls and other security measures."

Shane Wang, who designed the web site and back-end software, says the site will also provide city planners valuable usage data and enable administrators to adjust rates and enforce violations in real time.

(Left to right) Owen Kirby, Gagan Deep, Shane Wang, Erik Schortinghuis, Jasim Tariq and Aman Mangat. (Below) The tiny RFID tag could mark the end of carrying parking change.

"All the billing is done centrally so it's a breeze to administer different rates according to geographic region or time of day," says Wang. "If a tag is stolen, for example, the customer can simply flag it through the web site and the parking meter will alert the administrator of any unauthorized use."

"The only downside of this system," says Mangat, "is you don't get any free parking time. The meter stops charging as soon as the car leaves the lot."

The team received the top marks in their course, and a recommendation to approach UBC's University Industry Liaison Office (UILO) with their invention.

PHOTO: MARTIN DEE

"It always seems that when you're in a hurry to park, you're out of change."

Randy Smith, Technology Transfer Manager for Physical and Computer Sciences at the UILO, says while individual components of the parking meter and billing software use existing or open source technology, the way they come together is innovative and potentially patentable.

"UBC is a North American leader in faculty research commercialization," says Smith. "That innovative spirit seems to be rubbing off on our students."

"We all feel inspired and excited to have taken a concept and make it a reality," says Schortinghuis. "There is no limit to what a little imagination and determination can do."

For more information or to test-drive the web interface, visit ipark.shanewang.com □

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The Iona Building at Vancouver School of Theology on the UBC campus. Photo: Perry Danforth

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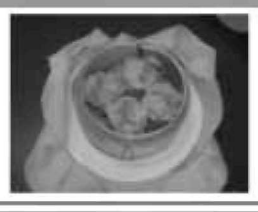

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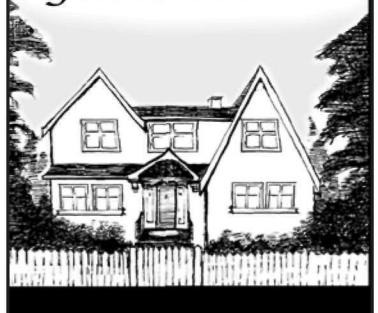

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UNIVERSITY TOWN

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ISSUE NO.5 MARCH 2006

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Did you know?
University Town is not part of the City of Vancouver, nor is it a municipality. University Town is part of UBC, which operates under the Provincial University Act.

National Wildlife Federation Recognizes UBC For Leadership in Campus Sustainability

