

UBC REPORTS

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Spin-off know-how helps fuel economy

by Stephen Forgacs

Staff writer

When Westport Innovations Inc., a UBC spin-off company, unveiled its first modified transit coach it marked another branch in the tree of success that is UBC's University-Industry Liaison Office (UILO).

The bus, powered by a diesel engine converted to operate using a unique natural gas injection system, emits half the pollutants and costs close to half as much as its gas-guzzling counterparts. Over the next decade, the company hopes to transform the diesel industry worldwide from diesel fuel to low-emission natural gas.

The Westport story, and those of many other UBC spin-offs, has helped place UBC third in North America in the creation of new companies, behind only Stanford and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, according to survey

results published in the *Report on the UBC Spin-off Company Formation and Growth*, released today by the UILO. The Westport example is just one of a growing list of UBC spin-off companies and UBC-licensed technologies.

"UBC has been very successful in supporting the creation and development of spin-off companies, and the licensing of UBC-developed technologies," says the report's author and UILO Associate Director Angus Livingstone. "The challenge now is not only to continue to link UBC technologies with industry partners for further development, but also to promote and accelerate the growth of the existing companies."

Included in the report are the results of surveys conducted in 1994 and 1997 of UBC's spin-off companies, which paint a vivid picture of the rapid growth in the number of spin-off companies, now at 71.

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Board okays business-education committee

UBC's Board of Governors has approved the establishment of an advisory committee to develop a comprehensive set of guidelines which will provide a framework for the university as it enters into business-education partnerships.

"The issues before this committee are generally important ones for universities today and for UBC in particular," said Dennis Pavlich, associate vice-president, Academic and Legal Affairs, who will chair the advisory committee. "The issues are complex and jumbled. They need to be addressed by the UBC community to ensure the university continues to preserve its fundamental values while seek-

ing alternative sources of revenue in today's ever-changing world."

Membership on the advisory committee will include faculty, staff, students and alumni, appointed by the vice-presidents. The terms of reference are:

- to review the framework and current processes for the establishment of business-education partnerships and, where necessary, recommend changes;
- to review existing ethical guidelines for business-education partnerships and recommend changes to better reflect UBC's interests and values;
- to review a communication strategy

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Survey shows support for business partnerships

by Gavin Wilson

Staff writer

A majority of faculty, staff, students and alumni are in favour of UBC developing strategic partnerships with business to raise funds, a poll conducted for the university shows.

But those surveyed also want the university to ensure that proper guidelines are in place to govern such partnerships.

A total of 78 per cent of those polled said they supported UBC signing partnerships with companies in which cash contributions are given in return for

university-approved business and promotional opportunities on campus, while 19 per cent opposed such partnerships.

Support was strong right across all four stakeholder groups, particularly among staff, students and alumni.

"The level of support in some ways surprised us," said Daniel Savas, vice-president of the Angus Reid Group, which conducted the poll. "We thought there might be more opposition on campus."

Angus Reid surveyed a proportionally representative sampling of 800 faculty, staff, students and Lower Mainland alumni drawn from all faculties. The poll

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Orange Aid

Hilary Thomson photo

Pharmaceutical Sciences' lecturer Colleen Brady (left) and Assistant Dean Marguerite Yee show off some entries in the faculty's second annual pumpkin carving contest which raises funds for the United Way. The Pharmacy Practice Laboratory, in which the pumpkins are on display, is the subject of a faculty fund-raising initiative aimed to upgrade the lab to represent the pharmacy of the future.

New program focuses on animal welfare

by Stephen Forgacs

Staff writer

Two internationally recognized researchers with a life-long interest in animals have been appointed to lead UBC's new Animal Welfare Program.

Prof. David Fraser and Prof. Dan Weary will investigate topics such as the way living conditions affect the well-being of animals, and ethical issues surrounding

the use of animals in scientific research, sport, and food production.

"As educators, we hope to stimulate dialogue on animal welfare issues and bring facts and knowledge about animals to the debate," said Fraser. "As researchers, we will look for solutions to animal welfare problems that are good for animals, and good for society."

The \$1.8-million Natural Sciences and

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"enquiries into the odd and the ordinary"

WILLIAM NEW

UBC Dept. of English; Royal Society of Canada

Think About It.

UBC RESEARCH

Spin-off

Continued from Page 1

and the growth experienced by the companies themselves.

More than 1,500 jobs created by UBC spin-off companies boost both the provincial and national economies — 96 per cent of these jobs are in B.C.

