

UBC REPORTS

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D Thomson photos

Prime Minister Jean Chretien (top) last week declared 1997 Canada's Year of the Asia Pacific to a Vancouver audience that included UBC students and faculty. Speaking on behalf of the many UBC students whose studies concentrate on issues pertaining to the Asia Pacific region was Gisèle Yasmeen (above), a PhD student in the Dept. of Geography. UBC will host the first formal event of Canada's Year of the Asia Pacific in January.

UBC to play part in Year of the Asia Pacific

by Gavin Wilson

Staff writer

Prime Minister Jean Chretien announced while in Vancouver last week that 1997 will be Canada's Year of the Asia Pacific.

The announcement was made at Canada Place to a room filled with UBC students, faculty and administrators, as well as business leaders, MPs and cabinet ministers. UBC President David Strangway introduced the prime minister.

The year will culminate in November 1997 when Vancouver plays host to the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation meeting, APEC '97.

Chretien was on his way to APEC '96 in Manila, where he will meet with representatives of 18 other Pacific Rim economies in 1997 and economic development in the region.

"The future of Canada will depend a great deal on our presence in the Pacific, and the gateway to the Pacific is B.C. We are very happy with the dynamism of the business community and the university community who are helping to prepare the province and the rest of Canada to be the leaders of the Pacific," Chretien said.

This January, one of the first formal events of Canada's Year of the Asia Pacific will take place at UBC as the university co-hosts the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum.

The forum brings together distinguished legislators from more than 20 Pacific Rim nations to discuss matters of mutual concern and interest. It will be the first time the forum is held in Canada.

Canada was a founding member of the forum, which was established in Tokyo in 1993.

Among its goals are: understanding
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Piper to become UBC's next president

Dr. Martha C. Piper, vice-president, Research and External Affairs, at the University of Alberta, and a leading advocate for university research, has been appointed 11th president of The University of British Columbia.

Dr. Piper succeeds Dr. David W. Strangway, who completes his second six-year term on June 30, 1997. She will take up her new duties as president in July 1997.

The UBC Board of Governors made the appointment on the unanimous recommendation of a 19-member Presidential Search Committee, chaired by UBC Chancellor William

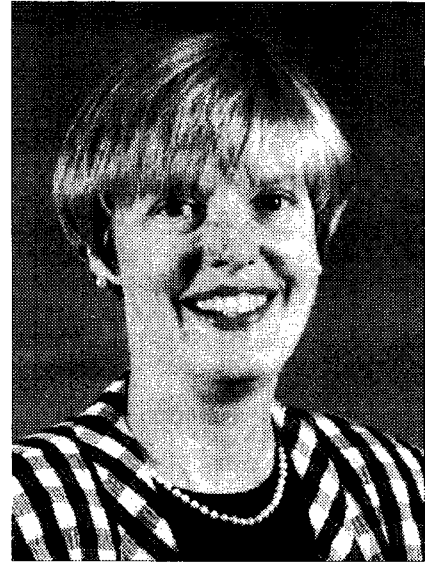
Sauder, which conducted an extensive search throughout North America.

"The search committee, composed of a broadly based group of faculty, staff, board members, students and alumni,

assessed the background, experience, professional qualifications and personal qualities of a wide and diverse field of outstanding candidates for the presidency of UBC," said Dr. Sauder.

"Without exception, we found Martha Piper to be best qualified to lead UBC into the next century."

Dr. Piper has the proven academic and institutional leadership, and management and administrative abilities necessary to successfully head a complex institution such as UBC, said Board of Governors Chair Shirley Chan.



Piper

"Her demonstrated strengths in building internal and external relationships, especially in difficult financial times such

See **PIPER** Page 2

Debaters set sights on world championships

The UBC Debate Society will compete against teams representing universities from around the world including Oxford, Cambridge, Yale and Harvard at this year's World Debating Championships in Cape Town, South Africa.

As the current western debating champions, the UBC team will represent all of Western Canada at the six-day event taking place Dec. 28 to Jan. 3 at the University of Cape Town.

All debaters will participate in nine preliminary debates and three speech competitions. On New Year's Eve, the top 32 competitors will advance to the finals and compete in the elimination rounds.

Members of the UBC Debate Society world team are Christopher Moreno, a master's student in Applied Ethics who is Western Canada's top-ranked active debater and winner of the 1995 Yale Public Speaking Contest; and third-year law student Justine Wiltshire, a semi-finalist at Oxford's Debater of the Year competition.

Combined, Moreno and Wiltshire have 11 years of debate experience, more than 20 awards at the regional, national and international levels and three appearances at previous world competitions.

"Competitive debate is an activity which encourages the interdisciplinary application of knowledge, strong research skills, effective public speaking and incisive critical thinking," said Law Prof. Donald McDougall.

"It is hard to overestimate the value of exchanging ideas. Events like this shape the minds of our future leaders. The team representing our university and province will be ambassadors to fellow competitors and judges from five continents."

The Faculty of Law and the Office of the Vice-president, Academic and Provost, have made financial pledges toward sending the team to South Africa, but sponsors are still needed.

For information on how you can help, call (604) 221-2775 or (604) 730-8132.

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Letters

Whither/wither? See Calendar

Editor:

One partial answer to "Whither or wither?" on the future of universities (*UBC Reports*, Oct. 17) can be found in the spread on pages 4 and 5, same issue (Calendar). There are listed on-campus lectures and seminars, con-

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certs and authors' readings and other events for the next two weeks (a regular *UBC Reports* feature). These programs bring together, with the public, a host of artists and scholars whose specializations may conceal their fields' inter-relatedness. They represent a community of diverse cultural

pursuits. They require a university-like place for meetings and cross-disciplinary communication—none of which Prof. Marchak's dispassionate presentation even alludes to.

Henry S. Maas
Emeritus Professor
School of Social Work

Piper

Continued from Page 1

as those recently faced in Alberta, combined with her outstanding personal qualities, make her the best fit for UBC."

Dr. Piper assumed the position of vice-president, Research, at the University of Alberta in January 1993 and her position was expanded to include the External Affairs portfolio in July 1995.

During her tenure, external research funding at the University of Alberta has increased by 25 per cent. Dr. Piper has been instrumental in promoting the importance of university research to the broader community through the *Research Makes Sense* initiative. She has also assisted in preparing the University of Alberta for the largest fundraising campaign in its history.

From 1985-1992, Dr. Piper served as dean of the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine at the University of Alberta. Prior to that, she was director of the School of Physical and Occupational Therapy at McGill University, from 1979-1985.

A Canadian citizen born in

Lorain, Ohio, Dr. Piper received her BSc in Physical Therapy from the University of Michigan, her MA in Child Development from the University of Connecticut, and her PhD in Epidemiology and Biostatistics from McGill University.

Dr. Piper's teaching and research interests are directed towards the developmentally delayed infant, with particular focus on early identification of infants with development delays, and assessing the efficacy of specific interventions commonly employed in the treatment of physically and mentally handicapped children.

Funding support for her research has come from the Fonds de la Recherche en Sante du Quebec, March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation, National Health Research and Development Program, Health and Welfare Canada, National Institute of Mental Retardation, MSI Foundation, Northern Alberta Children's Hospital Foundation and the Hospital for Sick Children Foundation.

Her current appointments in-

clude serving as a board member of: TR Labs; Centre for Engineering Research; Alberta Research Council, Protein Engineering Networks Centre of Excellence; Economic Development Edmonton; and the Canada Israel Industrial Research Foundation.

