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Is B.C.'s economy as bad as the budget suggests?

ubc reports
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

MAKING WAVES 1998 Commonwealth Games bronze medalist Jessica Deglau fine-tunes her stroke in preparation for the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) Swim Championships, which begin tomorrow at the UBC Aquatic Centre. Deglau, a fourth-year Arts student and a member of Canada's 2000 Olympic team, is expected to lead UBC's women's team to their fifth consecutive CIS Championship. UBC's men's team is also heavily favoured to win their fifth straight national crown. If so, it will be the first time in CIS history that a single university has won five consecutive national championships by both men and women in a single sport. Meet finals begin at 5 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday. For a complete schedule and details of other UBC Thunderbird events and results, visit www.athletics.ubc.ca or call 604-UBC-BIRD. *Richard Lam pic*

Economist garners top prize

Killam Research Prizes awarded to Arts and Science researchers

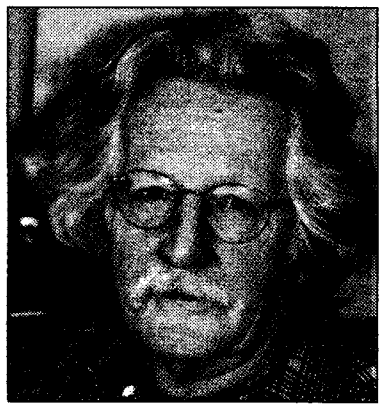
EFFICIENT USE of taxation and ethical concerns surrounding social choice and variable population are some of the problems that have kept Economics Prof. Charles Blackorby interested and involved during a research career that spans more than three decades.

Awarded this year's Jacob Biely Faculty Research Prize, Blackorby says he is both surprised and pleased by the honour. Long regarded as UBC's premier research award, the Biely prize is given for a distinguished record of recently accomplished published research.

"Prof. Blackorby joins a long list of our best faculty with very impressive research accomplishments," says Indira Samarasekera, vice-president, Research.

Blackorby specializes in welfare economics, social choice, public finance and microeconomic theory.

He recently studied Canada's employment insurance (EI) program which some economists have criticized as an inefficient mix of insurance and income redistribution. His research suggested, however,
see Biely, page 2



Biely Prize-winner Blackorby

Students seek to give tuition input

Vice-president, Students, expects to hold public forums

UBC STUDENTS ARE asking UBC President Martha Piper to include them in making decisions about how tuition fee levels will be implemented at UBC.

Post-secondary institutions in B.C. have been given responsibility for determining their own tuition fee levels, according to a recent provincial government announcement that officially ended the province's six-year tuition freeze.

In a recent letter to the president, the UBC Committee to Reduce Tuition requested a public debate with students regarding any increases.

Brian Sullivan, vice-president, Students, advised the group that discussions are already underway with student government and a number of public forums open to all students are expected to be held within the next two weeks.

B.C. has the lowest tuition fees in Canada after Quebec. UBC is considering raising tuitions to the national average and to levels comparable to peer institutions.

A portion — from 15 to 30 per cent — of increased tuition fee revenues will be directed to student financial support, he adds.

About 100 students and members of CUPE 2950 rallied around the Goddess of Democracy statue in SUB plaza earlier this month, part of a province-wide day of protest.

"We believe the province has a responsibility to ensure there is accessible education for all students," says Erfan Kazemi, Alma Mater Society president. "UBC must first look to remedy its own cost inefficiencies rather than passing it on
see Tuition, page 2

Young scholars put to test in media hot seat

Journalism, genetics students hone communications skills

By Michelle Cook staff writer

AT A RECENT NEWS conference on campus, genetics company EnhanceMe Corp. announced plans to rid the world of unwanted large noses with a drug they've developed for pregnant women that will prevent their babies from growing genetically inherited big schnozzes.

The company's head scientist and other representatives stumbled over several of the reporters' questions, often giggling and blushing in reply to queries about how much the drug would cost, what permission the company had to test it and whether, if taken in large doses, it could cause a nose to disappear completely.

The big nose news, of course, wasn't really news but one of three announcements that UBC Medical Genetics students dreamt up to bait journalists-in-training in a series of mock news conferences organized by the School of Journalism and the Centre for Applied Ethics.

The annual exercise is designed to get students on both sides thinking about the process used to introduce serious scientific advances into public debate, says Journalism Prof. Stephen Ward.

"I wanted to develop an exercise in which students not only get to practise basic journalism, but do it
see Media, page 2

Tuition

Continued from page 1

to students through tuition increases. And any fee adjustment must take into account financial aid and quality indicators."

The rallying students presented Sullivan with a petition directed at the provincial government protesting increases in fees.

"The freeze has limited the quality of education here at UBC in a number of ways," says Sullivan. "There are insufficient course and lab offerings, class sizes are increasing, and classroom and laboratory facilities are under-resourced."

Student support services such as academic advising, athletics counselling, and library acquisitions have also been restricted by the freeze, he adds.

Any tuition fee increase would require approval by the UBC Board of Governors.

It is anticipated a proposal will be reviewed at the March board meeting.

Biely

Continued from page 1

that the structure of EI is efficient.

President of the Canadian Economic Association in 2000-01, Blackorby says the brain drain has had a devastating effect on the Canadian economics research scene. He says many colleagues have moved to the U.S. and to Europe where he himself is headed this summer to take up a new faculty position at the University of Warwick.

The university has also announced recipients of the UBC Killam Research Prizes. The $5,000 prizes have been awarded annually since 1986 to top campus researchers and are equally divided between arts and sciences.

Recipients are: MIRANDA BURGESS, English; BRIAN COPELAND, Economics; MICHAEL GERRY, Chemistry; DAVID GREEN, Economics; GEORGE MACKIE, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology; WILLIAM MOHN, Microbiology and Immunology; TAE OUM, Commerce and Business Administration; GERALD SANDY, Classical, Near Eastern and Religious Studies; PATRICIA VERTINSKY, Educational Studies; ARIEL ZHITNITSKY, Physics and Astronomy.

There were no nominations this year for the Charles A. McDowell Award for Excellence in Research.

Media

Continued from page 1

in a demanding forum on topics like science and business," Ward says. "I also wanted to reach out across campus and have them work with other students, to get them thinking about how we communicate important issues in society."

While the Genetics students explore the ethical issues of their work, the Journalism students learn to probe scientific authority.

Ward has been organizing mock newsers in collaboration with other faculties for three years. He first partnered with Commerce Assoc. Prof. Wayne Norman and his MBA students, then linked up with Medical Genetics Assoc. Prof. Michael Burgess, holder of the chair in Biomedical Ethics.