The companies are also generating returns for the university including \$17.5 million in cumulative research funding to UBC, \$3.4 million in royalties, and, on paper, \$5.6 million in equity shares held by UBC in 1997.

Growth in returns to UBC is most remarkable in cumulative research funding, which has more than doubled from \$8.2 million in just three years, and in the paper value of UBC's equity shares, from \$1.6 million in 1994.

In the last year alone, UBC received \$3.5 million in industry-sponsored research funds from UBC spin-offs.

"We are seeing rapid growth

in a number of the spin-off companies that have matured in the past few years," says Livingstone. "This is due, in part, to the fact that increasingly sophisticated private investors are recognizing the opportunities these companies offer, the value of the technologies they are developing, and the services they provide.

"While government support of our spin-offs has grown by about \$6 million since 1994, private investment has climbed dramatically from \$249 million to \$634 million."

As investor support has grown, so have the companies' revenues. In 1994, UBC's spin-off companies reported combined annual revenues of \$20.9 million. By 1997, annual revenues had jumped to \$42.4 million.

The range of technologies and services offered by UBC's spin-offs is vast. The majority of com-

panies (45 per cent) operate in the life sciences sector, with 39 per cent based in the physical sciences, and 15 per cent in information technology.

The number of UBC spin-off companies is growing at a rate of five to seven companies per year and, according to a 1997 National Research Council review, UBC alone accounted for more than 20 per cent of university-based spin-offs created in Canada.

Committee

Continued from Page 1

to provide information and collect feedback on business-education partnerships across campus.

The Advisory Committee will report its findings back to the Board of Governors in the coming months. In addition, a public forum on business-education partnerships at UBC is planned for mid-November and details will be advertised shortly.

The Board of Governors also gave its approval for the university to proceed with the development of business-education partnership agreements with Canadian Airlines International Ltd. and the Royal Bank Financial Group and Hongkong Bank of Canada. The agreements will be presented for Board of Governors approval in December and January, respectively.

In 1995, the Board of Governors gave UBC a mandate to seek non-traditional or alternative sources of funding for the university. The board also ratified ethical guidelines for Business-Education Partnerships as developed by the Conference Board of Canada.

Partnership

Continued from Page 1

was conducted in July on behalf of UBC's Business Relations Office.

In recent years, UBC has developed strategic business partnerships with such companies as Coca-Cola and BC TELECOM to provide benefits including access for the disabled and computer network infrastructure. Other agreements are also being considered.

Most of those surveyed saw the need to raise funds and felt that corporate partnerships were preferable to other options such as borrowing of funds, raising tuition, cutting back on services and charging higher user fees.

But while they favoured the university entering into more partnerships, they also expressed some concerns regarding business involvement in research and teaching.

"People wanted to be sure that guidelines are in place to control the extent that business can be involved in academia," Savas said. "They do not want companies telling professors what research to do or department heads what courses they can offer."

UBC's Board of Governors has adopted the Conference Board of Canada's ethical guidelines on business-education partnerships, and at their last meeting, struck a committee to further refine the guidelines as they apply to UBC.

Another important issue identified in the survey is the choice of business partner. Many felt the university should sign partnerships only with businesses with reputations as good corporate citizens.

UBC constituents also felt strongly that money raised through business partnerships should be directed to teaching and research rather than recreation or extracurricular items. A total of 57 per cent felt teaching is the top priority while 45 per cent named research as the top or second priority.

Many also felt the university should better communicate how it spends money raised through partnerships.

Communications was also important in building support. For example, fears expressed about the commercialization of campus are eased when it is

learned that UBC's proposed advertising policy and guidelines would limit corporate signage on campus.

Other issues that respondents identified included evaluation of partnerships over the course of agreements; that competition and choice be maintained; that financial contributions be significant; and that quality of service be maintained.

Survey results are available on the Public Affairs Web site at www.external-affairs.ubc.ca/paweb/ or from the Public Affairs Office by calling 822-3131.

Edwin Jackson

Too much of a good thing can be wonderful. *Mae West*

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THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Public Information Meeting

on
The Liu Centre for International Studies

Nov. 13, 1997 12:45-1:45pm
International House, 1783 West Mall

To present and review the site plan for the approved Liu Centre for International Studies to be constructed on the International House site, which also houses Panhellenic House.

The 1,700-1,800-square-metre facility will be a two- to three-storey signature building nestled within the existing trees on the site. It will be linked to International House on the second floor and will comprise academic offices as well as seminar, conference and lecture facilities. A Development Permit Application has been submitted and construction is anticipated to begin summer 1998, occupancy fall 1999.

For further information, call Jim Carruthers, Campus Planning and Development, 822-0469.



