UBC Archives Serial

UBC Reports

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Streamline paper flow

Parking tag goes high tech

By PAULA MARTIN

The lowly parking ticket is going high tech at UBC.

Handwritten citations are being replaced by printed tickets generated by a portable, hand-held mini-computer that weighs less than two pounds.

UBC is the first university in Canada to use this leading-edge technology, said John Smithman, director of UBC's Parking and Security Services.

"I'm getting phone calls from across Canada," he said. "People are interested in how we are doing with this."

Between 40,000 and 50,000 tickets ranging from $10 to $25 are issued on campus each year, Smithman said, adding that they are a gentler form of persuading offenders to follow the rules than towing.

"Every time a ticket is written, it's an opportunity for communication, not only with the driver of the car you're ticketing, but with drivers of other cars in the area," he said.

"They're not important as a source of revenue. We get more revenue from selling and renting parking space than writing tickets."

Parking officers will now issue citations to offenders by entering information into the mini-computer on a pressure-sensitive keypad.

The ticket writers are programmed to ask for such information as licence plate numbers, province of origin and car models. Once that is done, the computer spits out a ticket the size of a grocery receipt which can be tucked onto the windshield, along with an addressed envelope.

John Smithman (left), director, Parking and Security Services, watches Patrolman Stan Romanowski issue a parking ticket using a new, computerized ticket writer.

The officer will also be able to see whether there are outstanding violations, or if the car is on a "hot list" of campus offenders. This information is stored in the main computer database and loaded into the ticket writer before staff go out on their shifts.

Smithman said the new system will streamline the paper flow and improve customer service.

"With a computer database, we can put in all ticket information, read it and analyze the data very easily," he said.

The seven ticket writers go into operation May 23.

But, it's not the final word in campus parking technology, Smithman added.

What's next? Programmable parking meters.

Market for rental housing collapsing, professor says

By PAULA MARTIN

Vancouver's rental housing market is collapsing, says a UBC planning professor in a study of rental housing trends in the city.

"There is market failure in the private rental sector," said David Hulchanski, director of UBC's Centre for Human Settlements.

Quality apartments are being lost at an alarming rate, he said.

"I'm surprised about the extent to which this good quality rental stock is being lost. The city has to do something about it, or there will be many less renters living in Vancouver."

Hulchanski's study was released at the same time as Vancouver Mayor Gordon Campbell, responding to the city's housing crisis, announced a new housing plan.

His proposal includes creating a new department of housing, demolition fees of $1,000 per unit, and help relocating tenants displaced by bylaw enforcements.

But Hulchanski said the mayor's plan won't help Vancouver renters find affordable housing.

"What he has announced doesn't address the problem in any way," Hulchanski said. "I don't see the sense in creating more bureaucracy."

Three of the four major segments of the city's rental stock are threatened, Hulchanski's research shows, including quality apartments, secondary suites in some neighborhoods and rooming houses in and near the Downtown Eastside neighborhood.

About 58 per cent of the households in the City of Vancouver rent. About one-third live in illegal suites or rooming house units, he said.

"Units in good quality apartment buildings are rapidly being lost to condo conversions," he said, noting that in 1987 and 1988, about 1800 rental units each year in Greater Vancouver were converted to condominiums.

"Very few new private rental units are being built in the City of Vancouver – only 315 last year – and that's nothing for a city of our size," Hulchanski added.

The construction of social housing units in Vancouver has fallen to the lowest level since 1981, with only 425 starts last year, he said.

Hulchanski said he would like to see a temporary moratorium on conversions, demolitions and evictions.

"We need to make some decisions about what kind of city we want to live in."

Medicinal use of plants

Thai princess guest lecturer

By GAVIN WILSON

UBC played host last week to a Thai princess who has earned international renown as an organic chemist.

Professor Dr. Her Royal Highness Princess Chulabhorn Mahidol -- her official title -- lectured at Woodward IRC and attended a private luncheon during her visit to campus.

The princess was on her way to officiate at the opening of the Fourth World Congress on the Conservation of the Built and Natural Environments, to be held May 23-27 at the University of Toronto. The congress is organized by Heritage Trust, a British charitable institution of which Princess Chulabhorn is honorary president.

She is using the opportunity to visit and lecture at several universities and research institutes from Victoria to Quebec City. She will later visit the United States.

