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THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VOLUME 49 | NUMBER 2 | FEBRUARY 6, 2003

UBC REPORTS

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"Valentine's Day can be brutal..."

Valentine images remind many gays they are not accepted

BY BRIAN LIN

Rhyannon O'Heron and Jo McFetridge will celebrate their six-month anniversary on Feb. 15 even though they can't find a Valentine's card that accurately portrays their relationship.

"You can't go to Hallmark and buy a card for your same-sex partner," says O'Heron, a second-year Arts student who plans to study social work.

McFetridge has long ignored Valentine's Day because it never applied to her.

"I've never had a partner around Valentine's Day," says McFetridge, a fourth-year Classics student. "And everything you see is heterosexual."

But the young couple won't let that spoil their special day. They'll go out to dinner, drink champagne and even do the "cheesy rose thing."

"I won't let the bias stop me from celebrating the spirit of love," says McFetridge. "That applies to me."

"Valentine's Day can be brutal, especially if you're queer," says Anne-Marie Long, an advisor from the Equity office. "Heterosexual public displays of affection are very accepted, but queer people have to assess the environment before making their romantic gestures public, especially when these expressions can sometimes lead to violence."

The lack of visible queer expressions – and during Valentine's Day celebrations, an overflow of heterosexual, couple-oriented images – is often perceived by queers as a reminder that they are not accepted by society at large.

Vancouver's Langara College sparked controversy in 1998 when officials ordered the removal of Valentine's decorations depicting a straight couple about to kiss because of fears the college could be perceived as homophobic and heterosexist – the assumption that everyone is heterosexual. Some media reports characterized the incident as political correctness overkill.

The college later revived the decorations and added others to make the displays more inclusive.

"Every one of us – queer or straight – is basically homophobic and heterosexist on some level," Long says. "Because we all grow up well-versed in the language of the heterosexual-dominant world.

"That's why it's vital that we all learn to recognize and challenge both overt and subtle heterosexist and homophobic assumptions that lead to the harassment, silence and erasure of queer lives and experiences," she adds.

Since January last year, the Equity Office has been working to help create awareness and acceptance for all people on campus through its Positive Space capaign.

So far, the program has trained 154 UBC faculty, staff and students to be resource persons who display a Positive Space poster in their work, living or study space and provide support, resources and referrals on a wide variety of queer issues.

Long says the visible signage is vital because queer people have grown accustomed to hiding themselves for their own safety. Rather than coming forward with their issues, they tend to fade into the background.

"I've always been out to all my friends, but I can't bring myself to be out to my profs," she says. "I try my best not to lie when they ask me, but people assume you're straight and I'm worried that they would discriminate against me if they found out.

"It's probably an unfair assumption on my part, but it's better to be safe than sorry," McFetridge adds. "Sometimes I feel dishonest and that I'm betraying other queer people who've had the courage to come out."

Miyahara Atsushi, an international graduate student at the School of Journalism, says the atmosphere at UBC isn't any more conducive to coming out than in his native Japan, where homosexuality is rarely mentioned, let alone celebrated.

"Apart from the Pride UBC events, you rarely see two guys or two girls holding hands on campus," says Miyahara. "But you see signs of heterosexual affection everywhere."

"Most of us hide the fact that we're gay unless we see definitive signs that it's safe to come out in a new environment," he adds. "Even for those of us who are no longer in the closet."

"If your professor is openly gay or shows respect for people of all sexual orientations, it goes a long way in helping establish a respectful learning environment where gay students can just be themselves.

During Pride UBC's Outweek – which coincides with Valentine's Day – the Positive Space campaign will display writings submitted by queer students, faculty and staff describing their experience on campus. Meanwhile, O'Heron and McFetridge are determined to make the most of their queer affair here at UBC. They'll share their joy with others at Pride UBC's Queer Bash dance and hope that one day Valentine's Day will celebrate all kinds of love, not just the straight and narrow.

For more information or to become a resource person, visit http://www.positivespace.ubc.ca/, e-mail amlong@equity.ubc.ca or call 604-822-4859. For Pride UBC's Outweek events, visit http://www.ams.ubc.ca/student_life/resource_groups/pride/. ☐

PHOTO: MARTIN DEE

Rhyannon O'Heron (left) and Jo McFetridge don't expect to find any Valentine images that celebrate their relationship. Gays often feel excluded on Feb.14.

Why Love Hurts

Measuring beliefs of spouse abusers. BY ERICA SMISHEK

To believe is to accept as true.

But if what you believe causes you to abuse your partner, would you – could you – change your beliefs?

That premise is at the heart of Social Work Prof. Mary Russell's current work developing a "Relationship Beliefs Scale." The scale measures beliefs along a respectful-abusive continuum and may help clinicians determine what kind of man is abusive and how to treat him.

"We need some kind of measure to do before and after treatment," Russell explains. "Are the men changing? Can we measure that change? How can we sustain it?"

The concept goes back about a decade to her studies and clinical practice with men who had been abusive in their relationships. In evaluating group programs that specifically looked at relationship-based interventions, Russell says the way men talked about relationships was crucial.

"It was all about them. They would say things like 'I was so mad – that's why I hit her.' It was not until they thought about the impact on their partners that we could see relationship changes. For example, someone would say 'When I moved suddenly, I saw her flinch.' They were starting to connect, to empathize with their partners instead of just being concerned with themselves.

"Moving from believing that they were central in the relationship to placing greater value on connection within the relationship – that was critical."

Russell says while the men didn't necessarily think they were superior, they thought they should be.

"When the relationship moves toward equality, we have less abuse occur," she notes.

"The third dimension is the notion of not having any responsibility. Men saw themselves as deserving of care and attention. It was all up to the women. This laid the foundation for potential abuse."

Supported by a three-year Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada grant, Russell returned to the original interviews conducted during these group programs and separated statements pertaining to beliefs. Three hundred statements were culled to 100 to distinguish people with abusive beliefs versus respectful beliefs. These were given to 15 experienced clinicians for analysis. Eventually 50 statements were used in a test given to 100 men currently in treatment either voluntarily or as part of a court order at the Victoria Family Violence Prevention Society.

"The scale is telling us something," says Russell, who is halfway through the study. "Men who are abusive do have these particular beliefs. They hold them significantly more than men in the general population. We can also see significant changes in beliefs from before treatment to after treatment. We need to see how they are sustained."

Russell says the men who are in treatment voluntarily want to maintain relationships or enter into a new relationship and make a go of it.

"We have to instill the same motivation among those who aren't there voluntarily."

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Bargaining at UBC

At UBC Reports deadline, the university and some of its unions are engaged in the collective bargaining process.

UBC Reports offered CUPE 2278 (Teaching Assistants) and the University space in this issue to spell out their positions. CUPE 2278 was unable to meet the deadline.

