UBC Archives Serial

VOLUME 46 | NUMBER 9 | MAY 11, 2000

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ubc reports

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

UBC lands 160 research chairs

Injection of new federal research funds will help attract faculty, says new vice-president, Research

by Hilary Thomson staff writer

UBC WILL BE ABLE TO ESTABLISH 160 research chairs valued at $120 million over five years, according to allocations recently announced by administrators of the new Canada Research Chairs (CRC) program, part of this year's federal budget.

"This new funding is critical to retaining and recruiting outstanding faculty, an important component of our Trek 2000 strategy," says Indira Samarasekera, UBC's new vice-president, Research.

"It will strengthen research capacity and help build research excellence at a time when faculty retirements are projected to increase. The program is visionary in scope as it focuses on people and allows us to build human capital vital for the future well-being of Canada."

This year UBC has been allocated funding for 29 chairs valued at $4.4 million. Faculties are developing proposals for these chairs in a broad range of areas.

The program provides for two types of chairs. UBC will receive funding of $200,000 for Tier I chairs that are intended for senior professorial appointments of individuals who are internationally recognized as leaders in their fields. Tier II chairs, designed to attract future research stars, will be funded at a level of $100,000.

Universities will also have the opportunity to request Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) support for infrastructure in their chair nominations.

UBC will submit its nominations for chairs in the fall and the first funding decisions are planned for mid-December. Nominations will be integrated with the university's strategic research plan now being developed in consultation with the faculties and due to be completed in September.

A total of 242 chairs have been made available to B.C. universities over the five-year period. Forty-eight chairs will go to Simon Fraser University, 29 to the University of Victoria and five to the University of Northern British Columbia for a total of $181.5 million in funding.

Funding for each CRC chair will flow to the university once the candidate has been approved through a rigorous peer-review process and has taken up the appointment.

The CRC program aims to create 2,000 new research chairs over the next five years through a total federal government investment of $900 million.

The program is administered by the three federal granting councils —the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, the Natural

see Research, page 2

SURE FOOTED More than 5,600 freshly minted graduates will be striding forth into the world from the hallowed halls of UBC after Spring Congregation ceremonies May 24-31. Degrees from 12 faculties will be handed out in 21 separate ceremonies taking place over six days at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts. Eleven honorary degrees will also be conferred. *John Chong photo*

Class of 2000 first to get degree and story

The timing of the journalism school's first graduates couldn't be better, says its director

by Bruce Mason staff writer

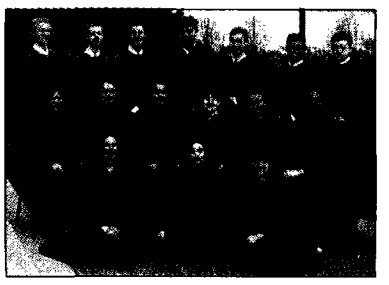
THE INFORMATION AGE has continued to change exponentially since Western Canada's only graduate school in journalism opened its doors in September 1998. The first 17 graduates to earn a UBC Master of Journalism degree now have the skills to seize some brand new opportunities.

They are among more than 5,600 graduates who will receive degrees in the first Congregation of the millennium at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts, May 24-31.

"It's a great time to be graduating with this degree," says Prof. Donna Logan, director of the School of Journalism. "People who will provide the content in the information age are in very high demand. I am confident all our graduates will find work in this fascinating field."

Logan's extensive experience is typical of the school's faculty. It includes senior positions at *The Montreal Star* and the CBC, most recently as regional director for B.C. and vice-president, Media Accountability, for all of the public broadcaster's services in English, French, radio and television.

She says widespread predictions that newspapers would become anachronisms in new media were fundamentally flawed. Instead they maintain a key role as a database for all media. In fact, newspapers are evolving at the leading edge of global technology. Electronic versions appear daily as the familiar daily is being transformed into virtual TV stations and other incarnations.



School of Journalism Class of 2000

"The journalism profession is growing," says Logan. "Here in Canada, a circulation war between the new *The National Post* and *The Globe and Mail* continues to create new jobs. So do innovations such as zoned editions, designed to compete with new information services."

Many factors set the UBC journalism graduates apart. They are critical thinkers trained in the fundamentals of researching, reporting and writing for all media and in the day-to-day operation

see First, page 2

B.C.'s best students choose university

Service-minded young scholars select to pursue higher education at UBC

EIGHTY PER CENT OF B.C.'S top high school graduates have chosen to study at UBC.

Twelve of the 15 students selected as the best student in each of the province's college regions in the Premier's Excellence Awards will study at the university.

"We are proud that tomorrow's leaders are choosing UBC to advance their learning and skills," says Brian Sullivan, vice-president, Students. "These talented students from throughout the province will quickly become active participants in our vibrant, dynamic university environment."

Nine of the students will study science, two are in Arts, and one in Applied Science.

"We're absolutely delighted to have so many of these exceptionally talented students in our faculty,"

see Students, page 2

• *Graduates build community, pages 5-8* • *Congregation schedule, page 9*

First class

Continued from page 1

of a newsroom. They are also schooled in contemporary journalistic issues, ethics and responsibilities as well as deadlines, interview techniques and the need for accuracy.

The philosophy of the school is that journalists need superior academic skills as well as excellent journalistic skills. Required courses are one-third academic.

The faculty include visiting lecturer Peter C. Newman, one of Canada's best-known journalists, authors and editors, Assoc. Prof. Stephen Ward, a former Canadian Press foreign correspondent and bureau chief, and a long list of leading journalists who are associated with the school.

Student research has emphasized current journalistic issues, especially the impact of new media on conventional communication.

Seminars, conferences and special lecturers involving the public have a similar focus. Brown bag lunch sessions alone have provided a warehouse of journalistic insight and experience from the world's leading journalists.

"An outstanding success," is how Logan categorizes the first class and the first two years of the school, which is part of the Faculty of Arts and governed by the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

The entrance requirements include superior performance at the baccalaureate level and some in the class will capitalize on their expertise by reporting in specialized areas such as law or science. Others will raise the standards in traditional venues or excel in unimagined areas.

You're only as good as your last story is an old journalism cliché.

"Work terms included *Time Magazine, The Hong Kong Standard,* wire services and national television networks, newspapers in Vancouver and Regina," reports Logan. "The uniform response from the editors has been rave reviews. We have high expectations."

Research

Continued from page 1

Sciences and Engineering Research Council and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research—in partnership with CFI and Industry Canada.

Students

Continued from page 1

says Science Dean Maria Klawe. "We know they will excel in academic areas and will join the many other science students who make outstanding service contributions to the university and community each year."

Established in 1986, the awards are based on students' academic achievements and outstanding service to their communities and schools. They include a medal of recognition and a $5,000 scholarship to attend a B.C. university, college or institute.

The students who chose UBC are: Ryan Alkins, Sardis; Pavanjeet Bhatti, Kitimat; Laura Blue, Victoria; Carly Buchanan, North Vancouver; Anna Chau, Vancouver; Andrew Horne, Kamloops; Beverley Martin, Nanaimo; Jared Mawhorter, Prince George; Catherine Neish, Penticton; Melissa Tan, Coquitlam; Erik Weins, Langley; and Amanda Wilmer, Grand Forks.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Honorary degree nominations for 2001

The Tributes Committee is seeking nominations of outstanding candidates for honorary degrees to be awarded in 2001.

Nominations or requests for nomination forms should be mailed to: Chair, Tributes Committee, c/o Ceremonies and Events Office, 2029 West Mall, Campus Zone 2. DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS is Friday, June 30, 2000.

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2000
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Barn Coffee Shop		7:45am - 3:30pm
Edibles Snack Bar	Jul 5 - Aug 11	8:00am - 1:30pm
IRC Snack Bar		8:00am - 3:15pm
MOA Cafe inside MOA Lobby		10:30am - 4:00pm
The Trek Express		7:30am - 4:00pm
99 Chairs		8:00am - 4:00pm
Pacific Spirit Place	Daily	7:00am - 2:15pm
SUBWAY at S.U.B.	**M - F**	**7:00am - 7:30pm**
	S & S	**10:30am - 4:00pm**
Espresso On the Go	M - F	7:00am - 4:00pm
Steamies at the Bookstore	M - F	9:30am - 3:00pm
SAGE *Sage* at the University Centre	M - F	11:00am - 2:30pm
Sage Tapas	(begins May 15)	3:30pm - 8:00pm

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Top teachers set the stage for education

One of the campuses top teachers wants students to know you can look foolish and still make a point

by **Hilary Thomson** staff writer

A UNIQUE HYBRID of improvisational theatre and speech language pathology is what students can expect to find in **Barbara Bernhardt**'s classes.

An associate professor in the School of Audiology and Speech Sciences, Bernhardt is one of 22 faculty members to receive University Killam Teaching Prizes during Spring Congregation.

Losing inhibitions and learning to take risks to help children overcome communication disorders is a critical skill for speech language pathologists, says Bernhardt.

That's where the 'Good Speech Fairy' comes in.

Bernhardt uses the costumed character, complete with magic wand, to foster students' creativity.

"They need to know you can look foolish and still make a point," says Bernhardt, who was a clinical speech pathologist before joining the school in 1990. "When they're working with kids, they'll need that spontaneity and sense of fun."

A regular student at improv theatre classes, she uses the mental and verbal agility learned there to teach students how to incorporate fun role-playing into their interactions with kids.

In addition to the 'Good Speech Fairy,' she uses the 'Fun Lab,' a light-hearted title for the phonetics lab. The lab sees students engaging each other in activities that teach children how to produce the phonetics or sounds of adult language.

Speech language pathology includes a broad scope of communication disorders ranging from structural problems such as cleft palate to cognitive difficulties or impairment from hearing loss. Many clients are children.

Determined to tie real-life interactions to theoretical frameworks, Bernhardt recently brought children and parents into the classroom to work with pairs of students over a period of three months. Students ordinarily do not become actively involved in assessment and treatment with clients until their external placements after first year.

"I'm committed to the philosophy that you learn what you do," says the teacher of three graduate courses. "I wanted to take students to a level beyond a discussion of case studies."

Students, parents and children responded enthusiastically to the experiment, she adds.

Self-described as "far off the norm as an academic," Bernhardt initially studied modern languages but was encouraged by one of her professors to find her social conscience. Speech language pathology offered her a helping career and teaching has allowed her to positively influence others, she says.

Outside the classroom, Bernhardt maintains a small clinical practice and collaborates with community groups in researching the effectiveness of speech therapies for children. She is also involved in UBC interdisciplinary studies looking at issues such as the role of computer technology in speech language pathology.

Killam Teaching Prize winners are selected by their faculties based on recommendations from students and colleagues. A prize of $5,000 from endowment sources is given to each winner.