Jehannine Austin, a first-year Genetic Counselling master's degree student, found the experience of being peppered with questions valuable, if somewhat intimidating.

"As genetic counsellors, part of our role is communicating genetic issues to the public," Austin says. "I think we all learnt that you have to be well prepared and that if you have something to hide it is a very uncomfortable situation to be in."

First-year Master of Journalism student Hayley Mills also found the practice conferences valuable.

"Sometimes journalists have a fear or dislike of scientists and vice versa, and I think for this group there will be less of a divide in our real lives."

In future, Ward hopes to involve other faculties in the mock newsers, and invite real broadcast and print reporters with TV cameras and tape recorders to participate.

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DIRECTOR, PUBLIC AFFAIRS
Scott Macrae
(scott.macrae@ubc.ca)

EDITOR/PRODUCTION
Janet Ansell
(janet.ansell@ubc.ca)

CONTRIBUTORS
Michelle Cook
(michelle.cook@ubc.ca)
Helen Lewis
(helen.lewis@ubc.ca)
Hilary Thomson
(hilary.thomson@ubc.ca)

CALENDAR
Carol Price
(carol.price@ubc.ca)

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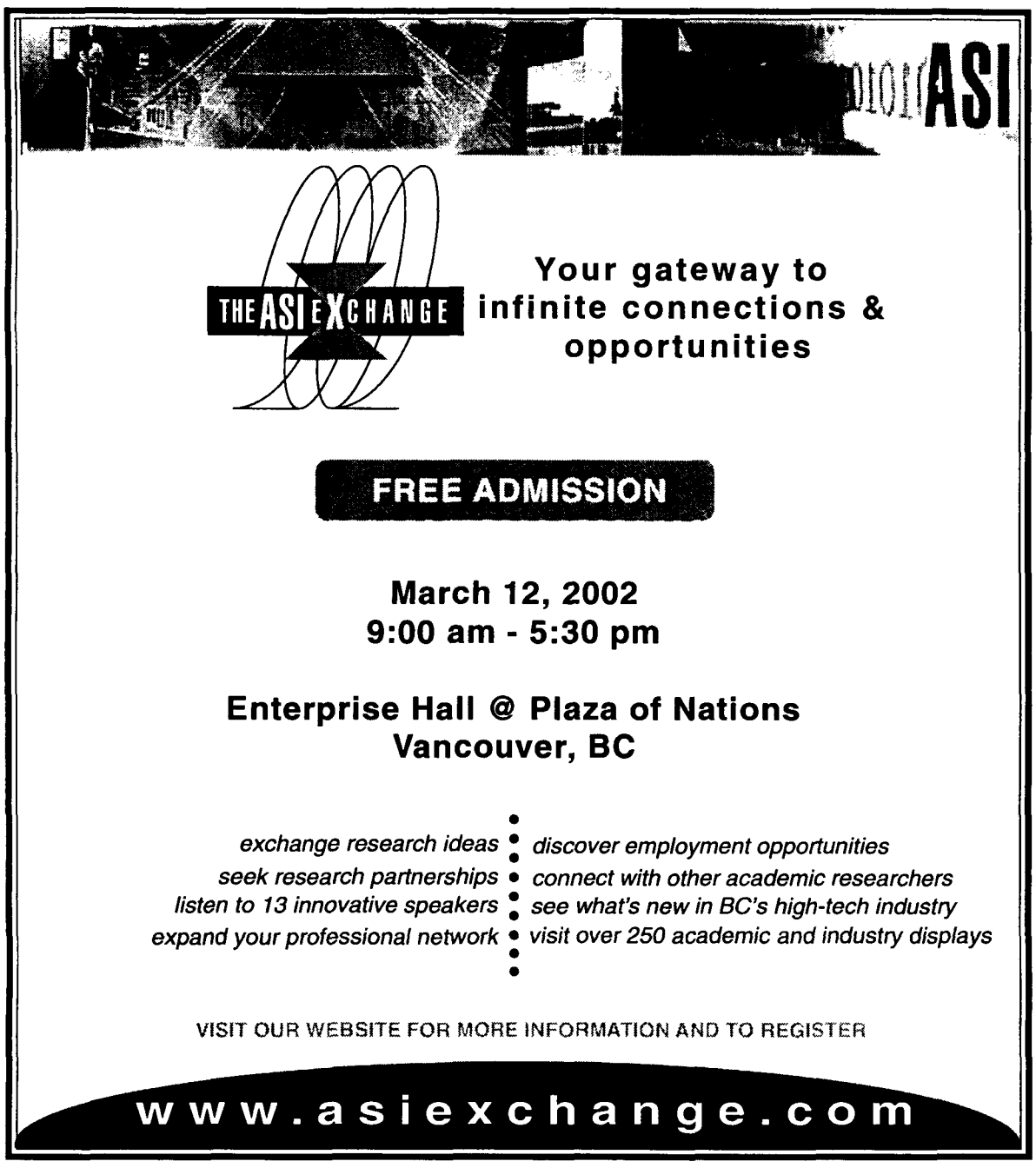
UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
The 2001-2002 Murrin Lectures

David Livingstone
PROFESSOR OF GEOGRAPHY & INTELLECTUAL HISTORY
THE QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY, BELFAST

Science and Religion: Re-mapping the Terrain
MONDAY MARCH 11, 4 P.M.
IN ANGUS 110

The Battle for Darwin's Soul
TUESDAY MARCH 12, 4 P.M.
IN SCARFE 100



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THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
2002 President's Service Award for Excellence Nominations

The committee is seeking nominations of outstanding staff and faculty who made distinguished contributions to the university.

Nomination forms can be found on-line at www.external-affairs.ubc.ca/ceremonies/honours. Otherwise, call 604-822-2484. Please mail nominations to: President's Service Award for Excellence Committee, c/o Ceremonies Office, Second floor, Ponderosa B, Campus Zone 2.

Students team up for inner city service project

Guelph, UBC students join to help community gardens

by Michelle Cook staff writer

A GROUP OF UBC STUDENTS took 11 of their counterparts from the University of Guelph to the Downtown Eastside to do some gardening this week as part of an unusual exchange project designed to show participants from both institutions that there's more to the community than its gritty reputation.

The UBC Learning Exchange – University of Guelph Urban Agriculture Project is the first-ever exchange of its kind between two Canadian universities.

The goal of the five-day pilot was to help students from various academic disciplines see past some of the common stereotypes of the inner city by getting their hands dirty, literally, doing community service work.

"Some portrayals have truth to them but they tend to ignore the strength and vitality that these communities also have," says Learning Exchange director Margo Fryer. "We wanted students to see the 'other' side of the Downtown Eastside."