In August 1994, Dr. Piper was appointed by Prime Minister Jean Chretien to the National Advisory Board on Science and Technology and chaired a sub-committee on Quality of Life. She is a member of the University Advisory Board, Industry Canada, and was recently appointed to the General Assembly of the Humanities and Social Sciences Federation of Canada.

In July 1996, Dr. Piper was appointed by the prime minister as a member of the Advisory Council on Science and Technology and in October 1996, she received the Leadership Award in Science and Technology from the Alberta Science and Technology Foundation.

Dr. Piper is married to Dr. William Piper who will join UBC's Psychiatry Dept. They have two daughters.

Year

Continued from Page 1

policy concerns, interests and experiences; examining political, social and cultural developments; encouraging and promoting regional co-operation; and encouraging regional cohesion, understanding and co-operation.

Also in January, Strangway has been asked to join the prime minister and Team Canada on a trade mission to Thailand, South Korea and the Philippines. Strangway has been a member of the team on previous missions to Asia.

Strangway said these activities are very much in keeping with the university's long-standing interest in the Asia Pacific. UBC has a vital role in developing relationships and increasing knowledge about the region.

"Knowledge is a great builder of bridges across regions. The more we understand about other areas, the more we can work together—and that benefits each of us," Strangway said.

"This is why links with Asia

Pacific are important not only to UBC and British Columbia, but to all of Canada. New knowledge means new opportunities—and new opportunities mean employment for young people and prosperity throughout our society."

About 80 UBC students, representing different constituencies across campus and all sharing an interest in the Pacific Rim, were on hand for the prime minister's announcement.

Gisèle Yasmeen, speaking on the students' behalf, thanked the prime minister for sharing his vision of Canada's role in the Pacific Century.

Yasmeen, who recently completed work on a PhD in the Geography Dept., studied urbanization, food systems and gender in Southeast Asia. She was also an intern at the Asia Pacific Foundation's APEC Study Centre.

"Those of us who work in the Asia Pacific region are thrilled with this announcement," she said.

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UBC REPORTS

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Managing Editor: Paula Martin (paula.martin@ubc.ca)
Editor/Production: Janet Ansell (janet.ansell@ubc.ca)
Contributors: Connie Bagshaw (connie.bagshaw@ubc.ca), Stephen Forgacs (stephen.forgacs@ubc.ca), Charles Ker (charles.ker@ubc.ca), Gavin Wilson (gavin.wilson@ubc.ca).

Editorial and advertising enquiries: (604) 822-3131 (phone), (604) 822-2684 (fax).

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MANDEVILLE

B.C. students above average in int'l testing

by Connie Bagshaw

Staff writer

Canadian students scored significantly higher than the international average in the world's largest test of mathematics and science skills written by students representing more than 40 countries.

Results of phase one of the Third International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS), surveying grades 7 and 8 students, indicate that Canadian Grade 8 students averaged 59 per cent in both subjects, four percentage points higher than the international mean in mathematics, and three percentage points higher than the international mean in science.

"Conventional wisdom says we're not getting sufficient bang for our buck in our schools," said David Robitaille, international co-ordinator of TIMSS and head of UBC's Dept. of Curriculum Studies, at a news conference on Nov. 20 announcing the findings.

"These results don't support that. I'm not saying that we can't do better, but Canadian children have improved over the past 15 years in both subjects."

Comparing overall achievement in mathematics between Canada and other participating nations, 10 scored higher, 10 attained the same results and 20 had lower averages. In science, nine countries surpassed Canadian scores, 14 achieved the same averages and 17 scored lower.

For the first time in an international study, Canada was represented by a national sample of schools, including public, private, separate and English and French-speaking. Five provinces — B.C., Alberta, Ontario, New Brunswick and Newfoundland — selected samples large enough to make inter-provincial comparisons possible.

British Columbia and Alberta placed higher in mathematics than Canada as a whole while both Ontario and New Brunswick scored significantly lower than the Canadian average.

"Overall, the performance of Canadian students was very good, but there are important differences among the provinces," Robitaille said. "Undoubtedly, the ministries of education involved will want to closely examine the implications of those differences."

"The results will help Canadian educators and policy makers in planning for reform of curriculum and teaching in

these two important areas so that Canadian students can be given the best education we can provide."

About 500,000 students in 15,000 schools worldwide participated in the study, launched in 1991, which compared mathematics and science curricula and

teaching methods of school systems, as well as achievement scores and attitudes of students toward the subjects. Approximately 150,000 of those students were involved in the grades 7 and 8 surveys and tests.

Each student wrote one 90-minute test containing mathematics and science components, and responded to a questionnaire. All test materials were developed in English then translated by participants into 30 other languages. Final translations were verified and approved centrally.

In addition to testing grades 7 and 8 mathematics and science students, surveys and tests were also performed on grades 3 and 4 students and students in the final year of secondary school. Reports on those findings will be published in 1997.

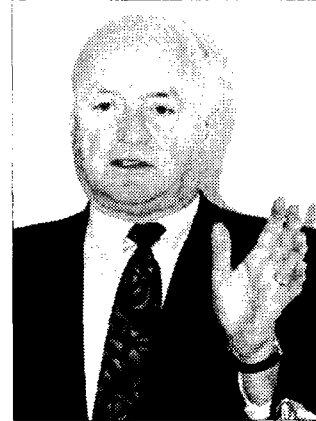
Canadian girls and boys performed equally well in mathematics and science, which represents a significant change over the past 20 years, the report said.

Both girls and boys attained an average of 59 per cent in mathematics. In science, boys averaged 60 per cent and girls scored 58 per cent. Similar findings were reported in most of the western industrialized nations.

Robitaille expects the data to have an impact on policy decisions affecting education, and, with further analysis, will help identify the characteristics common among the Canadian schools which make them the most successful in teaching mathematics and science.

TIMSS was conducted under the auspices of the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA), an association of universities, research institutes and ministries of education that conducts co-operative international research studies in education.

Funding for Canadian participation and international co-ordination of TIMSS was provided by Human Resources Development Canada, Industry Canada and the B.C. Ministry of Education. The U.S.-based National Science Foundation and the National Center for Education Statistics also provided major funding for the international co-ordination of the study.



Robitaille



Gavin Wilson photo

Inky Artwork

A third-year Fine Arts student enrolled in printmaking helps a Grade 5 student from Richmond's James Whiteside Elementary School roll ink as he prepares to make a print during a recent field trip to the university. The Richmond students were taking part in a collaborative art and science project that also included a visit to the Geological Museum. Their artwork will be displayed at the AMS Gallery in March alongside an exhibition of the printmaking students' work.

Proposed Liu Centre elicits praise, criticism

About 80 faculty and staff attended a four-hour Open House on Nov. 19 to discuss the proposed Liu Centre for International Studies and University Centre for faculty and staff.

A forum session during the Open House, attended by about 45 faculty and staff, elicited both praise for the concept of an international studies centre and criticism of the site chosen for it.

The Liu Centre, funded in part by a gift from the Liu Foundation, will be a comprehensive centre of teaching and research, drawing on UBC's strength in international studies and bringing together faculty, distinguished visitors, and students from around the world to examine complex issues.

The project calls for a major academic initiative on the site of the former Faculty Club to increase space at the north end of campus. It includes a University Centre for faculty and staff, honouring the spirit of the original Koerner family gift of the building to UBC. UBC has consulted extensively with the Koerner family about the use of the site, which will also include a residence/hotel facility for international studies program registrants, conference-goers, and visitors.

The Institute of International Relations, Centre for Human Settlements, South-North Studies Program and the Sustainable Development Research Institute will be housed in the Liu Centre.

