Toward the Pacific Century

The bell sounds

News of spring

Across the Pacific*

*Yasuhiro Nakasone
Former Prime Minister of Japan
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UBC—A Passport to the Future

A Message from the President

UBC's Signed International Exchange Agreements / Asia Pacific Region
The time has come for Canada to adjust to the emergence of the Asia Pacific region as a major economic and political power in world affairs. We must establish a significant role for ourselves with the Asia Pacific community or face a diminishing world stature and a declining standard of living. Institutions such as The University of British Columbia that offer the knowledge, expertise and experience necessary towards the achievement of this goal are valuable resources for Canadians, and they deserve our full support. The challenge is there—we must meet it.

Arthur Hara
Chairman, Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada
and Chairman, Mitsubishi Canada Limited
Toward the Pacific Century
The President’s Report

On a recent visit to Asia I met a Japanese mother and daughter who had both graduated from UBC—the mother in the 1930’s and the daughter in the 1960’s. It gave me special pleasure to meet two generations of UBC alumni on the other side of the Pacific because it reinforced in a personal way the international reputation of The University of British Columbia. Great universities transcend boundaries.

I was also reminded that more than 50 years ago, UBC faculty members were already joining like-minded people in Asia to build bridges across the Pacific. These internationalists started a tradition that has placed The University of British Columbia at the forefront of Asian studies.

Meeting with alumni in Asia reminded me that UBC has a story to tell. It reflects the dedication of our Asian scholars to promoting understanding and appreciation of the cultures of the western Pacific, and the commitment of our scientists to working co-operatively with their counterparts in Asia and elsewhere in the world. Fostering those two elements are the UBC students and alumni whose energetic efforts to bridge the Pacific are meeting with such dramatic success.

We’re telling this story at a critical juncture. The accumulated resources, experience and expertise at UBC relating to the Asia Pacific will be an important element in shaping the skills Canadians will need to meet the challenges and opportunities of the 21st Century — the Pacific Century.

By the year 2000, the industrial base of Asia is expected to be more diversified and larger in output than the combined industrial base of Europe and North America. With half a trillion dollars on loan, Japan’s annual earnings on investment exceed $50-billion and will continue to increase as far as one can see. In April of 1987, the Bank of Japan on its own financed more than half the current account deficit of the United States. The implications are of global proportions but the impact for Canada is especially important.

Canada, and particularly British Columbia as the country’s gateway to the Pacific, is finding an irresistible dynamism in the Asia Pacific region. Government initiatives at national and provincial levels reflect the importance of being prepared to take up responsibilities in the Pacific Century.

In this vital endeavour, The University of British Columbia is one of Canada’s most important resources.
The university’s Asia Pacific networks today go far beyond academic circles to include friends and graduates in many areas of business, government, and cultural affairs. We must mobilize and utilize these resources in shaping the future Canada shares with other Pacific nations.

In charting the dimensions of the university’s endeavours in Asian affairs, it is clear that faculty members who work in other countries learn in the process, that exchange programs contribute significantly to the fund of knowledge being accumulated here and abroad, and that collaborative research involving both faculty and students from UBC and from Asian universities is helping to solve some of the problems we all share in this global village.

Finally, I believe this report illustrates how UBC is teaching and training a new breed of internationalists, thereby preparing Canada to greet the 21st Century—the Pacific Century—with confidence.

Dr. David W. Strangway
President, The University of British Columbia
Vancouver, B.C., Canada
1988
Pioneering efforts of Asian scholars like Dr. Edwin Pulleyblank have given many students an appreciation for ancient Chinese civilization and a cross-cultural sensitivity, invaluable assets in business or academic occupations. Dr. Pulleyblank, recently retired from the Department of Asian Studies, is a scholar and teacher of international stature.

PART I

The Spirit and the Practice: Two Sides to Understanding Asia

The history of commitment by the University of British Columbia to extend Canada's appreciation of Asia has been instrumental in establishing the region as part of Canada's heritage. Equally, the university will play a vital role in ensuring that the Asia Pacific region is an expanding part of our future.

Earl G. Drake
Canada's Ambassador to the People's Republic of China
Internationally-recognized scholars with their long history of involvement with the Asia Pacific make the University of British Columbia a key Canadian resource. Our reputation for excellence in Asian studies grew out of the efforts of our scholars, students and alumni to build bridges across the Pacific.

But what will make the University of British Columbia remembered as a unique source of understanding on the Asia Pacific a century from now? It is the ability to combine a deep appreciation of the spirit of a culture with a solid grasp of scientific practice. We begin this report with examples of these two sides to understanding Asia.

1.1 The Spirit: Scholarship on Asia

A major theme in Dr. Edwin Pulleyblank’s work as an historian and linguist is the interconnection between East and West.

A native Albertan, Pulleyblank is a scholar and teacher of international stature. He is an authority on the Tang Dynasty (618-907 AD) and the grammar and phonology of the classical Chinese language. He taught Chinese at the University of London and at Cambridge. At UBC Pulleyblank’s international stature has grown, particularly as a result of a research thesis which suggests that ancient forms of the Chinese and Indo-European language families share common roots.

UBC’s reputation for excellence in Asian languages, an essential basis for beginning to understand something of Asian cultures, was built upon the pioneering efforts of professors like Pulleyblank and his Asian Studies colleagues. Their international reputation was largely responsible for attracting the 20th International Conference of Sino-Tibetan Languages to UBC in August, 1987.

1.2 The Practice: Sharing Technology

China’s burgeoning population, coupled with modernization, has forced urban and farm development at the expense of equally valuable forests. The solution? Combine agriculture and forestry by planting fast-growing Paulownia trees together with agricultural crops. The difficulty is selecting and breeding the best seedlings. UBC forester Dr. Oscar Sziklai provided part of the answer.

Sziklai, internationally recognized for his work in forestry genetics, advises Chinese foresters on how to select and breed tree seedlings that will grow quickly, are strong and have high-quality wood. Yet, even after almost a decade of working with the Chinese, Sziklai says: “I always learn something from the Chinese. When I go to China, they keep me very busy indeed, lecturing and working. But I come back having learned a lot.”

This unassuming and co-operative scholarly attitude, combined with a reputation for scientific excellence, led to Sziklai being named to the prestigious Chinese Society of Foresters. He’s the first non-Chinese to be accorded this honour.

1.3 The Geography of the Asia Pacific Region

Every day, Canadians read or hear about the geographical regions of the Pacific and of Asia. Terms such as Asia Pacific, Pacific Rim and others are used to describe geographical locations in this increasingly dominant part of the world. The map will clarify the meanings of these terms.
An increasing number of students are enrolling in courses offered by the Department of Asian Studies where they learn about the languages, histories and cultures of the different Asian countries. The dedication of teachers and students to Asian Studies is of significant benefit to Canada. Students such as those studying modern Chinese language and literature with Dr. J. D. Schmidt are active participants in the internationalization process.

PART II

UBC's Asia-Pacific Tradition

How fortunate we were as students at UBC in the early fifties to have a teaching faculty that turned our eyes and minds to the Asia Pacific. UBC’s leadership role in Canada’s post Second World War Colombo Plan Programmes and its continuous commitment to Asia Pacific studies, research and faculty/student exchanges have contributed immeasurably to Canadian investment and trade successes in the Pacific.

Philip Baxter
Former President, Canada-Japan Society of Vancouver
Senior Practice Partner
Price Waterhouse
2.1 Early Links with Asia
Set Pattern for Today

An Asian studies program at the University of British Columbia was proposed as early as 1918. However, a search of the university archives suggests that Asian course content was minimal until the 1930's. At that point, students of Asian background began to have an impact on the university. The Chinese Students' Association was established in 1930, followed by the Japanese Students' Club the year after. This year, 1988, the Chinese Varsity Club held its 50th anniversary reunion.