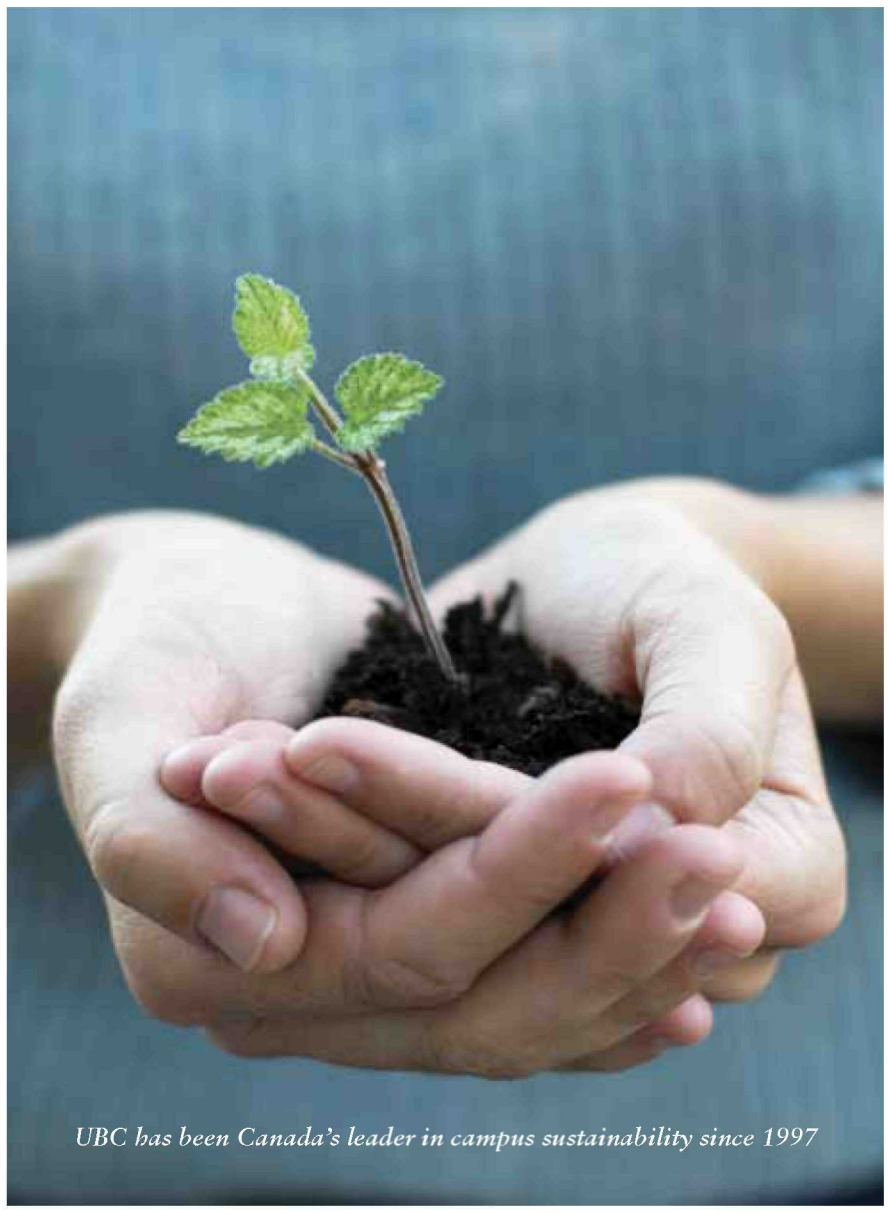
The National Wildlife Federation, North America's largest wildlife conservation agency, has presented the University of British Columbia with a NWF Campus Ecology Recognition Award for sustainability initiatives.

As part of this honour, the NWF has created a Campus Ecology Yearbook, available on its website, which offers a comprehensive look at UBC's sustainability efforts during the 2004/2005 academic year.

These include the Ecotrek infrastructure upgrade, which has reduced campus energy use by 10 per cent since 1998 despite a 24 per cent increase in students; a colour-coded composting system for food organics in cafeterias; and the Campus Sustainability Strategy, which seeks to collect, synthesize, and publish all UBC actions relating to sustainability on campus.

As a result of these initiatives, UBC is on track to meet and surpass the Kyoto Protocol's 2012 target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 25 per cent. The first Canadian university to adopt a sustainable development policy in 1997, UBC is the only Canadian university in North America to receive this recognition.

Visit **www.nwf.org** for more information on the UBC Campus Ecology Yearbook, or contact Ruth Abramson, UBC Campus Sustainability Office, at 604.822.0473



UBC has been Canada's leader in campus sustainability since 1997

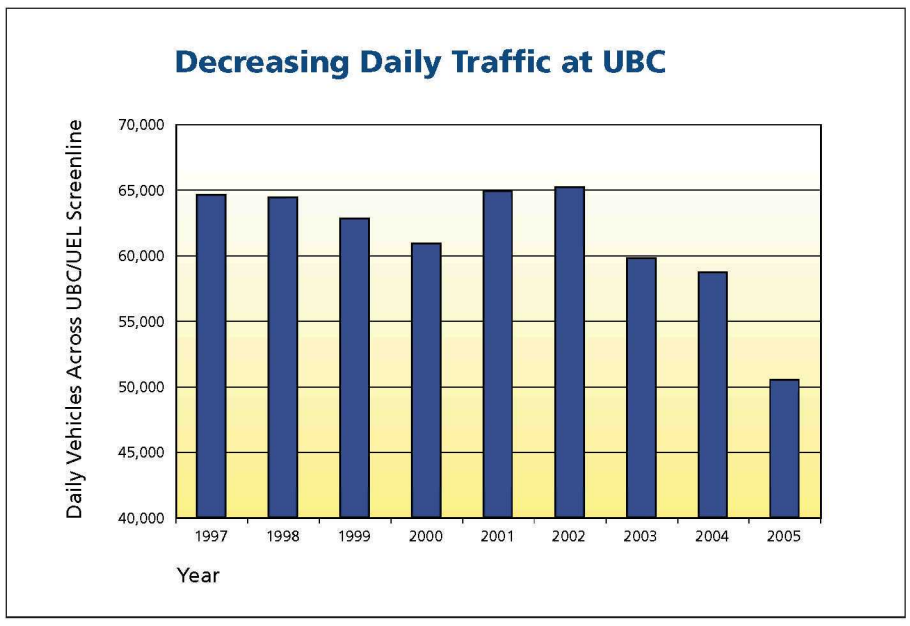
Photograph by Martin Dee / UBC Public Affairs