To do that, the UBC-Guelph group volunteered to help the Strathcona Community Gardens refurbish its compost system so that it can help another group in the community, the Quest Outreach Society, dispose of a large portion of its waste. Quest, a large food redistribution project, currently pays almost $10,000 a year to dispose of its unusable food donations.

Through their efforts to support Strathcona's composting operation, the students were not only helping Quest save money, but also contributing to efforts to create a larger, more comprehensive composting project in the neighbourhood.

Fryer brought back the idea for the exchange from a meeting in Antigonish, N.S. last May for Canadian universities introducing community service learning into their programs.

When a Guelph University representative expressed interest in bringing students to the Downtown Eastside, Fryer saw an opportunity for both schools to participate in educational activities related to grassroots community development.

Community service learning incorporates community volunteer activities into academic programs so that students can make connections between theory and practice, and enrich their academic learning by seeing how it can be applied, Fryer explains.

While the concept has been popular in the United States for some time, Canadian universities have only recently begun to adopt it.

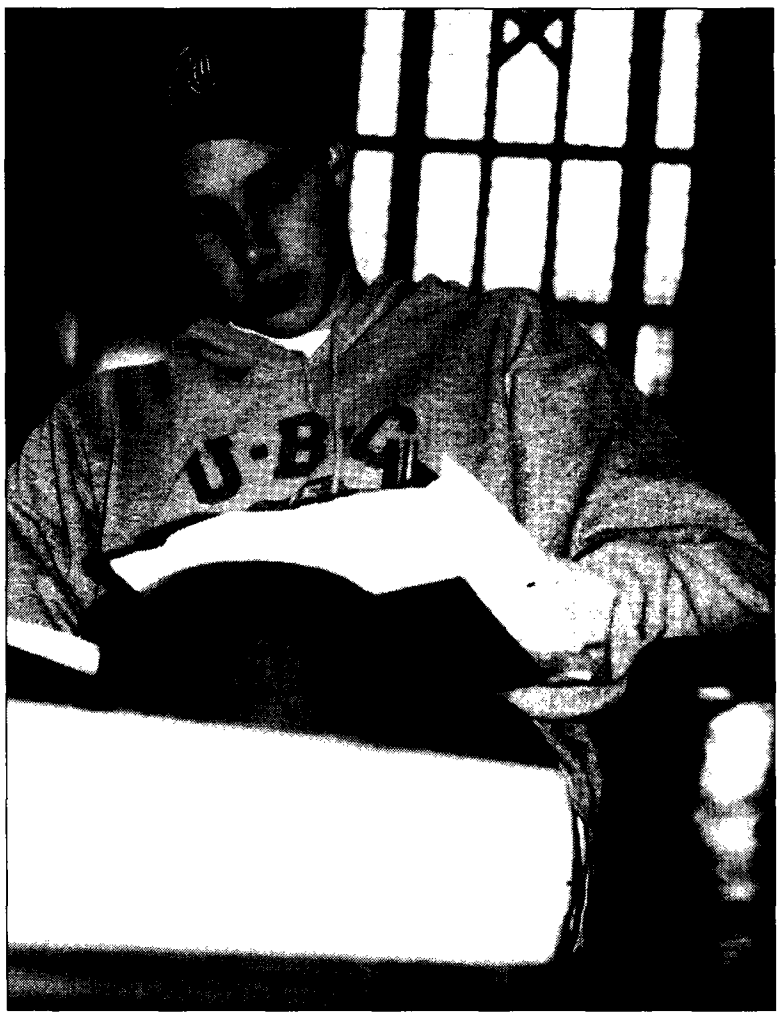
"We're hoping that by generating interest in this kind of community-based learning, more faculty members will integrate service volunteer opportunities into their course work," Fryer says.

She hopes the UBC students will be able to make a reciprocal visit to Guelph and that this week's pilot spurs ongoing community service exchanges with other Canadian universities as well as international institutions.

Other activities scheduled for the exchange included a discussion with representatives from the Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users, a workshop on local community development and guided tour of the UBC Farm.

The Learning Exchange is part of the commitment to community outreach found in *Trek 2000*, the university's vision statement.

It offers UBC's resources and expertise to the Downtown Eastside community, provides educational opportunities to people who live and work in the neighbourhood, and gives UBC students first-hand volunteer experience in community organizations.



STUDY BUDDY UBC Thunderbirds pitcher Jeff Francis, a third-year Physics student, gets down to work in the newly opened Chapman Learning Commons in Main Library. A US major league prospect, Francis spent midterm break, which ends tomorrow, with the Thunderbirds competing in Arizona and California. *Helen Lewis photo*

Week to spotlight research

Range of arts, science research to be celebrated in March

THE COSMIC CONNECTIONS between art and astronomy will be revealed in the first presentation of UBC's Celebrate Research lecture series to be held March 11 as part of Research Awareness Week (RAW) March 9-15.

Jaymie Matthews, associate professor of Physics and Astronomy and English Prof. Dennis Danielson will explore "The Arts and Science of the Cosmos" in a one-hour lecture at 4 p.m. in Main Library's Dodson Room, one of many events being held on- and off-campus during the week.

"This lecture series fits in well with the spirit and purpose of research awareness week," says Indira Samarasekera, vice-president, Research, who will host the series. "We want to demonstrate the breadth and excellence in research and scholarship across campus and stimulate dialogue across disciplines."

Conveying abstract ideas is one of the important connections between astronomy and literature, says Matthews. In addition, concepts such as perspective and vanishing points, usually associated with arts, are also used in astronomy to measure distance to star clusters.

Danielson edited the anthology *The Book of the Cosmos: Imagining the Universe from Heraclitus to Hawking*. It was one of Amazon.com's top 10 science books for 2000.

Other RAW activities include the launch of a series of health policy forums at UBC at Robson Square. Roy Romanow, head of the National Royal Commission on Medicare will present "Medicare, Then and Now" at 12 noon on March 13 in an event co-hosted by UBC's Continuing Studies Dept.

"University research helps to influence and inform different kinds of policy locally, nationally and internationally," says Sid Katz, RAW organizer and UBC's executive director, Community Affairs. "We're pleased to present this aspect of research to the community."

The downtown campus is also the site of a transportation public symposium at 12 noon on March 11. Organized by the Faculty of Commerce and Business Administration, a discussion moderated by Commerce Dean Dan Muzyka features a panel of Lower Mainland transportation experts.

University Killam Professors Zoology Prof. Peter Hochachka and English Prof. William New will discuss their books at 12:30 p.m. in Main Library's Dodson Room on March 13, part of UBC Author's Week which coincides with RAW.