In 1933, Japanese internationalist and peace advocate Dr. Inazo Nitobe lectured on campus, calling for increased communication and understanding between East and West. In 1934, Commerce Professor Henry Angus started a course on Problems of the Pacific—the first focused study of the region at UBC.

After the Second World War, UBC's student population swelled with returning soldiers. The university, like the country, was faced with the challenges and opportunities of the post-war period. Into this milieu came a new president, Dr. Norman "Larry" MacKenzie. Trained in international law, he had served as advisor to the International Labour Office in Geneva, and had travelled extensively in Asia. When he came to UBC he brought an international vision with him. As western countries tried to understand their wartime experience in Asia, MacKenzie encouraged the development of teaching and research in Asian studies.

It was not until 1956, however, that a formal program of Asian studies was established, directed by Professor Fred Soward, then head of the History Department. The program included for the first time Japanese and Chinese language courses.

Determined to see UBC become a major international university, President MacKenzie in 1961 pushed ahead with his plans to develop Asian studies as a major academic initiative. Through an unexpected chain of events, he was able to recruit Professor William Holland, a respected Asianist with more than 30 years of first-hand experience, to come to UBC to head up a new Department of Asian Studies. Holland, who was living in New York at the time, had just resigned as Secretary General of the U.S.-based Institute of Pacific Relations (IPR), a pioneering "think tank" on the Asia Pacific created in the 1920's. Before the war, the institute had branches in key cities around the world and counted among its supporters many of the leading intellectual and political figures of the day.

Holland first met MacKenzie at an IPR conference in Shanghai in 1931. When he finally decided to come to UBC in the fall of 1961, he brought with him 5,000 volumes of Asia-related material made available by the defunct IPR. At the same time, the University of British Columbia agreed to take over publication of Pacific Affairs, a leading academic journal published by the IPR. At UBC, Pacific Affairs continues its tradition of contributing to a deeper understanding of issues in the Asia Pacific region.

William Holland's arrival at UBC brought a new level of attention and respect to the academic pursuit of Asian studies on the campus.

For the next 12 years Holland devoted himself to putting UBC Asian Studies on the map. During that time the number of Asian courses more than doubled, enrolment increased fivefold and the importance of appointing Asian specialists in key disciplinary fields became recognized as standard.

UBC is one of four founding members of the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute established in 1968. The institute, founded by UBC, McGill, the University of Toronto and the National Library, is funded by the Governments of India and Canada to help...
bring to Canadians an awareness of the richness of India's past and the challenge of its developing present.

More recently, Indic expertise was boosted with the appointment of Dr. Harjot Oberoi Singh to the newly-endowed position in Punjabi Language and Literature and Sikh Studies. The chair was endowed by the Federation of Sikh Societies of Canada and the Government of Canada through the Secretary of State for Multiculturalism. In 1987, British Columbia businessman Asa Johal, president of Terminal Forest Products donated $220,000 to UBC for scholarships in Punjabi Studies and forestry research.

Korea's growing importance as a Pacific nation prompted UBC to establish, in July 1986, the first Canadian endowed position in Korean Studies. It is funded by the Canada-Korea Business Council and its Korean counterpart. Korean specialist Dr. Donald Baker teaches three new courses, two in Korean language and one in the history of Korean civilization.

Now a new program in Indonesian Studies, created through the provincial government's Funds for Excellence, is being established at UBC.

2.2 The Asia-Pacific Legacy—
A National Resource

The legacy of the pioneers in Asian Studies at UBC continues to grow as a national resource. UBC has more than 60 faculty members who focus on teaching courses and carrying out research relating to the region. If faculty members in other disciplines who apply their expertise in Asian regions are included, the number would exceed 300.

As new positions in Asian Studies are established with public, private and government support, increasing enrolment dramatically demonstrates the interest of a new generation of Canadians in preparing themselves to handle the challenges of Asia. In 1961, an enrolment of 163 students in seven courses seemed like a large number for a new department. Today there are more than 149 Asia-related courses at UBC with more than 2,400 students enrolled. More than 800 students take Chinese and Japanese language programs offered through UBC's Centre for Continuing Education. Only two graduate students enrolled in Asian Studies in 1962; today there are at least 80 graduate students enrolled in M.A. and Ph.D. programs with an Asia Pacific focus.

Professor William Holland, Canada’s “Dean of Asian Studies”, who retired from active teaching in 1973, continued as editor of Pacific Affairs until 1978 and is still an Honourary Fellow with UBC’s Institute of Asian Research.
PART III

The Spirit: Understanding Asia

You have no idea of the representative nature of your experience if you have only your own perspective. The only way to make your perspective meaningful is to see it from a different perspective. The more you understand another culture, the more you understand your own.

Dr. Jan Walls

China scholar and Former vice-president, Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada

Ethnomusicologist Dr. Alan Thrasher conducts a UBC Chinese Instrumental Music Ensemble which gives public performances. A teacher and conductor with a special interest in the court music of south China, Thrasher says: "Study of the traditional music of Asia is one means of appreciating the uniqueness and richness of Asian civilizations."
Asian specialists in various disciplines have worked hard to cultivate in themselves and in their students an appreciation of the “spirit” of a particular aspect of Asia. They would all profess the inadequacy of their efforts to reflect the richness, the breadth, the depth, and the complexity of Asian civilizations, either traditional or contemporary. Yet it is their work and dedication that is now helping to develop connections with Asia from all points on the university campus.

“Excellence has to be constantly nurtured and vigilantly protected,” says Dean Robert Will of the Faculty of Arts. “Too often the importance of the humanities and the social sciences to a good education is ignored. For years we have been trying to build up Asian Studies at UBC. It has been a struggle to get ongoing support in order to maintain our current achievements. In the arts there are no ‘quick fixes’. What counts is maturity and insight and hard work. It takes time.”

3.1 Classical Chinese Poetry: Like an Overflowing Ocean

Widely recognized as a poet in her own right, Asian Studies Professor Yeh Chia-ying is also an internationally known expert on T’zu poetry, an ancient literary form developed during the Tang (618-907 AD) and Song Dynasties (960 to 1279 AD). Yeh has been studying classical Chinese poetry since she was 11. Educated in Beijing, she taught Chinese poetry at Harvard before coming to UBC in 1968.

Yeh is confident that students studying China’s ancient literary traditions will discover something important to their lives in today’s world. T’zu poems were written as “song words” to fit popular music of the time. On the surface, they are gentle, delicate songs of love and beauty but according to Yeh, closer examination reveals the hidden resentments of the scholars and bureaucrats of the day. Her ability to unlock the meaning of the past, further facilitated by applying western techniques of literary analysis, provides students with a unique opportunity to see their own contemporary concerns and anxieties in perspective.

Since 1982, Yeh has been invited each year to give lectures on classical Chinese poetry at key universities in China as part of an exchange program between the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

“Classical Chinese poetry is like an overflowing ocean. I am just a spit in the ocean,” says Yeh.

3.2 Hindi: Not Difficult to Master if You’ve Studied French

Dr. Kathryn Hansen, an Asian Studies professor of Hindi, found her way into Indic studies via an American university choral group concert tour to
India in 1967. Fascinated by Indian culture, Hansen pursued studies in Hindi language and literature, Sanskrit and classical Indian civilization.

"Hindi isn’t as difficult to learn as people think," says Hansen,"It is related to the Indo-European language group, so anyone who has studied French wouldn’t have too much trouble grasping Hindi grammar."