Among questions raised by faculty about the University Centre—which comprises the meeting, assembly and food services component of the project—were concerns about exclusivity of use, the availability of dining facilities, the heritage value of the former Faculty Club building, and the height of the proposed residence/hotel facility. Some faculty called for a delay on any decision affecting the former Faculty Club building.

Comments arising during the Open House ranged from discussion about environmental impact, view corridors, parking capacity at the site, and traffic, to philosophical debate, primarily with matters relating to the heritage value of the former Faculty Club

building. The size and type of facilities envisioned for the University Centre, and the prospect of sharing space with other users, met with disapproval by some faculty.

Architect Peter Wreglesworth of Architectura said an analysis of the physical aspects of the former Faculty Club building revealed many functional and technical problems, including structure and seismic upgrade issues, accessibility issues, and low floor-to-underside-of-structure heights which create lower than desirable ceiling heights. These difficulties significantly compromise the development of a high-level conference facility that can compete in the international arena, he said. One option may be to replace the existing building in order to deal with some of the programmatic, technical and structural issues.

The Open House, to which all UBC faculty and staff were invited, was the fifth component of ongoing campus consultation on the project, which began with four focus groups of faculty and staff in August and September.

The proposal has been widely discussed, initially through a letter to campus in May, a UBC Reports story in June and media material released in June. It has also been discussed regularly at the President's Property and Planning Advisory Committee.

Comments made at the Open House and those submitted in writing on the Liu Centre/University Centre proposal will be sent to the Board of Governors for its Dec. 12 meeting.

If you would like to view the models and drawings for the proposed project please call Jim Carruthers, Campus Planning and Development, at 822-8228 to set up an appointment between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

If you would like to comment on the project, please forward your remarks in writing, before Dec. 5, to Jim Carruthers by fax at 822-6119 or by e-mail to carruthers@cpd.ubc.ca. Or, you may write to Dr. Olav Slaymaker, Chair, Steering Committee for the Liu Centre, by e-mail to olav@geog.ubc.ca.

Survey says UBC first for tomorrow's leaders

Consistency is the hallmark of UBC's performance in Maclean's magazine's annual ranking of Canadian universities.

For the second consecutive year the survey ranked UBC as second-best in the reputation category among post-secondary institutions offering medical and doctoral programs. Kingston's Queen's University remains number one.

In the same category, Maclean's again put UBC among the top five universities with a winning reputation for highest quality and innovation. UBC was first on the "Leaders of Tomorrow" list.

The magazine bases its reputational results on a survey of more than 3,400 high school guidance counselors, academic administrators and CEOs of major corporations across Canada.

Top marks in the category for overall

ranking — which measures factors such as class size, alumni support, operating budget and faculty awards — went to the University of Toronto for the second consecutive year, followed by Queen's and McGill University in third. This is the fifth consecutive year that UBC has placed fourth in the overall standings.

Simon Fraser University was ranked first in the comprehensive category which ranks 11 universities offering a range of undergraduate and graduate programs. The University of Victoria ranked third in that category, after the University of Waterloo.

The survey ranks universities on the composition and academic achievements of the student body, library resources, class size, percentage of tenured professors who teach first-year courses, calibre of faculty and success in securing research grants.

Calendar

December 1 through December 14

Monday, Dec. 2

Nursing Research Colloquium

Designing Interventions For Clinical Trials: The Smoking Relapse Prevention Program. Asst. Prof. Joy Johnson; Asst. Prof. Pamela Ratner; Assoc. Prof. Joan Bottorff. Vancouver Hospital/HSC, Koerner Pavilion T-180, 3:30-4:30pm. Call 822-7453.

Biochemistry and Molecular Seminar

Molecular Biomechanics Of Structural Proteins In Animals. John Gosline, Zoology. IRC#4, 3:45pm. Refreshments at 3:30pm. Call 822-4070.

Resident Speaker Series

The Ultimate Weirdness Of Reality: The Testing Of Bell's Theorem — Physical Results Of Philosophical Import. Michael Clark, Physics. Green College, 5:30pm. Call 822-6067.

Tuesday, Dec. 3

Faculty Women's Club Christmas Boutique

Celebrating Christmas. Cecil Green Park House, 10am-noon. Call 224-4097.

Chemistry Seminar

Quadrupole Ion Trap: Mass Spectrometer And Electronic Test Tube Extraordinaire. Prof. Raymond March, Trent U. Chemistry D-225 (centre block), 10:30am. Call 822-3235.

Lectures In Modern Chemistry

Gas-Phase Proteins. Prof. Donald Douglas, Chemistry. Chemistry 250 (south wing), 1pm. Refreshments from 12:40pm. Call 822-3266.

Margaret Ormsby Memorial Service

Chapel of the Epiphany, Vancouver School of Theology, 2pm. To make a donation to the Ormsby Scholarship Fund, call 822-8900.

Cultural and Media Studies Interdisciplinary Group

Nationalising Disease. Howard Kushner, San Diego State U. Green College, 5:30pm. Call 822-6067.

MOA Lecture

Care Of Textiles. Joan Marshall, textile conservator. MOA, 7:8:30pm. Call 822-5087.

Wednesday, Dec. 4

Orthopedics Grand Rounds

Post-Traumatic Bone Infection. Dr. R.N. Meek, Dr. P. Guy. Vancouver Hosp/HSC, Eye Care Centre auditorium, 7am. Call 875-4646.

Faculty of Education Lecture

Multiculturalism And The Epistemology Of Diversity And The Issue Of Rights. Prof. Himani Bannerji, Sociology, York U. Scarfe 310, 12:30-1:30pm. Call 822-5881.

Snow?

In the event of extreme snow conditions, listen to CBC Radio, CKNW and other local radio stations for information.

Centre for Biodiversity Research Seminar

Choice And Use Of Reference Sites In Environmental Monitoring And Impact Studies: A Review And Critique. Roger Green, U of Western Ontario. Family/Nutritional Sciences 60, 4:30pm. Refreshments in Hut B-8 at 4:10pm. Call 822-3957.

Interdisciplinary Seminar

Innovation In Comprehensive Examinations. Green College, 5pm. Call 822-6067.

Thursday, Dec. 5

Special Guest Lecture

Twenty-Five Years Of Evidence-Based Psychiatric Ambulatory Care. Prof. Hassan Azim, U of Alberta. Vancouver Hosp/HSC, Detwiller Pavilion lecture theatre, 9-10:15am. Refreshments. Call 822-7971.

Grand Rounds

Youth With Congenital Heart Disease Issues, Challenges And Prospects. Dr. Michael Patterson, St. Paul's Hospital; Dr. Marla Kiess, Pacific Adult Congenital Health Clinic; Barbara Wilson, director, Patient Services. GF Strong auditorium, 9am. Call 875-2307.

Invited Speaker Seminar Series

Towards An Engineering Discipline For Software Architecture. David Garlan, Carnegie Mellon U. CICS/R/CS 208, 4-5:30pm. Refreshments. Call 822-0557.

Friday, Dec. 6

Rounds

Corneal Disease In Africa: The Contribution Of Traditional Eye Medicines. Dr. Paul Courtright, Mather 253, 9-10am. Call 822-2772.

Christmas Craft Fair and Raffle

First Nations And Other Crafts. First Nations Longhouse, 12-5pm. Continues Dec. 7, 9am-5pm. Call 822-2115.

Linguistics Colloquium

The Syntax Of Temporal Relations: A Uniform Approach To Tense And Aspect. Hamida Demirdache; Miriam Uribe-Etxebarria, UC-Irvine. Buchanan B-317, 3:30pm. Refreshments. Call 822-5594.