Hochachka has written *Biochemical Adaptation* which looks at how animals survive in extreme conditions.

New has written two books published in 2001: *A History of Canadian Literature* and *Stone/Rain:Poems*.

Also at the library will be a showcase of recent productions by UBC filmmakers on Thursday, March 14 from noon to 1 p.m.

A tour of UBC's Wine Research Library, located in the basement of the Food and Nutritional Sciences Building, will be held March 15, starting at noon.

Visitors will learn about wine faults — errors in production that yield distinctive odours — and will be given an opportunity to sniff out some faulty vintages.

A gala invitational event, Celebrate Research, will be held at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts March 14. The evening honours the achievements of UBC's researchers.

For more information on RAW check the Web site at www.research.ubc.ca/RAW.htm.

Forums pool students and alumni expertise

Exploring opportunities goal of student forums

by Helen Lewis staff writer

UBC STUDENTS ARE SEEING the world beyond the classroom thanks to new forums that link undergraduates with other students, alumni and community-oriented campus groups.

The Students Interconnected (SI) forums aim to help students explore undergraduate choices by creating a knowledge pool of experiences from the student body, says SI chair and co-founder Michael Tsang.

"Many undergraduates want to gain skills and learn about themselves through new experiences, but it's a challenge to find the right program. We're here as a network for that, helping campus organizations and the students who want to link with them."

At the new SI student forums and workshops, launched this year, students share what they have learned through overseas projects as well as co-op education, exchange and summer enrichment programs.

The most recent forum, "Empowering Communities," discussed community service issues and opportunities. Students involved in advocacy, justice, health care and environmental community service related their experiences and answered questions.

"Students attending the forums hear the personal experiences of the panelists, so they can ask questions and get a number of views at once," says Tsang, a graduate of UBC's Pharmacology Co-op program.

Students Interconnected (SI) chair and co-founder Michael Tsang (left), SI forum co-ordinator Bernice Chu and SI research and development officer Angelique Schnerch.

The SI Web site (www.howlingsheep.com) allows students to join the discussion after the forum, posting questions to be answered by students and alumni with experience in the relevant field.

"For the students who get involved, it changes the way they think about themselves, about their education and the way they see themselves in the world," Tsang says.

The forums are organized by SI with the Chapman Learning Commons, the Faculty of Science, Science Undergraduate Society, AMS Volunteer Services, Student Exchange, Science Co-op and the Alumni Association.

calendar

FEBRUARY 24 THROUGH MARCH 9

SUNDAY, FEB. 24

Concert
Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir. Chan Centre at 8pm. Admission $53/$43/$33; students and seniors $40/$30/$20. Call Ticketmaster at 604-280-3311 or Chan Centre at 604-822-2697.

MONDAY, FEB. 25

Concert
String Chamber Ensembles. Music Recital Hall at 12 noon. Call 602-822-5574.

Seminar
Temporal Regulation of Insulin/IGF-1 Signaling And Metabolism In Aging Of c. Elegans. Dr. Andrew Dillin, Biochemistry and Biophysics, U of California, San Francisco. IRC#3 from 12 noon-1pm. Call 604-822-6968.

Thematic Lecture Series
The Dilemma Of Alternative Dispute Resolution In First Nations. Bruce Miller. Green College at 5pm. Call 604-822-1878.

Refugee Speaker Series
Fifty Years Of The 1951 Convention: Accomplishments And Challenges. Scott Busby, Director, Office of Policy and Resource Planning, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration, US State Dept. St. John's College from 5-6:15pm. Call 604-822-8781.

Member Speaker Series
From The Desiring Other To The Desire Of The Other: Kant, Sade And LaCan On The Moral Subject. Alex Harmsen. Green College at 7:45pm. Call 604-822-1878.

TUESDAY, FEB. 26

Lecture
Chemistry Phosphoral Transfer: Chemistry, Enzymology And Evolution. Prof. Daniel Herschlag, Biochemistry, Stanford U. Chemistry B-250 from 12:45-1:45pm. Refreshments at 12:30pm. Call 604-822-3341.

Lecture
Grandchild Of Empire: About Irony Mainly In The Commonwealth. William New. Frederic Wood from 3-4:40pm. Call 604-822-9824.

Green College Speaker Series
The Critique Of Religious Consciousness: The Philosophical Foundations For An Interdisciplinary Approach To Religion. Steve Lofts, Philosopher, U of Western Ontario. Green College at 5pm. Call 604-822-1878.

VST Lecture Series
Paul's Contra-Imperial Gospel Of Jesus Christ. Rev. Dr. Harry Maier. VST Epiphany Chapel from 5:30-7:30pm. Call 604-822-9815.

Reading
Poetic Persuasions. Christy Ann Conlin; Kevin Chong. Green College at 8pm. Call 604-822-1878.

Please recycle

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 27

Orthopedic Grand Rounds Lecture
Current Concepts In Hip Arthroplasty. Dr. David Ruch, Wake Forest U. VGH, Eye Care Centre Aud. from 7-8am. Call 604-875-4192.

Wednesday Concert Series
Jean Guy Boisvert, clarinet. Music Recital Hall at 12 noon. Admission $4. Call 604-822-5574.

Chemical And Biological Engineering Seminar
Growth Of Methylotrophic Yeast In Pulp Mill Condensate. Preston Hoy. ChemEng 206 at 12 noon. Call 604-822-3238.

Essay Writing Workshop
Main Library, Dodson Room from 12:30-3pm. Call 604-822-9564.

Wednesday Lecture Series
Women And Immigration In Germany. Ghodsi Hejazi, U of Frankfurt. Centre for Women's Studies and Gender Relations at 1pm. Refreshments. Call 604-822-9171.

Seminar OBST 506
Preterm Labour. Dr. Gerald Marquette. B.C.'s Women's Hosp. 2N35 from 2-3pm. Call 604-875-3108.

The Walter S. Owen Lecture
Equality With A Difference: A Comparison Of South African And Canadian Constitutional Equality Law. Margot Young. Curtis 101/102 from 5:30-6:30pm. Refreshments. Call 604-822-6335.

Senate Meeting
Regular Meeting of the Senate — UBC's Academic Parliament. Curtis 102 from 7-9:30pm. Call 604-822-2951.

THURSDAY, FEB. 28

Agricultural Sciences Noon-Hour Speaker Series
Great Plants For City Gardens. Judy Newton. MacMillan 160 at 12 noon. Call 604-822-1219.

Woodward Lecture Series
Economic Choices. Prof. Daniel McFadden, U of California, Berkeley. Buchanan A-202 from 12:30-1:30pm. Call 604-822-4129.