An accomplished sitar player, Hansen teaches Indian music and South Asian performance traditions at UBC, in addition to courses on Hindi language and literature. These cultural interests have kept Hansen in touch with Vancouver’s local East Indian community where she serves on the board of the Indian Music Society and promotes concerts in Canada by well-known Indian musicians.

### 3.3 Understanding the Japanese through Literature

Exploring the recurring themes in modern Japanese literature has been a life work for Dr. Kinya Tsuruta, Canada’s leading expert in the field.

“There is access to understanding the Japanese psyche in their novels. That’s where they become ‘naked’, they bare their souls and show their real feelings and emotions,” says Tsuruta.

In his view a theme evident in contemporary Japanese fiction concerns the fascination and fear that the Japanese experience as they explore the dimensions of “being an individual”. Japan’s sudden modernization has generated anxieties as people struggle to cope with balancing modern and traditional values. One response, in fiction at least, is regression—“an escape meant to energize and rejuvenate, so one can face the busy life of modern society.”

In pursuit of the cross-cultural insights offered by the study of contemporary literature, Tsuruta and his colleagues in literary studies organized an international symposium at UBC in May, 1988. The theme of the conference was: “The Walls Within: Images of Westerners in Japan and Images of the Japanese Abroad.”

### 3.4 Software for Researchers in Indian Studies

Professors Ashok Aklujkar and Kenneth Bryant of the Asian Studies Department have developed computer programs to help researchers in Indian studies. Aklujkar, who teaches Indian literature and mythology in translation as well as Sanskrit and linguistic philosophy, says their software is being used by about 100 researchers across North America.

“My research is very technical and theoretical, but it has implications across cultures. What we know about Indian language can be applied to many sister languages, such as Greek and Latin and other Indo-European languages. What I would really like to see at UBC is a bridge between teaching and researching in all of the classical languages," says Aklujkar.

### 3.5 Canada and Southeast Asia: Closer than You Think

“Our country is deeply involved with Southeast Asia, far more than most Canadians probably are aware of. Many people just don’t realize the magnitude of our ties with Asia. Yet Canadian scholarship is lagging behind,” says Dr. Alexander Woodside, one of Canada’s most distinguished scholars on the history of China, Vietnam and Southeast Asia. Trained in Chinese history at the University of Toronto and Harvard University, Woodside responded to the challenges of the U.S./Vietnam War by becoming one of the leading authorities on modern Vietnamese revolutionary history, including the ties between Vietnam and China, and Vietnam and the United States.

“Southeast Asia is a very difficult region to understand because of the diversity and complexities of the languages, cultures and beliefs. It’s critical that we expand our research efforts in order that we can all benefit from a deeper understanding.”
3.6 Buddhist Philosopher Works Behind the Scenes

Dr. Shotaro Iida of the Department of Religious Studies, a leading authority on Indian and Tibetan Buddhism, was raised in Korea, educated in Japanese and trained in Buddhist doctrine and classical Chinese.

Iida has combined his interest in Buddhist philosophy with an energetic dedication to developing widespread recognition of UBC's reputation for excellence in Asian Studies. He played a central role in persuading the Sanyo Corporation and Keidanren, the Japanese Federation of Economic Organizations, to participate in establishing the Asian Centre building. The Pacific Bell and the unique traditional Japanese bell-tower housing adjacent to the centre were also initiatives of Iida working behind the scenes.

"There is a kind of Japanese theatre that uses puppets," explains Iida. "On stage, the chief puppeteer is quite visible as he works his puppets. However, his assistants are dressed and painted in black. They are called "kuroko", which translated means 'black guys.' I like to think of myself as a kuroko, working behind the scenes."

3.7 Fine Art: The Other Side of Business and Government

"Bureaucrats in the 2,000-year-old Chinese civil service have always received a liberal arts education," says Dr. James Caswell, head of UBC's Fine Arts Department and a specialist in Chinese art history. "Traditionally, it was not uncommon for government officials to be quite knowledgeable about art. Officials were often accomplished artists. Even today calligraphy remains a respected form of art practiced by many leaders and social elites..."
in east Asia. Consequently, Canadian officials and business people who know something about Asian art have an entry point in developing a relationship with colleagues in Asia."

An eloquent testimony to the potential for meaningful links between art, business and government is provided by the career of one particular graduate from Caswell's department, Dickson Hall. Hall, trained in both the history and practice of Chinese art, and fluent in both Mandarin and Cantonese, is now serving British Columbia as Senior Representative in Hong Kong.

3.8 The Cultural Context of the Law: Canada, Japan and China

Teaching Asian law is a real challenge, says Karl Herbst, UBC professor of Chinese legal studies. "The complex legal systems of Asia are built on centuries of cultural assumptions and traditions. In the case of the Chinese there is the added dimension of being part of a communist political and economic system which is undergoing much change."

Stephan Salzberg, professor of Japanese legal studies agrees saying: "A good lawyer must be able to predict behaviour before it happens. The key is to understand the basic assumptions of the Asian legal system. That's why the cross-cultural perspective is so important."

Canadian lawyers with expertise in Asian law are in demand as business and trade with the region expands. "If you want to expand the horizons of a legal career to include the dynamic potential of the Asia Pacific region, it is necessary to go beyond being simply a well-educated North American lawyer," says Maurice Copithorne, an international law specialist who oversees the North Asian Legal Studies program at UBC. "The trend is to specialization, and I tell my students that Asian legal systems are one of the best specialties to develop." Copithorne, who brings to UBC 30 years of experience with the Canadian foreign service in countries such as China, Malaysia, Vietnam, Laos and Hong Kong, argues that: "Geo-political realities suggest we look to the Asia Pacific region as the most important geographical area for B.C. and Canada's future. We ignore the Asia Pacific at our peril."

Exchange agreements with several universities in China and Japan bring a regular flow of Asian legal scholars and students to UBC. Peter Burns, Dean of the Law Faculty notes: "Our Japanese legal studies program is the leading one in the Commonwealth, and we're ahead of most universities in Chinese law, simply because few have a Chinese program."

With Japanese and Chinese law programs now firmly in place, the faculty hopes to expand its activities to Korea, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

3.9 Mind and Body: The Physical Arts of Asia

The practice of strenuously focusing the mind in disciplining the body has had a long tradition in Asia. It is quite natural that Asian physical arts, particularly the martial arts, should be the largest division in the Recreation UBC program and that the university has the only martial arts chair in Canada. A total of 17 courses are offered covering the martial arts of China, Japan, Korea and Vietnam.

UBC has two world-ranking masters of the martial arts who bring an added dimension to our understanding the spirit of Asia. Grand Master Liang Shou-yu, one of 17 qualified Wu Shu coaches in the world, teaches Chen-style Tai Chi Chuan. He coached the Canadian Wu Shu team to a second place in a world competition held in China in 1986. Sensei Kawahara Yukio, a 7th Dan, is the highest ranking aikido instructor in Canada and only one title short of holding the highest international rank.

Above: Sensei Kawahara, highest-ranking aikido instructor in Canada, teaches in the Recreation UBC program.
The Faculty of Commerce and Business Administration has been making Asian connections for 25 years. Here at Vancouver International Airport (left to right) are Dean Peter Luxvig, Dr. Maurice Levi, Dr. Michael Goldberg and Dr. Robert Helsley. Levi and Helsley recently had their first stint teaching in China.

Urban land economist Michael Goldberg, active in initiatives to establish an international financial centre in Vancouver, has made an extensive study of the real estate investment behaviour of overseas Chinese.

PART IV
The Practice: Enlightened Self-Interest in the Global Village

We recognize, as a national policy, that our future prosperity is tied to the Pacific. At the same time, we view Asian states not simply as economic partners, but as significant political actors with major concerns of their own. Canada has important interests in Asia—and we are determined to play a more active diplomatic role in the region.