Saturday, Dec. 7

Interactive Reading for 5 to 7 year-olds

The True Story of the Three Little Pigs. Bookstore staff. Bookstore, 1:30pm. Call 822-2665.

Sunday, Dec. 8

Green College Performing Arts Group

Contemporary Japanese Piano Music. Imado Tadahiko, Green College, 8pm. Call 822-6067.

Next calendar deadline:
noon, Dec. 3

"The University will remain open during snow storms but may cancel or reschedule classes on a university-wide basis and/or curtail non-essential services in response to the conditions."—UBC Policy on Disruption of Classes/Services by Snow, May 1994

Monday, Dec. 9

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

The Role Of DNA Replication In Homologous Recombination And Studies Of RecA-Like Proteins In Archaea. Steve Sandler, UC-Berkeley. IRC#4, 3:45pm. Refreshments at 3:30pm. Call 822-5975.

Wednesday, Dec. 11

Orthopedics Grand Rounds

The North American Tour. Dr. B.A. Masri, Vancouver Hosp/HSC, Eye Care Centre auditorium, 7am. Call 875-4646.

Notices

Food Service Locations Christmas Closures

Arts 200, La Tour, Roots, Trekkers Koffee Kiosk. Closed Dec. 1-Jan. 5. Edibles and YumYums. Closed Dec. 13-Jan. 5. Call 822-3663.

Volleyball

Faculty, Staff and Grad Student Volleyball Group. Every Monday and Wednesday. Osborne Centre, Gym A, 12:30-1:30pm. No fees. Drop-ins and regular attendees welcome for friendly competitive games. Call 822-4479 or e-mail: kdcs@unixg.ubc.ca.

Fun and Fitness

UBC Community Sport Services offers adult ballet, gymnastics and ice hockey classes for beginners. No experience is necessary. For more information call 822-3688.

Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery Exhibition

Tuesday - Friday: 10am-5pm; Saturday, 12-5pm. 1825 Main Mall. Call 822-2759.

Surplus Equipment Recycling Facility

Weekly sales of furniture, computers, scientific etc. held every Wednesday, noon-5pm. SERF, Task Force Building, 2352 Health Sciences Mall. Call 822-2582 for information.

Faculty Development

Would you like to talk with an experienced faculty member, one on one, about your teaching concerns? Call the Centre for Faculty Development and Instructional Services at 822-0828 and ask for the Teaching Support Group.

Studies in Hearing and Communication

Senior (65 years or older) and Junior (20-30 years) volunteers needed. Participants will attend up to three one-hour appointments at UBC. Experiments will examine different aspects of hearing and communication abilities. Honorarium for some studies. Please call The Hearing Lab, 822-9474.

Clinical Research Support Group

The Clinical Research Support Group which operates under the auspices of the Dept. of Health Care and Epidemiology provides methodological, biostatistical, computational and analytical support for health researchers. For an appointment please call Laurel Slaney at 822-4530.

Eczema Study

Volunteers needed. 12-40 years of age. Must have a current flare of eczema. Able to attend five visits over a 15-day period. Honorarium to be paid upon completion. Call 875-5296.

Respiratory Research Seminar

What Is Bronchial Dysplasia? Dr. C. MacAulay, BC Cancer Agency, St. Paul's Hospital, Gourlay conference room, 5-6pm. Call 875-5653.

Senate

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

Thursday, Dec. 12

Board of Governors Meeting

The open session begins at 8am. Fifteen tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis on application to the Board Secretary at least 24 hours before each meeting. Old Ad-

ministration Building, Board and Senate room. Call 822-2127.

Friday, Dec. 13

Pediatrics Grand Rounds

Eating Disorders In Childhood, Their Complexity And Severity. Dr. Bryan Lask, Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children, UK. GF Strong auditorium, 9am. Call 875-2307.

Saturday, Dec. 14

Poetry Reading for 5 to 7 year-olds

A Selection Of Fun Word Play. Bookstore staff. Bookstore, 1:30pm. Call 822-0587.

Multisite Fungal Infection Study

Jock itch, athlete's foot, irritation beneath the breasts or ringworm. Volunteers needed. Must have at least two different sites of skin infections. Seven visits over 12 weeks. Honorarium paid upon completion. Call 875-5296.

Psoriasis Laser Study

Volunteers needed. The UBC Division of Dermatology is seeking volunteers with psoriasis who are not currently receiving medical treatment for psoriasis. We are testing a potential new laser therapy for the disease. Volunteers who complete the treatments and follow-up visits will receive a stipend. Call 875-5254.

Christmas at the Shop in the Garden

November/December 1996. Fresh foliage wreaths and baskets, tree ornaments and table centrepieces made by the "Friends of the Garden" available from November 25 while quantities last! Great selection of gifts too! All proceeds help the garden grow. UBC Botanical Garden, Shop in the Garden, 10am-5pm. Call 822-4529.

Garden Hours

Nitobe Memorial Garden open 10am-2:30pm weekdays only, Botanical Garden and the Shop-in-the-Garden are open 10am-5pm daily (including weekends). Call 822-9666 (gardens), 822-4529 (shop).

Parents with Babies

Have you ever wondered how babies learn to talk? ... help us find out! We are looking for parents with babies between one and 14

months of age to participate in language development studies. If you are interested in bringing your baby for a one hour visit, please call Dr. Janet Werker's Infant Studies Centre, Department of Psychology, UBC, 822-6408 (ask for Nancy).

Herpes Zoster (Shingles) Study

Participants required to take part in clinical dermatology trial at Division of Dermatology, 855 West 10 Avenue. Requirements, 50 years of age and older, within 72 hours of onset of first skin rash. Maximum 13 visits over 24-week period. Free medication and honorarium given. For further information call 875-5296.

Diabetes 1997 Conference

The Young Diabetic, Interprofessional Continuing Education Conference will take place Friday, April 4 and Saturday, April 5, 1997, in Vancouver, for all health professionals interested and involved in diabetic care. For further information call 822-2626.

UBC Zen Society

Meditation sessions will be held each Monday (except holidays) during term, in the Tea Gallery of the Asian Centre from 1:30-2:20pm. All welcome. Please be punctual. Call 228-8955.

Parent Care Project

Daughters/daughters-in-law who are caring for a parent in a care facility are needed for a counselling psychology study on the challenges women face in parent care. Involves individual interviews/questionnaire. Call Allison at 822-9199.