Updates about the labour situation are available at www.ubc.ca ☐

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Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies

Exploratory Workshop Grant

The PWIAS Exploratory Workshop Program provides awards of $15,000 to $25,000 to interdisciplinary teams of UBC researchers to bring outstanding international experts to the University to explore new research initiatives. The proposal should be broadly interdisciplinary and involve basic research. The deadline for the Spring 2003 competition is March 1st.

For more information, contact the Wall Institute by phone (604) 822-4782, fax (604) 822-4222 or e-mail info@pwias.ubc.ca or check our web site at www.pwias.ubc.ca

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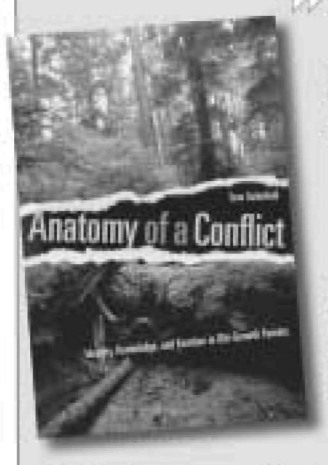

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IN THE NEWS

Highlights of UBC Media Coverage in January 2003. COMPILED BY BRIAN LIN

Fishery Prof an iconoclast

In a profile on UBC Fisheries Prof. **Daniel Pauly**, *The New York Times* detailed his work in marine stocks around the globe.

"Looking at the big picture has not been the mandate of anybody," Pauly told the NYT, with an accent that simultaneously hints at many languages, but not necessarily his native French or his acquired tongues, German or Spanish or the Swahili or Indonesian that he once spoke.

Most fisheries scientists work for regulatory agencies charged with managing a particular stock in a particular port, he said. But he and his colleagues "have given ourselves the mandate to look at the whole world."

"Nobody has been asking these questions before," Pauly said.

In the process, he and his fellow researchers are making a splash with paper after paper in the most prestigious scientific journals. Their news is uniformly bad. As a result, Pauly has become a man on a mission to spread the word that fish stocks are plummeting around the world.

PHOTO: SEAN KELLY

UBC Fisheries Prof. Daniel Pauly wants immediate action to save the world's fish stocks.

Bacteria fighter honoured

In a profile, UBC Microbiologist and Peter Wall Institute Distinguished Prof. **Brett Finlay** told *The Vancouver Sun* he has a huge respect for bacteria. "They are endlessly fascinating and I have to say I like them in a perverse sense."

Finlay, an expert in food- and water-borne bacteria, including E. coli and salmonella, is working on a vaccine for cows that may prevent E. coli outbreaks like the one that killed seven people in Walkerton, Ont., in 2000. The vaccine is undergoing large-scale trials and Finlay says results so far are promising.

"We are extremely proud that this eminent researcher was attracted to UBC and remains here to continue his important work and to mentor students from a variety of disciplines," says UBC President **Martha Piper**.

Forgiving Campbell

Commenting on the likelihood of British Columbians forgiving Premier Gordon Campbell for his drinking and driving charges in Hawaii, **Jessica Easton**, a psychotherapist who works with UBC's Centre for Applied Ethics, told *BCTV* that people can forgive Campbell because most are familiar with alcohol.

"In our culture we almost expect all adolescents will go through a time where they experiment with alcohol," said Easton.

Honesty may also have sown the seeds for public sympathy and people seem willing to give him a second chance. "We have enough evidence to believe that he is a functioning, capable man who acts on his word," Easton added.

Admission crunch

University administrators say they are beginning to turn away excellent students because financing of the post-secondary education system is not keeping pace with demand.

At UBC, the cut-off for Arts students has risen from 72 per cent in 1996 to 78 per cent in 2002, and from 82 per cent to 85 per cent in science.

UBC received so many applications in 2001 that it admitted 1,500 students more than the provincial government was willing to fund. But the university cannot afford to repeat the practice this year and so is using higher grade requirements as a tool to keep admissions in check, **Rosalie Phillips**, assistant registrar, undergraduate admissions told *The National Post*. □

Why Love Hurts

continued from page 1

In addition to clinical applications, Russell said the scale might have potential as a screening tool for marriage counselors assisting relationships where a level of abuse has not been disclosed and might also be of interest for members of the general population having trouble in their relationships.

Russell is also in the "very early stages" of talking to men's partners to determine if there are complementary beliefs that discourage women from leaving abusive relationships.

"In talking to clinicians, women take full responsibility for these relationships. They think it's up to them to make it work. They have a real sense of pride in how hard they try. There are a lot of practical reasons why women stay but are there beliefs that they have that contribute?" □

Board of Governors Approves Tuition Fee Increase

UBC's Board of Governors voted Jan. 27 to raise tuition fees by an average of 30 per cent for undergraduate students and 20 per cent for research-based graduate programs. Students in professional graduate programs such as Journalism, Architecture and Human Kinetics will see a 20-30 percent increase in their tuition fees. A differentiated undergraduate engineering fee will increase tuition for that program by 40 per cent.

At the same time, the Board mandated that 15 per cent of the 30 per cent base tuition increase be put towards student financial assistance; and that 20 per cent of any tuition increases beyond the 30 per cent base – such as the new engineering fees – will be allocated to student financial aid.

Vice-president, Students Brian Sullivan said that this year's increases were necessary because the university is still emerging from a prolonged period of frozen tuition fees in which the quality of programs suffered.

The additional tuition revenue for 2003-04, estimated at $28 million, will be used to attract and retain top-quality faculty, lower class sizes, improve course availability and financial assistance programs, and refurbish teaching facilities.

The new fee schedule will take effect in May 2003, except for students in the 12-month Bachelor of Education program, who won't have to pay more until September 2003.

Detailed information on the tuition fee proposal approved by the Board can be found at: http://students.ubc.ca/finance/tuitionpolicy/proposal.cfm □

UBC REPORTS

Director, Public Affairs
Scott Macrae scott.macrae@ubc.ca

Editor
Paul Patterson paul.patterson@ubc.ca

Design Director
Chris Dahl chris.dahl@ubc.ca

Designer
Sharmini Thiagarajah sharmini@exchange.ubc.ca

Contributors
Michelle Cook michelle.cook@ubc.ca
Brian Lin brian.lin@ubc.ca
Cate Korinth catekorinth@ubc.ca
Erica Smishek erica.smishek@ubc.ca
Hilary Thomson hilary.thomson@ubc.ca

Advertising
Cristina Calboreanu mccalbor@exchange.ubc.ca

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310 – 6251 Cecil Green Park Road
Vancouver BC Canada V6T 1Z1

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Double Cohort Presents Opportunity for UBC

A chance to attract the best and the brightest. BY MICHELLE COOK

A record number of Ontario students will finish high school this spring, and UBC officials say that's a good thing.