In 1985, Princess Chulabhorn became the third person in the world to receive an Einstein Gold Medal from UNESCO in recognition of her continuing efforts in the promotion of scientific collaboration in Asia and the Pacific. She was also the first Asian invited to join the Royal Society of Chemistry in England.

Princess Chulabhorn of Thailand is accompanied by Larry Weiler (left), head of UBC's Chmistry department and K.D. Srivastava, Vice-President, Student and Academic Services.

She received her PhD from Mahidol University in Thailand in 1985 and has

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Federal budget impact minimal on UBC finances

By GAVIN WILSON

Changes to government transfer payments announced in last month's federal budget should have little impact on UBC's finances, Bruce Gellatly, Vice President, Administration and Finance, said.

Gellatly explained that transfer payments made to the provincial government for post-secondary education have not reflected funding levels for B.C. universities in the past, and he did not expect them to now.

"It's more of an issue between the federal government and the province than with us," Gellatly said.

Federal transfer payments to the provinces, which amount to $34-billion in cash and tax transfers each year, are made to assist the provinces to pay for health care and post-secondary education. Victoria's share of the federal funds typically goes directly into general revenue.

Under the new budget, released by Finance Minister Michael Wilson April 26, the growth of these transfers face new limits, but payments will not fall below the rate of inflation. The change is expected to cut federal expenditures by $200-million in 1990-91.

The impact on UBC of other aspects of the new federal government budget is still being assessed by university staff, Gellatly said.

But he added the greatest effect will likely result from changes to the unemployment insurance program. Beginning Jan. 1, 1990, the university and its employees will cover the entire cost of the program.

Currently, premiums paid by employers and employees cover 75 per cent of the cost of payments, with Ottawa covering the remainder with tax revenues.

The increased cost to UBC's annual operating budget will be about $600,000 for a total premium cost of almost $4.6-million. The increased cost for this fiscal year -- the change takes effect Jan. 1, 1990 -- is $150,000.

Full details of the proposed goods and services tax have not been released, but indications are that most education services, daycare and residential rents will be exempt.

As well, universities and hospitals will receive partial rebates of sales tax paid on purchases, as part of a government promise that they will not face new increases in costs as a result of tax reform.

Meanwhile, TRIUMF Director Erich Vogt said there is no indication that the new budget will jeopardize the $571-million KAON factory proposal, which requires a commitment of about $300-million from Ottawa.

TRIUMF staff are in the midst of an $11-million, 18-month engineering design and impact study for the KAON factory.

Victoria has already pledged $100-million and support from overseas

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'Cunning running'

Orienteering a growth sport

By JO MOSS

The first time Physical Education Professor Anne Anthony tried orienteering--an outdoor sport that's a combination of route finding and bushwacking--she got lost.

Despite that experience, she says the personal challenge and outdoor setting hooked her from the start.

During the past 20 years, she has taught orienteering courses and workshops, written about the sport and been a strong advocate of its use in education.

In 1974, she helped found the Orienteering Association of B.C., bringing the sport to the province which today has the largest and fastest growing group of orienteering enthusiasts in the country.

To the newcomer, orienteering looks like an organized form of cross-country madness. Using a specially designed map, participants traverse an outdoor area equipped with a compass looking for a sequence of orange and white control markers. As each is located, an identifying mark is punched on a scorecard.

It's often called the "thinking sport" and Australians term it "cunning running."

"You're given all the pieces of the puzzle, the map tells you where you can go, and what you have to find. Your job is to decide for yourself the best route to travel," Anthony explained.

Course areas range from the Endowment Lands park to wilderness areas in B.C.'s Interior. Serious competitors run the course counting the minutes. Other participants walk, jog, or scramble for an hour or two. It's a tortoise and hare event except that everyone who completes the course is a winner.

B.C. has eight orienteering clubs with a total membership of about 560. About 3,000 people take part in the sport Canada-wide. Competition statistics show the bulk of participants are over 35 and families are predominant. About a fifth are under 19.

Enthusiasts participate year round, even orienteering during the winter on cross-country skis.

Despite initial concerns about the effect of orienteering on the environment, research has shown it does not cause environmental damage, Anthony said.

Anthony credits the sport's broad appeal to the personal satisfaction each person gains by completing the course while enjoying a wide variety of outdoor settings.

The underlying philosophy of orienteering is participation before comparison with others, she says. While a sense of adventure is helpful, age and fitness level are no barrier because course events are designed for different levels of ability.

