

UBC REPORTS

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December 12, 1996

Network to seek learning, work links

by Connie Bagshaw

Staff writer

UBC has been chosen as the headquarters of the Western Education and Training Research Network, which will examine and assess policy issues and initiatives in education and training.

The Western Network is one of five major research networks in education and training launched Dec. 5 by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) to identify the links

among learning and economic success, training and Canada's international competitiveness, and education, innovation and the evolving training needs of Canada.

Led by Educational



Gaskell

Studies Prof. Jane Gaskell, the network will investigate various educational topics such as how the educational choices made by different learners—including women, seniors and visible minorities—and types of educational programs offered affect labour market outcomes.

Gaskell emphasized the importance of the network's collaboration with many

See **EDUCATION** Page 2



Students hit the books in Koerner Library during the December exam period which runs to Dec. 19 for most faculties. Between 2,000 and 10,000 students write exams each day in 33 buildings across campus during the exam period. Before classes resume Jan. 6, the Koerner Library will be the scene of a massive move of books currently housed in Main Library.

Books make move to new quarters during holiday break

Imagine a row of books stretching from UBC to Boundary Road, a total of 16.5 kilometres. Now imagine moving them to a new home, making sure they arrive in exactly the same order so they can be methodically shelved. That's exactly what happens later this month as the UBC Library moves 500,000 books—the largest transfer of books ever undertaken in its history—from Main Library to the Walter C. Koerner Library.

The books will move into the newly

renovated Sedgewick space, which is now part of the Koerner Library.

Some library services will be interrupted or unavailable during the move, which begins Dec. 20 and should be completed on Jan. 6.

Among the collections moving to Koerner are: active humanities and social sciences serials, post-1978 materials for subjects in humanities and social sciences, all Canadian history and literature, all English language and literature, all anthropology, all classical studies, all librarianship, and all reference materials for humanities, social sciences and government publications.

Services on the move include humanities and social sciences reference, government publications reference, microforms division, data library, interlibrary loans

staff, library cards, fine payment and other borrower services.

Remaining in Main Library are: Fine Arts library (including course reserve), Science and Engineering Division and collections, Map Library, Special Collections and University Archives, older research materials in humanities and social sciences, interlibrary loan services for science and engineering and fine arts users and the card catalogue.

Call the move hotline for the latest information at 822-3871.

Move facts

- Number of books currently in Main Library: nearly 2 million
- Number of times 500,000 books would reach the top of the Ladner Clock Tower if stacked on their sides: about 400

Donations make a difference in life

Pam Miles has a unique perspective on the university's United Way campaign. As a donor she receives thanks from campus volunteers. As a volunteer vice-president for a United Way agency—Big Sisters of B.C. (Lower Mainland)—she gives thanks for campus support.

"I'm an easy sell as a donor, because I see first hand the good that comes through United Way agencies here in Vancouver," says Miles, development officer for the UBC Library and Student and Academic Services.

She was matched with her Little Sister Kim six years ago, and this year watched proudly as the 18-year-old graduated from high school, found a job and moved into her own apartment.



Kim (l) and Miles

"Graduation might not seem like a big deal, but each person has his or her own

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Garden volunteers bring out the boughs and holly to eager anticipation

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Racked by civil war, Sri Lanka looks to UBC for expertise in renewal

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Campus works: What once was waste now gets used again

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Profile: Maybe we don't listen, but in Havana Susan Butt's words strike home

Letters

Rationale for hiring spouse draws ire

Editor:

I receive *UBC Reports* through the *Courier* and read it to keep abreast of events and news at UBC. Educational issues and particularly those involving post-secondary education and training are of special interest to me.

Now I must earnestly petition you and the senior administration of UBC to publicly address the facts

LETTERS POLICY
UBC Reports welcomes letters to the editor on topics relevant to the university community. Letters must be signed and include an address and phone number for verification. Please limit letters, which may be edited for length, style and clarity, to 300 words. Deadline is 10 days before publication date. Submit letters in person or by mail to the UBC Public Affairs Office, 310 - 6251 Cecil Green Park Road, Vancouver B.C., V6T 1Z1, by fax to 822-2684 or by e-mail to janet.ansell@ubc.ca.

surrounding the hiring of the spouse of the new president. After rigorously publishing all of the ethical requirements of the staff and students in *UBC Reports* it would seem incumbent upon you to deal with this matter.

The *Vancouver Sun* reported that the rationale given for this action was that "it is common practice." When will you understand that this arrogant, elitist attitude is what makes

the public so cynical and angry about the cost of higher education? Please don't repeat all those old clichés we have heard so often. "it is only a very small part of the total costs. the public just doesn't understand how these things work" and that perennial favourite "the media are blowing this all out of proportion."

William F. Bush
Vancouver

Difference

Continued from Page 1

challenges," says Miles. "Like all teenagers, Kim went through some difficult periods and had to make a lot of choices about which path to take. I'm proud of her for setting the goal of graduating, and then working hard to achieve that goal."

Miles stresses the value of the

Big Sisters organization, and other United Way community agencies, in bringing together services and people in need.

"I like to think there are no bad kids, just bad choices, which usually result from lack of knowledge and lack of support. As a friend and mentor, which is what a Big Sister is, I've tried to help Kim understand the choices available to her."

Each year, one in three people in the Lower Mainland benefits from the services of a United Way agency. UBC's employee campaign, one of the five largest

in the Lower Mainland, provides critical support for United Way agencies and other charities.

In this year's campus campaign, which closed Nov. 30, UBC faculty, staff and students contributed \$264,030 towards the campus goal of \$290,260. Organizers are confident of reaching the goal as additional contributions come in during December.

For more information on the United Way campaign, call Penny Weir at 822-9026 or visit the Web site at <http://www.unitedway.ubc.ca>.

Education

Continued from Page 1

people in different disciplines and its close links with partners outside the university.

"This improves not only the quality and the impact of the research, but also its complexity," Gaskell said.

"We hope to produce research that will tell us more about what the outcome of education and training are, and what kinds of programs achieve what kinds of results for whom."

In total, SSHRC will invest \$5.6 million in the program. Senior researchers based at universities in B.C., Ontario and Quebec will head the five networks, with more than 140 colleagues from universities in all 10 provinces also participating. They will collaborate with representatives from approximately 150 community organizations, industry, school boards and provincial government departments.