"We see the double cohort as an opportunity to attract some of Ontario's best and brightest high school graduates to contribute to our campus, in keeping with the *Trek 2000* goal of diversifying our student body," says Rosalie Phillips, assistant registrar, undergraduate admissions.

"British Columbia traditionally exports more students than it receives, and our out-of-province numbers have been down over the last few years, so we'd like to see a small increase in students from other provinces."

Ontario students from both Grades 12 and 13 will graduate this year, as the provincial government phases out Grade 13. The double cohort means about 75,000 students – 34,000 more than last year – are looking for spots at post-secondary institutions.

UBC has been actively recruiting in Ontario this year to make that province's top students aware of the opportunities here, and recruiters' efforts appear to be paying off.

As of Jan. 15, UBC's admissions office had received 2,244 applications from Canadian high school students applying from outside of B.C. Of those, approximately 750 were from Ontario. In the previous year, the total number of out-of-province applications received by the end of March was 2,248.

Phillips says it's difficult to compare the Ontario numbers with statistics from previous years because UBC hasn't tracked students from that province separately before. But she is quick to point out that the out-of-province application spike doesn't mean B.C. high school students applying to UBC will be displaced.

"There's no question that applications from Ontario and other provinces are increasing," Phillips explains. "But I think there's a lot of undue anxiety being created by the media coverage of the Ontario situation."

Even with Ontario's double cohort, Phillips says out-of-province students still account for only a small proportion of UBC's undergraduate applications. She adds that many students may only be looking at schools outside their province as a back-up plan.

"Ontario applicants who are good enough to get into UBC don't need a back-up plan, they'll likely get into the institution of their choice. Applicants with marginal grades won't be offered admission to UBC because we are a highly competitive institution," Phillips says.

As for the public concern that more applicants will blow admissions averages through the roof, Phillips says that it's too early to tell what this year's final cut-off grades will be.

"Admission averages are driven by the number of spaces available, and number and quality of applicants we receive. We fill our seats with top applicants. It's too early to guess what the final admission cut-offs will be because we haven't yet received or evaluated all the applications," Phillips says.

For a look at past UBC admission averages by program, visit http://students.ubc.ca/welcome/apply/averages.cfm □

Over the Top!

UBC United Way Campaign surpasses goal; Slonecker honoured for exceptional service

BY ERICA SMISHEK

2002 was a goal-smashing, record-breaking and award-winning year for the UBC United Way Campaign.

With final numbers still to come, the campaign raised at least $470,000 – well beyond the goal of $400,000 and more than any previous campaign.

"Maybe our goal for next year will be to change that four to a five," Deborah Austin, the chair of the 2002 campaign, said with enthusiasm.

Austin was nominated for the 2002 Employee Campaign Co-ordinator Award at the recent Scotiabank and United Way Community Spirit Awards, which annually celebrate the work and dedication of volunteers in the Lower Mainland. The UBC campaign was nominated for the Leadership Giving Campaign Award.

In addition, University Relations Director Charles (Chuck) Slonecker received the Individual Exceptional Service Award.

"Chuck has been a United Way champion at UBC for the past decade," said Natalie Meixner, vice-president of the United Way in the Lower Mainland. "He has worked closely with many exceptional Employee Campaign Chairs over the years and he has personally delivered pledge cards to each of the Leadership donors across the university campus."

PHOTO: JOSH BERSON

University Relations Director Charles (Chuck) Slonecker received the Individual Exceptional Service Award at the recent Scotiabank and United Way Community Spirit Awards. The Awards recognize the commitment of United Way volunteers in the Lower Mainland.

The campus had 137 leaders this year, who each gave $1,000 or more to the campaign.

"UBC has the largest number of Leadership donors of any United Way campaign in the Lower Mainland – a legacy created by Chuck," said Meixner. "He is a past member of our Campaign Cabinet and a true friend to United Way. Chuck will be retiring from UBC this year, but what he has achieved for our community will last a lifetime."

Austin expressed gratitude to Slonecker and the other volunteers who make such a vital difference to the campus campaign.

"We have 30-40 core planning members who come back time and time again," she said. "They know how to organize, they know who to contact, they have exceptional institutional knowledge, they are constantly knocking on doors and visiting deans and getting the word out."

Austin attributes the United Way's appeal to the fact that donations stay in the local community. The United Way of the Lower Mainland provides funding to more than 100 local agencies working to meet the health and social needs of a significant number of people in diverse situations.

"When you get in and you dig deeper, you realize that the United Way is truly a charity that looks at supporting needs area by area in our community," she said. "There is also the fact that people can target their donations. People just want to give and the United Way makes it very simple for them to do so." □

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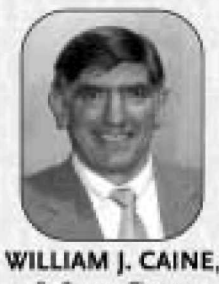

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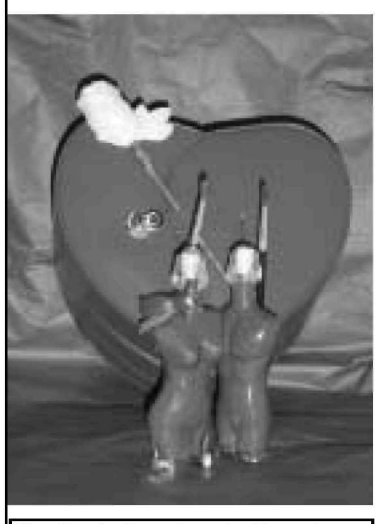

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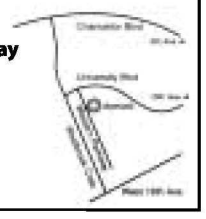

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UBC Sewage is Not a Waste

It's a dirty job, but UBC-developed technology is leading the way in how to do it

BY MICHELLE COOK

PHOTO: MARTIN DEE

Engineering Prof. Don Mavinic and plant manager Fred Koch show off the phosphorus fertilizer being extracted from UBC's waste water at the Biological Nutrient Removal Pilot Plant on campus.

It operates out of a humble looking pair of trailers parked alongside a ditch at the south end of campus, and it's been quietly helping to clean UBC's sewage for almost 20 years. But only lately have people worldwide begun to recognize the profound advances in waste water treatment that have been made at the university's Biological Nutrient Removal (BNR) Pilot Plant.

The small-scale pilot plant was built by the Civil Engineering Dept.'s Environmental Engineering Program in 1985. One of only two facilities of its kind in Canada, it treats about five per cent of the sewage generated on campus. This year the plant, the program and the department have been nominated for the prestigious Stockholm Water Prize. The international environmental award, on par with a Nobel prize, honours outstanding achievements in the protection of the world's water resources.