"The beauty is that it caters to a whole variety of people. That's why it is both a family activity and a sport for life."

In the classroom, children can benefit from orienteering as an outdoor lesson, Anthony said. Through orienteering activities, children can learn to read maps for social studies, identify trees for science classes, or write about the experience as an English lesson.

"It's a springboard to other outdoor activities," she said. "The possibilities are endless."

The Australians invented ROGAINE--Rugged Outdoor Activity Involving Navigation and Endurance--for orienteering participants who enjoy fast hiking and want a more rugged challenge. It's a demanding 24-hour event, in which groups of two or more competitors try to locate markers on an area as large as 200 square kilometres. With the first Canadian event held in Alberta last year, ROGAINE is fast attracting its own following.

About 160 people are expected to take part in a ROGAINE at the UBC/Malcolm Knapp Research Forest in Maple Ridge, June 10 and 11. Sponsored by Maple Ridge Rogaine, the event starts Saturday, June 10 at noon.

Humorous lectures have advantages

By GAVIN WILSON

You don't need the wit of Oscar Wilde or the irreverence of Groucho Marx to make effective use of humor in the classroom.

But faculty members might be more successful if they would lighten up, learn to relax and make their students smile, says Charles Siegel, assistant professor in the Theatre department.

Siegel, who gave a faculty development seminar on humor in the classroom last month, said a little breeziness can offer much more than the obvious benefit of keeping the audience attentive.

"It is the great teachers that you remember -- not the courses -- because of the life examples they provide," he said. "If you can communicate some excitement, delight and enjoyment for the life of the mind, then you've given them something much more valuable than simply transmitting the curriculum."

Instructors do not need to be stand-up comics or exciting public speakers as they use humor to communicate.

During the seminar, Siegel drew on his background as an actor to lead participating faculty members through acting exercises.

The idea is not to change yourself into someone you're not, but to change the way you relate to others, he said. Siegel advises instructors to downplay their status and authority in the classroom and approach students on a more equal footing.

Siegel

"If you think of your students as junior colleagues, then you'll be more relaxed and open and more likely to let the fun side of yourself show," he said.

Getting your mind off yourself and onto others is the key to escaping self-consciousness.

To be funny, you don't have to memorize jokes or be uncommonly witty. Incongruity is the basis of humor, so Siegel advises surprising people by coming up with the unexpected.

"All humor is based on the juxtaposition of things that don't belong together," he said. "Get playful, have fun with it and don't worry if it doesn't always make perfect sense at the time."

Traditional medicine plays important role

Continued from Page 1

since lectured throughout Europe, Asia and the United States and has been awarded a number of honorary degrees.

During her lecture here, which was sponsored by the department of Chemistry and the Chemical Institute of Canada, Princess Chulabhorn said that her nation's indigenous plants provide a wealth of species for research. Thailand has a long history of using plants and natural products as medicine. Even today, these traditional folk medicines play an important role in health care in remote regions of the country, she said.

She heads the Chulabhorn Research Institute, which is dedicated to the study of natural products and medicinal plants.

At the institute and at universities and botanical gardens in Thailand, natural compounds are being isolated and examined for their potential use as anti-inflammatories, muscle relaxants, cancer treatments and other medications, she said.

On her arrival, the princess was presented with a bouquet of flowers on behalf of the friends of Thailand by Dr. Chirayu Udomsakdi, a Thai native who is a post-doctoral fellow at the Terry Fox Lab in the B.C. Cancer Research Centre.

The princess then attended a luncheon at the Faculty Club, where Chancellor Leslie Peterson was the host.

The princess, 31, is the youngest daughter of King Bhumibol, head of state in the Thai constitutional monarchy, and Queen Sirikit. She is married and has two daughters, aged five and six.

KAON ideal for times, director says

Continued from Page 1

governments is growing. Recent government reports from West Germany and the U.S show strong support for the KAON proposal, Vogt said.

The KAON factory would double the number of TRIUMF staff and create many more jobs during a five-year construction phase.

"KAON is an ideal project for times of fiscal restraint," Vogt said, explaining that it does not require heavy front-end spending. "It's a long-term project."

Bruce Macdonald (left) director of the Botanical Garden and J. Henry Eddie, son of Henry M. Eddie and a founding trustee of the Henry M. Eddie Plant Development Foundation, in front of Eddie's White Wonder.