Indeed, Canada intends to recruit many new people to the cause of our Pacific relations, and to continue to enlarge the ranks of governments, academics, business leaders, and commentators for whom the Pacific is a Canadian priority.
UBC's international outlook offers teachers and students the opportunity to place their work in a global context. The learning process is a two-way connection. Our professors take their knowledge and expertise abroad, while at the same time they attract some of the brightest minds to this campus—helping to make UBC an international centre of excellence.

Art Wright, a career diplomat, former CIDA vice-president for Asia, and a former director of the Asia Pacific Foundation, says enlightened self interest is the byword of the future: "Futurists state that we are on the cutting edge of a worldwide transformation of society as profound as the one that marked our passage from an agrarian to an industrial society. The dawning of the age of artificial intelligence and transition to a new information-based global society is predicated on our putting an end to past ideologies and replacing gain through conquest—militarily, politically, or economically—by the emergence of enlightened global self-interest," he writes.

The University of British Columbia's drive for excellence in the sciences, professional schools, arts and humanities has established in Asia a positive image of UBC as a supplier of technology and expertise. The unique force which the university brings to this process is its ability to combine a deep appreciation of the languages, cultures and spirit of Asia.

Part IV provides examples of UBC's involvement in the transfer and management of technology in the Asia Pacific, a process by which UBC develops links for Canada with Asian-based industry as well as with institutions and individuals in business, government and academic circles. These networks, sustained by both Canadians and Asians—individuals who understand the cultural context of communications—will shape our global community in the Pacific Century.

4.1 Business East and West: Personal Relationships Count

"People are better equipped to do business in Asia if they have a chance to develop personal relationships where cultural understanding can be promoted," says Dean Peter Lustig of the Faculty of Commerce and Business Administration.

As part of a strategy of creating opportunities for such personal relationships to develop, the faculty has been involved in the transfer of business expertise across the Pacific for more than 25 years. The earliest initiatives were with Malaysia beginning in 1960, when UBC assisted in establishing the first business programs at the University of Malaya and the University of Singapore.

The Asia Pacific tradition continues with the faculty currently delivering courses on international marketing at the University of International Business and Economics in Beijing. It is working with Shanghai Jiao Tong University to bring its business programs up to the same level of excellence as its well-known engineering programs.

To keep up with developments on the business front, the Faculty of Commerce maintains liaison with counterparts in Japan, Korea, China, Hong Kong and members in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. These networks are then actively utilized in special Executive Symposiums in Asia which the faculty periodically offers for Canadian businessmen. Each symposium is carried out in a different part of Asia and provides not only an in-depth exploration of business and trade opportunities, but first-hand introductions to useful business contacts overseas.

To ensure the continuing development and maintenance of the competitive international expertise of its staff and students, particularly on the Asia Pacific front, the faculty has been involved in developing student exchange programs with universities in Australia and Japan, modelling the program on one they have been operating successfully in Europe.
“Business is business I guess. Communicating is a whole other thing,” says Robert Lee, member of the UBC Board of Governors and chairman of Prospero International Realty. “You have to know how to communicate with people in Asia. They are very different. The way they do business is very different. UBC has a role in preparing B.C. for greater trade with Asia, teaching students about business and culture.”

4.2 High Tech to China: Surgery by Satellite

In November 1985, doctors from the UBC Faculty of Medicine and doctors at Jinan University in Guangzhou, China conducted the first-ever live telecommunications link between North America and China.

The UBC physicians used B.C. Tel’s satellite telecommunications expertise to link-up with 200 Chinese physicians in order to view and discuss the latest techniques in heart and knee surgery. "It was a nerve-wracking experience," says Biomedical Communications Director Ian Cameron. "All this planning had gone into the broadcast, but up until the moment we were live, no one was really sure whether it would work. Fortunately, it went very smoothly."

This successful exchange is one of many which the Faculty of Medicine makes each year. In China alone, the faculty has regular exchanges of information and personnel with at least six major medical universities and teaching hospitals.

"The Asia Pacific connections of this faculty are in keeping with the traditional international orientation of the UBC medical school," says Medicine Dean William Webber.

The ongoing exchange of medical technology between UBC and the Asia Pacific is enhanced by scholarship programs such as the one set up by Vancouver philanthropist and businessman David Lam to bring Chinese orthopaedic specialists to UBC for one year to upgrade their teaching skills. In 1987, Dr. Robert McGraw, head of Orthopaedics at UBC, organized a visit of Deng Pu-feng, the son of Chinese leader Deng Xiao-ping, to review rehabilitation facilities in British Columbia. Deng Pu-feng, who heads the China Welfare Association, was especially interested in the current state of the art since he himself is paralyzed in both legs.

4.3 Mental Health Planning for One Billion People

"Vancouver is a mecca for many Japanese psychiatrists and mental health care professionals," says Professor Emeritus of psychiatry Dr. Lin Tsung-yi. "We have a relatively advanced system and the Japanese are using it as a model."

Lin was asked to be an advisor to the People’s Republic of China’s mental health program in 1981. The Chinese knew Lin had an international reputation through his 26-year association with the World Health Organization (WHO). For six years he made annual visits to China to observe and advise, making his first recommendations in 1985. At a 1986 mental health conference in Shanghai, he was gratified to see them in print and adopted as policy.

With Dr. Leon Eisberg of Harvard University, Lin wrote of his Chinese experience in Mental Health Planning for One Billion People, one of his many books and articles. Not only has he pursued his career in Japan, Taiwan, the United States and Canada, but in service with WHO and the World Federation for Mental Health, he has worked and advised in Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines, Hong Kong and China. Lin has brought to UBC an invaluable network of contacts and a cross-cultural sensitivity.

4.4 For Dentists — A Mission Outwards

"Universities should have a mission to give outwards, beyond their own doors," says Dentistry Dean George Beagrie. "In the process we learn a great deal and develop a stronger sense of ethics and professionalism. This applies to any faculty, not just dentistry."

Above: Dr. Alan Hannam (right), director of graduate and post-graduate dentistry in the School of Dentistry works in the laboratory with two visiting Japanese dentists, Dr. S. Adacki (left) and Dr. Y. Maeda of Osaka University.
Dr. Vinod Modi, a world authority on aerodynamics and aerospace engineering, looks down a wind tunnel in his laboratory where he designed wind-powered irrigation pumps which will revolutionize farming in Indonesia. Among the many scientific projects with which he is involved is the Mobile Remote Manipulator System, a robotic arm which is Canada's contribution to a space station.
Beagrie served with the World Health Organization examining alternative systems of oral health care delivery in developing countries. He believes the comparative perspective is invaluable to Canadian students, providing them with exposure to different techniques and pathological conditions, and with a broader context for appreciating the practice of their profession. Beagrie launched the participation of UBC’s Faculty of Dentistry in the International Union of Schools of Oral Health which includes universities in the United States, France, England, Switzerland, Israel, China and Japan.

UBC Faculty members helped implement a comprehensive oral health care program in poor, rural communities in Thailand.

4.5 Science on the Cutting Edge in Asia

The international transfer of knowledge is critical to maintaining a position on the cutting-edge of science. For this reason it is difficult to turn to any one department in the Faculty of Science and say this is where the action is. But there are examples of the important role UBC scientists play working with counterparts in the Asia Pacific region.

UBC oceanographers with Chinese scientists have uncovered pollution problems and are looking for solutions. Professors Tim Parsons and Paul Harrison, in a project funded by the International Development Research Centre, studied the effects of pollution in the port of Xiamen, across the Formosa Strait from Taiwan. Port authorities are dredging the harbour to accommodate container traffic. It was determined that ancient sediments in the harbour were highly toxic and could have a serious effect on the food chain.