It all started with a few bugs.

The BNR plant uses naturally occurring microbes – or bugs – to remove nitrogen and phosphorus from the university's waste water. Once removed, these elements become by-products that can be re-used as fertilizer. It's an environmentally friendly approach to waste management that can also generate revenue through the sale of the fertilizer by-products. More and more municipalities worldwide are adopting it – based in large part on the research done at UBC over the last 20 years.

"We look at waste as a resource," says Prof. Don Mavinic, group leader of the Environmental Engineering Program and one of the BNR plant's founders. "If you look at it, it's a product, not a problem, and we call it integrated environmental technology."

Treating waste biologically is cheaper than the more conventional chemical method, Mavinic says. Unlike chemicals, there are no purchase costs, or costs to dispose of chemical-laced sludge that can't be put in landfills or incinerated.

"We basically set up the temperature and pH conditions for the bugs to do their thing, and they merrily go around and do the work of removing the nitrogen and phosphorus from the discharge stream," Mavinic says.

Helping them to get the mix just right is UBC's Dept. of Microbiology and Immunology, which has provided advice and research on the best "bugs" for the cleaning job. To date, 17 PhD students and 25 MASc students have carried out research at the facility.

The idea of getting bugs to do the dirty work wasn't developed at UBC. The technique originated in South Africa, but only for use in one temperature condition, making it ineffective in harsher climates. Bill Oldham, now professor emeritus in the Civil Engineering Dept. and another founder of the BNR plant, pioneered a way to adapt biological nutrient removal technology so that the bugs could do their work in all kinds of temperature conditions.

Today, advanced nutrient removal treatment technology is being purchased by municipalities around the world to treat their waste water. Globally, more than 20 per cent of eligible facilities have already adopted the biological approach. Canada's prairie provinces have switched over completely to biological nutrient removal techniques.

"We've developed a research and knowledge base that no one else in the world has at this scale," Mavinic says. "Municipalities from the European Union to Australia are purchasing and adapting the technology to treat their waste water."

The nitrogen and phosphorus-rich sludge by-product can be used in mining reclamation and in forestry activities. UBC is currently involved in projects at B.C.'s Kootenay and Arrow Lake dams to use fertilizer recovered from the BNR plant to help restore the balance of the nutrient content in the dams' reservoirs.

UBC has also partnered with B.C. Hydro, the municipality of Penticton, B.C. and the Greater Vancouver Regional District on a project to research the use of a pure phosphorus fertilizer, known as struvite.

This year's winner of the Stockholm Water Prize will be announced at the end of March. □

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February 22
Professor Linda Hutcheon
Department of Comparative Literature
and
Professor Michael Hutcheon
Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto
BEAUTY IS AS BEAUTY DOES: THE ETHICS AND "PHYSICK" OF OPERA

March 1
Dr. Alan Shotter
Director, TRIUMF, UBC
THE LIFE AND DEATH OF STARS

March 8
CECIL AND IDA GREEN LECTURE
Professor Elinor Ostrom
Co-Director, U.S. National Science Foundation
MANAGING RESOURCES IN THE GLOBAL COMMONS

March 15 UBC EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH LECTURE
Professor William Rees
School of Community and Regional Planning, UBC
IS HUMANITY FATALLY SUCCESSFUL?

March 22
Professor John Eakin
Department of English, Indiana University
WHAT ARE WE READING WHEN WE READ AUTOBIOGRAPHY?

March 29
Professor Peter Frost
Faculty of Commerce and Business Administration, UBC
TOXIC EMOTIONS AT WORK

April 5
Professor Lee Gass
Department of Zoology, UBC
A DECADE OF INNOVATION IN SCIENCE EDUCATION

All Vancouver Institute lectures are held on Saturdays at 8:15 p.m. in Lecture Hall No. 2 of the Woodward Instructional Resources Centre at the University of British Columbia. Admission to lectures is free and the public is invited to attend. Call 822 1444 for a program. For full information, visit our website at http//psg.com/~ted/vaninst/

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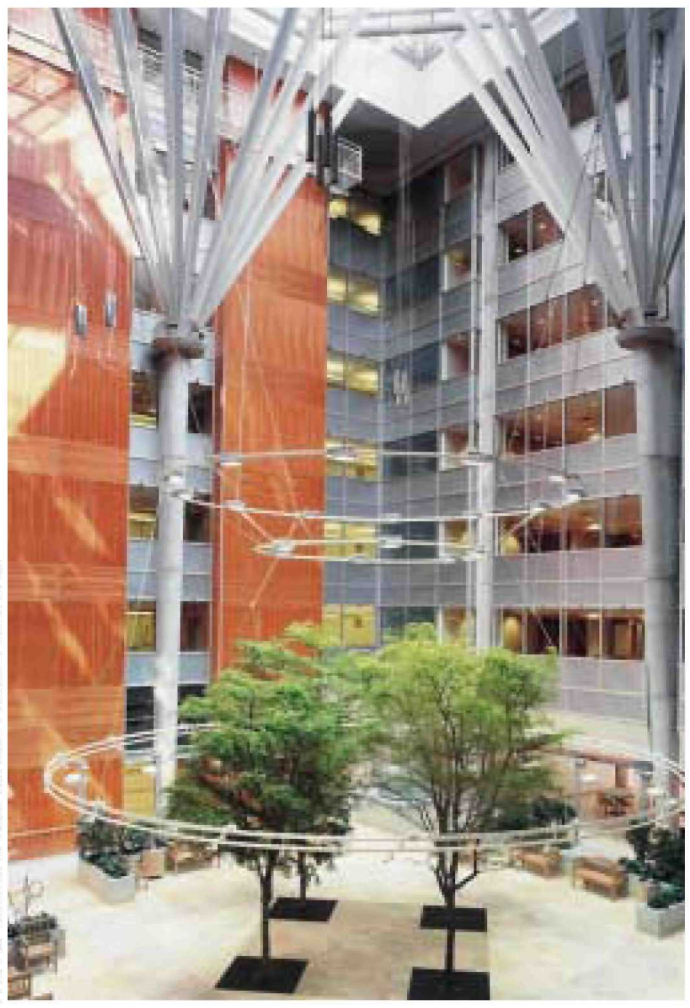

PHOTO: DIAMOND AND SCHMITT ARCHITECTS LTD.

A peek into the future shows the interior of UBC's new Life Sciences Centre, now under construction. The 40,000-sq.-metre centre is valued at $110 million and is located between Koerner Pavilion of UBC Hospital and parking Lot B. Part of the Faculty of Medicine expanded medical education program that seeks to double the number of medical students by 2010, the centre will house basic science departments and teaching and research labs. Construction completion is set for September 2004.