Lecture
The Legal Profession And Women's Equality. Lynn Smith, judge. Curtis 157 from 12:30-2pm. To register visit www.cfls.law.ubc.ca. Call 604-822-6523.

Physics Colloquium
Blast Wave Research Using Animated Numerical Simulations. Alex Van Netten, UVIC. Hennings 201 at 4pm. Call 604-822-3853.

ICICS Distinguished Lecture Series
Reconfigurable Manufacturing Systems. Galip Ulsoy, William Gray Ford, U of Michigan. CICSR/CS 208 from 4-5:30pm. Call 604-822-6894.

Lecture
Buddhism: A Living Philosophy. SGI-Canada Organization, UBC SGI Club. Buchanan B-216 from 6-7:30pm. To register visit www.welcome.to/UBC_SGI or e-mail ritchiewong422@hotmail.com. Call 604-822-4095.

Concert
Borealis String Quartet. Rena Sharon, piano. Music Recital Hall at 8pm. Admission $20/$10. Call 604-822-5574.

FRIDAY, MARCH 1

Friday Grand Rounds Lecture
Evaluation Of Perinatal Outcomes And Homebirth In B.C. Patty Jansen, Health Care and Epidemiology. Mather 253 from 9-10am. Call 604-822-2772.

Concert
UBC Guitar Ensemble. Music Recital Hall at 12 noon. Call 602-822-5574.

Theatre Lecture
How To Do Things With Buzz Words: Otherness In Polish Theatre In The 1990's. Prof. Tamara Trojanowska, Slavic Languages and Literatures, U of Toronto. Buchanan B-330 from 12 noon-1pm. Call 604-822-4060 or 604-822-5157.

CRC Literature/Christianity And Culture Lecture
Life As Program: Gregory of Nazianzus' Song Of Himself And The Role Of The Bishop In Late Antique Society. Susanna Elm, U of California, Berkeley; Neil B. McLynn, Keio U, Tokyo. BUTO 599 from 12noon-1:30pm. E-mail mvessey@interchange.ubc.ca. Call 604-822-4095.

Occupational And Environmental Hygiene Seminar
Reliable Measures Of Performance In Nonstereotypical Tasks: Surgical Training And Tool Design. Dr. Anthony Hodgson, Mechanical Engineering. UBC Hosp., Koerner Pavilion G-279 from 12:30-1:30pm. Call 604-822-9861.

Friday Afternoon Tutorial Clinic
Main Library, Dodson Room from 3-5pm. Call 604-822-9564.

SATURDAY, MARCH 2

Faculty Women's Club Meeting
Celebration of Spring: UBC Opera Ensemble. Cecil Green at 7pm. Call 604-263-6612.

Vancouver Institute Lecture
The Burden Of Children's Pain. Dr. Patrick McGrath, Psychology, Psychiatry and Pediatrics, Dalhousie U. IRC#2 at 8:15pm. Call 604-822-8580.

SUNDAY, MARCH 3

Pacific Spirit Concert
Katherine Chi, piano. Music Recital Hall at 3pm. Call 602-822-5574.

Green College Performing Arts Group
Green College Coffee House 3 at 8pm. Call 604-822-1878.

MONDAY, MARCH 4

VST Lecture
Chalmers Institute: Peter Kaye Continuing Education Event. Michael Northcott, Ethicist. VST 6000 from 8:30am-9:30pm. $127/$114 team; $65 senior. To register visit www.vst.edu. Call 604-822-9815.

Lecture
Integrating Educational Technology Into Post-Secondary Classrooms. Kirsti Aho, Macromedia Corporation. Main Library Dodson Room from 10-11:30am. Call 604-822-9149 Call 604-822-9815.

Concert
UBC Student Composers. Music Recital Hall at 12 noon. Call 602-822-5574.

Research Seminar
Towards Responsible Fisheries: A Perspective From Within The FAO Of The United Nations. Kevern Cochrane, Food and Agriculture Organization, Rome. Green College at 12 noon. Call 604-822-1878.

Green College Speaker Series
Identity On Trial: Grombrowicz, Rosewica, Mrozek And The Discourse Of Identity. Prof. Tamara Trojanowska, Slavic Languages and Literatures, U of Toronto. Green College Coach House from 5-6:30pm. Call 604-822-4060 or 604-822-5157.

TUESDAY, MARCH 5

Revising And Editing Workshop
Main Library Dodson Room from 12:30-2pm. Call 602-822-9564.

Lectures in Modern Chemistry
New Applications Of Transition Metal Catalysts In Organic Chemistry. Gregory Fu, MIT. Chemistry B250 from 12:45-1:45pm. Refreshments at 12:30pm. Call 602-822-3341.

Green College Speaker Series
Costing The Earth: Valuing Global Policy Alternatives And The Role Of Learning Over Time. Tim Daniels. Green College at 5pm. Call 604-822-1878.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

Orthopedic Grand Rounds Chief Residents Rounds Lecture
TBA. Drs. Michael Wilmind, Kostas Panagiotopoulos, Laura Zeznik, Robert Greenhow. VGH, Eye Care Centre Aud. from 7-8am. Call 604-875-4192

Wednesday Concert Series
Babayaga String Quartet. Music Recital Hall at 12 noon. Admission $4. Call 604-822-5574.

Cecil H. and Ida Green Lecture
Treating Children With Chronic Pain. IRC#1 at 12 noon. Call 604-822-5675.

Wednesday Lecture Series
Dilemmas And Contradictions: Understanding The Under-Representation Of Female Leaders. Tin Tin Htun, U of Tsukuba, Japan. Centre for Women's Studies and Gender Relations at 1pm. Refreshments. Call 604-822-9171.

Seminar OBST 506
Regulation Of VEGF-A Gene Expression By Artificially Engineered Zinc Finger Transcription Factors. Dr. Peter Li, Sangame Biosciences Inc. BC's Women's Hosp. 2N35 from 2-3pm. Call 604-875-3108.

School of Nursing Rounds Lecture
Exploring Chinese Immigrant Mothers' Experiences Related To Infant Feeding Choices. UBC Hosp., Koerner Pavilion T-182 from 3-4pm. Call 604-822-7453.

Individual Interdisciplinary Studies Graduate Program
The Ownership Of Indian Classical Dance And Its Performance On The Global Stage. Mandakranta Bose. Green College at 5pm. Call 604-822-1878.

Green College Fireside Chat
Becoming A Scientist Reluctantly. Patrick McGrath, Psychology, Pediatrics, Psychiatry and Biomedical Engineering, Dalhousie U. Green College at 7:30pm. Call 604-822-1878.