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Public Information Meetings

for the campus and neighbouring community

on UBC's role in
APEC '97

and its impact on the campus and community

Nov. 6, 1997

• 12:30-1:30pm, Angus 104

• 7-8pm, Angus 104

2053 Main Mall

Topics will include:

- APEC initiatives at UBC
- Related work at MOA and Norman MacKenzie House
- Impact of the Nov. 25 APEC leaders' meeting on campus buildings, traffic and parking

For further information on the meeting call Carolyn McLean, UBC APEC Office, 822-2080; fax 822-1936; e-mail apec@unixg.ubc.ca

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Stephen Forgacs photo

Eye to Eye

Sylvia Kender makes eye to camera contact with José, a visually guided mobile robot. Jochen Lang (left), a PhD student, is able to specify a destination within the robot's range of vision. José then uses trinocular stereovision, provided by three small video cameras, to map its surroundings and navigate independently and untethered. José is a project, led by Prof. Alan Mackworth, of UBC's Institute for Robotics and Intelligent Systems (IRIS). Eventual applications for robots like José may include inventory monitoring, security, and cleaning.

New transportation director goes green

UBC's new director of transportation planning, Gordon Lovegrove, takes his advocacy of car-free commuting seriously. He ran, cycled or occasionally rode a bus to his previous workplace.

"To prove that I could commute to work by foot seven kilometres each day, even through harsh winter weather, was really a growth experience — like a personal iron man regime," he said.

Lovegrove, who starts at UBC Nov. 10, will be responsible for all university transportation planning and reports to Geoff Atkins, associate vice-president, Land and Building Services.

The position of transportation planner was created by the university as part of the Official Community Plan for the UBC campus.

The plan, approved this summer by the university and the Greater Vancouver Regional District (GVRD), calls on the university to pursue a 20 per cent reduction of single occupancy vehicles travelling to campus.

"There is no car allowance in this job," said Atkins. "We need someone willing to set a personal example if we are going to reduce auto dependence on this campus

by 20 per cent over the next five years. Gord's lifestyle, energetic personality and strong background is a good fit for UBC and will help us achieve our goals."

Lovegrove has been involved in municipal, regional and provincial transportation planning and development projects in the Lower Mainland and B.C. Interior for more than 15 years. Most recently, he served as the transportation planner for the City of Kelowna.

During his career Lovegrove has built strong working relationships with many of the stakeholders critical to the success of the university's strategic transportation plan, Atkins said. These include B.C. Transit, the City of Vancouver, the Ministry of Transportation and Highways and the GVRD.

Lovegrove spent nine years as a special projects engineer and transportation planning and design engineer with the City of Vancouver and five years as the transportation traffic engineer with the Township of Langley.

He has a degree in civil engineering and a master's degree in transportation planning, both from UBC, and an MBA from SFU.

Campus commute options in the offing

by Gavin Wilson

Staff writer

At one time, most everyone drove to UBC and parked in one of the vast surface parking lots. Those days are gone.

The university is looking at a wide range of alternatives to car commuting as it seeks to reduce single-occupant vehicle traffic by 20 per cent, said Geoff Atkins, associate vice-president, Land and Building Services.

As far as Atkins is concerned, everything is on the table and worth a look, including telecommuting, flexible work and classroom schedules, dial-a-ride systems, a fleet of campus bikes and retrofitting campus buildings with showers and lockers.

His top priority, however, is improved B.C. Transit service to campus.

"B.C. Transit keeps telling us they have confined resources and we are sympathetic to that, but we won't get anywhere if B.C. Transit is waiting for someone to give them more money," said Atkins, a frequent transit user himself.

"We need better service and we have to think about creative ways of making things

happen."

Another way UBC will meet its 20 per cent vehicle reduction is a U-Pass system similar to the highly successful University of Washington program that offers increased bus service, campus shuttles, free carpool parking, vanpools and bike lockers.

UBC will spend \$250,000 a year on its own U-Pass system, which is scheduled to begin in September, 1999.

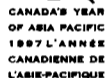
"We've made a commitment to do that and we will have it in place. Perhaps not necessarily the same as the University of Washington's, but with a lot of its essential elements."

For now, Atkins is looking at other creative solutions to campus transit problems.

One of these is a free bike system where bicycles are provided for anyone who wishes to use them on campus. Atkins envisages buying old bikes at auctions and restoring them.

"Stanford University for example has an aggressive bike usage program. We may be able to have one of our own in place, perhaps as early as next summer."