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Preventing Death

A Public Health Approach to Drug Use

BY RICHARD MATHIAS

Canada's drug laws kill Canadians.

In 1994, B.C.'s Coroner issued a report on inadvertent overdose deaths in British Columbia, concluding that these deaths were preventable and that a re-thinking of the drug-related laws was necessary and urgent. In the eight years since that report, a further 2,334 deaths have been ascribed to the inadvertent overdose category by the Coroner's Office. When drug associated deaths are tabulated over the period 1994 to 2001 there were 5,438 deaths, 3,683 directly and 1,756 indirectly attributed to non-therapeutic drugs. Unlike tobacco, these deaths are due to the modes of use rather than direct toxic effects and are mainly preventable, even if use continues, also unlike tobacco.

To draw attention to this issue without a solution would be an empty exercise. The United Nations General Assembly in 2001 called for drug policy that respected human rights, makes treatment available to dependent users and reduces the traffic in illicit substances. Dependency is a relapsing, chronic brain disease and must be treated as such. The ill person should be allowed to use their drug(s) so they can survive their dependency and give time for treatment. A public health approach will do this and will virtually eliminate trafficking, benefiting the individual and the community.

A public health approach has the primary goal of reduction of use of both licit and illicit psychoactive drugs. However, many people will use drugs because of the effects desired by the user, whether tobacco, alcohol, marijuana, ecstasy or other psychoactive drugs. Further goals are to prevent a drug user from becoming either an abuser of or a dependent on the drug. If this fails, the person with a drug dependency will be assisted to use the drug as safely as possible and offered treatment when that person consents to such treatment. When primary prevention and secondary goals fail, the drug user is not stigmatized for their decision and is able to survive through safe use of their chosen drug.

As with alcohol and tobacco, federal, provincial and municipal regulations would be used to control distribution and production. Points of sale would be regulated and would include information on use and possible adverse effects. Places of use would be licensed and would have some responsibility for monitoring use. The drugs sold would either be ingested, smoked or inhaled. These modes would be intended to reduce the risk of overdose and adverse effects.

If the user wished to use a drug by injection, it would be available only through a pharmacist or other professional knowledgeable about handling drugs for intravenous injection. The purity and sterility would be ensured and the syringe and needle could only be used once, thus eliminating sharing. Such syringes are currently available.

There are immediate and predictable effects of putting this public health-care approach in place. The illicit drug trade would be greatly reduced. With a reasonable cost of the drugs, and a reasonable supply of drugs, crime associated with the users would decrease. Drug seeking behaviours occur when a drug is not available. The violence associated with drug trafficking would be reduced as there would no longer be illegal supply networks competing for a lucrative market. The markets would now be legal, regulated and taxed. The monies raised by taxation on drug-related income through legal sources would now be available for use by governments at all levels. Agriculture, manufacturing and hospitality industries would all benefit.

As a society we abolished the death penalty for murder no matter how deliberate or how often repeated, yet we continue to have a de facto 'death penalty' for drug use. Governments have a responsibility to all citizens, even stigmatized drug users. The public health approach offers a strategy to prevent drug use within the larger framework of human rights and biomedical ethics. It has the capacity to address current health emergencies and to respond to future needs through program planning and evaluation.

All that is needed is the public and political will to change a failed approach with one more likely to be efficient and effective. The need is urgent. In B.C. alone, there are nearly three deaths per day associated with current drug laws. Each day's delay results in more infections, risks and deaths. It requires decisive immediate action by our legislators and our public health community to save Canadian lives.

Richard Mathias is a professor of Health Care and Epidemiology in UBC's Faculty of Medicine. □

Reach for the Stars Celebrate UBC Research

Research Awareness Week 2003

Forums focus on sustainability. BY HILARY THOMSON

How do we sustain our spirits, education and society?

These are some of the questions being discussed at Research Awareness Week (RAW) 2003, a series of free public forums and presentations focused on sustainability to be held March 8-15 at UBC's Point Grey and Robson Square campuses and partner hospital sites.

Usually associated with the environment, sustainability has broad implications for the kind of world we want to live in, says Sid Katz, executive director, Community Affairs, who has co-organized RAW with Nichola Hall, of UBC's Continuing Studies Dept.

"Sustainability is all-inclusive and key to the university's vision," says Katz. "It involves developing citizens who can create and maintain a civil society and a sustainable world."

UBC research projects look at sustainable systems in areas ranging from environment to human settlement and blood supply.

"The research and education link is vital to sustainability," says Indira Samarasekera, vice-president, Research. "UBC needs to be a model in this – producing young people who have learned through discovery and can carry knowledge forward when they're out in the community."

Panels of scholars from UBC and the community will debate topics including climate change and sustainable food systems in lunch-hour sessions at Robson Square March 10-14. The final session will be a day-long discussion of the Kyoto accord, co-presented with the Royal Society of Canada.

The future of sustainability education at UBC will be discussed at a workshop that looks at links between sustainable studies, global citizenship and ecological and social justice. Workshop results will contribute to the creation of an interfaculty program that addresses sustainable education.

Other RAW events include presentations of research posters and awards at B.C.'s Children's Hospital, UBC Library exhibits and workshops as well as booths and displays showcasing projects ranging from transportation to the future of the Georgia Basin.

The week's centrepiece is Celebrate Research 2003, a gala event to be held the evening of March 13 at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts where more than 200 research award winners will be honoured. There will be video vignettes of researchers explaining their work as well as entertainment provided by the University Singers, UBC Opera Ensemble with a special appearance by UBC Theatre, Film and Creative Writing program alumna and recent Governor General Award winner Joy Coghill.

For a complete listing of RAW events, link from the website at www.research.ubc.ca or call 604. 822.1700. For free tickets to Celebrate Research 2003, contact Laurie at celebrate.research@ubc.ca or 604.822.6010. □

Have Flak Jacket, Will Travel

A war correspondent's view from the trenches. BY ERICA SMISHEK

The Persian Gulf War brought us the Scud Stud, CNN's 24-hour news coverage and scathing criticism from news organizations about how the press had been controlled.

"The coverage of the Persian Gulf War is a lesson in how not to cover a war," says Stephen Ward, an associate professor at UBC's School of Journalism.

"Most reporters played the part of the home-patriotic press. They abided by the pool rules, they did not venture outside of certain zones, they got their information from military briefings complete with flashy videos."

As tensions between Iraq and the United States escalate, Ward knows the unique challenges war correspondents could face. Based in London in the early 1990s as the only staff reporter in Europe for Canadian Press, he covered the Gulf War as well as conflicts in Bosnia and Northern Ireland.

"Truth in war is difficult," he says. "You're only scratching the surface. Almost all your sources are manipulating you. You have to get outside of the military's protection and message. You must seek the truth from all sources and act independently.