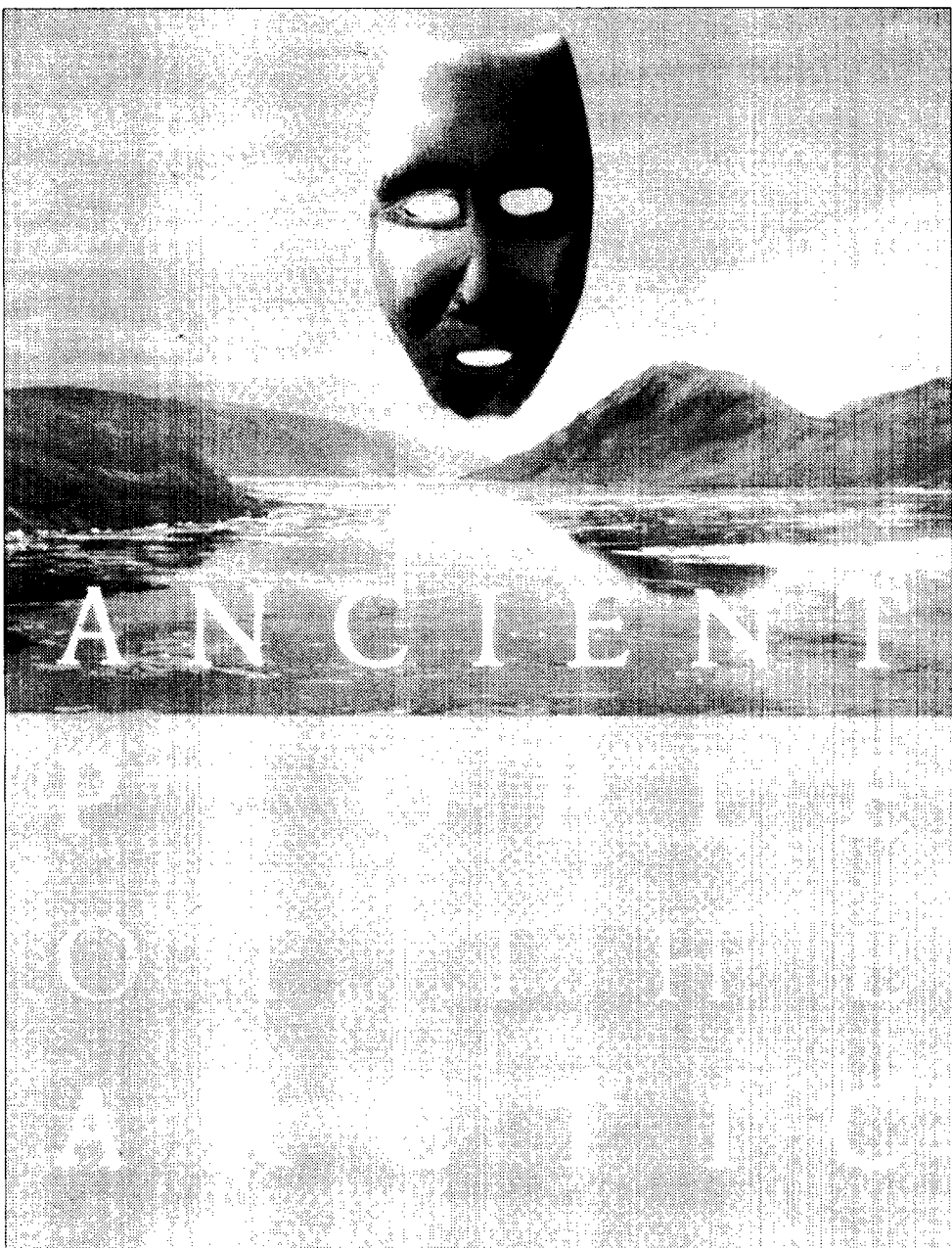
UBC REPORTS

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 B.C., V6T 1Z1. Phone: 822-3131. Fax: 822-2684. An electronic form is available on the UBC Reports Web page at <http://www.ubc.ca> under 'News.' Please limit to 35 words. Submissions for the Calendar's Notices section may be limited due to space.

Deadline for the December 12 issue of UBC Reports — which covers the period December 15 to January 11 — is noon, December 3.



Written by archaeologist Robert McGhee, the recent UBC Press publication *Ancient People of the Arctic* traces the lives of the Paleo-Eskimos, who 4,000 years ago became the first inhabitants of the far northern extremes of North America. Among the books the Press currently has in production is *Birds of B.C.*, which includes half a million pieces of data gathered by 10,000 birders, making it the most complex book to be published in B.C. in 1997.

Researchers probe alternative therapies

UBC researchers are playing a prominent role at the recently opened Tzu Chi Institute for Complementary and Alternative Medicine at Vancouver Hospital and Health Sciences Centre.

The institute will conduct research on acupuncture, the use of herbs and other alternative therapies that are increasingly popular with patients but have not undergone the rigours of scientific testing.

Its establishment is also an acknowledgment of the increasingly multicultural nature of B.C.'s population, many of whom have different notions of health care.

Although the university is not an official partner of the institute, Dr. Wah Jun Tze, a professor in the Dept. of Pediatrics, is its president and Dr. Aubrey Tingle, director of research at BC's Children's Hospital and acting associate dean of Research in the Faculty of Medicine, is research director.

"Our goal is to integrate promising unconventional therapies into mainstream health care. Hopefully, through research and a scientific approach, effective complementary therapies can be recognized," said Tze.

The institute will serve as a bridge between conventional and non-conventional health practitioners by designing and putting into place ways of scientifically assessing alternative therapies, he said.

Tingle has set up a series of task forces to do this, calling on, among others, Health Care and Epidemiology Dept. Head Sam Sheps to look at research methods, Pharmaceutical Sciences Dean Frank Abbott to examine laboratory standardization and Research Services Director Richard Spratley to monitor research ethics.

As well, Tingle said about 30 faculty members from departments such as botany, rheumatology and family and nutritional sciences have approached him about taking part in institute research.

Research activities will include basic research, epidemiology, data analysis, product evaluation, experimental studies and clinical trials.

Five centres conducting clinical research projects will be established within the institute, investigating pain management and conducting lifestyle research in areas such as diet and exercise, acupuncture and cancer.

Patients will be treated only as part of one of the research projects, none of which is scheduled to begin until sometime next year.

A general centre will look at major health issues such as AIDS, arthritis, environmental disease and addictions. This centre will also investigate cultural and traditional health approaches, such as herbal medicine, homeopathy, First Nations remedies and ayurveda—an ancient East Indian system of healing.

The institute will also offer education and training programs, set up an information and resource centre and introduce scientifically proven complementary therapies into mainstream practice.

Tze received a commitment for a \$6-million endowment from the Buddhist Compassion Relief Tzu Chi International, the Canadian branch of an international charitable organization based in Taiwan. Vancouver Hospital will provide space, infrastructure support and a partnership grant and other Lower Mainland hospitals and cancer-research organizations are also offering support.

Publisher a survivor of challenges in funding

by Gavin Wilson

Staff writer

When UBC Press staff and authors gather today to toast the academic publisher's 25th anniversary, the cheers will be mixed with a sigh of relief.

Given the precarious state of many scholarly presses around the world today, their mere existence is cause for celebration.

"The fact that we've survived in difficult times makes this something of a landmark in itself," said Peter Milroy, director of the Press since 1990. "But we're not only surviving, on some levels, we're really thriving."

UBC Press, Canada's third largest university press, has hired additional staff this year and will add another 30 titles, including some of its most ambitious books ever, to the 380 it now has in print.

This expansion comes at a time when grants from the university, which in the 1980s amounted to half of all revenues, have been eliminated, and funding from the federal and provincial governments has also been cut. On top of that, the average scholarly monograph today sells only 300-500 copies, down from 2,000 just two decades ago.

UBC Press manages to survive with a delicate balancing act, fulfilling its mandate as a scholarly press, but producing enough commercial publications—mostly general books and course textbooks—to pay the bills.

The Press was founded in 1971 with a mandate similar to that of other academic presses: to produce scholarly works

that are so highly specialized they might not otherwise be published, but that nonetheless make a valuable contribution.

"The scholarly books we publish may not sell many copies, but they will still be important 100 years from now," Milroy said, giving the example of a gazetteer of

aboriginal people on northern Vancouver Island done by Robert Galois of UBC's Dept. of Geography.

Since a shake-up in 1989 to avert a financial crisis, UBC Press has redefined its role and focus, concentrating on areas important to UBC and topics the Press was best qualified to do—Canadian history, politics and social issues, law, the envi-

ronment, Asian studies, natural resources, and aboriginal issues.

"We pared back to our strengths," Milroy said.

The Press has made strides in other areas, as well. It is fully computerized, and was the first publisher in Canada with an Internet catalogue.