The Western Education and Training Research network will receive a grant of \$225,000 per year for the next five years.

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Edwin Jackson

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Looking for general information at UBC?

Don't know who to call?

Beginning Dec. 16
 call the UBC Information Line.

UBC-INFO

(822-4636)

M-F, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

UBC Main & Koerner Libraries MOVING!!!

CLOSURES DEC 20-JAN 5*

MAIN STACKS (including Circulation, Gov Pubs, HSS & Microforms)
 Dec 20-Jan 5 CLOSED
 Dec 20,23-24 & Jan 2-3 9am-5pm Ask at SCI/ENG DIVISION for retrieval from MAIN STACKS. Use Main Library (south) entrance. Circulation services such as Library cards, holds, fines payments at Koerner Library.

DATA LIBRARY
 Dec 20-Jan 5 CLOSED
 Dec 20,23-24 & Jan 2-3 E-mail to dlhelp@dataib.ubc.ca

FINE ARTS LIBRARY
 Dec 20-Jan 1 CLOSED
 Dec 20,23-24 Ask at SCI/ENG DIVISION for retrieval from FINE ARTS STACKS. Use Main Library (south) entrance.
 Jan 2-3 OPEN 9am-5pm

MAP LIBRARY
 Dec 20,23-24 & Jan 2-3 OPEN 9am-5pm

SCIENCE & ENG. DIVISION
 Dec 20,23-24 & Jan 2-3 OPEN 9am-5pm. Use Main Library (south) entrance.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS/UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
 Dec 20-Jan 1 CLOSED
 Dec 20,23-24 9am-5pm SUBMIT THESES to MAP LIBRARY.
 Jan 2-3 OPEN 9am-5pm

KOERNER LIBRARY
 Dec 20-Jan 5 STACKS CLOSED
 Dec 20,23-24 & Jan 2-3 OPEN 9am-5pm: Circulation, Reserve. Ask at Circ Desk for retrieval from KOERNER STACKS.

* All UBC Campus Libraries are CLOSED
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UBC REPORTS

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Wall Institute to meld best minds in research

by Charles Ker

Staff writer

Four years ago, Prof. Ken MacCrimmon joined a select gathering of renowned artists and scientists in the resort town of Bellagio in northern Italy.

Attendees included a Booker Prize nominee, a leading British composer and author Joseph Heller.

Sponsored by the Rockefeller Foundation, the month-long, revolving door retreat sought to mix and stir the creative juices of scribes and scholars and, in so doing, inspire them to greater heights.

The experience proved a research opportunity unlike any other for MacCrimmon, who was studying theories of creativity in the Faculty of Commerce and Business Administration.

"I came back thinking this broad-based sharing of ideas was vital to any university and we needed mechanisms to foster it at UBC," he says.

Today, MacCrimmon is charged with setting up similar programs encompassing all academic disciplines across the university.

MacCrimmon's new job as the first director of the Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies is to make it recognized worldwide as the pre-eminent institute focused on basic research linking all fields of inquiry.

Fueling this ambitious project is a \$15-million contribution from Vancouver financier Peter Wall, who hatched the idea with UBC President David Strangway in 1991.

"Peter realized that there was an opportunity to create a university-based institute for advanced research which doesn't exist anywhere else," says Strangway. "He made it clear from the outset that the money had to be used to generate new ideas and initiatives that wouldn't happen otherwise."

MacCrimmon claims that the Wall Institute fills an untapped academic niche.

Outstanding institutes for advanced research, such as the one in Princeton, focus primarily on the hard sciences with little presence in the social sciences and humanities. The Peter Wall Institute, he says, will encompass all departments and faculties on the UBC campus.

Two of the institute's key planks were already in place when MacCrimmon was appointed director in August of this year.

Nobel Laureate Michael Smith and Prof. Raphael Amit, director of UBC's W. Maurice Young Entrepreneurship and Venture Capital Research Centre, had been named Peter Wall Distinguished Professors. Smith will chair an internal, 10-member advisory committee when he returns from sabbatical next year.

Secondly, an annual competition for thematic research projects had been launched under the guidance of John Grace, former dean of Graduate Studies. An endowment of \$10 million, drawn from the President's Fund, was allocated for the three-year thematic projects which bring scholars together from different disciplines to work on specific problems.

In the 1995/96 competition, a team of nine UBC scholars prevailed over six other applications and was awarded the first \$500,000 thematic grant. The team will look at the phenomenon known as "crisis points"—those junctures at which the character of a process changes abruptly.

"It may be the recurrence of a disease posing a major new threat, groundwater pollution reaching a level where it threat-

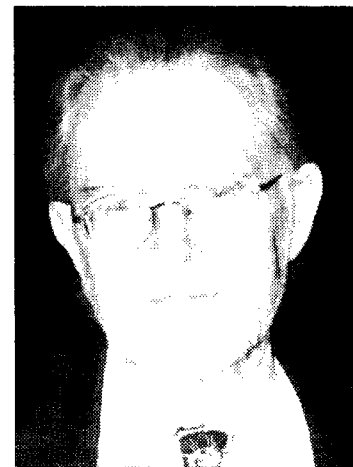
ens our water supply, or the collapse of a currency or market," says mathematics professor and project co-ordinator Priscilla Greenwood.

Greenwood says the interdisciplinary group—which is searching for qualified graduate students and post doctoral fellows—will study both the question of how to develop crisis point models and how to apply them to particular problems in areas such as biology, earth sciences, economics, epidemiology and psychology.

A 17-member adjudication committee, hand-picked from UBC's best scholars, will review the next round of project proposals for which the deadline is March.

Meanwhile MacCrimmon has been busy laying several more planks in the institute's programming platform.

The first of these is a summer residential program which would bring a dozen or so of the most creative scholars, artists and professionals together at UBC for an informal gathering of four



MacCrimmon

to six weeks.

MacCrimmon has been poring over lists of Nobel, Booker and other major prize winners in a search for distinguished summer visitors. The idea, he says, is to have them come to campus and interact with one another, as well as with the local community, with no set theme or agenda.