Prize citations offer a snapshot of teaching at UBC:

Genetics ethicist Prof. **Michael Burgess** of Graduate Studies is said to epitomize the interdisciplinary vision of the faculty. Graduate students from areas ranging from nursing to philosophy say Burgess shows that ethics is not just about theorizing, but how we live.

Revolutionizing the way in which conversational Italian is taught at UBC is how students describe the work of **Luisa Canuto**, sessional instructor in French, Hispanic and Italian Studies.

Forestry Assoc. Prof. **Scott Hinch** passionately believes that students must become stewards of all natural resources, not just trees. He was instrumental in expanding the aquatic ecology and fisheries conservation curriculum.

Serguei Novocelskii, a sessional instructor in the Dept. of Mathematics, was an award-winning university teacher in Russia who has given many UBC students a mathematical awakening, helped them overcome anxieties and develop a passion for mathematics.

Asian Studies Prof. **Daniel Overmyer** has been known to conduct tutorials on Chinese funeral practices from his sickbed and is respected by students for his promotion of empathetic thinking.

Other Killam Teaching Prize recipients for 2000 include:

Faculty of Applied Science: **Avrum Soudack**, Electrical and Computer Engineering; **Kevin Smith**, Chemical Engineering · Faculty of Arts: **Thomas Kemple**, Anthropology and Sociology; Peter Loeffler, Theatre, Film and Creative Writing; **Robert McDonald**, History · Faculty of Commerce and Business Administration: **Keith Head** · Faculty of Dentistry: **Edward Putnins**, Oral Biological and Medical Sciences · Faculty of Education: **Marilyn Chapman**, Language and Literacy Education; **Linda Farr Darling**, Curriculum Studies · Faculty of Graduate Studies: **Kenneth Craig**, Psychology · Faculty of Law: **Liz Edinger**, associate dean · Faculty of Medicine: **Andrew Seal**, Surgery; **Niamh Kelly**, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine · Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences: **Mary Ensom** · Faculty of Science: **Geoffrey Herring**, Chemistry; **Philip Loewen**, Mathematics.

One of 22 faculty members to receive a Killam Teaching Prize, Speech Sciences Assoc Prof. Barbara Bernhardt works wonders in the classroom with her magic wand. The prop is part of a costumed character she uses to foster students' creativity. *Hilary Thomson photo*

Putting students first earns awards

Geography and Commerce recognized for innovations

A SENIOR WRITING INSTRUCTOR lauded for her tireless commitment to helping students succeed and a graduate student who spearheaded a drive for student health and dental benefits are among the winners of this year's student development awards.

Judy Brown (left), Candace Hofmann

English instructor Judy Brown and Psychology PhD candidate Candace Hofmann were named recipients of the Margaret Fulton Individual Award. The award recognizes individuals on campus who have made a significant contribution to students' lives.

"It's a lovely surprise," says Brown.

In addition to teaching, Brown spends up to 10 hours a week advising students. She also finds the time to recruit faculty members for Imagine UBC's year-long mentoring program for first-year students .

Hofmann worked on the Alma Mater Society/ Graduate Student Society Health and Dental Plan which was launched in January. Her efforts are cited as being instrumental.

The Geography Dept. received the Alfred Scow Undergraduate Program Award. Its proposed course, Geography 447, would see students perform fieldwork in the community.

The Faculty of Commerce MBA program received the Peter Larkin Graduate Program Award for its unique 15-month program, most notably a 13-week course which combines seven key business disciplines.

The Helen McCrae Student Service Award was given to the Alma Mater Society Tutoring Services and the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences Teaching Support Group.

Tutoring Services made improvements to its first-year tutoring services. Pharmaceutical Sciences offers a peer-teaching program and a Web site which allows teachers to share information, tools and techniques.

The awards are named in honour of former members of the university community who have made major contributions to student life at UBC.

Established in 1998 by the Campus Advisory Board on Student Development (CABSD), they recognize contributions to the student experience and learning environment at UBC. The board comprises representatives from across campus.

Twenty-three nominations were submitted for the awards.

HEADLINERS

UBC's little engine that could, does

Canadian Business · May 1, p. 49

Over two decades UBC's University-Industry Liaison Office (UILO) has spun off a whopping 90 companies. That alone makes it the No. 1 incubator in Canada. But on top of that, David Jones and his colleagues have filed a staggering 800 patents in biotechnology, medical sciences and engineering on behalf of UBC. And about 80 per cent of all the companies they've spun off remain active, a survivability rate up there with the portfolios of the hottest venture capitalists in Silicon Valley.

"UBC is the most successful office of its type in Canada, and probably one of the very few at the top of North America," says Westport Innovations CEO David Demers, adding that his company wouldn't even be here today if it weren't for the UILO.

B.C. universities provide base for industry

The Province · April 30, p. A41

"The strength of the Canadian biotechnology industry is its superb academic base," says Bruce Schmidt, chairman of the B.C. Biotechnology Alliance, the umbrella group that represents more than 80 companies in the sector.

More than 60 per cent of biotech companies here are spun out of B.C. universities or started by B.C. scientists.

Competitive edge honed by education

The Globe and Mail · May 3, Commentary

Economic and technological transformations are completely altering the way we do business. In the former economy, for example, money followed resources; today it follows knowledge and people. In this environment, a strong education system and access to lifelong learning are guarantors of social harmony and prosperity.

calendar

MAY 14 THROUGH JUNE 17

SUNDAY, MAY 14

Perennial Plant Sale
Mother's Day At The Garden. UBC Botanical Garden from 10am-4pm. Call 822-4529; 822-9666.

Pacific Spirit Run
TRIUMF from 9am. $25 incl. T-shirt and lunch. Web site: www.pacificspiritrun.com. Call 877-3340.

MONDAY, MAY 15

Health Services Seminar
Public Attitudes To Tragic Choices: Measurement And Policy Uses Of Citizen And Physician Preferences For National Health Insurance Coverage. David Chinitz, lecturer, Hadassah School of Public Health, Hebrew U. IRC #414 from 12noon-1pm. Call 822-4969.

TUESDAY, MAY 16

Member Speaker Series
Eyes, Hands And Faces: Demystifying American Sign Language. Denise Chow, Educational Counselling Psychology and Special Education. Green College at 5:30pm. Call 822-1878.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17

Orthopedics Grand Rounds
Reconstruction Of Cartilage Defects In The Ankle. Dr. A. Younger. VGH, Eye Care Centre Aud. at 7am. Call 875-4192.

Board Of Governors Meeting
Open Session begins at 8am. OAB Board and Senate room. Fifteen tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis on application to the Board Secretary at least 24 hrs. before each meeting. To confirm date and time, check under Board *Announcements on the Board home* page prior to the meeting at www.bog.ubc.ca. Call 822-2127.

THURSDAY, MAY 18

Pathology Distinguished Lecture
On Selection And Maintenance Of The T Cell Repertoire. Charles D. Surh, Immunology, Scripps Research Institute. VGH, Eye Care Centre Aud. at 8am. Call 875-2490.

Engineering And Architecture Continuing Education
UBC Building Regulation And Permitting Process Seminar Session 2. ForSciences 1615 from 8am-3:15pm. $150 includes course materials, refreshments, certificate. To register call 822-3347.

Peter Wall Institute Theme Development Workshop
Perspectives On Creativity—A Discussion Of A Potential Research Agenda On Aspects Of Creativity. University Centre 307 from 12:30-2pm. To register e-mail kcollie@interchange.ubc.ca. Call 822-1979; 222-1219.

Genetics Graduate Program Seminar
Hormonal Controls On C. Elegans Development And Longevity. Don Riddle, Molecular Biology Program, U of Missouri. Wesbrook 100 at 3:30pm. Refreshments. Call 822-8764.

Cosmological Interdisciplinary Research And Education Group
Breaking News: Future Of The Cosmos Revealed? Mark Halpern, Physics and Astronomy. Green College at 5pm. Call 822-1878.

Senate Meeting
Regular Meeting Of The Senate. UBC's Academic Parliament. Curtis 102 at 8pm. Call 822-2951.

FRIDAY, MAY 19

Pediatric Grand Rounds
Hepatobiliary Disease In CF: Clinical Recognition, Diagnosis And Therapy. Various speakers. GF Strong Aud. from 9-10am. Call 875-2307.

SUNDAY, MAY 21

International Sports Championships
10th World Veterans Table Tennis Championships. War Memorial Gym from 4-5pm. Continues to May 27. $20/day; $50/week. Call 681-2153.

FRIDAY, MAY 26

Health Care And Epidemiology Rounds
Prevention Of Congenital Rubella Syndromes In Nepal. Dr. Pratt Johnson, Dr. Samten Tenzing, Dr. Basaut Sharma. Mather 253 from 9-10am. Paid parking available in Lot B. Call 822-2772.

Pediatric Grand Rounds
Food Allergy: La Nouvelle Cuisine. John Dean, clinical associate professor, Allergy Division. GF Strong Aud. from 9-10am. Call 875-2307.

Chemoprevention Group Seminar
Chemoprevention Of Mutation In A Transgenic Rodent Model. Dr. Johan de Boer, Centre for Environmental Health, U of Victoria. BC Cancer Research Centre Lecture Theatre from 12noon-1pm. Call Dr. Kirsten Skov at 877-6098, local 3021.

Genetics Graduate Program Seminar
Genomic Complexity Of The Mouse Ly49 Multigene Family: Identification And Characterization Of Novel Genes. Karina McQueen. BC Cancer Research Centre Lecture Theatre at 4pm. Refreshments. Call 822-8764.

MONDAY, MAY 29

Scholastic Book Fair
Take The Road To Reading. Pacific Spirit Daycare of UBC Child Care Services, 5580 Osoyoos Crescent. Continues to June 2. Call 822-5420.

Member Speaker Series
Linguistic Exploration Of Stress And Tone In Tahltan. John Alderete, Linguistics. Green College at 5:30pm. Call 822-1878.

TUESDAY, MAY 30

Cultural And Media Studies
International Monetary Systems In The Ancient World And Today. Robert Mundell, Nobel laureate, Economics, Columbia U. Green College at 4pm. To confirm time check www.greencollege.ubc.ca. Call 822-1878.

FRIDAY, JUNE 2

Health Care And Epidemiology Rounds
Public Health Risks From Antimicrobial Use In Animals. Dr. Craig Stephen, director, Centre for Coastal Health; Dr. William Bowie, professor, Medicine, VGH. Mather 253 from 9-10am. Paid parking available in Lot B. Call 822-2772.

Pediatric Grand Rounds
Permanent Hearing Loss: Update On Early Identification, Medical Diagnosis and Audiological Intervention. Various speakers. GF Strong Aud. from 9-10am. Call 875-2307.