Canada's Year of Asia Pacific



Campus encouraged to take transit Nov. 25

Members of the UBC community are being advised to take transit or carpool Nov. 25 when the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation leaders' meeting takes place on campus.

An area of the northwest corner of campus will be most directly affected — especially from 6 p.m., Nov. 24, to 6 p.m., Nov. 25 — but the impact will be felt throughout campus.

Security fencing will be set up in the northwest campus on the days prior to the Nov. 25 leaders' meeting, and may cause some inconvenience.

Building closures

- The Museum of Anthropology will be closed to the public Nov. 19-26
- The Anthropology/Sociology building will be closed from 6 p.m., Nov. 24 to 6 p.m., Nov. 25. Please contact your instructor or department for class re-scheduling information
- Mary Bollert Hall, International House, Pan-Hellenic House, Nitobe Garden will be closed from 6 p.m., Nov. 24 to 6 p.m., Nov. 25
- Chan Centre for the Performing Arts will have restricted access from 6 p.m., Nov. 24 to 6 p.m., Nov. 25. Check with instructors regarding rehearsals
- Green College, Cecil Green Park House, Cecil Green Coach House will have restricted access from 6 p.m., Nov. 24 to 6 p.m., Nov. 25
- The Graduate Student Centre and the Parking and Security office will be closed to all but accredited staff from 6 p.m., Nov. 24 to 6 p.m., Nov. 25

Road closures

- Chancellor and Northwest Marine Drive will be closed from 6 p.m., Nov. 24 to 6 p.m., Nov. 25 from Gate 3 to Gate 6
- Fourth Avenue/Chancellor Boulevard traffic will be diverted onto Wesbrook Mall (except for local traffic)
- Southwest Marine Drive traffic will be diverted at Gate 6 onto University Boulevard
- Cecil Green Park Road, Crescent Road, Memorial Road and Main Mall north of Memorial Road will be inaccessible to vehicles from 6 p.m., Nov. 24 to 6 p.m., Nov. 25

Parking closures

- Rose Garden parkade will be closed from 6 p.m., Nov. 24 to 6 p.m. Nov. 25. All vehicles must be out of the parkade by 6 p.m., Nov. 24. (Students with restricted Rose Garden Parkade passes will be allowed to park in other parkades on Nov. 25)
- The Faculty Club parking lot will be closed from Saturday, Nov. 22 to Wednesday, Nov. 26

Transit route changes

- The #42 bus will be rerouted along Wesbrook Mall to the bus loop from 6 p.m. Nov. 24. Regular service resumes Wednesday, Nov. 26
- The #4 bus may be rerouted onto Alma and along 10th Ave. at certain times during Tuesday, Nov. 25

More information about APEC and UBC's involvement will be available at public information meetings to be held Thursday, Nov. 6 at 12:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. in the Henry Angus Building, 2053 Main Mall. For further information call Carolyn McLean, UBC APEC Office, 822-2080; fax 822-1936; e-mail apcc@unixg.ubc.ca. Information can also be found on the Web at www.ubc.ca under "News, Events and Attractions."

Remember Nov. 11

Members of the university community will gather in War Memorial Gym Nov. 11 for UBC's annual Remembrance Day service.

"Our audience consists of students, staff, veterans and the public," Event Co-ordinator Eilis Courtney said, adding that anyone is welcome at the service.

UBC President Martha Piper will conduct an inspection of the troops at 10:15 a.m. before the ceremony gets underway at 10:45 a.m. Wreaths will be laid while a piper plays, and a brass quintet from the School of Music will play during the ceremony.

Last year 350 people attended the ceremony.

Donations move to goal



United Way

United Way's campus campaign co-ordinator Kelly Gray performs a simple exercise with groups of potential United Way donors.

Everyone stands, then she asks them to sit down if they can answer yes to a short list of questions: Have you or anyone in your immediate family ever been treated at B.C.'s Children's Hospital? Have you or anyone in your immediate family ever taken swimming lessons from the Red Cross? Have you ever been at an event