A second initiative, called the Research Encounter Program, will bring three world-class scholars together whose research interests overlap but who don't work in the same discipline. MacCrimmon says participants would have few formal responsibilities in terms of lectures and would be challenged to discuss ideas amongst themselves and see where discussions lead. At the end of

their stay, students and faculty would be invited to an open forum where they would learn about the discussions and exchange ideas. A transcript of the forum would then be put on the institute's Web site (www.pwias.ubc.ca) and a global interactive

"We want to build a new type of creative environment."

— Prof. Ken MacCrimmon

discussion would follow.

MacCrimmon is asking UBC faculty to submit their own suggestions for a "dream team" triumvirate.

One of the first assignments MacCrimmon gave himself was to visit every dean and many department heads to ask what the institute could do for them and vice versa. An individual visiting artists and scholars program, varying between three weeks and six months in length, has been widely endorsed and constitutes another programming plank MacCrimmon is working towards.

In addition, he is working with Strangway to identify and appoint an External Advisory Board comprising some of the most distinguished artists and scholars in the world.

"In all these programs we're prepared to get a number of rejections at the start," he says. "But we're determined to attract only the very, very best." MacCrimmon is looking forward to the day when the institute has its own building to host and run its programs. The institute's present location is at Green College.

MacCrimmon, however, doesn't need to theorize much about what the Peter Wall Institute will do for UBC.

"It will bring together the best minds within UBC and around the world to generate new knowledge across the boundaries of standard disciplines," he says. "We want to build a new type of creative environment."



D. Thomson photo

David Tarrant and Judy Newton of UBC's Botanical Garden display a few of the hundreds of wreaths and baskets prepared by volunteers each year for the holiday season. Items are available while quantities last at the Shop-in-the-Garden.

Volunteers' wreaths attract fan following

Neither the rain, nor sleet nor snow dumped on Vancouver lately has dampened the enthusiasm of holiday shoppers looking to UBC's Botanical Garden for the perfect wreath to adorn their homes this season.

"There are people who stand outside the garden gate and wait for each new load of wreaths and baskets to be brought out, hoping to spot just the right one for them," said Judy Newton, education assistant at the garden. "Some of them will come back day after day."

Newton and education co-ordinator David Tarrant assist about 120 Friends of the Garden—the volunteer group that supports UBC's Botanical Garden—in making the holiday wreaths and baskets which will total close to 400 this year. Each item takes about

one hour to craft.

Tarrant, host of the popular CBC show, *Canadian Gardener*, was responsible for starting the fund-raising program eight years ago when he joined the garden.

"Each wreath and basket is unique," said Newton. "Year after year, the volunteers can't believe that they've actually made such a beautiful thing. Even the people who don't think they're creative have never had a failure. There's always a buyer."

The wreaths, baskets and other holiday items are available while quantities last at the Shop in the Garden, 6804 Southwest Marine Drive. To avoid disappointment, visit the shop early. All proceeds support the Botanical Garden. For more information, call 822-3928.

Food service in SUB slated for rejuvenation

UBC Food Services is in the process of preparing a Request for Proposal for the space presently occupied by the 950-seat Pacific Spirit Place cafeteria and the commissary in the Student Union Building (SUB).

"The re-establishment of some form of food service in the space is our first objective," said Food Services Acting Director Judy Vaz.

"The results of our market research confirm what we hear from the campus community in general. There is a need for a food facility of that size on campus."

Exactly what form a new food service would take has yet to be determined, she said, adding that numerous groups have expressed interest in the space.

"We'll be establishing a steering committee to set parameters and review proposals for future use of the space in SUB and to prepare a detailed strategy," Vaz said.

When these initiatives were announced last summer, Frank Eastham, associate vice-president, Human Resources, said the decision followed extensive deliberation, study and consultation.

"It became clear to us that we need to focus on re-invigorating service in key areas of our food operations. It was also clear that in order to achieve that goal we had to rethink our activities in areas of significant continuing loss with no credible opportunity of a turnaround," Eastham said.

Calendar

December 15 through January 11

Wednesday, Dec. 18

Surgery Grand Rounds Lecture

Proton Therapy At TRIUMF - Physics In Action. Dr. Thomas Pickles, Surgery; Dr. Katherine Paton, Ophthalmology. GF Strong auditorium, 7am. Call 875-4136.

Friday, Dec. 20

Pediatrics Grand Rounds

Skiing And Snowboarding Injuries In Young People: Epidemiological Factors Relevant To Injury Prevention. Dr. Andrew Macnab, B.C.'s Children's Hosp. GF Strong auditorium, 9am. Call 875-2307.

Earth & Ocean Science Seminar

Observations And Modelling Of The Warm Mid-Cretaceous Climate. Lawrence Mysak, McGill U. Geology 330-A, 12:30pm. Call 822-2267/822-3466.

Tuesday, Dec. 24

Trekkers 4th Annual Christmas Brunch Buffet

Tis The Brunch Before Christmas. David Lam Centre, Trekkers, 8am-1:30pm. \$7.95. Call 822-3256.

Wednesday, Jan. 8

Orthopedics Grand Rounds
The Great Disc Debate. Dr. M.F.S. Dvorak, Spine Division or Dr. P.C. Wing, Spine Division. Vancouver Hosp/HSC, Eye Care Centre auditorium, 7am. Call 875-4646.

Noon Hour Concert

Martin Beaver, violin; Robert Silverman, piano. Music recital hall, 12:30pm. \$3. Call 822-5574.

Ecology and Centre for Biodiversity Research Seminar

Are Boreal Birds Resilient To Fragmentation?: An Experimental Study of Short-Term Community Responses. Fiona Schmiegelow, PhD candidate, Zoology. Family and Nutritional Sciences 60, 4:30pm. Refreshments at 4:10. Hut B-8. Call 822-3957.

The Interdisciplinary Seminar

Inter/Trans/Multi/Neo/Hyper: Discussion of Kline reading Chapter 13, "Operational Procedures In Forming Sysreps for Complex Systems." Green College small dining room, 5pm. Call 822-6067.

Cultural and Media Studies Interdisciplinary Group Panel Discussion

The Media: The Public And The Private. Jonathan Festinger, Western International Communications; John Cruikshank, *The Vancouver Sun*. Green College, 5:30pm. Call 822-6067.

Archaeological Institute Lecture

UBC's Excavations At Ancient Stympalos, Greece, 1994-96. Prof. Hector Williams, Classics, Vancouver Museum theatre, 8pm. Call 822-2889.