It is now also more effective at marketing and distributing its books, and acts as a distributor for about 20 other university and institutional presses across Canada, the U.S. and Britain.

The changes have produced results. UBC Press has improved its reputation, efficiency and quality, doubling its sales in the past five years and generating surpluses for the past four years.

It is no longer just a regional publisher with an uncertain focus, Milroy said, but a serious competitor with the two largest Canadian university presses, University of Toronto Press and McGill-Queen's University Press.



Holiday break sees slowdown in sports



Athletics activity is winding down for the December break with a handful of home games and fewer still away.

The Thunderbird hockey team takes to the ice against the Brandon Bobcats in two games Nov. 29-30 at the Thunderbird Winter Sports Centre. The teams face off at 7:30 p.m. both days.

Also Friday, Nov. 29, the men's volleyball team takes on Victoria. The women's team meets Victoria the following day, Nov. 30. Both games start at 7 p.m. in War Memorial Gym.

The men's basketball team wraps up the year with games in Saskatchewan Nov. 28-29, followed by a tournament in Seoul, Korea, Dec. 1-10. The women's team plays at Simon Fraser University Dec. 7 and closes the month with a tournament at SFU Dec. 27-29.

The Thunderbird hockey team remains active in December with two games in Calgary Dec. 6-7 and the Father Bauer Classic Dec. 28-30 at the Thunderbird Winter Sports Centre.

UBC's 100-plus MRC award winners honoured

More than 100 UBC recipients of significant Medical Research Council (MRC) awards were recognized at the inaugural MRC Celebration of Excellence Reception held earlier this month.

MRC President Dr. Henry Friesen was the special guest at the reception.

Among those honoured were researchers with 25 or more years of continuous funding from the MRC.

They are: Barry McBride, Microbiology and Oral Biology; John McNeill, Pharmaceutical Sciences; Michael Smith, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology; James Hogg, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine; Chris Fibiger, Psychiatry; Stephen Drance, Ophthalmology; Bernard Bressler, Anatomy; Philip Bragg, Bio-

chemistry and Molecular Biology; and Alan Hannam, Oral Biology.

Also at the reception, Friesen announced the creation of the Dr. Harold Copp Lectureship. Copp, a professor emeritus, discovered calcitonin, a calcium-regulating hormone which inhibits bone loss and is one of the most widely used therapeutic agents for the treatment of osteoporosis.

Friesen said Copp should also be applauded for his leadership in promoting medical research funding in the 1950s, which led directly to the creation of the MRC.

The MRC's donation of \$25,000 was matched with a similar gift from the Wolfe and Gita Churg Foundation.

News Digest

UBC staff pension plan members have the option of placing votes by telephone as they elect two directors for the UBC Staff Pension Plan's board. Members may use Televote. UBC's telephone election system, which is open 24 hours a day until Dec. 3.

The Pension Administration Office sent out voting packages earlier this month with information on nominees for the directors' positions and instructions on how to use the Televote system. Also enclosed in the package is a seven-digit pension identification number required to vote by phone.

There are eight directors on the Pension Board: four appointed by UBC's Board of Governors and four elected by the more than 5,000 plan members. The nominees this year are Edward Bailey, Human Resources; Brian Evans, TRIUMF; Denise Field, Financial Services; Len Goossen, Housing and Conferences; and George McLaughlin, Plant Operations.

Plan members who have not received the election package or have questions regarding the election process can call the Pension Administration Office at 822-8100. Election results are expected Dec. 6.

•••••

Two campus events are scheduled to commemorate the 14 women killed on Dec. 6, 1989 at Montreal's l'Ecole Polytechnique.

On Nov. 28 at 1:30 p.m., the Engineering Undergraduate Society and the Association for Engineering Women will hold a memorial to share a moment of silence and light candles in memory of the Montreal victims. All are invited to gather at the Cheeze Factory located behind the Civil and Mechanical Engineering Bldg., 2324 Main Mall.

The Alma Mater Society welcomes members of the campus community to join them for a series of events on Dec. 6, beginning at 4 p.m. with a candlelight procession from the engineers' cairn on Main Mall and south on University Blvd. to the Student Union Building. A memorial service follows at 4:30 p.m. in the courtyard on the roof of SUB.

An informal gathering will take place at 5 p.m. in the SUB party room to hear guest speakers address issues concerning violence against women, followed by a small reception.

UBC's white ribbon campaign, which remembers all women who suffer from violence, begins Nov. 29 and continues until Dec. 6 which is designated the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. Ribbons are available at the Women Students' Office in Brock Hall.

Alan Donald, Ph.D. Biostatistical Consultant

Medicine, dentistry, biosciences, aquaculture

101-5805 Balsam Street, Vancouver, V6M 4B9

264-9918

donald@portal.ca



Faculty of Arts

UBC Killam Teaching Prizes

Once again the University is recognizing excellence in teaching through the awarding of prizes to faculty members. Five (5) prize winners will be selected in the Faculty of Arts for 1997.

Eligibility: Eligibility is open to faculty who have three or more years of teaching at UBC. The three years include 1996-97.

Criteria: The awards will recognize distinguished teaching at all levels; introductory, advanced, graduate courses, graduate supervision, and any combination of levels.

Nomination Process: Members of faculty, students, or alumni may suggest candidates to the Head of the Department, the Director of the School, or Chair of the Program in which the nominee teaches. These suggestions should be in writing and signed by one or more students, alumni or faculty, and they should include a very brief statement of the basis for the nomination. You may write a letter of nomination or pick up a form from the Office of the Dean, Faculty of Arts in Buchanan B-130.

Deadline: 4:00 p.m. on January 27, 1997. Submit nominations to the Department, School or Program Office in which the nominee teaches.

Winners will be announced in the Spring, and they will be identified as well during Spring Congregation in May.

For further information about these awards contact either your Department, School or Program office, or Dr. Errol Durbach, Associate Dean of Arts at 822-9062.

Classified

The classified advertising rate is \$15.75 for 35 words or less. Each additional word is 50 cents. Rate includes GST. Ads must be submitted in writing 10 days before publication date to the UBC Public Affairs Office, 310 - 6251 Cecil Green Park Road, Vancouver B.C., V6T 1Z1, accompanied by payment in cash, cheque (made out to UBC Reports) or internal requisition. Advertising enquiries: 822-3131.

The deadline for the December 12, 1996 issue of *UBC Reports* is noon, December 3.

Accommodation

POINT GREY GUEST HOUSE A perfect spot to reserve accommodation for guest lecturers or other university members who visit throughout the year. Close to UBC and other Vancouver attractions, a tasteful representation of our city and of UBC. 4103 W. 10th Ave., Vancouver, BC. V6R 2H2. Phone or fax (604)222-4104.

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Services

UBC FACULTY MEMBERS who need independent assistance in selecting the most appropriate UBC Faculty pension or retirement options call Don Proteau, RFP or Doug Hodgins, RFP at 687-7526 for more information. Independent financial advice for faculty members since 1982.

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For Sale

LARGE COMFORTABLE COUCH, double futon, excellent condition. Black coffee table and end table. Brown stand-up dresser older style. Phone, vacuum, iron and stand-up cabinet for bathroom. \$500 takes all. 522-7646.

Events

SINGLES IN SCIENCE. Single people interested in science or nature are meeting through a nationwide network. Contact us for info: Science Connection, P.O. Box 389, Port Dover, ON N0A 1N0; e-mail 71554.2160@compuserve.com; 1-800-667-5179.