THURSDAY, MARCH 7

Conference
18th International Seating Symposium. Hyatt Regency Hotel from 8:30am-5pm. To register visit www.geocities.com/UBCinterprof. E-mail interprof@cehs.ubc.ca. Call 604-822-0054.

Agricultural Sciences Noon-Hour Speaker Series
Agriculture Undergraduate Society Service Award. MacMillan 160 at 12 noon. Call 604-822-1219.

Concert
UBC Jazz Ensemble 2. Music Recital Hall at 12 noon. Call 602-822-5574.

Lecture
The Impact Of Equality Analysis On Labour Law. Patricia Hughes, Dean of Law, U of Calgary. Curtis 157 from 12:30-2pm. Call 602-822-6523.

Lecture
Spirituality Unplugged. Anita Unruh, PhD, Occupational Therapy, Dalhousie U. UBC Hosp., Koerner Pavilion T-130 from 1-2pm. Call 604-822-7765.

No Calendar

UBC Reports will no longer publish the Calendar as of March when it changes from a biweekly to a monthly publication. This will be the last *UBC Reports* Calendar.

Members of the campus community are welcome to submit events information to Athletics and Recreation's LiveAtUBC on-line calendar at www.liveat.ubc.ca.

Public Affairs is currently working with other campus groups to consider improvements in how the university's events listings can be accessed on-line.

Your comments on this change are welcome. Please contact the editor by e-mail at janet.ansell@ubc.ca or by mail to 310-6251 Cecil Green Park Rd., Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1Z1

UBC Biotechnology Laboratory Seminar
Regulation Of Neurotransmitter Release By Presynaptic Calcium-Activated Potassium Channels. Dr. Zhao-Wen Wang, Anatomy and Neurobiology, Washington U. IRC#3 from 2-3pm. Call 602-822-6968.

Psychology Seminar
Measuring The Impossible Pain In Children. Kenny Suedfeld Lounge at 4pm. Call 604-822-5675.

Physics Colloquium
Semiconductor Nanostructures For Infared Devices, H.C. Liu, Institute For Microstructural Sciences, NRC Ottawa. Hennings 201 at 4pm. Call 604-822-3853.

Lecture
Policy Change In Mexican Higher Education: What Have We Learned From Comparative Research. Rollin Kent, Education, U of Puebla, Mexico. Green College at 4:30pm. Call 604-822-1878.

CRC Literature/Christianity And Culture Lecture
In Search Of St. Theodore: Roads Saints And Caves In Late Roman Anatolia. Joel Walker, U of Washington. BUTO 599 from 4:30-6pm. E-mail mvessey@interchange.ubc.ca. Call 604-822-4095.

Opera Double Bill
Purcell And Puccini. Chan Centre at 8pm. Continues to March 10. Concert at 3pm, Sunday. Admission $20/$14. Call Ticketmaster at 604-280-3311 or Chan Centre at 604-822-9197.

FRIDAY, MARCH 8

Friday Grand Rounds Lecture
Health Effects Of Salmon Farming. William Bowie, Infectious Diseases. Mather 253 from 9-10am. Call 604-822-2772.

Concert
UBC Chamber Strings. Music Recital Hall at 12 noon. Call 602-822-5574.

Lecture
The Grotesque Today: Notes Towards A Taxonomy. Noel Carroll, Philosophy, U of Wisconsin University Centre 307 at 12:30pm. Call 602-822-3292.

Occupational And Environmental Hygiene Seminar
Fragrance Sensitivity In The Workplace: A Qualitative Sociological Analysis. Lynn Moffat, Workers' Compensation Board of B.C. UBC Hosp., Koerner Pavilion G-279 from 12:30-1:30pm. Call 604-822-9861.

Tutorial Clinic
Main Library, Dodson Room from 3-5pm. Call 602-822-9564.

Earth And Ocean Sciences Seminar
Ocean Paleogeography Of Northwestern Nevada And Controls On The Northern Carlin Trend Gold Deposits. Simon Haynes. GeoSciences 330-A from 4-5pm. Call 602-822-5406.

VST Lecture
Honouring A Decade Of Women And Spirituality Dialogues: Expressions Of The Divine Feminine. VST Epiphany Chapel from 7-9:30pm. Call 604-822-9815.

SATURDAY, MAR. 9

Philosophy Colloquium
Noel Carroll, U of Wisconsin; Nancy Sherman, U of Virginia; Jose-Lius Bermudez, U of Stirling, Margaret Schabas. Buchanan B Penthouse from 9am-6pm. Admission $30. Refreshments. To register visit www.philosophy.ubc.ca. Call 604-822-3292.

VST Research Awareness Week Lecture
New Approaches To Treating Infections. Prof. Bob Hancock, Microbiology and Immunology. IRC#2 at 8:15pm. E-mail peter.nemetz@commerce.ubc.ca. Call 604-822-8443.

NOTICES

Participants Needed
Researchers at the Psychology Dept. are looking for people ages 22-40 to serve as "normal controls" for a study on the recognition of facial expressions. Eligible participants will have no history of anxiety disorders (such as phobias) and will not be clinically depressed. After a brief screening interview, participants will look at different facial expressions on a computer screen and will decide which expression is being depicted. The study will take up to 30 minutes to complete. All participants will receive an honorarium of $10 for their participation. If interested call 604-822-8025.

Participants Needed
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Laser Hair Removal
Require volunteers for two laser hair removal trials. If you are interested, please contact Dr. Jerry Shapiro the UBC Division of Dermatology. E-mail etan@vanhosp.bc.ca. Call 604-875-4747.

Morris And Helen Belkin Satellite Art Gallery Exhibition
Andrea Fraser; Failure: An Exhibition Of Nine Visual Artists Curated By Seamus Kealy. 555 Hamilton Street. Wednesday through Sunday, 12-5pm. Call 604-822-2759.

UBC Research
Boys between seven and nine (with or without ADHD) and their mothers are needed for a study. Mothers receive $20 and children get a UBC t-shirt. If interested, please call 604-822-9037.

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The successful candidate will be expected to develop research programs focusing on Japan, seek funding from external donors for the programs of the Centre for Japanese Research, organize conferences and seminars on the Centre's research interests and projects, administer the budget of the Centre, and chair the Centre's management committee. The Centre Director will be expected to collaborate with the Director of the Institute of Asian Research in developing inter-Centre and interdisciplinary teaching and research initiatives. The Centre Director will also serve on the Council of the Institute.

UBC hires on the basis of merit and is committed to employment equity. We encourage all qualified persons to apply.