Botanical Garden starts foundation for plant scheme

By PAULA MARTIN

UBC's Botanical Garden has established a foundation to boost its internationally renowned Plant Introduction Scheme.

The Henry M. Eddie Plant Development Foundation, named after one of B.C.'s most acclaimed nurserymen, will fund plant research and development.

"A successful plant introduction program must have plants in line for many years ahead, otherwise its objectives decline," said Bruce Macdonald, director of the Botanical Garden.

"Plant breeding is to be the priority, especially using existing collections in the Asian and Native gardens and the nursery," he added.

Macdonald said that $217,000 has already been pledged towards the $1-million endowment goal of the foundation, which will be administered by a 10-member board of trustees, chaired by John A. Kaye of Adera Nurseries in Sidney.

The Plant Introduction Scheme, which began in 1980, provides new and improved plant material to participating nurseries in B.C. for selling across Canada and for export.

It is operated in cooperation with the B.C. Nursery Trades Association, the B.C. Society of Landscape Architects, and research institutions in Canada and the U.S.

Macdonald said funding is imperative for the program to retain its leading edge worldwide and expand into new areas of research, plant development and education.

Five research institutions in Britain, the United States and Eastern Canada have modelled plant introduction schemes on the UBC program, he added.

Henry M. Eddie established nurseries in the Fraser Valley, Vancouver and Washington State. As a pioneer in the B.C. nursery industry, he was best known for his breeding and selection work on hardy plants.

His most notable contribution was the internationally renowned Dogwood tree Cornus 'Eddie's White Wonder,' which was chosen Vancouver's centennial tree in 1986.

Native plant project set up

UBC's Botanical Garden will carry out a project to identify and propagate B.C.'s native plants for commercial production.

Under the project, announced last month by federal Agriculture Minister Don Mazankowski and B.C. Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries John Savage, selected native plants will be provided to nurseries to increase the stock for commercial production.

The introduction of new plants is a key to viability and growth of B.C.'s nursery industry, Savage said.

The federal and provincial agriculture ministries are jointly contributing $99,616 to the project. The B.C. Nursery Trades Association and the Botanical Garden are contributing $36,000 toward the project cost.

The Westcoaster is UBC's entry in the Shell-sponsored Fuelathon in Oakville, Ont. The engineering team is (left to right): Russ Sothers, Steve Farmer, Colin Armstrong and Peter Lister.

Fuel efficient vehicle to compete for prize

By JO MOSS

Four UBC engineering students and a unique fuel-efficient vehicle are in the running for first prize in the annual Shell Canada Fuelathon competition in Oakville, Ont., May 23, 24 and 25.

The students, Colin Armstrong, Steve Farmer, Peter Lister, and Russ Sothers, will be competing against their peers from universities and colleges across Canada in a contest to see which vehicle consumes the least amount of fuel in five laps of a set course.

The 29 teams will try to break the world amateur record of 5,691 miles per imperial gallon set by University of Saskatchewan engineers in 1986. Team members stand to win $7,500 in prize money for their department. The awards are intended to help provide equipment or facilities.

UBC has entered a team in the Fuelathon three times, but has yet to place in the top three.

This year's entry is a completely new vehicle, Lister said. Body and chassis are made of kevlar, a composite material which is lighter and stronger than other construction materials. The total vehicle weight is about 29 kilos. Strictly motor-powered, it runs on premium unleaded gasoline.

"It has a better steering system, a more efficient motor, and it's overall more aerodynamically efficient," Lister said.

Called the Westcoaster, the vehicle is painted university colors--white with blue and gold stripes.

UBC's team is sponsored by the university, the Association of Professional Engineers of B.C., Lotto B.C. and General Motors, which is loaning a van for the drive to Oakville.

The team is also entered in a second competition, June 2 and 3, sponsored by the Society of Automotive Engineers, an international organization based in the United States.

Seniors need less care, more chances to learn

By GREG DICKSON

The ability of the elderly to learn and teach is routinely underestimated and misunderstood, a seniors education conference at UBC was told.

"There is very little discussion about the educational rights of older adults and their access to greater educational opportunities," said Jim Thornton, the UBC Adult Education professor who organized the conference.

Thornton said access to lifelong education is often limited for the elderly and is made more difficult for older women and seniors who are handicapped, or come from ethnic minorities.

"The provision of lifelong learning is critical to developing the communities we want for the growing number of older people," he said.