“We really need more awareness of these types of problems in a country that is becoming tremendously industrialized,” says Parsons.

Another group of scientists has been co-operating with Chinese colleagues in exploring potential pharmaceutical applications of chemical compounds found in particular marine organisms living in the waters of the Yellow and East China Seas.

In a number of cases UBC scientists have been involved in long-term institutional development such as establishing a fisheries school at the National University of Singapore in 1972. Much of the training of the scientists who now head up the unit was completed at UBC and expertise from the university continues to be used by the Singaporeans.

Professor Casimir Lindsey of the Department of Zoology has had many Asian connections most recently the four-year “fish for food” study in Bangladesh which suggested ways in which enhanced aquaculture development can contribute to the economy.

Meanwhile, National Geographic funding has linked UBC scientists to a project in Korea involving research on the physiology and diving metabolism of Korean pearl divers.

4.6 From Windmills to Robotics: Science Knows No Bounds

Harnessing wind power to irrigate Indonesian farms, developing a vibration-control device for one of the world’s largest bridges in Japan, and working on the robotic system for a space station are projects which have engaged the considerable talents of a UBC engineer.

Prof. V. J. Modi of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, is an internationally recognized researcher in aerodynamics and biomechanics who designed windmills which now provide 12,000 litres of water in eight hours to Indonesian farms. Modi worked with the Japanese government and a consortium of major Japanese construction companies in applying UBC research on vibration control to one of the world’s largest bridges linking the islands of Honshu and Shikoku. Modi is also involved in the designing of a remote manipulator system as part of Canada’s responsibility in the space station program of the Canadian, Japanese and European Space Agency.
4.7 Collaboration with Thai Engineers Benefits Canada

More than half of all engineers will spend a significant amount of their time working in Asia or on projects intended for implementation in Asia, according to Applied Science Dean Axel Meisen who says many Canadian firms are gaining access to Asian markets.

“It is this kind of scenario that motivates me to provide some understanding and familiarity with this part of the world in our programs,” he says.

An example is the development of an instructional program in co-operation with engineers at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand. The need for this expertise came with the discovery in 1984 of abundant deposits of natural gas in the Gulf of Thailand.

UBC, in co-operation with four Thai universities and the Thai Petroleum Institute, developed an innovative computer-based program for petrochemical engineering which can also be used by Canadian engineers.

The recent confirmation of UBC’s participation in a $15 million Canadian consortium to work with the well-known Asian Institute of Technology located in Bangkok will gain further valuable exposure for UBC engineers in Southeast Asia. UBC’s School of Community and Regional Planning, the School of Architecture, the Centre for Human Settlements, and the Institute of Asian Research will also take part in the project.

4.8 TRIUMF: An International Centre of Excellence

Basic research into the structure of matter is of central concern to all scientific advances. For that reason dozens of leading scientists from around the world come every year to use the cyclotron to study the motion of atoms at TRIUMF, Tri-University Meson Facility on the UBC campus.

Some of the best scientists from Asia are among those who visit the facility. In 1987, the high calibre of the work being done at TRIUMF was recognized when Dr. Yamazaki Toshimitsu, a physicist from Japan received from the emperor that country’s most prestigious awards, the Imperial Prize and the Academy Prize awarded for experimental studies of meson physics.

International officials, including those from Japan, are giving serious consideration to establishing a KAON factory at TRIUMF for the study of kaons, sub-atomic particles which might help scientists understand the origin of the universe.

4.9 Education—A Design for the Pacific

“We face profound challenges in determining how best to prepare a new generation of teachers and students to deal with the transformations taking place in society,” says Dr. Nancy Sheehan, Dean of UBC’s Faculty of Education.

In meeting the challenges of a new age the faculty and students in the Faculty of Education will build on their experience in international education in 12 Asia Pacific countries: Australia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand.

As a charter member of the Pacific Circle Consortium, a practical experiment in international education, the Faculty of Education leads Canada in actively producing curriculum materials of a cross-cultural nature for schools in member countries. The organization is dedicated to the improvement of teaching about people and nations of the Pacific and about the Pacific Ocean itself. Membership is made up of institutions in Japan, the United States, New Zealand, Australia and Canada. Pacific Education is a new journal for curriculum and general educational studies within the Pacific education community published by the faculty’s Pacific Educational Press.
The faculty is active in a number of international training projects such as the Indonesian Principals and Administrators Training Program being carried out at UBC, the Hong Kong English Language Education Diploma, and the Singapore Diploma Program in Adult Education.

4.10 Food Production is a Global Concern

Dean of Agricultural Sciences James Richards says agriculture students must be attuned to the production of food around the world because food is of critical importance everywhere.

“We are trying to incorporate an international perspective into our agriculture program because of the immense benefit to students,” he says.

Several specialists from the faculty have already worked in China on projects to help make land more productive and in the application of good agricultural practices. Richards sees his faculty and students becoming more involved in exchanges with Asian universities such as Zhejiang Agricultural University in China with whom an agreement was signed in late 1987. He looks forward to a proposed project focusing on aquaculture systems management with Prince of Songkhla University in Thailand in which several other UBC faculties would be involved.

4.11 Sociologist Studies China in Transition

Dr. Graham Johnson of the Department of Sociology has two special qualifications which allowed him to take on the kind of study few Chinese have attempted. His experience as a sociologist coupled with his ability to speak Cantonese allowed him to conduct a survey of village households in the Po River Valley. Sound planning for the future requires a knowledge of how policies affect people in areas undergoing change due to burgeoning industrialization. Johnson's study conducted over five years in co-operation with Zhongshan University involved interviewing family members in the villages of Guangdong province.

“We were interested in how traditional forms of the family have been retained. We looked at marriage patterns and the role of women which is much more pronounced now that women have an economic role,” said Johnson who is just compiling the results of the study.
As former Minister for International Trade and a graduate of UBC, I commend the university for its commitment to Asia Pacific studies and specific initiatives to enhance Canada's trade and cultural relations with Pacific Rim countries. UBC has played a leading role in both the export of services and expertise, and provision of world-class education and training for students from Asia Pacific countries.

Pat Carney
President of the Treasury Board
Government of Canada

The Asian Centre—home to many of UBC's Asian specialists—is the focus of Asia Pacific activity for campus and community. Left to right: Dr. Daniel Overmyer, head of the Department of Asian Studies; Dr. Terry McBee, director of the Institute of Asian Research, and Sabrina Yan, program and information officer for the institute, and editor of the Asia Pacific Report.
Social forecaster John Naisbitt in 1982 wrote in his book Megatrends that the globalization of our economies will be accompanied by a renaissance in language and cultural assertiveness.

The ability to transform ourselves and our institutions to participate in this interdependent world is one of the great challenges of the Pacific Century, a challenge that the University of British Columbia will meet.

UBC has built cultural and linguistic bridges to span the Pacific and created resources to serve the country.

5.1 The Asian Centre had a Previous Incarnation

A visible and beautiful Asian presence nestled in one of the campus forests, the Asian Centre is the hub of Asia Pacific activity for the university and the community. It is the venue for approximately 90 special events each year. And it is home to many of UBC's Asian specialists.

The Asian Centre had a previous incarnation as the Sanyo Electric Pavilion at Expo '70 in Osaka, Japan. UBC Religious Studies Professor Shotaro Iida persuaded the Sanyo Corporation to donate the beams and girders to UBC; Keidanren, the Japanese Federation of Economic Organizations, assumed the costs of shipping the huge bundle to Canada and UBC did the rest.