MONDAY, JUNE 5

Chalmers Institute Seminar
Frontline Ministry: Church Secretaries Retreat And Workshop. Margaret Jonsson; various speakers. VST from 9:30am-3:30pm. Continues to June 6. To register e-mail: cl@vst.edu. Call 822-9815.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7

Biotechnology Lab Seminar
Telomeres And Stem Cells. Dr. Peter Lansdorp, BC Cancer Agency. Wesbrook 100 at 3:30pm. Refreshments. Call Dr. W. Jefferies at 822-6961.

FRIDAY, JUNE 9

Health Care And Epidemiology Rounds
British Columbia Longitudinal Study On The Effects Of Prenatal Alcohol And Tobacco Exposure And Socio Demographic Risk Conditions: Methods And Preliminary Results. Anne George, Institute of Health Promotion Research. Mather 253 from 9-10am. Paid parking available in Lot B. Call 822-2772.

Pediatric Grand Rounds
Gene, Gene-Gene And Gene-Environment Interactions In The Etiology Of Human Obesity. Claude Bouchard, executive director, Pennington Biomedical Research Centre, Louisiana State U. GF Strong Aud. from 9-10am. Call 875-2307.

SUNDAY, JUNE 11

Chalmers Institute Seminar
Dreams And Soul-Healing. Janet Cawley, reverend. VST from 7pm. Continues to June 16 from 8:30am-3pm. To register e-mail cl@vst.edu. Call 822-9815.

FRIDAY, JUNE 16

Health Care And Epidemiology Rounds
Linking Research And Regionalization: Health Decision Making. Jim Frankish, Brenda Kwan, Institute of Health Promotion Research. Mather 253 from 9-10am. Paid parking available in Lot B. Call 822-2772.

Pediatric Grand Rounds
Hope In The Face Of Reality. Dr. Caron Strahlendorf, oncologist, B.C. Children's Hosp. GF Strong Aud. from 9-10am. Call 875-2307.

SATURDAY, JUNE 17

B.C. Youth Parliament's Dessert And Auction
Ninth Annual Dessert And Auction. The Arbutus Club, 2001 Nanton at 7:30pm. Proceeds to Camp Phoenix for underprivileged kids. $21; $ 36 pair. E-mail communityfundraising@bcyp.bc.ca. Call 737-4335.

NOTICES

Food Services Summer Hours
UBC Food Services summer hours continue to Aug. 28. See our ad in this issue, visit www.foodserv.ubc.ca or call 822-3663 (UBC-FOOD).

UBC Campus Tours
Summer walking tours of the campus will be operating from Monday to Friday from 10am-1pm on a drop-in basis. For large groups or special request tours, you may also book ahead by calling 822-8687 (UBC-TOUR) between 8:30am-4:30pm .

TRIUMF Public Tours
Tours are available every Wednesday and Friday to May 31 starting at 1pm (last approx. one hr. 15 min). Group tours may be arranged by calling the TRIUMF Information Office 222-7355.

Cognition And Emotion Study
Seeking participants to explore the cognitive effects of emotion. Earn $5 by completing a questionnaire. Some participants will be invited to earn $25 more in two 60-90 minute sessions. Call 822-2022.

Contemporary Art Exhibition
Tone: Lessons of Solitude. Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery. 10am-5pm. Continues to June 4. Open from Tuesday-Friday 10am-5pm; Saturday-Sunday from 12noon-5pm. Admission: $3 adults; $2 seniors; free for students, UBC faculty and staff with valid ID. Visit the Web site at www.belkin-gallery.ubc.ca or call 822-2759.

Gardens' Hours Of Operation
The Nitobe Memorial Garden, UBC Botanical Garden, and the Shop in the Garden are open to October 2000 from 10am-6pm daily (including weekends). Inquiries for the gardens should call 822-9666 and for the Shop in the Garden 822-4529.

Sage Bistro
To the faculty, students, administration and admirers of the University of British Columbia we present Sage Bistro at the University Centre. Truly food for thought...Sage is open Monday through Friday from 11am-2pm. Tapas will be served on the patio from May 15 to Oct. 15 from the hours of 3:30-8pm. Our luncheon menu changes weekly and features a wide selection of wines by the quarter litre and glass. For reservations please call 822-1500.

Research Study
Volunteer subjects needed for study on aging and speech understanding. Must be native English speakers 18-30 or 60-80 years old with good hearing in both ears. Involves one two-hour session on UBC campus. $15 honorarium. Call Wendy Lam at 263-0677 or e-mail wendylam@audiospeech.ubc.ca .

Premenstrual Asthma Study
UBC/St. Paul's Hospital researchers are seeking females with asthma and regular menstrual cycles for a study on estrogen's effects on asthma symptoms and lung function. Must be 18-45 years of age, non-smokers, and NOT taking birth control pills. Honorarium and free peak flow meter provided. If interested, please call 875-2886.

Parkinson's Research
A research team from UBC is asking for the assistance of people with Parkinson's to participate in research. This research is aimed at understanding how Parkinson's may affect complex activities such as managing multiple tasks. Participation involves performing fairly simple tasks, some of which involve responding verbally to computer, screen displays. The general goal of this work is to develop effective methods of coping with Parkinson's. If you are a healthy person of the age 50 years or older, we are also in need of several people to participate in this study as part of a non-Parkinson's comparison group. If you would like to participate or require more information, please contact Todd Woodward, Psychology 822-3227.

Sexual Assault Research
The Anxiety and Fear Laboratory in the Dept. of Psychology requires female volunteers who have experienced unwanted sexual activity, to participate in a research project. If you have ever had sex with someone when you didn't want to, because the other person continued the event when you said no, forced or threatened to force you, or because you were given alcohol or drugs, and you would be interested in helping us with our research, please call 822-9028. Confidentiality and privacy protected.

Museum Of Anthropology Exhibition
Attributed To Edenshaw: Identifying The Hand Of The Artist. Continues to July 31. Three Case Studies Northwest Coast Art. Continues to Sept. 10. Raven's Reprise: Contemporary Works by First Nations Artists. Continues to Jan. 31 2001. Conversations: The Tecson Philippine Collection. www.moa.ubc.ca or call 822-5087 or 822-5950.

Child Behaviour Research
How do parents see challenging child behaviours? We are asking parents of 7-14-year-olds to tell us by completing an anonymous, 30-minute questionnaire. You can receive the results. Please call Assoc. Prof. Johnston's lab, 822-9037.

CALENDAR POLICY AND DEADLINES

The *UBC Reports* Calendar lists university-related or university-sponsored events on campus and off campus within the Lower Mainland. Calendar items must be submitted on forms available from the UBC Public Affairs Office, 310 – 6251 Cecil Green Park Road, Vancouver BC, V6T 1Z1. Phone: UBC-info (822-4636). Fax: 822-2684. An electronic form is available at www.publicaffairs.ubc.ca. Please limit to 35 words. Submissions for the Calendar's Notices section may be limited due to space. Deadline for the June 15 issue of *UBC Reports*—which covers the period June 18 to July 15—is noon, June 6.

FEATURE

Graduates build community

Tomorrow's leaders take charge of their future in disciplines ranging from law to animal welfare

From providing legal advice for abused women to pro bono work for non-profit organizations, Law graduate Mojdeh Shahriari, seen here with son Tascha, seeks justice. *Bruce Mason photo*

A dance for social justice

A mother, dancer, filmmaker and now lawyer finds her own beat seeking opportunities to "build a better world"

by Bruce Mason staff writer

TASCHA IS QUICK to answer.

"I'm three-years-eight-months old."

So what about his mother's new Law degree?

"I guess she's my mother and a lawyer now. We still dance."

"I made fundamental changes when he arrived," says Mojdeh Shahriari, dancer, filmmaker and single mother with an intense passion for social justice.

"I'm proud and honoured to have volunteered with the Law Students' Legal Advice Program (LSLAP)," she says. "I've worked with abused women, people with welfare and employment insurance problems and some who were in a lot of trouble, but couldn't afford a lawyer."

LSLAP is a student initiative in the Faculty of Law which provides free legal advice and representation to the poor and disadvantaged. In 30 years it has grown into a non-profit organization of 150 dedicated volunteer student clinicians staffing more than 25 legal clinics across the Greater Vancouver Regional District year-round.

Shahriari was also the first director of Pro Bono Students Canada at UBC, which provides volunteer law students for non-profit organizations.

"I left my native Iran for political reasons in the mid-'80s and pursued the only double honours bachelor's degree in Film Studies and Sociology ever at UBC," she recalls. Comfortable in the combination of art and advocacy that film provided, she earned a master's degree in Film Studies in 1994.

"As an independent filmmaker I could say what I had to say and survive by finding odd jobs," she says. "But the financial pressures of raising a child forced me to consider options. Law wasn't too alien and would provide opportunities to help build a better world."

The courses were technical and corporate. There was more memorization than discussion and critical analysis. But she excelled in small group seminars and LSLAP.

"I'm finding my balance," says Shahriari, who is now articling with the law firm Peterson Stark.

Schooled in Persian dance, she founded the local dance troupe Atash 10 years ago. Tascha is among the 15 to 35 member/performers.

"We danced on TV," he reports, beaming from her embrace.

Graduate prescribes flexibility

Mentor helps inspire Pharmaceutical Sciences graduate to residency at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children

by Hilary Thomson staff writer

HER HOMETOWN OF TRAIL, B.C. was just the first of many communities that make up Elaine Chong's world.

"I think the word community is defined by people rather than places," says the Pharmaceutical Sciences graduate. "My different facets put me in a multitude of communities—I guess I really can be in two places at one time."

Attracted to Pharmaceutical Sciences because it offered "a flexible degree," Chong has established her own multi-disciplinary sphere of students, teachers, mentors and employers.

Her academic credits include numerous scholarships and honours. A 1999/2000 Wesbrook Scholar, she is one of the first pharmacy students to be awarded this distinction. She is also an executive member of UBC's chapter of the Golden Key National Honour Society, an international group of academic top achievers.

Thanks to last year's studentship with pharmaceutical manufacturer Janssen-Ortho Inc., she has also explored clinical research, sales and marketing and medical information services.

Working at Children's and Women's Health Centre of B.C. with clinical researcher Mary Ensom—someone she describes as inspirational—helped convince Chong to specialize in hospital pharmacy. She is about to start a one-year residency at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children.

"My residency gives me the chance to practise pharmaceutical care on the wards—it will open doors to further professional development," says Chong, who is also a fluent Cantonese speaker.

Her intellectual demands are balanced by what she describes as "a huge part of my life"—music.