The media is not helping to promote the interests of seniors, according to Charlotte Matthews, president of the National Advisory Council on Aging for Health and Welfare Canada.

"Poor attitudes, stereotypes and myths are seen in the media. They try to scare us. But there is no geriatric crisis, and the elderly must not be seen as a problem," she told the conference.

Matthews said there is a new generation of seniors needing less care and more education.

"An increasing number of Canadians are living longer and happier lives than ever before. But at the same time, the major task facing the country is adapting social institutions to this new reality," she said.

Matthews said the education seniors received in their youth is not enough to prepare them for today's world. She urged governments and educational institutions to recognize the need for seniors education.

"Seniors have the ability to learn. It is only for the very old that a substantial decline in intellectual competence becomes a problem," she said.

Computer communications on campus set for upgrade

By JO MOSS

Computer communications on campus are slated for an upgrading.

A report from the President's Review Committee of the Computing Centre, released earlier this year, recommends a number of changes to streamline information technology facilities and services on campus, improve computer and data network services, and better coordinate communications policy and planning.

The recent advances in PC technology and an expanding data communications network linking UBC to institutions around the world, has increased the demand for better organization and central support services on campus, said K.D. Srivastava, Vice-President Student and Academic Services.

"Campus data network and communication services are scattered and it is vital that they all be brought together," he added.

Jack Leigh, director of UBC's Computing Centre said mainframe timesharing computing is becoming less central to academic computing as personal workstations become more widespread and powerful.

"By the mid-1990s we envisage a server/workstation environment with server-based services provided by organizations like ours," Leigh said.

Information technology resources and services are critical to universities, the committee's report adds, because faculty and staff are dependent on good computing for the calibre of their teaching and research.

Other Canadian universities are also investigating ways to accommodate the impact of the burgeoning technology.

The committee recommended a number of new positions, units, committees and boards on campus and outlined their responsibilities. It proposed a simplified and streamlined reporting structure. And it dealt with some specific technical issues, such as the future of the mainframe computer operating system, MTS.

Some of the major recommendations are:

Establish a new Associate Vice-President post to take charge of all UBC's communications, computing operations and information technology services. The position is essential to any reorganization of campus facilities and services, the report says.

Strengthen the existing Computer Advisory Board and broaden its mandate to include policy, plans and budgets for all communications, computing and information systems at the university. The board had previously dealt only with administration-related issues. Its new mandate will also include academic issues.

The committee recommended a planning board, made up of faculty and department representatives, replace the existing Campus Advisory Board on Computing. The new board would ensure input from the entire campus community and take an active role in developing strategies for information technology.

One of the first issues the board will address is a gradual phasing out of MTS services. The board will investigate UNIX as an industry-compatible replacement.

The committee also proposed splitting network services off from Computing Centre operations and putting them under a new department of Communications Services. The new department would also be in charge of telecommunications, the broadband cable system, and the satellite television service.

It was also proposed that the Computing Centre be renamed the department of Computing Services, to reflect more accurately its functions.

Some of the recommendations have been officially accepted by the President's Office and setting up network services as a separate department will likely be the first step, Srivastava said.

Phasing out MTS and creating the Associate Vice-President position are also high on the university's priority list, he said.

Committee reports are available from the President's Office and Deans' offices.

Special Olympics planned for UBC

UBC will be the host for part of the 1990 Canadian Special Olympics Summer Games--a national competition for mentally handicapped athletes--next summer.

It is the first time since their inauguration in 1981 that the games have been held in B.C.

In conjunction with the event, UBC's School of Physical Education and Recreation is co-sponsoring, with the B.C. and Canadian Special Olympics Associations, a unique conference on the role of sport and physical activity in the lives of mentally handicapped people.

The International Conference on Sport, Recreation, Fitness and Health for Mentally Handicapped People will run July 12 to 14 and is expected to attract both professional and lay people working in the area.

More than 800 athletes from across Canada will be in B.C. for the Special Olympics which run for five days, July 10 to 15, 1990. Athletes range in age from 13 to 77 and compete in seven events--track and field, power lifting, rhythmic gymnastics, aquatics, soccer, 5-pin bowling, and 10-pin bowling--staged in Vancouver, Burnaby and Richmond parks as well as at UBC, where the B.C. Special Olympics Association is also planning to run training clinics for coaches and athletes in various sports.

People

YWCA honors Levy

Microbiology Professor **Julia Levy** was one of six women honored at the sixth annual YWCA Women of Distinction awards dinner May 11.