Thursday, Jan. 9

Invited Speaker Seminar Series

Computer-Aided Verification Of Embedded Systems. Tom Henzinger, University of Calif-Berkeley, CICS/CS 208, 4-5:30pm. Refreshments. Call 822-0557.

Genetics Graduate Program Seminar

Light, Steroid Hormones And Plant Development. Dr. Joanne Chory, The Salk Institute, Wesbrook 201, 4:30pm. Refreshments. Call 822-8764.

Law and Society Seminar Series

Canadian State Trials. Barry Wright, Law, Carleton U. and Prof. Emeritus Murray Greenwood, History. Green College small dining room, 5pm. Call 822-6067.

Poetic Persuasions

Readings Of Original, Creative Works Followed By An Open Forum. Green College, Graham House reception room, 8pm. Call 822-6067.

Friday, Jan. 10

Pediatric Grand Rounds

Adolescent Transition. Evolving Provincial Services. Dr. Sandy Whitehouse, B.C.'s Children's Hosp; Dr. George Hahn, AYA Program; Penny Offer, AYA Program. GF Strong auditorium, 9am. Call 875-2307.



Leon & Thea Koerner Memorial Lecture

Music Of Medieval Islamic Spain From The Middle Ages To The Present. Prof. Dwight Reynolds, U of Calif.-Santa Barbara. Buchanan A-202, 12:30pm. Call 822-6523.

Medieval Workshop

Islam In Europe. Green College, 2-6pm. Adults, \$25; students, \$10. Continues Jan. 11. Call 822-6067.

Notices

Lost Family Photos

Some family photos were found in the vicinity of the Faculty Association offices (near Geography, the Old Auditorium and the First Nations Longhouse). To claim them, call 822-6871.

Christmas Bakeshop by UBC Food Services

Last day to order is Dec. 16. Let UBC bakeshop do the baking! Call or fax your order or shop in person at Pacific Spirit Place Cafeteria, Monday-Friday, 9am-2pm. Call 822-5717.

UBC Food Services Christmas Hours

Pacific Spirit Place Cafeteria and Espresso On The Go will be open to serve you until Dec. 19. Barn Coffee Shop and IRC Snack Bar are open until Dec. 20. The Express is open throughout the Christmas period except Dec. 25, 26, and Jan. 1. Call 822-3663.

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.

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. We are testing a potential new laser therapy for psoriasis. Volunteers who complete the treatments and follow-up visits will receive a stipend. Please call 875-5254.

Christmas at the Shop in the Garden

Great selection of gifts! Unique Christmas tree ornaments and table centrepieces made by Friends of the Garden. Garden books, tools, accessories and much more. All proceeds help the garden grow. UBC Botanical Garden, Shop in the Garden, 10am-5pm. Closed noon, Dec. 24. Re-open Jan. 13. Call 822-4529.

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, Dept. of Psychology, 822-6408 (ask for Nancy).

Herpes Zoster (Shingles) Study

Participants required to take part in clinical dermatology trial at Division of Dermatology, 855 West 10th Ave. Requirements, 50 years of age and older, within 72 hours of onset of first skin rash. Maximum 13 visits over 24-week pe-

riod. Free medication and honorarium given. For further information call 875-5296.

Diabetes 1997 Conference

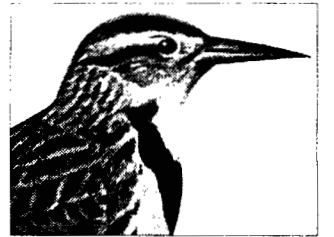
The Young Diabetic. Interprofessional continuing education conference will take place Friday, April 4 and Saturday, April 5, 1997 in Vancouver for all health professionals interested and involved in diabetic care. For further information call 822-2626.

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.

Next calendar deadline: noon, Dec. 30

MISSING



Many of Canada's migratory birds are disappearing. To help save them, call 1-800-26-PANDA and ask about adopting a kilometre of migratory bird flyway.



Their future is our future.



Gavin Wilson photo

Books Bestowed

Elizabeth Izumi, chair of Soka Gakkai International Canada, recently visited campus to present the UBC Library with a variety of materials including microfilms, videotapes and CD-ROMs featuring Japanese history and culture. The materials were acquired by the university with a gift of \$62,000 from the association, one of the largest donations ever received to enhance the library's Japanese collection. Soka Gakkai is a lay Buddhist association that works for the well-being of others through activities promoting friendship, peace, culture and education. President David Strangway accepted the collection on behalf of UBC.