An accomplished performer and teacher who started playing piano at age three, Chong regularly performs with her sister, Gina, also a Pharmaceutical Sciences student.

Elaine Chong

After her residency, Chong plans to pursue a Doctor of Pharmacy degree as well as a Doctor of Philosophy in Pharmacy and sees herself in a career that combines teaching, research and clinical practice.

"Coming to UBC made me a small fish in a big pond," she says. "I'll miss the comfortable pond I came from, but I'm looking forward to the expanse of ocean ahead."

Educator's vision gives hometown global voice

Mario Lopez plans to open an English school when he returns to Oaxaca, Mexico

by Bruce Mason staff writer

HE IS THE FIRST of his family's nine children to be educated outside Mexico and Mario Lopez's goal is that others from his country will seize global opportunities. He is establishing a Spanish/English school in his hometown Oaxaca for lower income people.

Research for his master's degree in Language and Literacy Education explored parental views of the value of literacy education in his hometown. He will apply what he learned at UBC about emergent literacy to design his school's curriculum.

"English schools only exist for the elite," he explains. "Mine will educate lower and middle class students so that they can get better jobs in tourism and other areas, or go on to university which requires English in upper levels. Without it, they can't compete."

Mario recalls his mother saying, "Your education is your job. It is your responsibility to be somebody. Take it."

Parental encouragement paid off. Among the Lopez children are two accountants, a chemist, a dental technician, an architect, two secretaries and a teacher.

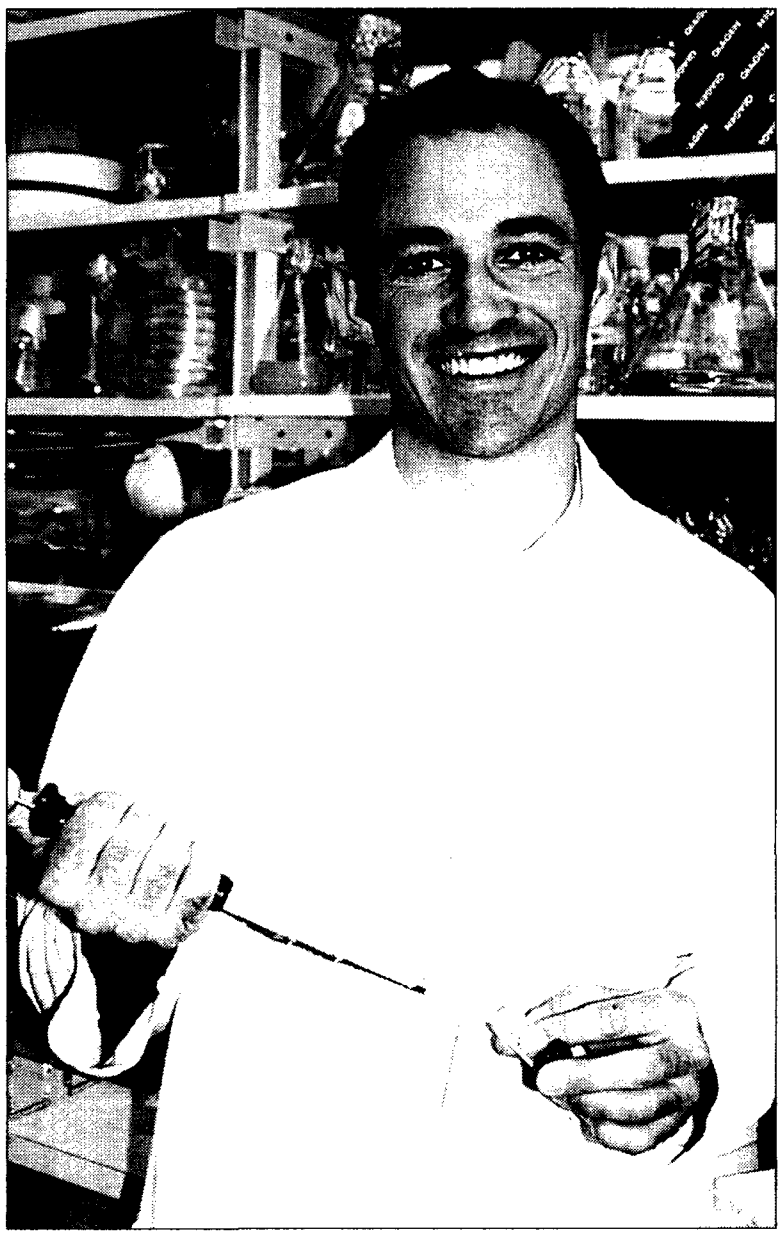
Mario Lopez

"My research found very strong support for literacy and English education among all the socio-economic classes in Oaxaca," he says.

Mario arrived in B.C. with a scholarship to the Canadian International College. He immediately began organizing exchanges between Canadian teachers and Mexican students, which eventually involved 25 teachers.

Two of the teachers, Clayton

see School page 6



Part of a new generation of biotechnology scientists, Kim MacDonald looks forward to engaging in the debate set off by science's attempt to find new solutions to old agricultural problems. *Bruce Mason photo*

Onus on society, says biotech grad

"Everyone is affected and understandably many people are frightened," says Kim MacDonald

by Bruce Mason staff writer

"THE BEAUTY AND MAGIC we see every day such as flowers blooming and other wonders are recapitulated at the sub-microscopic level," says Kim MacDonald, who has earned a Master of Science degree.

Typical of students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies, MacDonald's education and future is multidisciplinary.

Part of a new generation of biotechnology scientists who have touched off global debate—particularly regarding genetically modified foods—he looks forward to engaging in ongoing dialogue.

"We are rapidly discovering the functions of many genes and applying this knowledge to old agricultural problems," he says. "Our very sustenance is involved, everyone is affected and understandably, many people are frightened."

"To make appropriate decisions, we have to consider all of society's needs," MacDonald adds.

Well aware that scientists must communicate, he wants to teach courses to the general public. Rather than indoctrinate, he hopes to share information, to ask questions and learn.

MacDonald is also part of a generation of highly trained Canadians being courted by global corporations. Many job opportunities exist south of the border.

"Money alone won't provide what I want and it's too much of a compromise to give up my family and everything I have in Canada," explains the avid mountain biker, hiker, camper and skier who grew up in Horseshoe Bay. A skater since age six, he competed at the national level until several years ago.

It was then that MacDonald threw himself into genetics and began research with Brian Ellis, a professor of Agricultural Sciences and co-chair of UBC's Biotechnology Laboratory. Ellis was recently selected for Canada's Expert Panel on the Future of Food Biotechnology.

MacDonald is currently working as a research assistant in the lab of another UBC pioneer, geneticist Jim Kronstad, an associate professor of Plant Science, Microbiology and Immunology in the Biotechnology Laboratory. He is involved in a project to understand causes of fungal meningitis.

"Science has the ability to offer solutions," MacDonald says, "but all of society must decide which ones we will embrace."

Engineer sets mentorship gears in motion for others

She didn't know any female engineers growing up, but she's making sure today's youngsters will

by Andy Poon staff writer

CIVIL ENGINEERING CO-OP student Rozlyn Bubela's fascination with building things began at the tender age of eight when she and her older sister helped their father build their family cabin on Quesnel Lake.

"We didn't do the actual hammering but we did help with the strategy—things like how far did we want it to be from the water and such," recounts Bubela.

With her father an auto mechanic and her mother a teacher, it seems natural for Bubela to embrace a profession that would involve hands-on work, problem-solving and learning.

The 23-year-old Dean's Honour List student, who admits to a fondness for number puzzles and math competitions, says she doesn't recall knowing any female engineers when she was a young girl.

"Women in particular may have the skills for engineering but not the support or know about the opportunities out there for them, especially at a young age," Bubela says.

She is doing something about that.

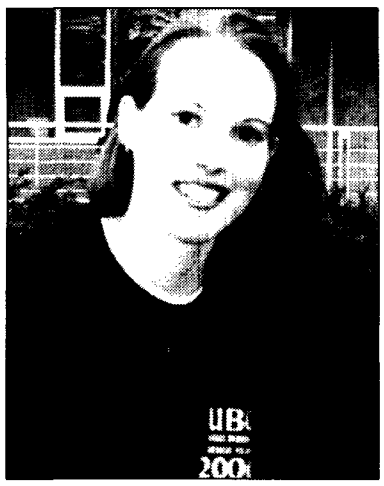
Besides speaking at conferences encouraging young women to consider sciences and engineering as a career option, she set up a Women in Engineering Web link off the UBC homepage and is active in the Scientists and Innovators in the Schools (SIS) program.

SIS, a Science World and B.C. Information, Science and Technology Agency initiative, brings volunteer scientists, engineers and technologists into the province's elementary and high schools to give demonstrations to spark students' interest.

"I am hoping to get some teachers in Quesnel to tap into this resource," says the former 1993/94 Miss Quesnel whose sister Teresa also won the title the previous year.

And while Bubela—the undergraduate winner of the 1999 Premier's Awards for Young Women in Science—has been interviewing with companies as graduation nears, she is leaning towards working on a master's degree in structural and earthquake engineering, most likely at UBC.

"If you want to work in Canada and you want to work in seismic, you should be in B.C."



Rozlyn Bubela

Hands-on teaching informs career choice

Graduate goes to the front of the class to teach first-year calculus

by Andy Poon staff writer

AS THE END OF THE SCHOOL year drew near, 21-year-old Scott MacLachlan was busy preparing for exams but with a twist. Not only was the Computer Science and Mathematics student studying for exams; he was also drafting one.

"It's a lot harder than you think to put together an exam," says MacLachlan, who has the distinction of being the only undergraduate instructing his own section of a course in the Faculty of Science. This year, he taught about 30 students Math 100, the introductory calculus course at UBC.

MacLachlan admits to being nervous when he faced his first class in January but he says the butterflies disappeared almost immediately.

"As soon as I put the chalk to the chalkboard and got going, the nervousness disappeared," he says. "I really love it. The feedback you get from students and the chance to teach them about math is something I enjoy."

Scott MacLachlan

Student evaluations of MacLachlan's performance have been overwhelmingly positive says Mathematics Dept. head Prof. George Bluman.

"He's done a fabulous job," says Bluman. "He's one of our best instructors."

Although MacLachlan excels academically, he has also managed to find time to be heavily involved in student politics as well as volunteering in the community.

The recipient of numerous scholarships and awards, MacLachlan has twice been named a Wesbrook Scholar at UBC. The honour is given each year to the top 20 undergraduate students at UBC. Recipients are selected on the basis of academic achievement and community leadership.

MacLachlan was a student senator-at-large on the UBC Senate this year and served on the board of directors of the Alma Mater Society. He is also a member of the executive of the 2000 Grad Class Council and volunteered with Vancouver's South Slope Family YMCA.