Levy

Levy was singled out for her achievements in the fields of health and education. Her current research centres on a cancer therapy called photodynamics, in which light is used to activate complex, naturally occurring molecules called porphyrins that destroy cancer cells while leaving healthy ones unaffected.

Levy is a founder and Vice-President of Research and Development at Quadra Logic Technologies Inc., a Vancouver-based biotechnology company. She is also a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and holds a Medical Research Council of Canada industrial professorship. Past honors include a Killam Senior Research Award and a B.C. Science Council Gold Medal. In 1987, she was appointed by Prime Minister Brian Mulroney to the National Advisory Board of Science and Technology.

Dr. Morton Low, UBC's co-ordinator of Health Sciences, has been elected a member of the Queen's University Council for a six-year term.

Dr. Low, a Queen's graduate, will start his term May 1.

The council is not directly responsible for the affairs of Queen's University but advises the Senate and Board of Governors on matters affecting its well-being and prosperity.

Physics Professor **Tom Tiedje** has won the 1989 Herzberg medal from the Canadian Association of Physicists. The medal is awarded each year to the most outstanding physicist in Canada under the age of 38.

Tiedje

Tiedje is operator of the university's molecular beam epitaxy machine and a leading researcher in the field of semi-conductor thin film surfaces and interfaces.

The award is named for Gerhard Herzberg, who in 1971 became the first Canadian to win a Nobel Prize in the physical sciences.

calendar

May 21 - June 4

Two mannequins wear traditional Peruvian wedding garments as part of a display entitled "A Family Affair:Making Cloth in Taquile, Peru," at the Museum of Anthropology until Oct. 1. The exhibition is produced by MOA curator Mary Frame who spent six years studying and visiting Peru.

SUNDAY, MAY 21

Holy Communion
Lutheran Campus Ministry, 5885 University Boulevard. 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24

Orthopaedics Grand Rounds
Chairman: Dr. P.J. O'Brien, Guest: Dr. J. Vestrup. For information call 875-4646. Auditorium, EyeCare Centre. 7:30 a.m.

Biotechnology Laboratory Seminar
Lipocortin/Calpactin Family of Proteins. Dr. Michael J. Crumpton, Deputy Director of Research, Imperial Cancer Research Fund, London, England. For information call 228-4838. Lecture Hall #1, IRC Bldg. 4 p.m.

Psychiatry Academic Lecture
Sex History-Taking. Dr. William L. Maurice, Associate Professor and Head, Division of Sexual Medicine, UBC. For information call 875-2025. Room D308, Acute Care Bldg., University Hospital, Shaughnessy Site. 8:30-9:30 a.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 25

Biotechnology Laboratory Seminar
Expression Cloning and Regulation of Steroid-5a-Reductase; an Enzyme Essential for Male Sexual Differentiation. Dr. David Russell, Department of Molecular Genetics, U. of Texas Southwestern Medical School, Dallas. For information call 228-4838. Lecture Hall #1, IRC Bldg. 4 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 26

Paediatrics Grand Rounds
Intrauterine Growth Retardation: Fact and Fancy. Dr. Joseph Warshaw, Professor and Chairman, Department of Pediatrics, Yale U. For information call 875-2117. Auditorium, G.F. Strong Rehab. Centre. 9 a.m.

Medical Genetics Seminar
Recent Experience and New Concepts of Congenital Rubella Syndrome. Dr. Aubrey Tingle, UBC. For information call 228-5311. Room D308, University Hospital, Shaughnessy Site. 1 p.m.

Obstetrics and Gynaecology Weekly Grand Rounds
Thyroid Function and Dysfunction in Obstetrics and Gynaecology. Dr. Roland Lauener, Department of Medicine, Vancouver General Hospital. Room D308, University Hospital, Shaughnessy Site. 8 a.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 28

Holy Communion
Lutheran Campus Ministry, 5885 University Boulevard. 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, MAY 29

Performance, Dance
The Social Movement Boogie. Roy Forbes, Holly Arntzen, Simple Folk, Santiago. Tickets $10. Please order in advance. For information call 222-5261. Ballroom, SUB. 8:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, MAY 30

Health Policy Research Unit Seminar
The Competition Reveolution: The Lessons (if any) for Australia. Richard B. Scotton, Ph.D., Public Sector Management Institute, Monash U., Melbourne, Australia. For information call 228-4822. Room 253, James Mather Bldg. 1:30 p.m.