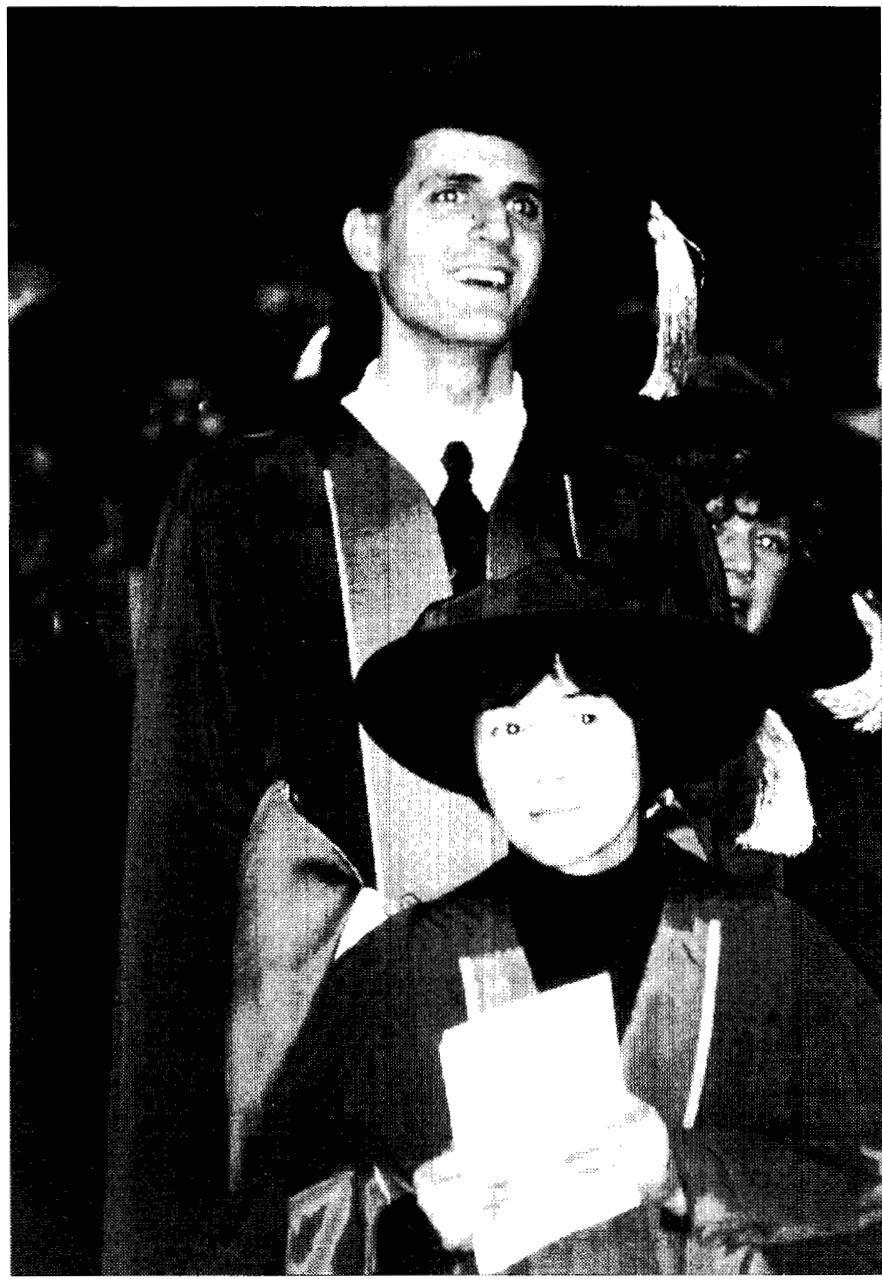
UBC REPORTS

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 January 9 issue of *UBC Reports* — which covers the period January 12 to January 25 — is noon, December 30.



Gravin Wilson photo

Happy Day

Graduating PhDs react as they listen to Nestor Korchinsky, student procession marshal, deliver his entertaining and irreverent stage procreation for the recent Fall Congregation ceremonies. Korchinsky, Intramurals co-ordinator and an assistant professor in the School of Human Kinetics, tells grads what to expect as their day unfolds. About 2,000 students graduated at the Nov. 28 ceremony.

Students get hands-on training in Tanzania

by Stephen Forgacs

Staff writer

Earlier this year nursing students Danielle Morin and Laurel Fraser decided that getting nursing experience in a developing nation would be an eye-opening experience.

They underestimated. "When we first arrived in Tanzania we wondered what we had gotten ourselves into," said Fraser. "We were extremely culture shocked for the first couple of weeks."

Before leaving Canada the pair had arranged to work for eight weeks with Dr. Jana MacLeod, a Canadian who has worked in Africa for six years, at a hospital in the town of Bagamoyo, about 75 kilometres north of the Tanzanian capital, Dar es Salaam. The Bagamoyo hospital serves a region of 212,000 inhabitants with three physicians, including MacLeod.

UBC nursing students who undertake work assignments abroad can receive a fourth-year course credit for their experience with the submission of several written assignments including a paper on a particular aspect of health care in the country they visit. Morin focused on pesticides and immunization while Fraser's interest was maternal health.

"The hospital was very primitive by our standards and short of resources. They didn't have basic supplies such as blood pressure cuffs, gloves or even mosquito nets to prevent the spread of malaria from patient to patient," said Fraser.

In the 12-bed pediatric ward, Fraser sometimes slept two to a bed on foam mattresses. If a child's parents couldn't provide a mosquito net or sheets, the patient went without, Morin said.

Supplies donated to the hospital were often stolen by staff who would sell them later for profit. Conditions in the hospital,

said Morin, were well below the standard of most Tanzanian health care facilities.

"We found that our feelings really changed during the time we spent at the hospital," Morin said. "The morale of the hospital staff was very low and the health care workers were often not very effective. We found it particularly hard to stand by and watch patients die when we felt there was a lot we could do. But we had to concede at times to their cultural traditions."

In spite of the range of problems they encountered, both Morin and Fraser said it was a great learning experience. As nursing students educated in a western university, they had the opportunity to put into practice what they had learned, and to learn from that experience and from the staff at the hospital who worked largely without the assistance of sophisticated technology.

"We found our basic assessment skills improved a lot because of the lack of resources. We learned a lot from the Tanzanian nurses in that area," said Fraser.

Fraser and Morin were also invited regularly to the local nursing school and later saw students there using some of the assessment techniques they had demonstrated while visiting the school.

Both students said experiences outside the hospital left the greatest impression on them. Morin cited a visit to a home in which eight family members were severely infested with scabies, a highly communicable skin disease. One child had died earlier of complications related to secondary infection and some family members were unable to stand due to painful sores. The pair treated the family, boiled their clothes and prescribed ointments and antibiotics.

When they returned a week later, they were surprised to find the family had taken their advice, acquired medication and were in considerably better health.

"We were very happy to see such immediate evidence that something we had done had actually helped people," Morin said.

Fraser and Morin also accompanied MacLeod on working visits to villages in the area, where they held medical clinics for local residents.

"We were really well received in these villages," said Morin. "And the challenges and rewards of assessing and treating people in those conditions is something that I couldn't have imagined without experiencing it."

The students stayed in a guest house in Bagamoyo where they estimate their cost of living was about \$3 per day including accommodation, food and employing a cook to prepare it. Living conditions took some getting used to, but a busy schedule meant they didn't spend much time at their guest house.

"We had scorpions in our bedroom, cockroaches in the bathroom and rats in the kitchen, but once you get used to it, it's not really a problem," Fraser said.

"We realized through this experience the importance of entering into situations with an open mind. We went into it with certain expectations and were shocked and surprised by what we encountered," she said. "For that reason, it's important to be adaptable and patient."

Since 1988, 18 UBC students have carried out nursing studies in a number of developing countries including St. Vincent, Botswana, Brazil, Thailand, Nepal, Pakistan, Zaire, Tanzania, the Dominican Republic and Kenya.