The pieces were numbered to aid in reconstruction, but time and rain washed away the numbers. When construction finally began, crews had to piece the girders together like a giant jigsaw puzzle. On June 5, 1981, with great fanfare and the beating of drums the doors of the Asian Centre opened to the public.

Since then the Asian Centre hasn’t missed a beat. Home to the Asian Library, the Asian Studies Department, the Institute of Asian Research, the International Liaison Office, the Urasenke Tea Gallery and the Asian component of the Music Department the centre is used for Asian cultural and academic activities.

The Asian Centre was the site of one of the most successful presentations at UBC's 1987 Open House which included displays and demonstrations of Asian art, and performances of Korean, Thai, Indian, Chinese and Japanese dancing and music. Highlight of the program was the spectacular Peking Opera which played to full houses.

5.2 UBC's Asian Library: The Jewel in the Crown

With nearly half a million items available in Asian languages, and a capable staff able to locate requests through inter-library connections, the Asian Library is among the best outside of Asia. Without peer in Canada, it is also the national repository for Japanese Government documents.

One of the library's most important acquisitions is the 45,000 volume P'u-pan Collection which includes 320 rare and precious Chinese books. The library also houses the collection of documents relating to the history of Asian Canadians. And under the direction of new head Linda Joe, the Asian Library is rapidly becoming known as a key community resource.

The importance of a well-endowed library is widely recognized and as a result governments and individuals from every part of Asia have contributed to the ongoing development of this invaluable resource. Particular recognition should be given to the long-standing and generous support which the library has received from the Japan Foundation.

UBC is known among map specialists around the world for its holding of a rare collection of ancient maps of Japan, mostly woodblock prints, produced between 1600 and 1867. The 320-map collection, now
located in the Map Division of the Main Library, was purchased in 1964 for $14,000 and is now estimated to be worth $10 million. A well-developed collection of western language materials on Asia is housed in the Main and Sedgewick Libraries while photographs relating to early history of Asian Canadians are located in Special Collections. Other libraries contain Asian music—the Wilson Recording Library, reproductions of Asian art—the Fine Arts Library, and teaching materials for schools—the Curriculum Library.

5.3 Institute of Asian Research—Reaching Out

The Institute of Asian Research was created in 1977 to put Asian research at UBC on the international map. Dr. Terry McGee, an internationally-respected urban geographer with Asian expertise who was working at the Australian National University was hired as director.

McGee quickly realized that to secure co-operation of Asianists and develop credibility in order to secure on-going funding, it was essential to develop a network of contacts at the institute. Many outreach activities were initiated to provide opportunities for individuals interested in Asia from both the campus and the community to meet.

Asia Pacific Report, a newsletter on Asian activities, was launched, brochures on the Asian Centre and UBC Asianists were prepared and, as more and more visitors began entering the doors of the centre, tours of the facilities became a regular feature.

To help Canadians understand what Asian-related activities were happening in the country, the institute staff began gathering information. Before long, it was a prime resource centre disseminating information not only on Asian activities at UBC but responding to all kinds of inquiries concerning the Asia Pacific.

Japanese history professor Dr. John Howes with a rare collection of ancient maps of Japan produced between 1600 and 1867 housed in the Map Division of the Main Library.

This was before the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada was established. Since then, the importance of this function has been enhanced through a seed grant from the foundation to support a program and information officer for the Institute of Asian Research, a position energetically filled by Sabrina Yan who also serves as editor of the Asia Pacific Report.
What about research? McGee lists 47 research reports and monographs the institute has published over the past decade. With pride he points to the ambitious project entitled Canada and the Changing Economy of the Pacific Basin in which UBC and Simon Fraser University professors from many disciplines participated. With a grant from the Max Bell Foundation, 28 research papers were produced which examined among other topics: energy policies of China, Japan and several Southeast Asian nations, corporate and investment activities in Asia, and Canada’s trade prospects and factors influencing trade.

The Nitobe Ohira Memorial Conference in Japanese Studies marked the culmination of the institute’s administration of a large grant to develop Japanese studies at UBC which was awarded by the Japan Foundation. “UBC expertise in Japan and China is well-established. Now, with our emerging interests in Southeast Asia and countries like Hong Kong, Indonesia and Korea, I think we have one of the most well-rounded programs in Canada.”

“We’re at a turning point. The first phase of our plan to put UBC’s Asian research on the map internationally has been completed. We’ve developed networks and a communications infrastructure. We’re well-known and respected. But there’s lots of work still to be done.”

The B.C. government recently lent its support to a faculty position in Indonesian language and culture at UBC.

5.4 International Liaison Office: Global Links

The International Liaison Office, established in February, 1987 as part of the UBC President’s Office, reflects the deepening commitment of the university to preparing a generation of Canadians for the challenges of the 21st Century.

The importance of the Asia Pacific region in this process is clear. Thirty-four of the university’s 57 international agreements with institutions abroad are in that region. More than half of the 957 international visa students at UBC are from the Asia Pacific, and out of a faculty numbering more than 1,800, one-sixth have significant academic involvement with the region.

“UBC has a strong commitment to fulfilling its responsibilities vis-a-vis the internationalization of higher education in Canada,” says Larry Sproul, director of the International Liaison Office. “Our faculty are well-respected and well-connected internationally. On the Asian front we are particularly capable. But what’s bringing it all together is President Strangway’s strong vision of UBC as an international centre of excellence.”
UBC's Education Abroad Programs are part of that vision. These programs give students the opportunity to study abroad for an academic year and receive full credit towards a degree.

"In response to Canada's move towards internationalization, it's a way of preparing a new generation of students who feel comfortable in an international milieu. The recent signing of such an agreement with Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto, Japan is one step we are taking in our on-going explorations of the best ways to ensure long-term productive linkages with our academic partners in Asia and around the world," says Sproul.

5.5 Asian Studies: The Medium is the Message

Without communications skills there can be little real appreciation of how people from another country and culture think or feel, says Dr. Daniel Overmyer, head of the Department of Asian Studies which has the responsibility for teaching Asian languages, literature and pre-modern history.

The department's success is reflected less by climbing enrolments than by students who undertake challenging projects related to their studies or take up demanding positions after graduation. Graduate students showed the confidence they have in their Asian language skills and their knowledge of Asia Pacific cultures when in 1987 they published for the first time their own academic journal, B.C. Asian Review.

The Pacific Rim Club is another student project—the largest of its kind in Canada—which engages keen students in weekly meetings, seminars, career workshops and social and cultural events designed to expand their knowledge of the Asia Pacific.

5.6 The Nitobe Memorial Garden—A Bridge to the East

Whether you simply appreciate its beauty or seek to penetrate its wealth of symbols, you never leave the Nitobe Memorial Garden without wishing to stay longer.

The present garden was designed by the late Dr. Kannosuke Mori, a famous Japanese landscape architect and mathematician of Chiba University. It opened in 1960 and was named in honour of Dr. Inazo Nitobe, a distinguished educator and international civil servant who did much to build a bridge between East and West. Nitobe, who had lectured at UBC early in 1933, died in Victoria later that year after returning from a meeting of the Institute of International Relations in Banff. A 15-foot engraved stone lantern crafted in Japan was originally presented to UBC in 1935 as a memorial to Nitobe by Vancouver's Japanese Associations and the Japan Society.

5.7 The Pacific Bell Sounds Across the Pacific

"A clear mind leads to tranquil thought," proclaim the five characters inscribed around the base of the Pacific Bell. When the wooden hammer strikes the bell, the resulting reverberation of countless circles of pure echoing sound does focus the mind.