Regional Mass Spectrometry Discussion Group
New Mass Spectrometry Instrumentation and Software from Finnigan Mat. Dr. Ron Skinner, Finnigan Mat Corp. Room 126, Chemistry Bldg. 3 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31

Orthopaedics Grand Rounds
No Conference. For information call 875-4646. Auditorium, Eye Care Centre. 7:30 a.m.

UBC Reports is published every second Thursday by the UBC Community Relations Office, 6328 Memorial Rd., Vancouver, B.C., V6T 1W5. Telephone 228-3131.
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Editor: Howard Fluxgold
Contributors: Greg Dickson, Paula Martin, Jo Moses, Gavin Wilson.

CALENDAR DEADLINES

For events in the period June 4 to June 17, notices must be submitted on proper Calendar forms no later than 4 p.m. on ***Tuesday, May 23*** *to the Community Relations Office, 6328 Memorial Rd., Room 207, Old Administration Building. For more information call 228-3131.*

THURSDAY, JUNE 1

National Film Board Presentation
Images for a Peaceful Planet. Lanie Melamed, Peace Educator, Montreal. Films available for peace education. Admission $25. For information call 222-5261. Lecture Hall #1, IRC Bldg. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

First Nations House of Learning
A Celebration in honour of the First Nations graduates of UBC will be held at the Totem Park ballroom. Join us. For information call 228-4685. Ballroom, Totem Park. 12:30 p.m.

Vancouver General Hospital Grand Rounds
Neurological Disease and Selective Neuronal Death. Dr. Donald B. Calne, Belzberg Family Professor of Medicine, Head, Division of Neurology, University Hospital, UBC Site. For information call 228-4305. Lecture Hall B, Heather Pavilion, VGH. 9 a.m.

NOTICES

Japanese and Mandarin Intensive Weekend at Whistler
Non-credit conversational Japanese and Mandarin classes will be offered May 20-22, 1989 at the Nancy Greene Lodge. Meals and tuition are included in the $280 fee. For more information and a brochure, please call Language Programs and Servies, Centre for Continuing Education at 222-5227.

National Conference on Active Citizenship
May 28-31. People, Power, Participation. Writers: Michael Ignatieff, Heather Menzies; community development specialist Guy Dauncey; Frithjof Bergman, U. of Michigan. UBC Centre for Continuing Education co-sponsoring. Fee $225. For information call 222-5218. IRC Bldg.

Occupational Health and Safety Seminar
May 23/24. Laboratory Biosafety: Principles and Practices. Several speakers from various departments. For information call 228-7052/7596/2029. Lecture Hall #4, IRC Bldg. 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

UBC's space experiment may help ease back pain

By GREG DICKSON

A West German astronaut training at UBC for a U.S. space shuttle mission in 1991 believes an experiment developed at the university could help people suffering from back problems.

"I think the research here is not only important for astronauts. It's also important in a more general way to find out what happens to the human spine," Ulf Merbold told a news conference at University Hospital.

Merbold experienced the back pains common to most astronauts when he participated in an earlier shuttle flight.

"In my case, it was not particularly dramatic, but it did wake me up in the night."

In space, the spines of astronauts grow 4 1/2 to 6 1/2 centimetres under weightless conditions. The UBC experiment will use photography to record changes in the height and curvature of astronauts' spines.

"It's interesting to figure out how the body responds when you take the weight off the spine. It could be helpful to a wide number of people suffering with back pain in daily life," Merbold said.

The West German was one of four astronauts training at UBC last week. Two Canadians, Roberta Bondar and Ken Money are also candidates for the 1991 mission.

"What we're doing right now is visiting the principal investigators at UBC and other universities to see how they think, and familiarize ourselves with the hardware," said Bondar.

The astronauts also trained to conduct a second UBC experiment that studies how the zero-gravity of space affects a technique designed to separate living cells.

The experiment could lead to advances in the treatment of cancer and diabetes.

CUPE local votes on pact

Members of the Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 2950, will vote May 25 on a tentative contract settlement with the university.

The agreement, reached May 1, must also be ratified by the university's Board of Governors. Terms of the agreement won't be released until the pact has been ratified by both sides.

The union represents about 1,350 clerical, secretarial and library assistants on campus.

Meanwhile, talks were slated to begin with the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 882. The IUOE contract is the last round of collective bargaining to take place on campus in 1989.