Next ad deadline:
noon, Dec. 3

The USE OF FREEDOM Essay Contest

"The Responsible Use of Freedom"



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Deadline for submission: May 30, 1997

Winner announced: August 31, 1997

Judges: Father T. James Hanrahan, St. Mark's
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Prof. Kurt Preinsberg, Philosophy
Mrs. Norma Wieland, Germanic Studies
Prof. Paul G. Stanwood, English

Application forms may be picked up Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at St. Mark's College, 5935 Iona Drive, at the extreme northeast corner of the campus.



**United Way
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Stephen Forgacs photo

De-ink Demo

Eric Lai (left) and Diana Wati (in lab coats) demonstrate a flotation de-inking cell to guests at the UBC Pulp and Paper Centre's 10th Anniversary Open House, Nov. 15. Lai, Wati and fellow fourth-year engineering student Jacqueline Tsui are researching the de-inking process as part of their undergraduate thesis. Director Richard Kerekes, Applied Science Dean Axel Meisen, Pulp and Paper Research Institute of Canada (PAPRICAN) President Joseph Wright, and Bernard Bressler, UBC's vice-president, Research, welcomed guests to the event which featured displays and demonstrations related to the centre's research and educational activities.

Time to give draws to close

With the Nov. 30 close just days away, UBC's United Way Campaign is nearing its goal of raising \$290,260. As of Nov. 22, the total was \$256,742.

"We're getting tremendous support across campus," says campaign co-chair Margaret Sayer of University Computing Services. "All of the volunteers believe we can do it. We've had pancake breakfasts, dunk tanks and bake sales. But our greatest support comes from all of the people who pledge their support through one-time gifts and pay-

roll deduction."

Sayer points out that a small donation from each pay cheque will total a very significant donation over the course of a year. The tax-deductible amount will appear on the donor's T4 slip, meaning there is no danger of losing a receipt.

"The most important thing," says Sayer, "is that our gifts to United Way do so much for our community. Over the next year, one in three people in the Lower Mainland will benefit from the services of a United Way mem-

ber agency. That helps our families, friends, neighbours, and all of us. That's pretty amazing."

UBC traditionally has the largest employee campaign in the Lower Mainland. In addition, the university is the fifth most designated charity through the United Way campaign.

Donors may choose to support the United Way of the Lower Mainland, or designate specific gifts to any of its 99 member agencies, or any other registered charity in Canada. No fees are deducted for designated gifts.

UBC DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

Students, faculty, staff and members of the public—**Does this affect you?** The following projects for the UBC Campus are currently being considered. You are encouraged to give us your opinions on these projects:

PLANS & PERMIT REVIEWS IN PROGRESS

- hold • Official Community Plan for part of Electoral Area 'A' July, 1996
- hold • Liu Centre for International Studies
- hold • Centre for Continuing Studies—Phase I
- hold • St. John's College—Phases 2 & 3
- hold • Creative Arts—Phase 2

& FOR YOUR INFORMATION...

- Permit Fees—All UBC Development & Building Permit fees have changed effective April 1, 1996

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ANY OF THESE PROJECTS please contact BONNIE PERRY AT 822-8228, perry@cpd.ubc.ca or visit our Campus Planning & Development Home Page on the Internet at <http://www.cpd.ubc.ca/cpdhome/cpdhmpg.htm>



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Information supplied by:
Regulatory Services, a division of
Campus Planning & Development,
2210 West Mall, Vancouver,
BC, V6T 1Z4, 822-8228 (ph),
822-6119 (fax).

People

by staff writers

Mechanical Engineering Prof. **Clarence de Silva** has been appointed as the regional editor for North America of *Engineering Applications of Artificial Intelligence—The International Journal of Intelligent Real-Time Automation*. The journal is associated with the International Federation of Automatic Control (IFAC) and is a leading scholarly periodical in the field. Since 1988, de Silva has also served as the senior technical editor of the U.S.-based professional journal, *Measurements and Control*.



de Silva

Keith McErlane has received a Certificate of Merit from the College of Pharmacists of British Columbia. McErlane, a professor in the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was one of two recipients honoured last month at the B.C. Pharmacy Conference in Kelowna. McErlane was recognized for his 17 years of service as a member of the Drug Advisory Committee.

The College of Pharmacists of British Columbia is the licensing and regulatory body for the profession of pharmacy and its practice environment.

Obituary

Civil Engineering Prof. Emeritus **Roy Hooley** died Sept. 3 at University Hospital.

Born in Vancouver, Prof. Hooley graduated from UBC in 1947 and received his PhD from Stanford University. Returning to UBC in 1952 to teach he helped educate a large number of the structural engineers currently practising in the province until his retirement in 1989.

Among the landmark engineering projects in which he was involved are the Port Mann Bridge and the Mica Creek Dam. In 1987 his contributions to the development of computer-aided design in Canada were honoured by the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering.

A scholarship in his name has been established at UBC. Those interested in contributing are asked to contact the UBC Development Office, 6253 Northwest Marine Drive at 822-8900.

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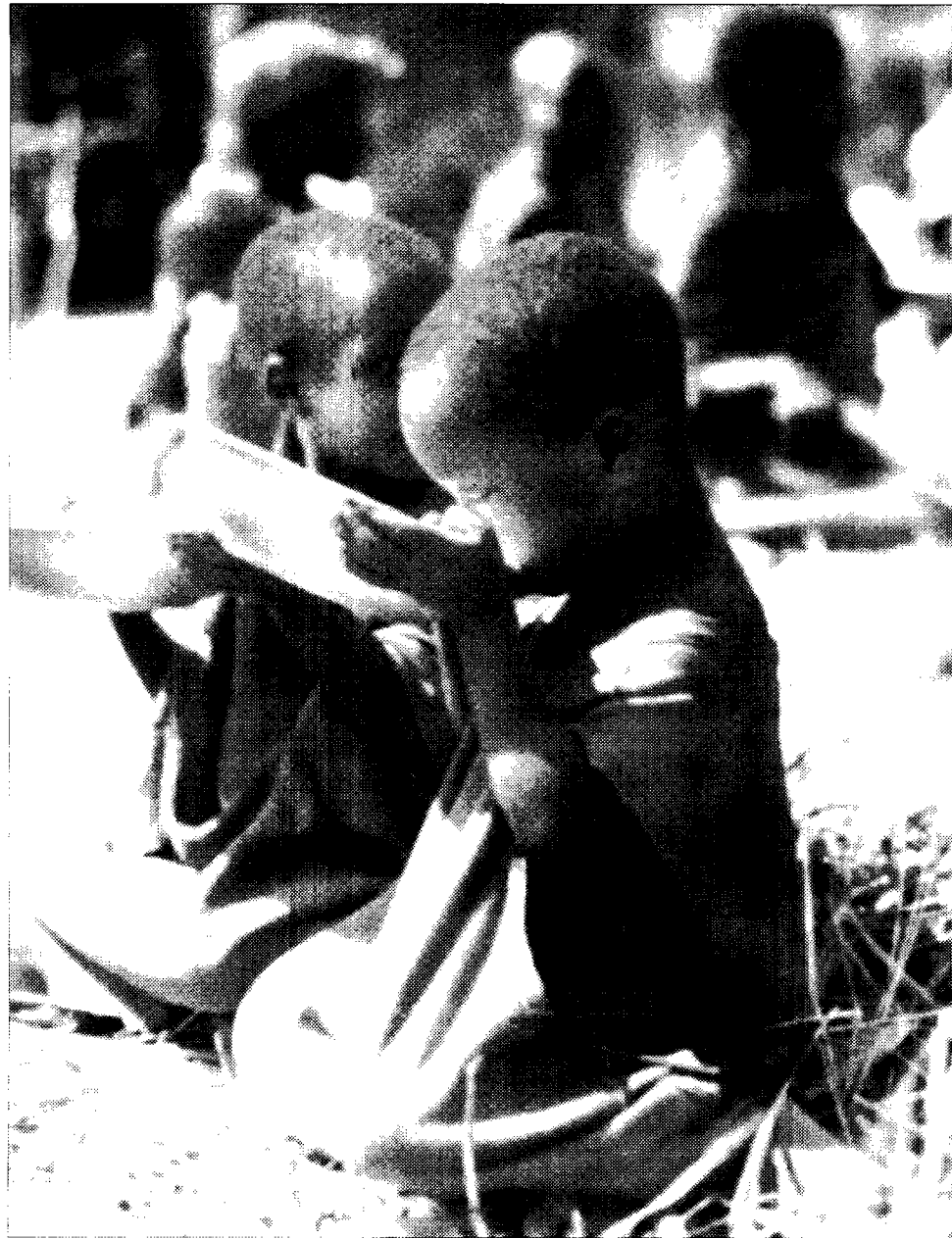
by Ivan Head