The bell was cast by Masahiko Katori, who is honoured as a Living National Treasure in Japan for the excellence of his fine metal casting and bell-making. It is housed in a traditional Japanese style tower, the design of which dates back more than 800 years to the Kamakura period. On January 14, 1986 former Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, rang the bell at an official opening ceremony and offered the following haiku to commemorate the occasion:

The bell sounds
News of spring
Across the Pacific

Above: The Pacific Rim Club, largest student club of its kind in Canada, shows the growing enthusiasm among students for Asia Pacific studies. Left to right are some of the members: Tricia Millman, Doug Riddell, Eugenie Lam, Randal Helten, Clement Kwong and Jake Herrero.
Pacific Affairs— that most prestigious journal on Asia Pacific activity which features articles dealing with contemporary social, economic and political affairs in the region—is produced by (left to right) Dr. Ian Slater, managing editor; Bernie Chisholm, business manager, and May Patola, secretary and computer systems. Dr. Slater, a political scientist by training, is an Arts One lecturer and a novelist.
5.8 Pacific Affairs—
A Most Important Journal

It has been called one of the most important journals published anywhere in the world on the subject of Asia. It is the oldest and most distinguished publication of its kind. Scholars consider it a mark of recognition to have an article published in this journal.

Pacific Affairs, 60 years old in 1988, is a quarterly academic journal that chronicles the ongoing political, economic and social developments in Asia and its relations with the western world. It reaches more than 2,600 subscribers, most of whom are in the U.S.

Pacific Affairs made its first appearance in 1928 in Honolulu, the monthly journal of the Institute of Pacific Relations. It came to UBC with Professor William Holland, former editor and retired head of Asian Studies.

5.9 Million-Dollar Gift to Asian Garden

The teaching and research at UBC’s Botanical Garden provides an ever widening window on the world of plants. Established in 1916, the garden is the oldest university botanical garden in Canada. In addition to the E. H. Lohbrunner Alpine Garden, the B.C. Native Garden, the Physick Garden and the Food Garden there is a very special section known as the Asian Garden.

Thanks to the philanthropy of Vancouver businessman David Lam, who with his wife Dorothy recently donated $1-million to develop the Asian Garden, it will soon be one of the world’s finest gardens. The Lams’ gift will enhance a garden already in a class by itself, containing 11,000 plants, some found nowhere else in North America.

“The temptation is to accept everything that’s offered to the garden,” says Bruce MacDonald, director of the Botanical Garden, “but we’ve been highly selective. We have an incredible genetic resource here in our Asian Garden.”

The garden was officially opened in 1981 with donated plants. Today the main source is from botanical gardens in Japan, China, Korea and through contacts in other Asian countries. Researchers at the garden develop new strains of Asian plants. The blue Himalayan poppy, for example, which lasts only two years, is being developed into a perennial by Dr. Gerald Straley, curator of collections.

Asian plants are also being introduced to Canada in UBC’s Plant Introduction Scheme which sees the plants distributed to B.C. nurseries so gardeners have access to new plants. This is a co-operative effort with the B.C. Nursery Trades Association, the B.C. Society of Landscape Architects and test stations in Canada and the U.S.

5.10 David Lam: Putting Something Back into the Community

David Lam is a leading example of the contribution that immigrants to Canada make to the internationalization of both our country and our university.

“Few people understand the significant benefit of immigrants,” says Lam. “Many of them bring an entrepreneurial spirit to the country and they see opportunities that we as Canadians may miss.”

Having left a successful Hong Kong banking career 20 years ago to come to Vancouver, Lam decided to take evening courses at UBC, receiving his diploma in real estate appraisal and mortgage financing five years later. A positive attitude, an entrepreneurial spirit, a good education and boundless creative energy helped make him a successful real estate investor.

For those following in Lam’s footsteps, the David Lam Management Research Library at UBC, made possible through Lam’s generosity, stands as a lasting reminder of how one individual uses his education for the benefit of others. It opened in 1985 in the Henry Angus Building.

Participating at the official opening of the library, Lam said Canada was one of the few countries where immigrants were given opportunities to succeed. It was his turn, he said, to put something back into the community.
The library, as head librarian Diana Chan points out, is a unique international facility serving the public and business community as well as the campus.

“Our business users are looking for the most up-to-date information on Canadian and foreign companies. Our selection of current American company reports is certainly the largest in B.C., and maybe in Canada. We have over 9,000 of them on microfiche. We have 2,000 Canadian company reports and the top 550 international company reports on file,” says Chan.

In 1987, the University of British Columbia in recognition of David Lam's outstanding record of service and commitment to the community and the university awarded him an honorary doctorate degree.

5.11 Centre for International Business Spans the Pacific

The future of Canada's economic well-being depends on our success in international business and trade. To ensure that we have the skills to compete in marketing and finance, the Faculty of Commerce and Business Administration established a Centre for International Business.

“Many of our projects deal mainly with the Pacific Rim,” says centre director Dr. Ilan Vertinsky, “but others not specifically about Asia have implications on Pacific Rim trade and commerce. Work being done on international finance centres, transportation or tourism, for instance, all relate to the Pacific Rim.”

The centre enhances government initiatives by conducting research to provide better understanding of how business is conducted in other cultures and offering students the opportunity to train in area studies such as the Asia Pacific.

5.12 Thousands Take the Plunge into Language Learning

With more than 2,000 students registered in non-credit language programs, UBC’s Language Institute is an important point of contact for many individuals who have decided to immerse themselves in what is probably the most active form of cross-cultural communication—speaking a foreign language.

While the majority of students at the Language Institute come from outside Canada to learn English, there is a steady and continually growing contingent of Canadians coming to study not only French and Spanish, but Japanese, Mandarin and Cantonese.

The Pacific Region Orientation Centre, part of the Centre for Continuing Education, is a major CIDA-sponsored centre for orientation, language and cultural programs for scholars coming from China, Indonesia and Thailand on government programs. Briefings are provided for Canadians going to work in these countries on projects which have government support.

5.13 Significant Asian Collection at Museum of Anthropology

East and West meet at the UBC Museum of Anthropology. Exhibitions of Asian artifacts and performances by groups such as the Japanese Noh Theatre are frequent features presented there amid the native Canadian art.

The Asian collection at the Museum of Anthropology is second in importance only to its large and magnificent collection of Northwest Coast Indian artifacts.

“The collection covers everything from simple implements and tools right up to manufactured wares,” says Dr. Michael Ames, director of the museum, an Asian specialist who has done research in Hong Kong on village life.

According to Dr. Elizabeth Johnson, curator of documentation and an anthropologist specializing in the study of south China, collections from east and south Asia are among the stronger groups in the museum. The Chinese collection has significant ceramics and textiles including a unique group of Cantonese opera costumes and a large number of folk embroideries from Sichuan Province. From Japan there are ceramics, lacquer and textiles as well as an outstanding collection of handmade paper.
A very early Southeast Asian collection by Frank Burnett has been added to, while a donation of great importance was recently made by Dr. Miguel Tecson and Mrs. Julia Tecson of Vancouver who donated over 300 objects including Chinese and Southeast Asian ceramics, some as early as the Song dynasty, Iron Age Philippine pottery and ethnographic materials from the Philippines. Dr. Walter Koerner made important donations in 1987 to the Chinese collection.

5.14 Thunderbird Teams are Trailblazers in Asia

UBC is the best-known Canadian university in Asia because of the Thunderbird teams, according to Dr. Bob Hindmarch, director of Athletic and Sports Services. This is not surprising, because the Thunderbirds have had ties with their counterparts in Asia for more than 50 years. Not only do teams regularly tour Asia, but faculty and student exchange programs for research take place within the School of Physical Education.