"It's a disservice to your reader if you try to give them one truth about such a complex situation. There isn't one good guy or one bad guy. You have to talk about the causes, the impact, the dispositions on both sides of the conflict."

When Ward went to London in 1990, he thought he would write stories about "strange clerics in small towns." Instead he found himself in such places as Qatar (a country in the Persian Gulf) and Sarajevo, moving from hotel to hotel, fighting illness and a lack of medicine and food ("a jar of peanut butter and crackers will keep you alive for three days") and dodging sniper fire.

"I remember hitting the ground while snipers were all around us. I didn't know what was going on. One officer said to me, 'Don't worry. If you can hear the bullets going by, you're alright. You don't hear the bullets when they hit you.'"

To prepare for assignments, Ward read as much as possible about the country and cultures in question and established sources – embassy contacts, translators, guides. Once in the field, he had to master both logistics and the fine art of how to "sweet talk nervous border guards" and "figure out how to get into a country without arousing suspicions of the authorities."

"It takes an ability to survive and to think critically," Ward says of the unusual job. "You need proper gear (flak jacket, helmet, biological war suit), some training in how to survive under fire, physical stamina; you need to be prepared to write and report continually; a strong stomach; you have to be impervious to time zones; you need to doggedly keep after the story; there is also an extraordinary element of courage required and a desire and concern about the culture you're reporting on.

"So many reporters bring Canada along and operate with Canadian assumptions. But being a journalist in the field is really like being an anthropologist. You have to understand with cultural sensitivity the cultural knowledge, the history and the context of the country you're in."

Since 9/11 and the Pentagon restrictions that followed, Ward says the American media have struggled to remain independent and critical. He is concerned what access to information reporters will have if war breaks out in Iraq and also about the impact of technology on coverage.

"Now you have a blackberry [wireless handheld communication device] in the field. You're never far away from the home office. You can lose control of what you think the story is when your bosses are telling you what others are covering. You get this herd journalism – if CNN is doing it this way, we all have to do it."

Ward believes reporters must fight against this mentality and strive, as part of the global media, to explain the world to an international audience, give insight into the options ahead and be a watchdog of how governments are handling a crisis.

He recalls being in southern Turkey observing Canadian military medics attend to the wounded after the Bosnian crisis.

"Here I am with a note pad and a tape recorder. And I'm thinking, 'What am I doing? Well, I'm not a doctor. I will only make things worse if I try.' Then a woman put a piece of paper in my hand. When it was translated, it said, 'Thank you for being here. Please tell the world about this.'"

Despite the hardships, restrictions, ethical dilemmas and constant danger, Ward says nothing compares to being a war correspondent.

"It will change your whole view of life," he says. "As a Canadian, you don't see bodies in the streets and villages blown apart. You don't see the intensity of anger of an invading army. To see a sophisticated civilization collapse, to see the xenophobic barbaric actions of people, you realize it can happen anywhere. As a Canadian, I need to treasure freedom and democracy and not take it for granted." □

The coverage of the Persian Gulf War is a lesson in how not to cover a war

PHOTO: COURTESY OF STEPHEN WARD AND CANADIAN PRESS

UBC Journalism Assoc. Prof. Stephen Ward covered the Gulf War and conflict in Bosnia for Canadian Press. He was in Pristina, Kosovo in 1991 to cover tensions prior to the outbreak of hostilities between the Serb military and police and local Albanians.

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The University of British Columbia
Graduate & Faculty Christian Forum

Upcoming Lectures

Malcolm Jeeves
Emeritus Professor of Psychology, University of St. Andrews
The Ongoing Dialogue between Faith & Psychology: Conflict or Complementarity?
Wednesday February 12 – Woodward IRC 4 – 4:00 pm

Miroslav Volf
Professor of Systematic Theology, Yale Divinity School
Struggles in Religious Identity: Is Christianity a Violent Religion?
Monday March 10 – The Dodson Room, Main Library – 4:15 pm

Roger Lundin
Clyde S. Kilby Professor of English, Wheaton College
"Nimble Believing": Modern Literature and the Conflict of Interpretations
Monday March 17 – The Buchanan Penthouse – 4:15 pm

Email hill@mech.ubc.ca for further information

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Deadline for nominations is Feb 28, 2003

UBC ALUMNI

Martin Ertl, BSc'93, LLB (McGill)

Ships, Passing in the Night
(Martin Ertl Keeps an Eye on Them)

Since cutting the alma mater apron strings, Martin Ertl has made his mark in the off-campus world. He started out practicing law with Davis & Company, but soon craved a bigger challenge, and along with four friends he co-founded Navarik, a Vancouver-based company that develops software and Internet applications for the marine shipping industry.

Shipping companies generate numerous reports for regulatory bodies such as Customs, Immigration, and the Coast Guard. Navarik produced web-based systems that streamline incoming communications and automate outgoing documentation, ensuring vital information on cargo and vessel activity is secure, up-to-date and accessible to multiple parties.

The partners started the company in a difficult economic climate, but they were a committed group. The partnership is based on a friendship that began at UBC, where four of the five were active in the AMS (Martin was president from '92 to '93). Founded in June 2000, Navarik now employs 16 people and serves some of the world's best known shipping companies, including Petro-Canada and Star Shipping.

Not all of Martin's time is sucked up by Navarik. He was recently appointed to the NAFTA Advisory Committee on Private Commercial Disputes and he is a member of the Alumni Association's Board of Directors. He also plays hockey on a team he and a friend started ("Trinidad and Tobago Gold 2006") that competes in a Richmond league. The team currently plays in the league's lowest division, but Martin is quietly confident that the future will be full of victories.

AMS Wants to Know What Students Think of the U-Pass

Mid-February referendum will decide the issue

BY TARA LEARN, AMS VP EXTERNAL

What are your feelings on the U-Pass? This is what the AMS will be asking all UBC students Feb. 10-14 in the long awaited U-Pass referendum.

You've probably already heard the word "U-Pass" at some point or another, but many of you might still be wondering exactly what it is. The Universal Transit Pass (U-Pass) will give UBC students unlimited access to TransLink Bus, SeaBus and SkyTrain services (all zones), discounted West Coast Express fares, increased service and capacity on UBC routes, proposed discounts at participating merchants, and continued access to other UBC transportation programs. All this for a mere $20 per month for non-UBC housing students, and $15 per month for UBC-housing students – making the U-Pass a cheap, not to mention sustainable, form of transportation to and from campus.

If the U-Pass is approved in the February 2003 referendum, UBC will join more than 60 other universities in North America offering transportation passes including UVic, SFU, Calgary, Western, and Guelph.

So what does this mean for UBC students? In order to make up the cost of the U-Pass, students need to make only five return bus trips per month (four if you're in residence!). So if you and your friends want to go out to a bar downtown on Friday night, to Safeway during the week, or all the way to campus, all you have to do is hop on the bus.