"I am really interested in getting involved and getting things done," says MacLachlan.

He will start a doctorate degree in Applied Mathematics at the University of Colorado this fall with the goal to eventually become a professor.

School

Continued from page 5

and Susan Knowlton, offered to help him out with room and board and he supported himself as a graduate research assistant in UBC's Language Education Research Centre. He also worked as a peer adviser for his department and helped plan and develop a graduate student conference which included 25 presentations of student work from the University of Washington and UBC.

"He is quite extraordinary," says Education Prof. Lee Gunderson. "Not only did he organize social events to make the department more welcoming, he is renowned for his guitar playing, his singing in different languages, and his dancing. He has a talent for getting others, including faculty, up on the dance floor."

Mario is now encouraging others to get involved in his school. He will need English books which are expensive in Mexico. His e-mail address is lopezmario@hotmail.com.

Training has teeth at home and abroad

Volunteer experience reinforces pair's commitment to studies and chosen profession

by Hilary Thomson staff writer

PROVIDING DENTAL CARE to under-served communities is not an unusual dentistry assignment—except when it means treating inmates in African prisons.

Faculty of Dentistry graduates Cindee Dupuis and Joey Dahlstrom spent two weeks last May practising dentistry in Benin, a French-speaking country located west of Nigeria that has about the same population as B.C.

"We became interested in volunteering abroad after hearing about a faculty member's trip," says Dahlstrom.

"We both felt a need to renew our commitment to the profession and this project gave us that opportunity."

The pair joined a 17-person team organized by a non-profit U.S. society. It included an oral surgeon, doctors, a pharmacist, nurses and physical therapists.

Together the group travelled through the country treating inmates at six of the country's seven prisons. Each prison held from 200-1,500 inmates.

Because of the prisoners' poor dental health, extractions were the treatment of choice.

"I pulled more teeth in one day than in all of my third-year oral surgery rotations," says Dupuis, who estimates they each extracted about 20 teeth per 12-hour day, often working in 40 degree heat.

There was no electricity available so they operated using flashlights with instruments and supplies brought from home. Lawn furniture took the place of dental chairs, buckets served as spitoons and flies came in droves.

But the primitive conditions didn't matter to inmates who had never before been visited by a health-care team.

"These prisoners were some of the nicest, most appreciative patients," says Dahlstrom. "They thanked us by singing or giving us a piece of fruit."

After returning home, the pair picked up their studies and their sports. Both are members of their faculty's ball hockey team which recently earned the gold medal in intramural competition. Dupuis also plays ice hockey and Dahlstrom is a marathon runner.

"The experience in Benin was very satisfying from a professional perspective," says Dupuis. "It showed me that all this studying could help me be of real service."

Both graduates enjoyed the Beninese culture's emphasis on social interaction and family relationships and were impressed by people's happiness and generosity despite poor living conditions.

A job in her hometown of Duncan is Dahlstrom's next stop and Dupuis is working in Salmon Arm.

They may not make it back to Africa, but they agree that volunteer assignments will always be part of their professional life.

Pulling teeth in 40 degree heat near the heart of Africa was an experience Dentistry graduates Joey Dahlstrom (left) and Cindee Dupuis are unlikely to forget. *Hilary Thomson photo*

'Forests forever' pledges scholar

Nothing will keep this conservationist out of the woods

by Andy Poon staff writer

SLOGGING THROUGH ROUGH, wooded terrain with a backpack under a hot sun gathering plant samples may not be everybody's idea of a delightful afternoon. For Forestry graduate Myriam Bloemhard though, it's something she enjoys and would like to share with everyone.

"Once you've been out there in the woods and you've experienced how peaceful and beautiful it is, you want it to be around forever," says Bloemhard, describing why she chose to pursue a degree in natural resource conservation.

She plans on a career in conservation policy interpretation, development and public education after graduation.

The self-proclaimed nature lover hasn't let a visual impairment—she has some vision in her right eye but none in her left—impede her studies.

Bloemhard completed a rigorous 15-credit field school and spent five months last fall in Canberra, Australia as an international exchange student studying forestry economics and German at the Australia National University. During that time, she backpacked and hiked around southern Australia for a month.

"It doesn't slow me down at all," says the likeable 27-year-old of her limited vision—the result of a childhood infection when she was two-and-a-half years old. "If the terrain gets really rough, I just use a walking stick."

In fact, Bloemhard doesn't let much slow her down. Case in point: since November she has had a two-hour commute by bus and Skytrain from her home in Langley to attend classes at UBC.

Myriam Bloemhard

Bloemhard was the founder and president of the university's VIP (Visually Impaired Persons) Club in 1997-98.

"I thought it was important to raise awareness of the issues facing visually-impaired people at UBC," she says. Besides bringing speakers to campus to talk about careers and options for visually-impaired students, Bloemhard is proud of the input that the club played in ensuring that new computers in the Crane Resource Centre addressed the needs of the visually impaired.

Having organized and presented talks to elementary students on environmental issues, Bloemhard is looking forward to raising awareness for environmental causes and issues professionally.

"In Canada we are so lucky that we have old growth forest left. In Europe, it's virtually gone. We must keep that from happening."

A mission in medicine

Sense of purpose compels pursuit of family medicine

by Hilary Thomson staff writer

INSPIRATION AND PERSPECTIVE are two words Winnie Su uses a lot. And listening to the medical graduate describe her world, it's easy to understand why.

As an undergraduate at Simon Fraser University (SFU) she heard the experiences of two medical missionaries. It convinced her to abandon plans to become a veterinarian and switch to medicine.

"I was inspired by what they had done and what they believed," says Su. "I love animals, but felt called to pursue medicine—it held a greater sense of purpose for me."

A lifelong Vancouver resident, Su is headed for a two-year residency in family medicine in Lower Mainland hospitals and community clinics.

Majoring in biology at SFU—where she made the honour roll for her last three years—gave her excellent academic preparation for medicine which she has supplemented with community volunteer activities.

Winnie Su

A palliative care course at Burnaby Hospice Society prepared Su—one of the youngest people in the class—to offer emotional support to bereaved people in her community.

"That experience gave me a lot of perspective," she says. "It made me think about where I stand and taught me acceptance of different viewpoints."

Fluent in Mandarin, Su has worked with young Asian immigrants, tutoring in language and academic subjects. For the past seven years, she has counselled and created programs for youth at her church where she also leads Bible study classes and plays the piano.

One of three daughters in a musical family and a piano and theory teacher for eight years, she finds music inspiring and an excellent stress reliever, along with painting and drawing.

Although Su has been involved in research for the last six years—both basic science and doctor-patient communications—her passion is clinical care.

"I want to be involved in the full scope of care from delivering babies to working with older people," she says.

After establishing a suburban practice, Su hopes to share her perspective and inspiration by working on medical missions.

Ian Clayton, one of the first 17 to graduate from UBC's School of Journalism, is part of a new wave of journalists, keen to provide context and perspective in the content-hungry Information Age. *Bruce Mason photo*

Lawyer turned scribe learns all the write stuff

Stints with CBC Newsworld and advanced studies lay groundwork for graduate to make people aware of issues

by Bruce Mason staff writer

IAN CLAYTON IS READY to report on the 21st century and share stories which will influence your life.

"I want to inform, provide context, perspective and objectivity on important issues to help make people aware so they can respond," says Clayton. He is one of the first 17 graduates to earn a master's degree from the UBC School of Journalism in the Faculty of Arts.

To get in and stay in the program—Western Canada's only graduate school for journalism, which emphasizes advanced academic study as well as practice—required hard work.

The son of two professors, Clayton earned a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Manitoba in his hometown of Winnipeg, and discovered a love of writing and telling stories while working on the student newspaper. That lingered as he completed a law degree at the University of Manitoba.

"I wanted to communicate with more people on a wide range of topics," says Clayton, explaining why he enrolled at the school when it opened in 1998.

He interned at CBC Newsworld in Toronto, where he wrote for newscasts, worked on Counterspin and Newsworld Today and wrote for CBC's Internet site.

A work term at Vancouver's Canadian Press bureau provided background for his thesis on the future of wire services in the highly charged Information Age.

"Deadlines are disappearing as news is covered in real time, online," he says. "Content is needed to feed technology's rapid growth. You could say the message is becoming the medium."

Clayton won't be confined to a law beat. Arts, sports, news, and business are equally appealing when you strive for "an accurate take and not being boring."

He credits the School of Journalism for providing a once-in-a-career opportunity to look in-depth at the myriad issues he faces as a journalist. The best in the business have lined up to share insights with the class. One-third of the credits Clayton earned were in disciplines outside journalism.

Clayton and his colleagues are good news for Canadians who complain about the media. Watch for his byline.

Campus experience began with daycare

If the university offers him a challenging position, he might never leave, says Commerce grad Jesse Sims

by Andy Poon staff writer

Jesse Sims

JESSE SIMS, THIS YEAR'S co-recipient of the Alumni Association's Outstanding Student Award, began his formal education at UBC as a toddler.

"I attended my first classes at UBC at Canada Goose Daycare," laughs the 22-year-old Bachelor of Commerce student. "I'll really miss this place when I graduate. If UBC offers me a challenging position I might never leave."

Every member of his family has taken classes at the university. His father completed his PhD in Forestry in the early '80s; his mother took psychology courses; his sister is currently doing an interdisciplinary PhD; his brother-in-law is in Law; and his niece is in daycare.

Sims moved to Ontario at age five, but returned to B.C. for university in part because the Registrar's Office sent letters and a scholarship offer that were "by far the most friendly and encouraging" compared to those from other universities he applied to.

A former Ontario Ski Team member, Sims spent much of his time during high school travelling and competing internationally, leaving him little opportunity to get involved in student activities. He set about to change that at UBC.

He quickly joined the Commerce Undergraduate Society and the Alma Mater Society. He chaired the 1999 UBC International Business Conference and co-chaired the event this year.

Sims values his experience in organizing the conferences. Each was attended by more than 400 delegates. He cites in particular the contact he had with keynote speakers such as pollster Angus Reid and top executives from Nortel, Seagate Software, Bombardier and Electronic Arts.

"They are down-to-earth people who have kept in touch. They are inspiring," he says.

Last March he was the sole student representative on the President's Leaders' Roundtable, sharing his opinions on issues critical for the university's future success with UBC President Martha Piper and selected B.C. industry chief executives.

Sims has worked extensively on campus, most recently at the UBC TREK Program Centre to develop the *UBC Transportation Guide* and much-anticipated U-Pass system to encourage commuting options among faculty, staff and students.

In the Faculty of Commerce and Business Administration, he has worked as a teaching assistant, a research assistant to the associate dean and as an alumni assistant.