Asian Studies
The Hashioka Noh Theatre Troupe from Japan presents: The Noh play Tsuchigumo and Aoi-no-Ue and the Kyogen skit Boshiban. Tickets $12.50 at Ticketmaster outlets or call 280-4444. Frederic Wood Theatre. 8 p.m. May 30-31.

Golf Lessons
Get into the swing of things with adult golf lessons. Classes run throughout the spring and summer for basic and intermediate levels. For more information please call the Community Sport Services Office at 228-3688.

UBC Tennis Centre
Adult and junior; spring and summer tennis lessons. Day, evening and weekend sessions available. For more information call 228-2505.

Friends of the Garden
Wednesday Walks: An Introduction to the Botanical Garden. Meet at the Gatehouse. Admission: Free. Tour: Free. Spend your lunch hour at the Botanical Garden. For information call 228-3928. 1 p.m.

Statistical Consulting and Research Laboratory
SCARL is operated by the Department of Statistics to provide statistical advice to faculty and graduate students working on research problems. For information call 228-4037. Forms for appointments available in Room 210, Ponderosa Annex C.

Volunteering
To find an interesting and challenging volunteer job, get in touch with volunteer connections, the on-campus information and referral service supported by the AMS. Student interviewers are trained to help UBC students, staff and faculty find volunteer jobs in their area of interest. For an appointment to explore the available volunteer options, contact: Volunteer Connections, Student Counselling and Resources Centre, Brock Hall 200, or call 228-3811.

Walter Gage Toastmasters
Wednesdays. Public Speaking Club Meeting. Speeches and tabletopics. Guests are welcome. For information call Sulan at 597-8754. SUB. 7:30 p.m.

International House Reach Out Program
"Reach Out" is a letter-writing program linking Vancouver correspondents with international students accepted to UBC, whose aim is to provide those students with helpful information and a local contact. It's a great way to make new friends and learn about other countries. For more information call International House at 228-5021. Both Canadians and Internationals welcome.

International House Language Exchange Program
Ongoing. Free service to match up people who want to exchange their language for another. For information call Mawele Shamaila, International House at 228-5021.

International House Language Bank Program
Free translation/interpretation services offered by International students and community in general. For information call Teresa Uyeno, International House at 228-5021.

International House
Fitness classes continuing over the summer. $5 per term. Register for this term at I.H. Office NOW. For information call 228-5021.

Lung Disease Subjects Wanted
We are seeking interstitial lung disease subjects in order to study the effect of this disorder on response to submaximal exercise. For further information call Frank Chung at 228-7708, School of Rehab. Medicine.

Department of Psychology
Individuals 18 and older are needed for a research project on changes in memory across the adult life span. For information call Jo Ann Miller at 228-4772.

Parenting Project
Couples with children between the ages of 5 and 12 are wanted for a project studying parenting. Participation involves the mother and father discussing common childrearing problems and completing questionnaires concerning several aspects of family life. Participation will take about one hour. Evening appointments can be arranged. Interpretation of questionnaires is available on request. For information please contact Dr. C. Johnston, Clinical Psychology, UBC at 228-6771.

Teaching Kids to Share
Mothers with 2 children between 2 1/2 and 6 years of age are invited to participate in a free parent-education program being evaluated in the Dept. of Psychology at UBC. The 5-session program offers child development info and positive parenting strategies designed to help parents guide their children in the development of sharing and cooperative play skills. For further information call Georgia Tiedemann at the Sharing Project 228-6771.

Fitness Appraisal
Physical Education & Recreation, through the John M. Buchanan Fitness and Research Centre, is administering a physical fitness assessment program to students, faculty, staff and the general public. Approx. 1 hour, students $25, all others $30. For information call 228-4356.

Surplus Equipment Recycling Facility
All surplus items. For information call 228-2813. Every Wednesday Noon - 3 p.m. Task Force Bldg, 2352 Health Sciences Mall.

Neville Scarfe Children's Garden
Visit the Neville Scarfe Children's Garden located west of the Education Building. Open all year - free. Families interested in planting, weeding and watering in the garden contact Jo-Anne Naslund at 434-1081 or 228-3767.

Nitobe Memorial Garden
Open daily from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. from April 1-May 31. Admission $1.25. Free on Wednesdays.

Botanical Gardens
Open daily from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. from April 1-May 31. Admission $2.50. Free on Wednesdays.