The AMS has always been extremely vigilant around the bus service issue. What will happen when 38,000 students suddenly have a bus pass and decide to use it? Will it suddenly become more difficult to get on a bus because of overcrowding? TransLink has assured us that they will do everything that they possibly can to ensure that there are buses to accommodate all of these students. If this referendum passes, TransLink will add an additional 23,000 service hours to UBC. These new hours will be concentrated on the following lines: #99, #10, #480, #41, #43, #44, #25, #4, #49, and #258. There will also be a Service Review and Monitoring committee made up of representatives from the AMS, UBC and TransLink whose sole role is to ensure that the campus is adequately serviced.

If you would like to find out more information on the U-Pass you can check out the:

U-Pass web site www.upass.ubc.ca

U-Pass SUB booth (every day from 11a.m.-2p.m.)

U-Pass SUB forum (Feb. 10, 12-1p.m. SUB Conversation Pit)

There will be U-Pass forums and booths traveling around campus to ensure that every student knows everything they need to make an informed vote in the upcoming U-Pass referendum (check out www.upass.ubc.ca for times and locations).

If you still have questions send me an e-mail at vpexternal@ams.ubc.ca

Make sure you come on out and VOTE in the U-Pass referendum Feb. 10-14, 2003. See you there! □

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Email uwcvanc@telus.net

University Women's Club of Vancouver at Hycroft
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Putting an End to Expensive Print Journals

UBC group wants them online and free

BY CATE KORINTH

When scholars wish to gain status among their peers, they try to publish their work in prestigious academic journals.

For years, publishers of those academic journals monopolized and charged exorbitant fees for information that researchers believed belonged to the public.

Some of the journals such as the *Brain Research Bulletin* charge individuals as much as US $1,538 for 12 issues and US $3,383 for institutions.

A group of academics at UBC is out to change all this.

"Print journals are doomed," says UBC Education Prof. John Willinsky. "It's inevitable, all academic journals will be available online in the next five to 10 years."

The move from paper to Internet journals is gaining ground in all fields of research on campuses across North America.

Of the approximately 20,000 journals published worldwide today, about 15,000 are published both in print and online and there are more than 1,000 journals that can only be read on the Internet.

"Not only will all journals go digital, many will also be free of charge," predicts Willinsky.

At UBC's Public Knowledge Project (PKP) in the Faculty of Education, Willinsky and nine graduate students explore ways to use the Internet to publish high-quality research at no cost to readers.

"The proliferation of free journals reviewed by academics and posted on the Internet proves that free public access to research is possible and is already a reality," says Willinsky.

On the Internet, publishing costs are greatly reduced. Printing and mailing expenses vanish. And because authors own the copyright for their own research, they can ensure that it remains in the public domain.

PHOTO: CATE KORINTH

UBC Education Prof. John Willinsky sits on a stack of print journals he would rather see online.

The people who publish journals contend that they need the subscription revenue, whether publications are paper or electronic, to ensure the quality of the editorial process.

"That is simply not true," asserts Gene Glass, editor of *Education Policy Analysis & Education Review*, a free online journal published in Arizona.

"Quality standards for research are higher at Internet journals because their editorial boards often span cities and countries, bringing top academics in the field together on one board. Editors also respond electronically with their reviews in a matter of days," explains Glass.

To decrease editorial costs, graduate students at PKP wrote software to automate parts of the editorial process. Dozens of copies have been downloaded for free since November 2002, when PKP posted it on the web.

Rowly Lorimer, editor of the *Canadian Journal of Communications*, argues that for electronic journals, "site licenses or pay-per-view revenue will still be needed to maintain servers, pay for copy editing, proofreading and page layouts."

Lorimer's paper journal provides back issues for free on the Internet one year after print publication.

Instead of charging readers or delaying access, Willinsky suggests authors or their professional associations pay a small publishing fee.

To sample free journals online, check out www.csci.educ.ubc.ca/-publications/insights. □

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We seek an academic leader to be responsible for directing and developing the teaching and research and service programs of the Department. The Department has 57 full-time , 1 part-time and 106 clinical faculty members and attracts strong research support. The successful candidate should hold a Laboratory Medicine specialty qualification and have broad and proven administrative experience, substantial academic and clinical experience, a proven record of scholarly activity, and a commitment to undergraduate, graduate and post graduate medical education. Anticipated start date will be July 1, 2003.

Within PHSA and VCHA the successful candidate will be accountable for professional issues relevant to the strategic directions of the organizations. The candidate is responsible for quality of patient care and professional standards in conjunction with hospital heads and collaborates with the senior executives for physician workforce planning, recruiting and performance management.

Academic rank and salary will be commensurate with experience and qualifications. The successful candidate must be eligible for registration with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of B.C. and must be a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

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

Applications, accompanied by a detailed curriculum vitae and names of three references, should be directed by March 31, 2003 to:

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Instructional Resources Centre,
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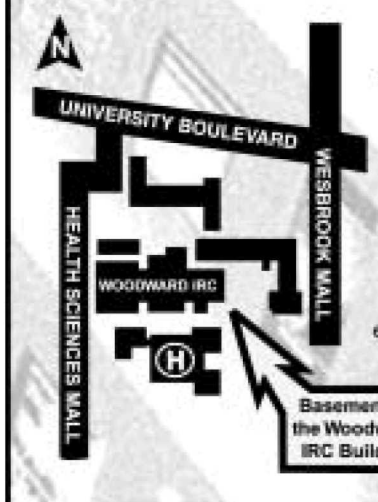

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Academic Integrity Series

Open to all members of the UBC Community

Universities across North America are being proactive in their attempts to engage their communities in discussions regarding Academic Integrity. In some quarters, these discussions are being motivated by concerns over the incidence of problems such as plagiarism. At others, the discussion focuses on educational opportunities and imperatives. At UBC, we would like to adopt this latter focus.

This fall, the Associate Vice-President, Academic Programs, in conjunction with the Centre for Teaching and Academic Growth (TAG), is offering a series of events to further the discussion of Academic Integrity. Each will take place in the Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies, 6331 Crescent Road. **You can register for one or more by visiting TAG's website at <www.tag.ubc.ca>.**

TurnItIn.com and Other Detection Strategies
Wednesday, February 12; 9:00 - 11:00 am
There are a number of web-based applications available today designed to help instructors detect plagiarism. Currently, UBC subscribes to one called TurnItIn.com. In this session, Paul Chwelos, from Commerce and Business Administration, will introduce people to this application, leading to a discussion of people's experiences with this and other plagiarism detection tools.

Research on Cheating
Wednesday, March 5; 4:00 - 6:00 pm
David Harpp, a member of the Chemistry Department at McGill, will discuss his research in cheating at that university. Participants will be invited to discuss the generalizability of Dr. Harpp's findings.