"UBC teams have toured nearly all of Southeast Asia," says Hindmarch. "Travelling Thunderbird teams tend to be the big sports: volleyball, basketball, ice hockey and soccer. In 1978-79, the women's ice hockey team played in Japanese competition and got national television coverage."

When China opened its doors to the West, the UBC men's hockey team was the first sports group to tour and play there. The hockey team has been playing in Japan since the 1930's and teams have been visiting the Philippines since the 1940's.

Graduates like Russell Mark, now senior representative in the Province of B.C.'s Tokyo office, made sports contacts and friends who are now a valuable resource. A Commerce graduate who is fluent in Japanese, he recalls with pleasure being a member of the successful UBC Thunderbird Rugby tour to Japan in 1976 at the invitation of the Japanese Rugby Union.

Vancouver's large Asian population is an important factor in the continuing involvement of UBC sports teams and sports sciences in the region, and Asian businessmen at home and abroad have been generous with their support.

An Oldtimer's hockey team made up of UBC alumni including faculty members as well as former Thunderbirds from the 1950's was formed by Hindmarch in 1980 when the Mandai Oldtimers team from Tokyo visited Vancouver. In 1987 the UBC team played in Tokyo.

5.15 International House Welcomes Students

International House provides students from other countries with the warmest possible welcome from the moment they are accepted at UBC. Asian students are strong participants in events at International House which offers social gatherings, an orientation program, a peer program teaming international students with Canadians, and interaction with the community.

5.16 UBC Alumni—A Bridge to the World

In seeking to understand and meet the challenges of the Pacific Century, UBC's alumni is one of its most powerful resources. There are more than 120,000 alumni, thousands of whom live and work throughout the Asia Pacific region.

As graduates of UBC, they serve every day as cross-cultural interpreters for those around them. Many are international students who have returned home, others are Canadians working abroad.

By virtue of their education, they are involved in important and demanding fields in which they strive to achieve the goals of excellence set before them during their study at UBC.

The vital contribution of these alumni is now recognized as being so important that various UBC task forces are examining how to best encourage and support the ongoing involvement of these internationalists with the university and the community.

Positioned as Canada's port of entry to the Asia Pacific region, Vancouver was deliberately chosen by Hongkong Bank of Canada for its headquarters. The bank has drawn extensively on alumni of the University of British Columbia for its management team. For its part, UBC has also given generously of its resources to visiting Asian students which has enhanced the cross-cultural experience with the Asia Pacific.

Jim Cleave
President and Chief Executive Officer
Hongkong Bank of Canada
Internationalization: A Sign of the Times

PART VI

UBC—A Passport to the Future
A Message from the President

The Pacific Century has already begun. The Asia Pacific region, with more than half the world’s population, a sizable share of the world’s natural resources, and the world’s largest marketplace, will continue its dynamic performance. The shift in the centre of gravity for economic, scientific and cultural exchange has profound implications for Canada.

Asians ask me if Canada is willing to take up her responsibilities as a member of the Asia Pacific community. I tell them this country is committed to full participation, and that the University of British Columbia will help Canadians meet the challenge of full membership in this community.

The new economy of the Asia Pacific region will be studied in an exciting venture planned by the Faculty of Commerce and Business Administration. Working with business and government, the faculty is establishing an Asia Pacific Banking and Finance Institute, a non-profit and independent institute to provide both North Americans and Asians with the best information on international banking and finance as it pertains to Pacific Rim issues. The institute will be a six-week residential school where participants will learn from world-renowned experts about the most important theories, tools and practices in the field. The first annual institute will be held in 1990.

The university and the Korean Economic Research Institute have signed a three-year agreement to provide a mutual exchange of research and experts. A deepening relationship between UBC’s School of Medicine and institutions in China will develop in the near future as a result of recent visits by presidents from three Chinese medical schools who came to us to discuss proposals for increasing involvement in a two-way exchange.

The Faculty of Education is developing an ambitious proposal for an institutional link with one of China’s key universities. This venture could result in broad-based co-operation in training and research in early childhood education, the comparative study of moral values in young children, evaluation of literacy and language development in elementary school pupils, and training and research in new directions in educational leadership.

People in Asia believe a good education is the key to improving themselves and their lives. Many want to study abroad and would welcome the opportunity to attend UBC. Although Canada is big, its population is small. Natural resources alone will not ensure economic well-being. At UBC, we energetically pursue excellence in a knowledge-intensive world for the benefit of both Canadian students and
those from other countries in the Asia Pacific community.

A UBC task force recommends the university recruit more undergraduate students from foreign countries including those from the Pacific community. We will increase the numbers of undergraduates from foreign countries from less than one per cent to between four and six per cent of enrolment, continuing to admit the brightest and most qualified students from the Asia Pacific and elsewhere. We will provide more opportunities for our own students to study at outstanding institutions abroad.

UBC’s co-operation with both government and business at home and abroad has been documented in this report. We will continue to collaborate with all sectors of society regionally, nationally and internationally. UBC’s involvement is more than academic. For example, experts from our Computing Centre are now assisting the Nanjing Automation Research Institute in transmitting data at high speed over long distances—helpful to the Chinese of course, but a learning experience for our people. At home we share resources with the community and in turn the university receives support from the community and from individuals. UBC is committed to expanding its resources to better serve Canadians. New facilities at UBC add immeasurably to the community providing not only a resource but also an attraction for visitors. The David Lam Asian Garden opening in the spring of 1989 will be unmatched in North America.

Graduate Studies Dean Peter Suedfeld says: “When the policy-makers, decision-makers, researchers and academics who shape our future on both sides of the Pacific meet together in years to come, they may find they are alumni of the same institution—UBC.” Left to right are graduate students: Masaru Ikezawa, Japan; Scott MacLeod, Canada; Yihong Pan, China, and Shahul Hasbullah, Sri Lanka.

(Continued next page)
This splendid garden, along with Vancouver's Dr. SunYat-sen Garden and UBC's Nitobe Memorial Garden will attract visitors from across Canada and around the world.

Alumni, including international students who have returned home and Canadians working in the Asia Pacific region, have a deep affection for UBC. I believe they are determined to foster cross-cultural communications in the Asia Pacific Community—a practical network helpful to government and business. When I accompanied Vancouver Mayor Gordon Campbell to a meeting with UBC alumni in Tokyo, and later in Hong Kong, he was pleased to find so many of the prominent business people are UBC alumni.

Our alumni all over the world are important to UBC and to Canada. We are already increasing alumni branch activities and will involve UBC graduates in the task of internationalization.

The Canadian and Japanese have agreed to increase cultural ties between Canada and Japan. Japan will put more money into promoting tours of Canada by Japanese artists. The university is already a focus for Asian visual arts and this will add to the wealth of cultural events—art exhibitions, theatre, and music which have been presented on the UBC campus for the enjoyment of the Vancouver community.

We propose to build a Concert Hall where Asian performing arts will find a home-away-from-home, and larger audiences will enjoy Asia on stage in Canada. We plan to establish a centre for Asian art which will serve as a venue for exhibitions touring North America.

Most important, we will continue to strengthen our studies in the languages, literature, history and cultures of Asian countries.

These are some of the plans we at UBC have for sharing the future with our neighbours in the Pacific. Our survival in the next century depends on our ability to build with other nations a common future. The capacity of Canadians to contribute will depend not only on scientific and economic energies and expertise, but on our ability to understand and appreciate how other people feel and think.

The University of British Columbia can be counted upon to provide educational leadership, and to share its expertise and resources as Canada responds to the challenges and opportunities of internationalization. We as Canadians share with our friends in the Asia Pacific region the goal of peace and prosperity in the Pacific Century.
<table>
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Acknowledgements

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