"Through this experience in developing nations, students begin to appreciate the issues of primary health care and development, and the factors that determine health in all societies," said Assoc. Prof. Donelda Parker, course adviser for Nursing 408. "They develop cultural sensitivity and communication, learn self reliance, and improve their health-related assessment skills."

Sri Lanka gains UBC expertise as planners rebuild after war

by Charles Ker

Staff writer

Sri Lanka has a severe shortage of community and regional planners and has turned to UBC for help.

A year ago, the Sri Lankan government—battered by civil war since 1983—transferred decision making powers to nine regional governments. The hope was that a more democratic planning process might help ease ethnic tensions and foster goodwill.

The problem is that Sri Lankan planners—trained in the technical fields of engineering, surveying and architecture—have no experience in or inclination towards collaborative, strategic planning.

"They have traditionally thought of themselves as deliverers of services and, as such, have given little regard to what people actually want," said Prof. Aprodicio Laquian, director of UBC's Centre for Human Settlements.

Laquian is directing a \$750,000 project to educate and assist Sri Lankan planners who are being asked to shoulder more responsibility in a decentralized government structure.

Funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the long-term goal of the five-year project is to establish a graduate community and regional planning program in three universities: initially at University of Peradeniya near Kandy, then at Ruhuna University in Matara and, if possible, at Jaffna University.

Laquian says the Jaffna linkage, on the island's northern peninsula, is a definite wait-and-see proposition.

Factional fighting between Tamil and Sinhalese troops in the area has forced Laquian with Jaffna partners to communicate with the International Red Cross.

"We will stay away from there for the time being, but when circumstances allow we'll make our move into Jaffna," said Laquian. Meanwhile, surveys can be started at the university's Vavuni campus outside the bombed-out peninsula.

A graduate curriculum would emphasize environmental sustainability, gender and development, basic human needs and rights, democracy and good governance.

Specific initiatives will be focused on development in the southern regions of the island around the city of Kandy and the nation's capital, Colombo.

Laquian said one of the project's two proposed field studios will look at how best to deal with the ramshackle, squat communities which have sprung up around Colombo since the civil war started a decade ago. This problem will be looked at in the context of the government's stalled "million homes program" which was launched at the outbreak of hostilities.

Another field studio will look at ecotourism as a viable economic option with no ecological cost.

Laquian said the country's game parks, complete with wild elephants and water buffalo, have been sadly neglected due to the central government's preoccupation with civil unrest.

Penny Gurstein, an assistant professor with the Centre for Human Settlements and the School of Community and Regional Planning (SCARP), will lead project efforts to mobilize Sri Lankan women in the planning process.

"We want to make planners aware of how to integrate women's concerns into the planning process," said Gurstein.

Laquian said the first order of business will be to conduct a comprehensive assessment of educational and training needs. Short-term training programs on modern planning approaches will also be offered to practising planners.

By 2001, Laquian said at least 40 practising community and regional planners will have benefitted from two-week training programs conducted by SCARP and the Centre for Human Settlements.

Other project goals include: having at least three graduate students from the three Sri Lankan universities finish a master's degree from SCARP; having two Canadian professors—collaborating with at least six Sri Lankan colleagues, two Canadian graduate students and 12 Sri Lankan graduate students—conduct two planning projects emphasizing participatory planning techniques; and formulating a full curriculum for a graduate diploma in community and regional planning for Sri Lanka's three universities.

The Sri Lankan project was developed while Prof. Barrie Morrison and Prof. Nancy Waxler-Morrison were in Sri Lanka on a one-year sabbatical.

Morrison, with the Centre for India and South Asia Research in UBC's Institute of Asian Research, and Prof. Bill Rees, SCARP director, are among the project's other principal investigators.

News Digest

The Forestry Undergraduate Society is once again selling Christmas trees at the Canada Safeway store on West 10th Ave. at Tolmie St. until Dec. 20. The trees are Douglas Fir cut from under power lines in the Kootenays and sell for \$10. Proceeds go to the society.

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Incumbents Brian Evans and George McLaughlin were recently re-elected to the board of the UBC Staff Pension Plan for a two-year term. McLaughlin, head electrician in Plant Operations, received 515 votes. Evans, electronic services manager at TRIUMF, received 460. There are eight directors on the Pension Board, four appointed by UBC's Board of Governors and four elected by plan members. There are more than 5,000 plan members.

Medical research to bridge Pacific

UBC's Faculty of Medicine has entered into a joint research program with the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Hong Kong.

The two faculties will work together as equal partners to develop at least two major medical research centres which will have a unified leadership, mission and objectives even though the researchers are an ocean apart.

"This joint research program is another example of the special relationship UBC has with the nations of the Far East," said Faculty of Medicine Dean Dr. John Cairns. "It offers both universities an opportunity for research, cultural and economic growth. Our level of excitement is high as we embark on this joint venture."

The first centres will focus their research on the neurosciences and cardiovascular medicine.

Future centres may include areas which are currently being

developed through the UBC faculty's Medicine 2000 plan, such as molecular biology and genetics, child development, cancer research and health care evaluation and planning.

Project development teams drawn from both schools will create proposals outlining how to best collaborate on the centres.

Combining and expanding these efforts will give both Canada and Hong Kong increased international prominence in medical research.

The transfer of Hong Kong to China next June will allow the medical schools to jointly expand their efforts more easily to medical research centres in Shanghai and Beijing.

Development proposals will be used as a basis for fund development to finance the centres both in Hong Kong and Canada. It is expected that each centre will seek funding of \$25-30 million.

Catch Father Bauer Classic Dec. 28-30

The Thunderbird hockey team will see out 1996 with the annual Father Bauer Classic tournament, while the men's basketball team welcomes the new year with a four-team tournament.

The Father Bauer Classic is an annual UBC hockey tournament featuring the Thunderbirds and teams from the University of Toronto, the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology and the University of Alberta. The tournament is named after Father David Bauer, the former chaplain of St. Mark's College who coached the 1962-63 Thunderbird hockey team. The team formed the nucleus of the 1964 Olympic team. The tournament takes place on Dec. 28



- 30 at the Thunderbird Winter Sports Centre with face-off times at 4:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. each day.