The appointment will be for a fixed term of three to five years. The deadline for applications is March 31, 2002. Applicants should send a letter describing their interest in the position, a curriculum vitae, and the names and postal and e-mail addresses of three references to:

Pitman B. Potter, Director
Institute of Asian Research
C.K. Choi Building, Room 251
1855 West Mall, UBC V6T 1Z2.
Tel: (604) 822-4688
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- ORDER OF BRITISH COLUMBIA: www.protocol.gov.bc.ca/obc/about_the.html: MARCH 10
- HERZBERG MEMORIAL PRIZE AND FELLOWSHIP: www.nrc.ca/corporate/english/research/ghm.html: NEW DEADLINE TBA BY NRC

For assistance with applications, call the Office of the Vice-President, Research, at 604-822-0234.

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

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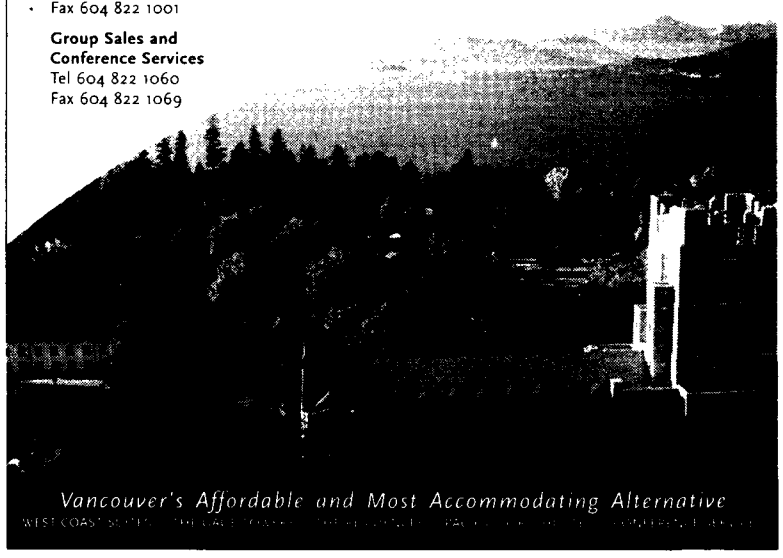

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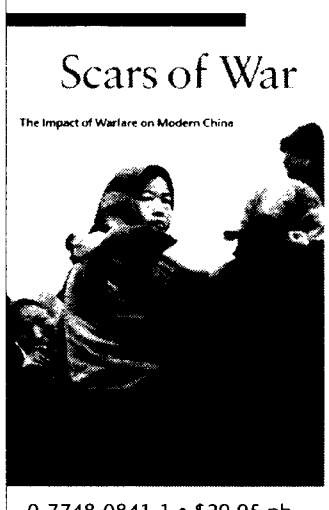

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DIGEST

Nominate a scientist

The Science Council of B.C. is accepting nominations for its 2002 awards program.

This year's B.C. Science and Technology Award winners will be recognized in nine categories: New Frontiers in Research; Solutions through Research; Business and Education Partnerships; Young Innovator; Technology Entrepreneurship; Industrial Innovation; Science and Technology Champion; Career Achievement; and Science Communication.

Deadline for nominations is March 29. Nomination forms are available from the council at Suite 400, 4710 Kingsway, Burnaby, B.C. V5H 4M2.

For more information on the awards program call 604-438-2752.

Nominate an alumni

The UBC Alumni Association is seeking nominations for the 2002 Achievement Awards.

The awards honour UBC graduates and members of the campus community who have distinguished themselves or who show extraordinary promise.

Previous winners include QLT PhotoTherapeutics president and CEO Dr. Julia Levy and author Pierre Berton.

Categories include the Student Award, Outstanding Young Alumnus Award, Honorary Alumnus Award, Volunteer Leadership Award, Alumni Award for Research, Faculty Citation Community Service Award and Lifetime Achievement Award.

For awards criteria and nomination forms, call 604-822-8923 or nominate on-line at www.alumni.ubc.ca. Deadline for the nominations is March 15.

No classifieds.

UBC Reports will no longer publish classified ads as of March when it changes from a biweekly to a monthly publication. The last *UBC Reports* classifieds appear in this issue.

Your comments on this change are welcome. Please contact the editor by e-mail at janet.ansell@ubc.ca or by mail to 310-6251 Cecil Green Park Rd., Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1Z1

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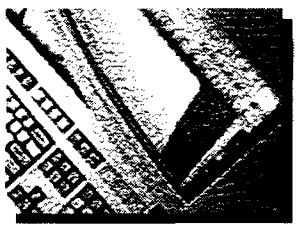

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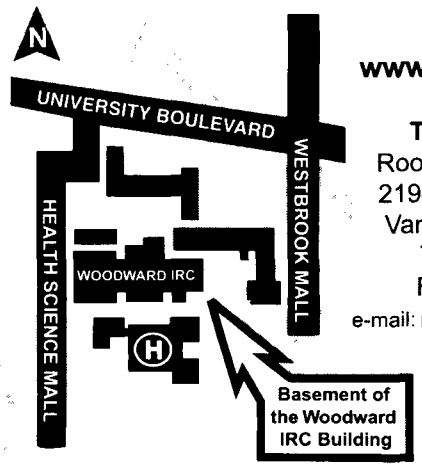

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GREEN COLLEGE GUEST HOUSE Five suites avail. for academic visitors to UBC only. Guests dine with residents and enjoy college life. Daily rate $60 plus $14/day for meals Sun-Thurs. Call 604-822-8660 for more information and availability.

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Exchange pairs design and Wood Processing students

Learning combines art, science of working with wood

ALTHOUGH BLESSED with some of the world's best timber, Canada has a long way to go to catch up to countries like Sweden when it comes to wood furniture design and manufacturing. But as the old saying goes, every great journey begins with one small step.

UBC and the Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design have taken that first step with an exchange program that has students from the Faculty of Forestry's Wood Products Processing Program enrolled in an industrial design class at Emily Carr, while Emily Carr students are enrolled in a specialized Wood Science class at UBC.

The exchange, inaugurated this term, is designed to assist students to not only design attractive and functional wood products, but ones that are easily replicable and can therefore be mass produced.

"When we look at our competition around the world, we recognize that our natural resources are superior in many ways, but our human resources need to be further developed," says Wood Science Assoc. Prof. Simon Ellis, director of Undergraduate Programs. "We have to get further ahead in designing new products and efficient manufacturing processes in making those products."

According to Ellis, the two institutions initiated discussions about sharing teaching expertise some three years ago, but eventually concluded an exchange of students was preferable over an exchange of faculty to immerse students more thoroughly in a related, but distinctly different industry culture.