Animal welfare unbridles career plans

Kymberly McLeod follows her passion thanks to an innovative program that combines ethics and research

by Bruce Mason staff writer

KYMBERLY MCLEOD is a third-generation UBC graduate with a unique degree and future career.

Motivated by a lifelong love of animals she has earned a Bachelor of Science from the innovative Animal Welfare Program in the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences.

The program was established in 1995 to address the compelling issues in the debate over the humane treatment of animals in agriculture, research, sport and companionship.

"I grew up with pets and help train a six-year-old thoroughbred horse, Angel, which I ride at least three times a week," she says. "I have always been concerned about the quality of their lives and want to do anything I can to improve the existence of all animals."

A shortage of objective measures, balanced research and public education has slowed the search for practical solutions to animal welfare problems and informed consensus building.

McLeod hopes to help change all that by becoming a teacher and sharing what she has learned through public education.

"Human beings need to be able to assess the emotional well-being of animals, to improve animal welfare as well as the efficiency of animal agriculture," she says. "We must find ways to reduce and refine the use of animals in biomedical research and find a middle ground and practical solution to a wide range of issues concerning animal welfare."

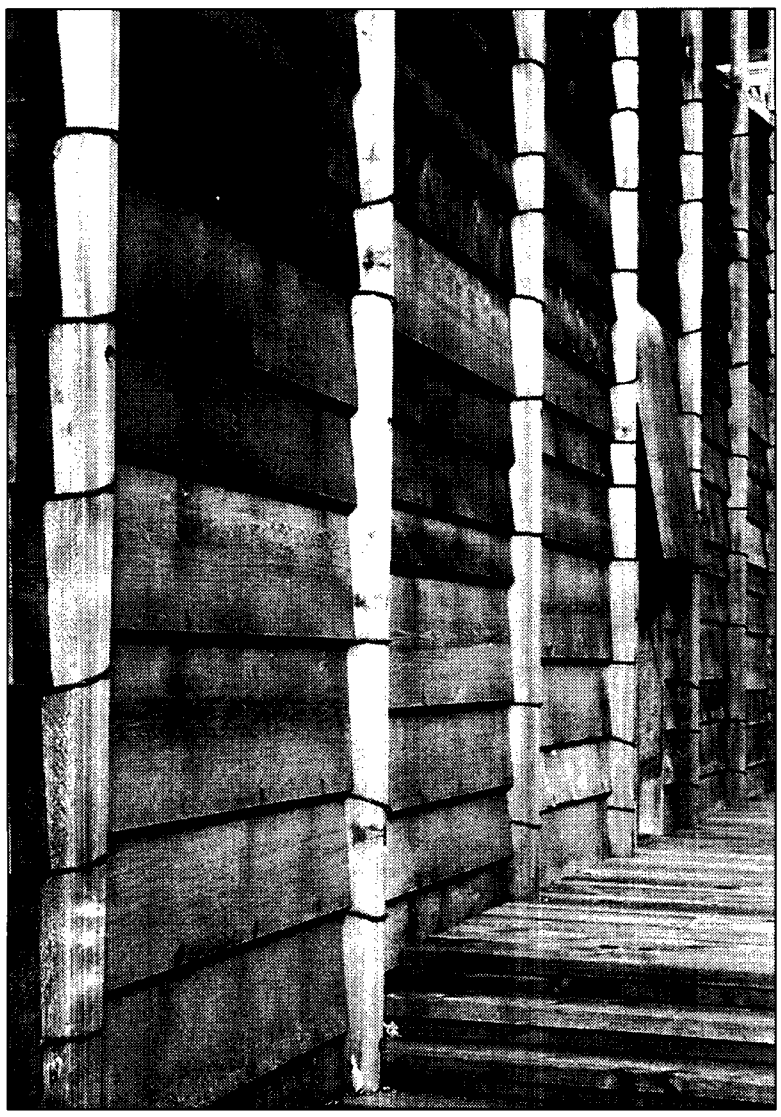
Working closely with UBC's Animal Care Centre, she is conducting a research project to improve the quality of life for the 400,000 laboratory rats used in Canada every year.

"I am carefully studying the enclosures in which they give birth," she says. "We want to find the optimum size, amount of light, bedding material and play toys which interest them, to create an environment which is as natural as possible."

Led by internationally recognized animal scientists Prof. David Fraser and Assoc. Prof. Dan Weary, the Animal Welfare Program benefits from links with other academic units such as the Centre for Applied Ethics and biologists and medical researchers.

It takes advantage of UBC's extensive expertise in economics, law and international trade. And it works actively with its sponsoring organizations including the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the B.C. Veterinary Medical Association and other organizations throughout the province and beyond.

Kymberly McLeod



Some 70 graduates will pass through a ceremonial door located on the north side of the First Nations House of Learning on Saturday, May 27th. Since the official opening of the Longhouse in 1993, hundreds of First Nations graduates have marked their achievement in this way. The door features an eagle design carved by First Nations artist Lyle Wilson. Dianne Longson photo

Traumatic Stress Clinic
Psychologists conducting research at the Traumatic Stress Clinic at UBC Psychiatry are offering free treatment to people suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). PTSD is caused by events such as physical or sexual assault, and motor vehicle accidents. Call the Traumatic Stress Clinic at 822-8040.

Research Study
We are seeking healthy 8-12-year-olds and their mothers to take part in a psychology study to find out more about how children learn about hurts and pains. For more information, call Prof. Craig's lab 822-5280.

AMS Rentsline
Helping students find housing since 1993, the AMS Rentsline is UBC's off-campus housing registry. This service gives students access to hundreds of rental listings, and landlords access to thousands of students looking for housing. You can call the Rentsline from any touchtone phone 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Call 714-4848.

Faculty Women's Club
The Faculty Women's Club brings together women connected to the university either through their work or that of their spouses, for social activities and lectures. The main purpose of the Faculty Women's Club is to raise funds for student scholarships. There are 19 different interest groups within the club, ranging from art appreciation and bridge to hiking. Do come and join us! Call Barbara Tait, president 224-0938; Gwyneth Westwick, membership 263-6612.

Twin Research
Are you, or do you know a female adult twin? We are studying the relationship types of fraternal and identical female twins. If you can help by completing some questionnaires and being interviewed about relationships, please e-mail: tmacbeth@cortex.psych.ubc.ca or call Tannis MacBeth, Psychology 822-4826.

Research Study
Hard-of-hearing university students are invited to discuss their post-secondary experiences for a PhD study. Involves interviews and the option of jotting down thoughts twice weekly over a three-week period. Honorarium to be provided. Contact Ruth Warick, graduate student, in the Dept. of Educational Services, UBC. Call/fax 224-4198 or e-mail rwarick@interchange.ubc.ca.

UBC Utilities Advisory Notice
UBC Utilities regularly performs maintenance work on underground piping and electrical systems. Work sites are always blocked off with appropriate signs and barriers, however sometimes unauthorized individuals remove these signs and barriers. Please approach work sites cautiously and respect signs and/or work crew instructions to avoid potential harm. Potential hazards including falling, electrical shock, burns, and other harmful events. If you have any questions concerning a UBC Utilities work site, please call 822-9445.

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Have you ever wondered how babies learn to talk? Help us find out. We are looking for parents with babies between four and 21 months of age, including babies raised in a bilingual home, to participate in language development studies. If you are interested in bringing your baby for a one-hour visit, please call Prof. Janet Werker's Infant Studies Centre, Psychology, 822-6408 (ask for Kate).

Parents With Toddlers
Did you know your child is a word-learning expert? Help us learn how children come to be so skilled at learning new words. We are looking for children (two-four years old) and their parent(s) to participate in language studies. If you are interested in bringing your child for a 45-minute visit, please call Asst. Prof. Geoffrey Hall's Language Development Centre, Psychology, 822-9294 (ask for Kelley).

BC SMILE
The British Columbia Seniors Medication Information Line (BC SMILE), answered by licensed pharmacists, is a free telephone hotline established to assist seniors, their families and caregivers with any medication-related questions including side effects, drug interactions, and the misuses of prescription and non-prescription drugs when it is not possible to direct such questions to their regular pharmacist or physician. Monday to Friday 10am-4pm. Call 822-1330 or e-mail smileubc@unixg.ubc.ca.

PLEASE RECYCLE

Schedule of Congregation ceremonies

MAY 24 THROUGH MAY 31

All ceremonies take place in the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts. A general reception follows each ceremony at the Buchanan Building quadrangle.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24

8:30am
Arts (Psychology), PhD, MA, BA

11am
Arts (Asian Area Studies, Asian Studies, Chinese, Canadian Studies, Classical Studies, Classics, Comparative Literature, Economics, Greek, Japanese, Latin, Religion and Literature, Religious Studies, South Asian Languages, Women's Studies), Social Work, PhD, MA, MSW, BA, BSW

1:30pm
Arts (English, Environmental Studies, Family Science), PhD, MA, BA

4pm
Arts (Anthropology, Art History, Creative Writing, Film, Fine Arts, French, Italian, Italian Studies, Journalism, Latin American Studies, Music, Music Arts, Romance Languages Studies, Sociology, Spanish, Theatre), PhD, DMA, MA, MFA, MJ,MMUS, BA, BFA, BMus; Diplomas: Applied Creative Non-Fiction, Film Studies and Art History, French Translation
Honorary degree: Atom Egoyan

8 pm
Baccalaureate Concert

THURSDAY, MAY 25

8:30am
Arts (General BA Program, Geography, German, History), PhD, MA, BA
Honorary degree: Walter Hardwick

11am
Arts (International Relations, Linguistics, Mathematics, Medieval Studies, Modern European Studies, Philosophy, Political Science, Speech Sciences), Library, Archival and Information Studies, PhD, MA, MAS, MLIS, BA, Diploma in Applied Linguistics

1:30pm
Science [Biochemistry, Physiology, Pharmacology and Therapeutics (BSc only), Biopsychology, Microbiology and Immunology, Integrated Sciences], PhD, MSc, BSc

4pm
Science (Astronomy, Atmospheric Science, Chemistry, Climatology, Earth Science, Environmental Sciences, Fisheries Oceanography, Geological Sciences, Geomorphology, Geophysics, Geophysics/Astronomy, Hydrology/Soil, Oceanography, Physical Geography, Physics; General Science with concentrations in any of the above), PhD, MSc, BSc, Diploma in Meteorology
Honorary degree: Myer Bloom

FRIDAY, MAY 26

8:30am
Science (Biology Options: Cell Biology, Cell/Genetics Biology, Genetics, General Biology), PhD, MSc, BSc