The Thunderbird men's basketball team usher in the new year with a tournament Jan. 3-

4. The T-Birds take on Central Washington University, Simon Fraser University and the University of Victoria. Tip-off times are 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Saturday and 12 p.m. and 2 p.m. on Sunday in War Memorial Gym.

The Thunderbird women's basketball team takes on Japan's national team, Wednesday, Jan. 8 at 7 p.m. in War Memorial Gym.

For information on ticket prices and game times, call 822-BIRD.

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The deadline for the January 9, 1997 issue of UBC Reports is noon, December 30.

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Stephen Forgacs photo

Proud Papa

Craig Wardman shows off The Track Shredder, a four-wheeled vehicle powered by a cordless drill motor, a bicycle chain drive and spiked wheels. The vehicle emerged the winner among 23 vehicles competing in a mechanical engineering class competition. The objective was to push a cart filled with ping pong balls to the end of a track while ensuring the opponent is unable to do the same. Team members, all in a second-year design course taught by Don McAdam, included Wardman, Mike Cichy, Charlie Lee, Kevin Rush, Mana Shirazi-Kia, and Aki Takahashi.

People

by staff writers

Shannon von Kaldenberg is UBC's new director of development. Von Kaldenberg has an 18-year record in fund raising, strategic planning, human resource development and communications.

Prior to joining UBC, von Kaldenberg was vice-president, Western Region, for Ketchum Canada. She has also served as executive director of the Vancouver Hospital and Health Sciences Centre Foundation, as director of Public and Investor Relations and Chief Donations Officer of Central Capital Corporation, as regional director of the Canadian Red Cross Society (B.C. and Yukon Division), and as director of development with the United Way of the Lower Mainland.

During her term as director of development, United Way raised \$17 million annually. The Lower Mainland campaign was the third largest United Way campaign in Canada with more than 5,000 volunteers and 20 full-time staff. Von Kaldenberg is credited with the development of ground-breaking campaign techniques which are now used across Canada and form a key part of basic and advanced fund-raising courses offered by United Way of Canada.

During the course of her career, she has served as national secretary, western regional representative, and national cabinet member of the Association of Health Care Philanthropy, and as a board member of IMAGINE.



von Kaldenberg

Project aims to close doctor-patient gap

by Gavin Wilson

Staff writer

A new project at UBC aims to bring doctors and patients together to take a shared role in making decisions about medical care.

Called Informed Shared Decision Making, the project will train physician-patient teaching teams and create educational packages on communication skills, critical evaluation of research evidence and decision making for physicians, patients and undergraduate medical students.

Research shows that patients who take a more active role and have more information about their illness, respond better to treatment which may result in less demand on scarce health care dollars.

"Patients need to be informed, and physicians need to know how to help their patients become informed," said project head William Godolphin, a professor in the Dept. of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine.

Godolphin said the project is a reflection of several trends: greater interest in health promotion, people taking more responsibility for their own health care, and a changing environment for doctors in which the traditional, paternalistic model of medicine is giving way to a more consumer-oriented attitude.

Most complaints made against physicians—80 per cent of those heard by the College of Physicians and Surgeons—arise from a lack of communication, he added.

Physicians often think they give more information than they actually do, and patients often do not know the right questions to ask.

In part, this stems from the physician-oriented communication skills taught in medical schools, such as how to break

bad news or obtain useful information from reticent patients.

"What we are talking about is a higher range of communication skills: decision-making aids, assessment of risk, giving patients access to information and helping them assess it by making it more meaningful to them," Godolphin said.

He gave the example of a male patient suffering from mild hypertension. His doctor could prescribe medication that helps some patients, but not all, decrease their chances of suffering a stroke. However, some treatments carry a risk of impotence.

"That kind of question ought to involve a patient's choice, his feelings about risk-taking and what things in life are valuable to him. It ought not to be only the physician's values that determine what the treatment will be."

The project will teach physicians how to assess patients' cultural, social, economic circumstances and their willingness to take risks, help patients to weigh the evidence of risks and benefits in relation to their values, and how to then work in partnership to reach a decision about what should be done.

As well, the project team is involving patients, advocacy and community groups, patient associations and agencies involved in patient education.

"The patient can be a powerful agent for change of physician's behavior," Godolphin said.

Based in the Office of the Coordinator of Health Sciences, Division of Educational Support and Development, the project is currently funded by grants from the B.C. Medical Services Foundation, administered by the Vancouver Foundation, and UBC's Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund.



Campus works

Environmental Services

Chemicals transformed from waste to wealth

by Stephen Forgacs

Staff writer

Efforts to reuse and reclaim chemicals used on campus are saving the university thousands of dollars annually and preventing hundreds of kilograms of hazardous waste from heading for disposal.

For several years, the university's Environmental Services Facility has been recovering photochemicals used in campus darkrooms, as well as solvents used in experiments and procedures in labs and at Vancouver Hospital and Health Sciences Centre's university site. A chemical exchange program developed in 1995 is ensuring many chemicals that might otherwise be disposed of are available for reuse.

The chemicals are processed in a variety of ways, depending on the level of contamination and the type of chemical. Certain hazardous wastes are forwarded to a waste disposal company, some materials are neutralized at UBC before being disposed of, and an increasing amount and range of chemicals are either recovered or simply made available for use by others on campus.

Ron Aamodt, a technician at the Environmental Services Facility, said many labs on campus will periodically forward surplus or outdated chemicals to the facility. Aamodt regularly circulates an inventory list to campus lab managers who, if Aamodt has what they require, can obtain chemicals for free from the facility rather than going to an outside supplier.

In 1995 approximately 700 kilograms of hazardous materials destined for disposal were processed through the exchange program. The solvent recovery program, which deals with methanol, ethanol, acetone, acetonitrile, xylene and dichloromethane, nearly doubled its production level from 250 litres per month in December 1994 to 400 litres per month in December 1995.

"What we are aiming to do is target departments or labs that have a waste stream where there is very little contamination," Aamodt said. "What we have to do is to snoop around and ask people in different labs what kind of a waste stream the lab is generating and then recover as much as we can."

A program to treat and recover photographic waste solutions has also been very successful. Prior to the establishment of the program, all photographic waste on campus was disposed of. Now it is estimated that the majority of photographic waste generated at UBC is handled by the facility. Silver recovered from the solutions is collected regularly by an outside company that compensates the university for the material's value less processing costs.