Currently, 12 senior students from UBC attend a weekly three-hour class on the basics of industrial design at Emily Carr. Twenty-five Emily Carr students attend a weekly course at UBC designed specifically for them, that focuses on wood material properties and manufacturing processes.

The Wood Products Processing Program, introduced in 1995, emphasizes engineering concepts, business, communication and problem-solving skills in order to produce graduates capable of managing a wood products manufacturing facility.

Honour Roll

Nursing director Prof. Sally Thorne

Sally Thorne has been named director of UBC's School of Nursing for a five-year term.

An alumna, Thorne has been a faculty member since 1983. Her research interests focus on patients' experiences within existing health service delivery systems, with a particular focus on health-care communication as it affects those with cancer and chronic disease.

Former associate director for graduate programs and research at the school, she has taught a variety of graduate courses that explore applying conceptual knowledge to clinical nursing practice, critical thinking, nursing theory, and the philosophy of nursing science.

In 2001 she was awarded UBC's Killam Teaching Prize for Applied Science.

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To receive the electronic *UBC Reports* visit www.publicaffairs.ubc.ca/reports/eservice.html

Your comments on this change are welcome. Please contact the editor by e-mail at janet.ansell@ubc.ca or by mail to 310-6251 Cecil Green Park Rd., Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1Z1

FORUM

This week's provincial budget is based on unduly pessimistic economic forecasts, argues UBC expert

B.C.'s public spending cuts: fiscal necessity?

Prof. Jon Kesselman Economics

THE B.C. GOVERNMENT has launched the most sweeping cuts to spending and public services in the province's history. In their words, they "had no choice." Without major program cuts and restructuring, B.C.'s budget was headed toward "unsustainable" deficits.

The government's policy choices have been guided by the dire findings of its Fiscal Review Panel in mid-2001. The panel forecast B.C. deficits growing to $3.8 billion in 2003/04, before reflecting the personal and business tax cuts. Adding those tax impacts raises the forecast deficit above $6 billion, an unprecedented figure for any province.

The panel's forecasts relied on highly pessimistic assumptions. They assumed that revenue would grow only 1.6 per cent per year, far below the five-plus per cent rate during the NDP administration. They assumed that public spending would grow at an annual rate of 5.6 per cent, more than double the 2.3 per cent rate in the previous five years. And the panel provided a large $1.25 billion "forecast allowance" against the risk that the figures would come in even worse.

By being very conservative in its assumptions, the panel obtained fiscal forecasts that support a conservative move toward smaller government. (The panel asserted that "tax increases are clearly not an option.") Unfortunately, those who will pay most dearly for the policies resulting from a massive deficit forecast are lower-income groups most dependent on public programs and services.

If one takes more realistic assumptions about economic and revenue growth, the fiscal outlook is far less daunting. Then, a combination of moderate spending restraint and a new revenue source could resolve the structural deficit within several years.

Spurring the economy's growth rate is fundamentally more important than rapidly eliminating the province's deficit. Faster economic growth also advances fiscal sustainability, both because it raises the rate of revenue growth and reduces the relative burden of outstanding debt. Just as faster-growing businesses can comfortably handle larger debt, so can faster-growing economies.

There is a risk of confusing policies that augment economic growth with those that address fiscal balance. In some cases they are similar, while in others they may differ. For example, cutting certain taxes — such as those on business investment and skilled workers — may augment economic growth, but it will worsen the budgetary balance.

The B.C. government has legislated a 2004/05 target for balancing the budget. Given its severe cuts on the spending side, more rapid revenue growth than forecast could put the province into surplus in 2004/05. How then would the government justify to disadvantaged groups their hardships from program cuts that had proven, in the end, to be avoidable?

If the economy is even weaker than forecast, that is all the more reason to maintain social benefits and protections for vulnerable members of society. Moreover, if the B.C. economy cannot grow significantly faster with new "business-friendly" policies than it did under the NDP, that would be reason to rethink the very basis of those policies.

The policy challenge is to find revenue and spending measures that augment both economic growth and fiscal sustainability while also satisfying social criteria. We need to devise a feasible alternative policy course that would better insulate low-income and vulnerable groups from impacts of the fiscal adjustments.

Adding one or two years to the official target for budgetary balance would relieve the current fiscal constraints. It would cause B.C.'s ratio of public debt to GDP to rise to a higher peak before stabilizing, but that should be bearable for public finances. B.C. is now tied for second place among provinces for the lowest debt-GDP ratio, and servicing the interest cost on public debt takes less than eight cents out of each revenue dollar.

Revenue measures also need to be considered. If the funds can be derived in a way that does not harm economic growth, or even better in a way that promotes growth, that should be an uncontested choice. Such tax increases would not undermine the growth-promoting intent of the tax cuts already undertaken.

One major untapped revenue source in B.C. is a general payroll tax, a type that is benign for economic growth. Payroll taxes are used by four other provinces; Ontario instituted a two per cent payroll-based "employer health tax" in 1990 to replace Medicare premiums. Applying that rate to the largest 10 per cent of employers in B.C. would generate $1.1 billion annually.

Alternatively, B.C.'s corporate income tax could be replaced with a business transfer tax that included labour costs in its base. It would allow full deductions for capital outlays and make B.C. the most attractive province for investment. At a rate of just four per cent—half the eight per cent corporate rate that Alberta and Ontario are targeting and far below B.C.'s current 13.5 per cent — this tax would generate an extra $1 billion.

With the proposed fiscal strategies, B.C. could pursue a less severely restrained spending path than the current freeze on health care and education spending and 25 per cent cuts in all other areas. Public spending could rise at 2.5 per cent annually, approaching inflation plus population growth. B.C. could avoid extreme cuts such as those impacting society's most vulnerable members — people needing legal aid, low-income seniors, children at risk, and the chronically ill.

B.C.'s current policy course ignores another important dimension. Policies that increase inequality, heighten union militancy, rend social cohesion, and raise the spectre of future policy reversals serve to depress the attractions of B.C. for business investment. Moderated fiscal policies could avoid this risk to the province's economic future.

Rather than pursuing the imperatives of its Fiscal Review Panel's overly cautious deficit forecasts, the B.C. government would do better to heed the panel's further advice:

"Based on recent experience in other Canadian provinces, we are concerned that cost cutting in government often comes at the expense of those groups in our society that can least afford it or by lowering standards designed to protect the environment and public health and safety. We do not believe this should be or has to be the case in British Columbia."

Economics Prof. Jonathan Kesselman is director of the UBC Centre for Research on Economic and Social Policy. He specializes in public finance and taxation policies. The full study from which this article draws is available at www.arts.ubc.ca/cresp.

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