The following excerpts are from remarks made by Prof. Ivan Head on Oct. 25 at United Nations headquarters in New York City. Head, UBC law professor and chair in South-North Studies, gave the keynote address at the UN's 1996 World Food Day ceremony.

Worldwide, no other single factor so reveals the commonality, yet so emphasizes the disparities, of the human family as does food. The daily consumption of food is so natural and so necessary as to be an instinctive human act. Each one of the almost six billion of us, whatever our means, wherever we dwell, is driven by this need. Yet no other single act so demonstrates our differences. The joy, the satisfaction, and the well-being that those of us in this council chamber experience as we share a meal with family and friends — often in delightful circumstances and with ample portions — simply cannot be compared with the privations and the limitations of those 800 million, or the many others worldwide who exist on the margins of hunger.

These contrasts are not simply of an economic or social dimension. They cannot be described adequately in terms of calories or fibre content or protein/carbohydrate balance. These contrasts are much more. They represent a deep moral dilemma. How does one begin to reconcile a world in which 20 per cent of the population of the developing countries is constantly hungry while obesity represents a major health problem in so many of the industrialized countries? How does one understand that our species can probe the far reaches of the solar system, can synthesize the most complex of biological structures, can create the most luxurious of households and public buildings in all history, yet fails to demonstrate its willingness to provide all humans with a threshold diet. The issue, of course, is one of willingness, not one of ability, and it is that distinction that lends to this circumstance the stark element of tragedy. Tragedy for the 800 million who are deprived of health and hope and opportunity. Tragedy as well for those who live in comfort and excess in the knowledge that deprivation suffered by others is deep and widespread.

Three weeks from today heads of government will gather in Rome to address the kaleidoscope of elements that combine and conflict to maintain the appalling distance still separating so many from the food security the rest of us take for granted. None of these elements is novel; not those of production, of distribution, nor of purchasing power of the poor. None has escaped the attention of dedicated plant breeders, agricultural economists, soil scientists, transportation analysts, sociologists, or legions of other disciplinary experts; none is beyond the scope of current knowledge or the reach of current technology. Nevertheless, as if to taunt the basic genius of humankind, the correct formula for the effective blend of knowledge, wisdom,



UNICEF photo

compassion and dedication continues to be elusive. The brilliance of Dr. Jacques Diouf's (Director General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) concept of a World Food Summit is his insistence that past triumphs not be overemphasized nor failures be forgotten, that technical proposals not be mistaken for solutions any more than familiar challenges be accepted as intractable. Most important, he has designed a summit to emphasize that hunger is not an abstract notion, but is a distressing human condition that will be overcome globally not by lofty language in carefully crafted communiqués but by human resolve, comprehensive policies, and ethical conduct.

The value of the summit as a precedent extends far beyond food. Since time immemorial, natural climatic forces have been so powerful and so resilient, the earth's natural resources so abundant, and the impact of human activity so incidental by comparison that little regard was paid to the possibility of cumulative damage. We now know better. Evidence accumulates that humans are influencing negatively and persistently the wholesomeness and the natural balances of the planet and its environment. In our quest for food, therefore, our species faces a challenge unknown to previous generations. In addition to the vicissitudes of the natural environment — the age-old unpredictability of yields as a result of drought, pestilence, and tempests — food producers today suffer from the deleterious global effects of unsustainable human practices.

Human activity, of course, has not all been destructive. In this century, for example, considerable knowledge has been generated about agricultural practices, leading to much more sustainable cultivation techniques. More dramatically, scientists worldwide have gained important insights into a range of natural phenomena. No longer need food producers be hapless dependents upon forces beyond their influence or their understanding. In many respects, ancient scourges can now be limited, even contained, as biological species are bred to emphasize nutritional quality, enhanced yield, drought tolerance, and disease or pest resistance; age-old irrigation systems have been refined to protect water supply and soil quality; conservation techniques have been improved to reduce topographical and ocean degradation; harvesting, storage and processing have all in many respects enjoyed revolutionary advances. In those countries able to utilize this knowledge, employ these practices, and pursue economic policies attractive to farmers, production has soared. But not all countries are so able. Thus, as agricultural research efforts on a global scale have been responsible for much of the extraordinary increase of 13 per cent in per capita food production in the 1980s, two-thirds of all developing countries simultaneously witnessed stagnant or reduced agricultural production. Worldwide, as we know, yields have more than kept pace with population increases. Nevertheless, as we also know, food security remains an unattainable goal in many regions: 800 million human beings are chronically

undernourished; of the 14 million annual deaths of children, malnutrition is a contributing cause in two-thirds of the cases.

This is the mixed, often ugly, scene which this 1996 Food Day is asked to record and recite.

Not one of the great agricultural accomplishments of the past half-century could have been achieved without intensive and extensive international co-operation. Nor could massive food shipments and distribution programs have been organized in the wake of natural or other disasters. The lessons are clear: whether one speaks of food sufficiency, food science, food technology, or food marketing, no single state is able successfully to stand aloof from the international community, able to disregard the rules established by that community, able to flourish in the absence of co-operation and support from international structures, institutions and processes.

Nor is that lesson confined to the food sector. Interdependence in terms of knowledge, of investment capital, of goods, commodities and services, of human security, is now so widespread and so intense that the very definition of sovereignty has changed considerably in recent years.

The World Food Summit will offer an immensely important message, one of understanding of the interdependent circumstances in which humankind now finds itself. In this sort of world, a world of dependencies and multiple actors, a world of regimes and rules, the attributes of sovereignty assume different forms than in the past even though the goals remain constant. Independence, recognition, and consequence are as significant to governments and to publics today as at any time in the past. The means of attaining those goals, however, are far different. No longer is a state, no matter how small or apparently self-contained, able to prosper while withdrawing from the international community. No longer can a state, no matter how powerful militarily or economically, remain indifferent to the integrity of the international system. The current triangular confluence of powerful global circumstances — size of population, scale of human activity, and availability of remarkable new technologies — allows no state to be oblivious to the activities of others, nor to assume self-reliance in meeting its own needs.

Hunger thus is much more than an agricultural issue. It is an economic issue, it is a political issue, it is a moral issue. It goes to the root of human existence. It challenges the concept of a human community. It reflects upon the reputation of governments and leaders who have repeatedly pledged to eradicate it yet have so far failed to do so. On World Food Day 1996, on the eve of the World Food Summit, evidence is overwhelming that we live in a new era, one consisting of a planetary environment, a global economy, and, increasingly, a cosmopolitan world society. Those circumstances combine to insist that "Food for All" be transformed from slogan to fact.