11am
Science [Botany, Zoology (MSc/PhD), Freshwater Science, Biology Options: Aquacultural Science, Animal, Conservation, Ecology, Marine Biology, Plant; General Science (Life Science or concentrations in any of the above); Nutritional Sciences], PhD, MSc, BSc

1:30pm
Science [Applied Mathematics, Computer Science, Mathematics, Mathematical Sciences, Statistics; General Science (with Mathematical, Computer Science or Statistics concentrations)], PhD, MSc, BSc

MONDAY, MAY 29

8:30am
Applied Science (Bio-Resource, Chemical, Electrical, Fire Protection, Metals and Materials Engineering and Engineering Physics), PhD, MASc, MEng, MSc, BASc
Honorary degrees: Edith and Patrick McGeer

11am
Applied Science (Civil, Geological, Mechanical, Mining and Mineral Processing Engineering), PhD, MASc, MEng, MSc, BASc
Honorary degree: John Wheeler

1:30 pm
Architecture, Community and Regional Planning, Nursing, PhD, MASA, MArch, MA (Planning), MSc, MSN (Planning), BArch, BSN
Honorary degree: Alice Baumgart

4pm
Agricultural Sciences, Family and Nutritional Sciences, Interdisciplinary Studies, Landscape Architecture, Occupational Hygiene, Resource Management and Environmental Studies, PhD, MA, MLA, MSc, BHE, BLA, BSc (Agr), BSc (Dietet), Diploma in Agricultural Sciences in conjunction with Malaspina University-College (Management of Aquaculture Systems)
Honorary degree: Robert Mundell

TUESDAY, MAY 30

8:30am
Dentistry, Human Kinetics, Pharmaceutical Sciences, PhD, PharmD, MHK, MA, MSc, DMD, BDSc, BHK, BSc (Pharm), Diploma in Periodontics
Honorary degree: Henry Friesen

11am
Audiology and Speech Sciences, Biochemistry (PhD's and MSc's only), Genetics, Medicine, Neuroscience, Physiology (PhD's and MSc's only), Pharmacology and Therapeutics (PhD's and MSc's only), Rehabilitation Sciences, PhD, MHA, MHSc, MSc, MD, MD/PhD, BMLSc, BSc (OT), BSc (PT)
Honorary degree: William Webber

1:30pm
Education, PhD, MA, MEd, EdD, BEd (Elementary Program), BEd (Middle Years), BEd (Secondary Program), Diplomas in Education

4pm
Forestry, Law, PhD, MASc, MF, MSc, MSN, BSF, BSc (Forestry), LLM, LLB, LLB/MBA, BSc (Natural Resource Conservation), BSc (Wood Products), Diploma in Forestry (Advanced Silviculture), Forest Engineering

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31

8:30am
Commerce and Business Administration (BCom: Accounting, Commerce and Economics, Finance, General Business Management, International Business Management), BCom
Honorary degree: Robert Ho

11am
Commerce and Business Administration (Graduate Programs, and BCom: Industrial Relations Management, Management Information Systems, Marketing, Transportation and Logistics, Urban Land Economics) PhD, MBA, MSc (Bus. Admin.), BCom, Diploma in Urban Land Economics

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RELATED INFORMATION
For information on this year's honorary degree recipients, see www.publicaffairs.ubc.ca/reports/00feb10/honorary.html

DIGEST

Silviculture institute shines at awards

UBC's Silviculture and Forest Engineering Institute of B.C. won in the education-academic achievement category during the fourth annual British Columbia Forests Excellence Awards.

Eleven awards were handed out to individuals and groups in nine categories in recognition of their contributions to improvements, innovation and renewal of the province's forest sector.

The Institute offers diploma programs for professionals practising in the areas of forest engineering as well as advanced silviculture. In addition, the Institute has initiated a Technical Module Program in Advanced Silviculture for forest technologists and technicians.

Plant sale offers perennial favourites

UBC's Friends of the Garden (FOGS) are once again staging their major fund-raiser, the annual Perennial Plant Sale on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14.

One of the attractions is free admission to the Botanical Garden, where Canada's largest rhododendron collection is in full bloom. Among the many free activities for children is potting up a sunflower to take home.

The main attraction is more than 12,000 plants of the highest quality, propagated by FOGS and sold at reasonable prices with expert advice.

The event takes place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Botanical Garden, 6804 Southwest Marine Dr. Pay parking is available in lots B6 and B7 north of the garden.

Some of us will be gazing at the stars

The nation's leading astronomers will converge on campus later this month to tackle some of the oldest mysteries of the universe.

UBC will play host to more than 125 of Canada's astronomy experts during the annual meeting of the Canadian Astronomical Society/ Societe Canadienne d'Astronomy (CASCA) from May 24-28.

"We are literally coming together to tackle where we came from—the origins of the universe," says Jaymie Matthews, one of the event's organizers.

Matthews, an assistant professor of Astronomy and Physics, says some of the topics that the scientists will shed new light upon are the Big Bang theory, how old the sun is and what caused the sun and Earth to appear in the universe.

UBC Biomedical Communications
Notice of Name Change
We've changed our name to The Media Group
Our address, phone number, fax number will remain the same.
The new email address is mediagrp@interchange.ubc.ca
and the web page is www.mediagroup.ubc.ca
Phone 822-5561 for more information.

classified

Accommodation

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TINA'S GUEST HOUSE Elegant accommodation in Point Grey area. min. to UBC. On main bus routes. Close to shops and restaurants. Includes TV, tea and coffee making, private phone/ fridge. Weekly rates available. Call 222-3461. Fax: 222-9279.

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Accommodation

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VANCOUVER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY Affordable accommodation or meeting space near the Chan Centre and MOA. 17 modestly furnished rooms with hall bath are available. Daily rates starting at $36. Meals or meal plans are available in the school cafeteria. For more information call 822-9031; 822-9490.

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PLACING CLASSIFIED ADS

Deadline: for the June 15 issue: 12 noon, June 6.

Enquiries: UBC-INFO (822-4636) · *Rate:* $16.50 for 35 words or less.

Additional words: 50 cents each. Rate includes GST.

Submission guidelines: Ads must be submitted in writing 10 days before publication date to: UBC Public Affairs Office, 310 – 6251 Cecil Green Park Road, Vancouver BC, V6T 1Z1. Ads must be accompanied by payment in cash, cheque (made out to *UBC Reports*) or journal voucher.

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SUBLET spacious, fully-furnished, bright one BR apt. July and August in beautiful Tudor style building. 14th and Hemlock. $850/mo. incl. heat, hot water, cable, hydro and local calls. To view call Crista 736-0861.

UBC GATES Furnished heritage house, three BR, den, two bath. Close to UBC, shops, schools, parks. Aug. 15 '00-Aug. 15 '01. Lease req. N/P, N/S. $2250/mo. incl. util., gardening. E-mail iozier@physics.ubc.ca; call 228-9874; 822-6356.

HOUSE EXCHANGE New York area. Three BR house, 40 mi. West of Manhattan, 50 min. by bus or train. Within reach of N.J. shore, Philadelphia, Boston and Washington. Avail. June 27 to July 20. E-mail morgan.bennett@worldnet.att.net. Call (973) 301-0938.

VACATION ACCOMMODATION False Creek Area, close to seawall and Granville Island, two BR townhouse, fully equipped. Avail. July 29-Aug. 26. $500/wk. E-mail feijoa@interchange.ubc.ca or call 731-2486.

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Services

TRAVEL-TEACH ENGLISH 5 day/40 hr. (June 21-25, Oct. 25-29). TESOL teacher certification course (or by correspondence). 1,000s of jobs available NOW. FREE information package, toll free (888) 270-2941 or (780) 438-5704.

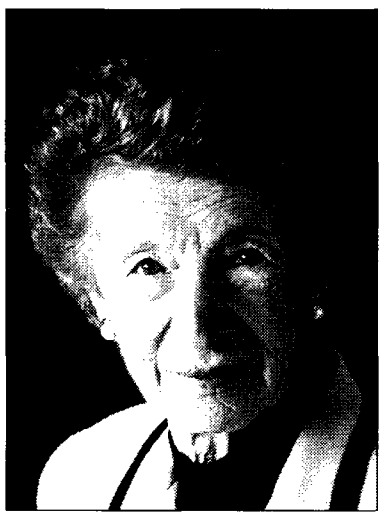
RETIRING in the next three years? As a specialist who has assisted many UBC faculty and staff members through the retirement process I can help sort out the options and provide you with free retirement projections. Call for a complimentary meeting at my office or yours! Don Proteau, BCom, CFP, RFP. E-mail: dproteau@hlp.fpc.ca or call 687-7526.

WHERE TO MEET smart, interesting, attractive, unattached people—SCIENCE CONNECTION, the network for single people (ages 20-70-plus) who enjoy science or nature. Web site: www.sciconnect.com; e-mail: info@sciconnect.com; call (800) 667-5179.

Actor, former councillor garner alumni awards

Environmentalist, medical researchers among winners

Actor Nicola Cavendish


Former city councillor May Brown

THE DOZEN INDIVIDUALS WHO will receive UBC's annual alumni awards include an Order of Canada recipient, academic, business and political leaders, outstanding students and an award-winning thespian.

Nicola Cavendish (BA '76) and George Puil (BA '52, BEd '53) are this year's winners of the Alumni Award of Distinction.

Cavendish, one of Canada's finest actors, is often referred to as a "national treasure."

The winner of three Jesse Richardson Awards for Outstanding Performance in a lead role and a past recipient of the Montreal Critics Award for Best Actress, she has given more than 1,000 live performances during her storied acting career.

Puil has long been associated with municipal politics, serving as an elected member of the Vancouver City Council since 1976. He is presently the chair of both Translink and the Greater Vancouver Regional District.

The Lifetime Achievement Award goes to May Brown (MPE '61, LLD '87) and David Suzuki.

Brown served on the Vancouver City Council for a decade beginning in 1977. Long involved in youth work and physical education, Brown has received numerous awards, including the Order of Canada.

Suzuki has won acclaim for his work with the CBC and is a strong advocate for environmental issues. The prolific broadcaster was a professor in UBC's Dept. of Zoology.

Dr. Donald McKenzie (MPE '72, MD '77) is the recipient of the Faculty Citation Community Service Award.

During his research into the effects of exercise on breast cancer patients, the Family Practice professor came up with the Abreast in A Boat program of rehabilitation and information. The program sees breast cancer survivors participate in dragon boat racing.

The Outstanding Young Alumnus Award goes to Paul Rosenau (MA '87, MLA '87) and Bruce Verchere (BSc '83, MSc '87, PhD '91).

Rosenau, an adjunct professor in the School of Community and Regional Planning, has spearheaded a rethinking of standard land development models.