UBC Policies and Procedures Regarding Academic Integrity
Wednesday, March 19; 9:00 - 11:00 am
Panelists: *Brian Sullivan, Vice President, Students; Robert Reid, Professor, Faculty of Law, and Chair, Student Discipline Committee; Paul Harrison, Associate Professor, Botany and Associate Dean, Faculty of Science; Margery Fee, Professor, English and Associate Dean of Students, Faculty of Arts*
A university's position on Academic Integrity is only as good as the policies and procedures it has in place, and the ways in which these are followed. Our series concludes with a discussion of these important elements, featuring a panel consisting of people who work with our policies and procedures on a regular basis.

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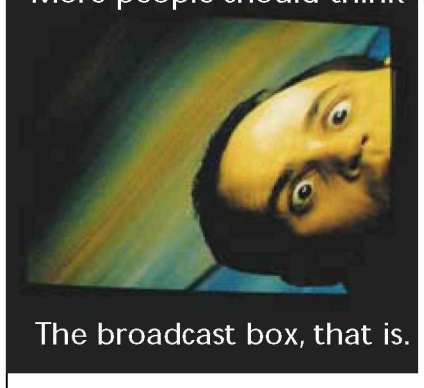
More people should think *inside* the box.



The broadcast box, that is.

Every day the news media look for UBC experts to interview – to share their knowledge and get the public thinking about issues.

Why does this matter to UBC faculty?

It's an opportunity to share your own teaching and research expertise with the rest of the world.

UBC Public Affairs has opened both a radio and TV studio on campus where you can do live interviews with local, national and international media outlets.

To learn more about being a UBC expert, call us at 604.822.2064 and visit our web site at www.publicaffairs.ubc.ca/experts/signup

UBC NEWS TV | RADIO

kudos

Studies that range from child psychology to stem cells have recently been recognized with UBC's top research prizes.

Economics Prof. Robert Evans has been given the Prof. Jacob Biely Faculty Research Prize and Assoc. Prof. of Chemistry David D.Y. Chen has received the Charles A. McDowell Award for Excellence in Research.

Evans is a health-care economist who is a senior research associate with UBC's Centre for Health Services and Policy Research and a Fellow of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research. He received his undergraduate degree in Political Economy from the University of Toronto and a PhD in Economics from Harvard University. He joined UBC in 1969.

An expert in health-care system analysis and reform, Evans has been asked by Canadian federal and provincial governments to provide advice based on his studies of health-care systems and policies. He has also been a consultant and lecturer on health-care issues to a number of governments and other public agencies in the U.S., Europe, Asia and the South Pacific.

Chen, who joined UBC in 1994, is an expert in analytical chemistry who looks at the effects of physical field and chemical equilibrium on molecules in liquids and gases to better understand their migration behaviour.

His work helped to improve the performance of electrospray mass spectrometry, an important tool in biomedical and other research that is used to identify and quantify chemical compounds.

The two awards are named for former UBC researchers. The late Charles McDowell headed UBC's Chemistry Dept. for 26 years. Biely, an internationally recognized poultry scientist, was a UBC faculty member from 1935-68. He died in 1981.

The UBC Killam Research Prizes have also been awarded. The $5,000 individual prizes are equally divided between arts and sciences disciplines.

This year's recipients are: Killam science (junior) – Biochemistry Assoc. Prof. Natalie Strynadka; (senior) – Chemistry Prof. Donald Douglas; Prof. of Physics and Astronomy Paul Hickson; Hematology Prof. Richard K. Humphries; Biochemistry Prof. Grant Mauk; Killam arts (junior) – Psychology Assoc. Prof. Alan Kingstone; (senior) – Psychology Prof. Charlotte Johnston; Economics Prof. Thomas Lemieux; Linda Siegel, associate dean and professor of Educational & Counselling Psychology and Special Education; and Classical, Near Eastern and Religious Studies Prof. Robert Todd.

Two members of UBC's medical community have been named to the Order of Canada.

Dr. David Bates, professor emeritus of Medicine, joined UBC in 1972 and served as dean from 1972-1977.

Regarded as a pioneer in the field of respiratory medicine in Canada, he helped to revolutionize the diagnosis of conditions such as chronic bronchitis and emphysema by demonstrating the importance of testing lung function. An expert in issues regarding air quality, Bates has lent his expertise to several national and international committees and commissions.

He retired in 1987 as a professor of Physiology and Medicine.

Dr. Peter J. Newbery has been a member of the Faculty of Medicine since 1985.

A family doctor who practices in New Hazelton in northwest B.C., Newbery is also a United Church minister and administrator, and has contributed to the delivery of health care in rural Canada by facilitating training and recruitment of hundreds of doctors for service in remote communities.

Newbery directs the post-graduate and enhanced skills programs in the Dept. of Family Practice. In 2000, he was awarded a UBC Faculty of Medicine Golden Jubilee Medal for outstanding contribution to the faculty.

The Order of Canada was established in 1967 to recognize outstanding achievement and service in various fields of human endeavour.

Borealis String Quartet reaches final of Great Canadian Music Dream

The Borealis String Quartet is one step closer to the Great Canadian Music Dream. The first resident professional string quartet on the UBC campus won the recent BC-Yukon portion of the biggest cross-Canada music talent search in CBC-TV's history.

The group will compete against winners from four other regions in the grand finale Feb. 26, which will be broadcast live at 8 p.m. from Hamilton Place in Ontario.

You can cast your vote for the Borealis String Quartet by phone or Internet prior to the finale from 12:01 a.m. (EST) Feb. 22 until 7 p.m. (EST) on Feb. 26. By phone – call 1.900.273.3333 and select using your touch-tone phone. You will be charged $1 per call with profits going to the Canadian Music Therapy Trust Fund. Only one call per phone number will be counted. Or vote online at cbc.ca/musicdream/vote.html. Only one vote per e-mail will be accepted.

Home audience votes cast via phone and Internet will be added to votes from the theatre audience and jury at Hamilton Place. The grand-prize winner will be announced at the end of the Feb. 26 broadcast and will receive a starring role in a CBC Television-CBC Radio Two special.

The Great Canadian Music Dream is a showcase for brand new musical talent working in a wide variety of genres. CBC received more than 4,000 responses to its call for entries in January 2002. Five selection committees across the country invited 82 acts to perform for the five audition juries that chose the 25 semi-finalists. □

TIME PIECE 1919

The return of students from war-time duty increased enrolment at UBC to 890 in 1919-1920. These veterans were studying engineering at UBC temporary headquarters at the former McGill University of BC facilities (nicknamed the "Fairview shacks" after the surrounding neighbourhood) adjacent to Vancouver General Hospital.