Traffic Down In U.Town

The 2005 traffic counts are in and UBC's performance continues to lead the region in traffic reduction measures. Since 1997 UBC has reduced Single Occupancy Vehicle traffic to and from the campus by 18 per cent, increased public transit use by 140 per cent, and decreased total vehicle traffic by 22 per cent.

"UBC's success in shifting commuter trips from automobiles to transit is unprecedented in the region," said Nancy Knight, UBC Associate Vice-President of Campus and Community Planning. "No one could have imagined that we would reduce total traffic volumes by 22 per cent during the same time that student enrollment and the campus population increased 26 per cent."

Major factors in UBC's success are the student U-pass program and the elimination of nearly 3,000 surface parking stalls since 2000. For further detail on UBC's 2005 traffic counts please visit: **www.planning.ubc.ca**



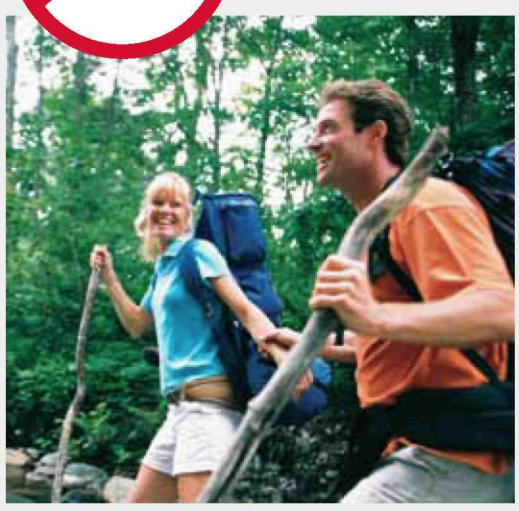
A New Way To Get To UBC!

TransLink's new #84 bus route with service between VCC-Clark Station and UBC is now running. This limited-stop service provides a good alternative to the #99 B-Line, especially for UBC commuters using the Millennium Line and transferring to the #99 at the Commercial/ Broadway Station.

Now, transit users can stay on the Millennium Line for one more station to catch the #84. The service operates on Monday through Friday on 15-minute frequencies with the first departure from VCC-Clark Station at 6:45 am and the last departure from UBC at 7:30 pm.

While the service currently operates on weekdays only, there are plans to increase service and frequencies as ridership continues to grow. For more information on route, schedule, and frequencies, visit **www.translink.bc.ca**.

myth busters



Myth: Construction of the new South Campus neighbourhood will harm Pacific Spirit Regional Park.

Reality: The neighbourhood development will not happen in Pacific Spirit Regional Park nor will a single tree in the Park be impacted by this development. In fact, UBC will extend the benefits of the park by creating a 30-metre buffer between South Campus and the park.

Myth: UBC is building housing for the rich.

Reality: 50 per cent of all homes in University Town are for residents who are in some way affiliated with the University. In the nearly completed Hawthorn Place neighbourhood, nearly 75 per cent of the residents are affiliated with the University.

Myth: Student fees are being used to build University Town.

Reality: No student fees are being used to build University Town. All proceeds from University Town go towards endowment to support student bursaries, scholarships and research.

University Town UBC External Affairs Office 6328 Memorial Road, Vancouver BC V6T 1Z2 T: 604.822.6400 F: 604.822.8102 **www.universitytown.ubc.ca**