Verchere, an assistant professor of Pathology, has received wide recognition for his research into diabetes. He is the first non-European to have been awarded the Albert Renold Fellowship from the European Association for the Study of Diabetes.

The Blythe Eagles Volunteer Service Award winner is Lyall Knott (BCom '71, LLB '72).

His extensive voluntary service to UBC includes chairing the United Way campaign and serving on the President's advisory committee on developing a downtown presence for the university.

The Outstanding Student Award winners are Geordie Aitken and Jesse Sims.

Aitken, a fourth-year English honours co-op student, developed a workshop which helps secondary school students identify personal goals and values.

Sims, who graduates this month from Commerce, has served as the chair of the UBC International Business Conference and worked for the UBC TREK Program Centre.

The Alumni Award for Research winner is Donald Brooks (BSc '64, MSc '67). The director of Graduate Studies for Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Brooks' experiments have flown on four space shuttle missions. He has also published approximately 150 papers about the basic biochemistry of individuals at risk for cardiac disease and diabetes.

The Honorary Alumnus Award recipient is Harold Kalke. A former chair of the UBC's Board of Governors, Kalke has a long association with community-based organizations with a focus on neighbourhoods, urban planning and development issues.

The awards will be presented at a dinner reception at the Westin Bayshore on Nov. 2. UBC Athletics Hall of Fame inductees will also be honoured.

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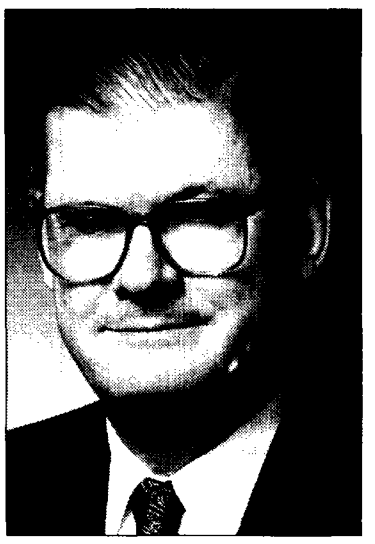
RELATED INFORMATION

For more information, call (604) 822-3313 or visit the Web site at www.alumni.ubc.ca.

Honour Roll


Economics Prof. Robert Evans

Robert Evans has been honoured with a Career Achievement Award from the Confederation of University Faculty Associations of B.C. (CUFA/BC) for his contribution to the study of health-care economics.

The award is given annually by CUFA/BC which represents about 3,600 faculty, professional librarians and other academic staff at B.C.'s public universities.

A professor of Economics and faculty member at the UBC Centre for Health Services and Policy Research, Evans is widely regarded as the single most influential academic in Canadian health-care policy development.

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One of five aboriginal students who have won scholarships through the Royal Bank's Native Student Awards Program will be attending UBC this fall.

Kailee Horbatch of Port Alberni will receive $4,000 annually for educational expenses for a maximum of four years as part of the award. The award winners were selected on the basis of their academic and personal achievements as well as their financial need. The competition was open to Inuit and Metis high school students as well as status or non-status aboriginal Canadians.

Royal Bank launched the program in 1992 to recognize and help fund the post-secondary studies of outstanding native students across Canada.

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UBC hires on the basis of merit and is committed to employment equity. We encourage all qualified persons to apply. In accordance with Canadian Immigration requirements, this advertisement is directed to Canadian citizens and permanent residents.

Interested applicants should forward a letter of application and updated curriculum vitae by 31st May, 2000 to:

Dr. Richard J. Finley,
Head, Dept. of Surgery
920 West 10th Ave., Vancouver, B.C.
V5Z 4E3

Recipients of this year's President's Service Award for Excellence are (l-r) Elaine Liau, Donna Chin, Prof. David Holm, George McLaughlin and Gayle Smith. *John Chong photo*

Editor, faculty guru earn service awards

Recipients recognized for making a difference

FIVE MEMBERS OF THE university community are being recognized for their outstanding contributions to UBC and campus life as recipients of this year's President's Service Award for Excellence.

Each recipient will receive a gold medal and $5,000 in a presentation during Spring Congregation ceremonies.

Donna Chin began her career on campus 23 years ago as a secretary in the English Dept. so it is fitting that she returned to the Faculty of Arts in 1996 as managing editor of *Canadian Literature*, one of the country's pre-eminent literary journals.

Chin has been credited with providing quick and imaginative solutions in her responsibility for the production and financial management of the journal. She has been praised for her good judgement and initiative in her dealings with subscribers, agencies, contributors, reviewers and members of the public.

In a career that spans more than 30 years at UBC, Zoology Prof. **David Holm** has become renowned for providing help and support for students in the faculty.

With calm assurance and good humour, the former associate dean of student services in the Faculty of Science has helped many undergraduates through rough patches in their lives and is widely regarded as the faculty guru on student matters.

Elaine Liau started her career on campus in 1973 as a secretary for Plant Operations. Within a year, she shifted to Continuing Education in the Health Sciences where she has remained for the past 26 years.

As director of Interprofessional Continuing Education in the Health Sciences, she co-ordinates local, national and international conferences for professionals, educators and students across multiple health disciplines. She has been cited for her creativity and enthusiasm, organizing as many as 10 conferences a year.

Throughout the years, **George McLaughlin** has devoted numerous hours to helping improve the well-being of his fellow university employees.

Chief among his activities is his involvement with the Canadian Union for Public Employees Local 116. He has also served on UBC's Board of Governors, the staff pension plan, and on the executive of the Association of Administrative and Professional Staff.

A facility manager for Plant Operations, McLaughlin started as an electrician on campus in 1977.

Gayle Smith, executive co-ordinator in the Office of the Vice President, Academic and Provost, is cited as someone who knows just about everything there is to know about how UBC works.

In her 31 years on campus, she has amassed an immense amount of knowledge about its people, policies, procedures and history.

While she is noted for her deep commitment to the university and its people, Smith has also devoted many years to the United Way campaign.

Student youth project resonates around globe

'Audacious' idea takes hold from Tibet to Tanzania

by Bruce Mason staff writer

THE YOUTH MILLENNIUM Project (YMP) hasn't changed the world—not yet—but more than 4,000 youth have begun 80 innovative projects in 35 countries on five continents.

That's a start, say the organizers of the UBC/UNICEF project, which was officially launched in April. And it's proof positive that the world's young people—particularly in developing countries—are apprehensive about their future and are eager to get involved on a grassroots level.

"We knew it was an audacious idea," say YMP co-founders Rebecca Slate and Justine Wiltshire, "but we decided to do something about the ongoing universal tragedy that young people feel that they have no control over the world's future."

"This project is a testament to what young people can accomplish if they are given an opportunity to exercise their ideas," says UBC President Martha Piper.

After graduating from UBC in June 1998 in Education and Law, respectively, Slate and Wiltshire conceived the project in which people aged 11-14 in every country would be invited to discuss global issues of concern to them and to create local action plans.

A year later, YMP was wholeheartedly endorsed at UNICEF headquarters in New York and the invitation went out to 190 countries in 70 languages through the organization's international offices.

Almost immediately, youth in Vietnam started raising money for school supplies. In Sierra Leone, an education campaign on a peace agreement began after nine years of civil war. The subject of a similar campaign in Azerbaijan is HIV/AIDS. Villages are being cleaned up in Estonia, funds are being raised for Mozambique in Germany, and trees are being planted in Tanzania.

At UBC's Liu Centre for the Study of Global Issues, where Slate and Wiltshire work with a small army of dedicated volunteers and work-study students, word has been received that 500 Tibetan children living in exile in India have joined YMP. In Namibia, youth have pledged to eradicate poverty in their village by 2020.

"Although we do use the Internet, much of this overwhelming response is on pencil and paper and from Africa and South America," reports Slate. "People are honoured to be invited and take us more seriously because we communicate in their local language."

A team of 100 volunteer translators work on the project.

In July 2001, Slate and Wiltshire intend to bring a boy and a girl—randomly selected from a YMP group in each country—to attend a Youth Millennium Conference at UBC.

YMP is currently raising $3 million for the conference. The President's Office has had an immediate response from 14 universities to provide financial and other support.

Slate (left) and Wiltshire

YMP implements four specific rights from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child: the rights to express views, receive information, education, and preparation for a responsible life.

"In too many countries, children are subject to dreadful abuse or neglect, ranging from forced military service or physical labour to denial of education and protection from physical harm," says Law Prof. Ivan Head, former director of the Liu Centre. "By encouraging youth to act in concerted, constructive fashion, and by raising awareness of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, this remarkable project contributes to a better future for children and societies everywhere."

For more information on the project, call (604) 822-5028, or e-mail ymp@interchange.ubc.ca.

Spin-off seeks quantum leap

Can computers get any faster? A UBC Physics graduate is working on it

by Andy Poon staff writer

A 20-SOMETHING CHAP has just picked up his new PC and is driving home with it in the front seat of his convertible. One arm is slung lovingly over the box. He drives by a billboard that heralds the model he has as the latest, fastest thing in computing land. Big smile.

One problem—workers are just then covering up the poster with another that shows there is now a faster model available. The smile quickly disappears from our guy's face.

That television ad depicts a scenario that people know all too well, but Geordie Rose can see a future when it will no longer happen. Maybe by 2012.

That's because the size of transistors on computer chips will have become as small as they can get physically.

"That's extremely bad for chip manufacturers because it will become very difficult to increase the speed of computers," says the UBC Physics doctoral graduate. "If they stop producing a faster chip, there isn't a reason for you to go out and buy a faster computer."

But Rose isn't about to let that happen. His UBC spin-off company is researching how to use a new type of "quantum" transistor to process and store information.

As co-founder and president of D-Wave Systems Inc., he is working on developing an integrated circuit that will operate using the laws of the microscopic world in a so-called quantum computer that could crunch numbers many billion times faster than even the fastest supercomputers built using current technologies.

Instead of representing binary code—the 1's and 0's that computer chips use to represent data—in regular transistors, quantum computers will use specially designed transistors called quantum bits, or qubits, to do the same thing.

One major difference though—a qubit can be both 0 and 1 at the same time. That opens up a new realm of possibilities for computing with one main benefit being a dramatic increase in computing speed.

The first practical applications of quantum computers will likely be in genomics and bio-informatics—the use of information technology in identifying genes. An understanding of the building blocks of life and the mechanisms of disease could be worth billions to the biotech industry.

"I believe that quantum computing is at the state now that regular computing was about 40 years ago when Intel was born," Rose says. "It is also the most profound and difficult technical project that mankind has ever embarked on."

If D-Wave succeeds, it would hit computing like a tsunami. Companies such as IBM, NEC, NTT, Xerox and Hewlett-Packard are among those currently devoting resources towards quantum computing.