Waste processing facility technician Bang Dang is also working with a fourth-year engineering student to broaden the recovery program's capabilities.

Through solvent recovery, photo waste treatment, chemical exchange and neutralization, the university's chemical waste programs generated nearly \$17,000 in revenue and savings in 1995.

The revenue was generated through sales of the solvents and silver recovered, while substantial savings — nearly \$12,000 — were generated through reduced disposal costs thanks to the neutralization and exchange programs.

The facility's chemical inventory list and further information on environmental programs at UBC are available on the Internet at <http://www.safety.ubc.ca/envprog/env.htm>.

Profile

Kudos in Cuba

Susan Butt's theories are gold to Cuba's athletes

by Gavin Wilson

Staff writer

Drug use, temper tantrums, trash-talking multimillionaires, pre-pubescent girls chewed up and spit out by an uncaring system.

Welcome to the dysfunctional world of sports.

For 30 years Susan Butt, an associate professor in the Psychology Dept., has advocated a better way to train and motivate elite athletes—a more constructive model that could reduce some of the Olympian excesses that plague professional and high-level amateur sport.

In her seminal book, *Psychology of Sport: the Behaviour, Motivation, Personality and Performance of Athletes*, she argued that reinforcing feelings of competence and co-operation in athletes is a better motivator than promoting aggression and competition. This would not only improve the psychological well-being of athletes, but enhance their performance as well.

Although the book has been in print for 20 years and gone through several editions and translations, she has often felt like a voice crying in the wilderness.

But when she was invited to give a keynote address at the 30th annual Sports Medicine Congress last month in Havana, she discovered someone had been listening after all.

Her work is an integral part of training in what is arguably the world's most successful Olympic program—Cuba's.

A relatively small and impoverished island nation (that does have, however, a 98 per cent literacy rate), Cuba won 25 medals, nine of them gold, at the summer Olympics in Atlanta. That put them ninth overall in the medals standings, ahead of larger and richer countries like Britain, Spain, Japan and Canada. And on a per capita basis, it gave them more medals than anyone else in the world.

During her visit, Butt was treated royally by the head of Cuba's sports psychology department, who pulled from his shelves most of her articles, even those from obscure journals. At meetings he pointed out his former students, who now work all over Latin America, and told her they all use her theories.

"I'm not vain enough to think that their success is all due to the application of my theories," Butt said, "but they're doing everything right for these athletes, so it's no surprise to me that they've done so well."

Butt's theories had their genesis on



Gavin Wilson photo

Co-operation and a sense of competence have more to do with athletic achievement than aggression and competition says sports psychologist Susan Butt. Her theories have been adopted wholeheartedly by Cuban coaches, who despite having fewer resources, are turning out top Olympic athletes.

the clay and grass courts of the world's premier tennis tournaments. In her late teens and early 20s, she was on the professional tennis circuit.

As Canada's number one ranked women's player, she competed all over the world—Europe, Australia, South America, the U.S. Nationals and centre court at Wimbledon. She was captain of Canada's team in the Federation Cup, the top international tennis tournament for women.

What she saw there convinced her there were serious problems in competitive sport. And although she did not at first plan to specialize in sports psychology, after completing her PhD in psychology at the University of Chicago, she found herself inevitably drawn in that direction as one of her interests.

Her major contribution to the field is a set of measurement scales that gauge how athletes feel about their performance. It is based on five motivations: aggression, conflict (a state which can lead to feelings of guilt, listlessness, confusion and nervousness), competence, competition and co-operation.

While some degree of aggression and competition is highly desirable in an athlete, Butt feels they receive far too much emphasis.

"If an athlete is to have the greatest chance of fulfilling their potential, they are best served by higher scores on co-operation and competence. In North America, many coaches would like to see their athletes score higher on the aggressive and competitive ends of the scale, and I've long argued against that," she said.

Athletes will perform better and have longer, happier and healthier careers if they display such co-operative traits as helping others improve their game and sharing responsibility for team failure. Also important is the motivation of competence, in which athletes report they feel confident and pleased with their abilities and accomplishments.

Athletes with this outlook are more likely to value the internal rewards of sports, such as self-esteem and a sense of identity, rather than the external awards of money, status and attention-seeking.

Butt said her theories are often misunderstood.

"I'm not against having a contest, but there are better ways of approaching competition. I recently saw (tennis stars) Boris Becker and Pete Sampras throw their arms around each other at the end of a match. They're extremely competitive, but

they like each other and realize that without excellence to compete against, they can't show their own excellence."

In her clinical practice, Butt has seen elite athletes and performers who are stressed out and have neurotic styles. They may be aggressive and angry with officials, opponents and even their teammates.

Neither do these athletes trust their coaches, who they often feel are using them to satisfy their own vanity instead of developing their athlete's skills.

The result can be shortened careers and athletes who fail to reach their potential.

"We often waste our elite athletes," Butt said. "We throw them into the dust bin when their careers are over."

The Cubans, in contrast, build a family-style atmosphere within their sports programs. Loyalty and trust are emphasized and athletes maintain good relations with the team years after they have finished their careers.

All the more remarkable in a program that downplays aggression and competitiveness, the Cubans' best results are in sports that pit athletes one-on-one in ritualized battle: boxing, wrestling, fencing and judo.

In boxing, especially, the Cubans are a world power, winning seven medals, four of them gold, in Atlanta.

"Look at this," Butt said, holding up the profile of the Cuban Olympic boxing team. "Conflict, 2.1 (out of 10); aggression, 3.5; competition, 4.8; co-operation, 7.8; competence, 7.9. If you showed many Canadian coaches these scores, they wouldn't believe them."

"But a boxer can't go into the ring and just be aggressive. He can't flail around. He has to use his skill in the sport and be fully in control to do well."

Butt quotes from the autobiography of Emmitt Smith, the Dallas Cowboys' star running back: "Every so often, if an athlete is lucky, he meets an older man who makes him a better man."

"Note what he is saying: If a man is lucky, once in his lifetime he may meet an older man whom he can trust and will understand him."

"He was talking about one coach he had in high school," Butt said, holding up a finger for emphasis. "The Cubans have all kinds of people like that."

Perhaps one day the North American sports establishment will get the message. For now, however, Butt is pleased that at least one corner of the world is listening.