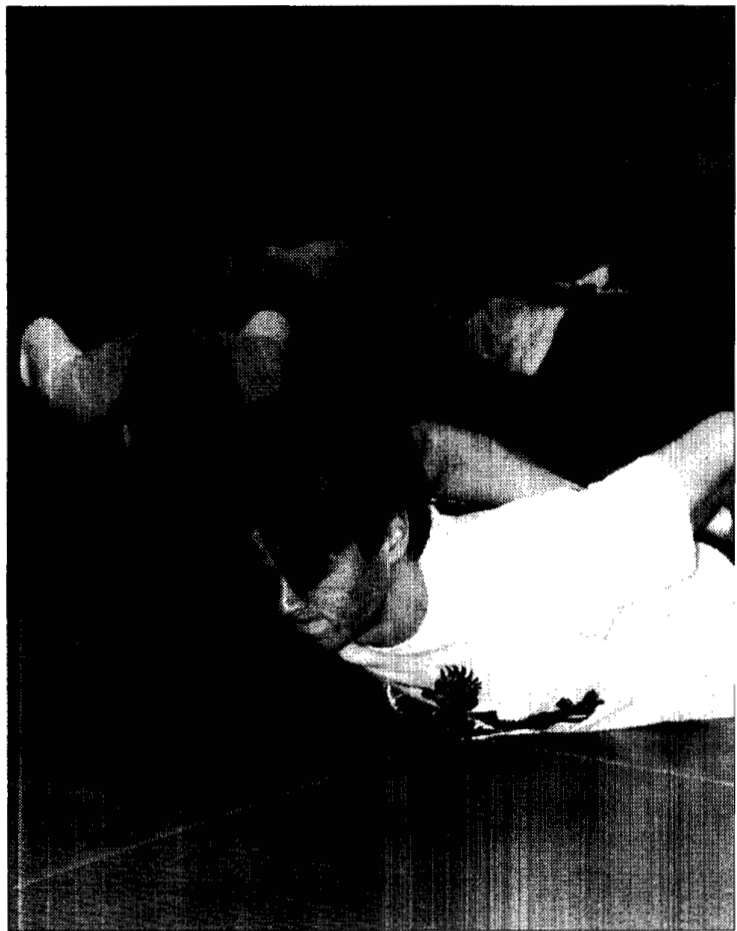
where St. John's first aid attendants were on hand?

Each is an example of a United Way agency. After a few questions, there's no one standing.

"You can see realization dawning on their faces, after I've named only a handful of United Way's 105 member agencies in the Lower Mainland," says Gray.

One month into United Way's campus campaign, UBC faculty, staff and students have donated more than \$170,807 towards this year's goal of \$310,000.

For more information, or to volunteer, call (604) 294-UWAY.



Stephen Forgacs photo

Stomach Strain

Students practising the martial art kogido in the Student Recreation Centre work up a sweat during a strenuous session of exercises aimed at strengthening abdominal and back muscles. Kogido is described as a non-traditional martial art ideally suited for self-defence and takes elements from a variety of martial arts including tae kwon do, karate and jiu jitsu.

Sports stars, grads receive honours

UBC honoured some of its most outstanding alumni and saluted varsity sports stars of the past at the 1997 UBC Alumni Achievement and UBC Sports Hall of Fame Dinner Oct. 23.

The Alumni Awards recognize 10 individuals for their outstanding achievements.

Alumni award recipients were: Nobel Prize winner Michael Smith (DSc '94), Lifetime Achievement Award; Malaysian business leader Dato' Lim Say Chong (MBA '65), Alumni Award of Distinction; clinical pharmacist Louanne Twaites (BSc Pharm '53), Blythe Eagles Volunteer Service Award; New York investment firm partner Jacki Hoffman-Zehner (BCom '88), Outstanding Young Alumnus; former Lt.-Gov. David Lam (LLD '88) and his wife Dorothy, Honorary Alumni Award; Education Asst. Prof. Thelma Cook (BEd '58) and Zoology Prof. Geoffrey Scudder, Faculty Citation Award; law student John Cameron, Outstanding Student Award; California lawyer Kent Westerberg (BA '84, LLB '87), Branch Representative Award.

The UBC Sports Hall of Fame inductees included four individuals and one team.

Lionel Pugh was recognized by UBC as a builder for taking a mediocre track and field program and turning it into one of the country's best. He arrived at UBC in 1964, at the start of UBC's "golden age" of track and field. During his 23 years as coach, UBC won four national championships and a total of 25

Canada West titles in cross-country and track and field. Fourteen athletes from his teams represented Canada at the Olympics and the majority of today's UBC track records were set while Pugh was coach.

The 1945/46 men's basketball team, coached by Bob Osborne, was also honoured. The team was the runaway winner of the US Pacific Northwest Intercollegiate Conference, triumphing over such high-ranking schools as Washington State, the University of Washington and the University of Oregon. The team's record included a famous victory over the Harlem Globetrotters. The '45/'46 T-Birds were the first Canadian basketball team to be crowned champion of an American intercollegiate league, making it one of the top teams in the Northwest.

Other inductees into the Sports Hall of Fame included Thunderbird quarterback Dan Smith (1974-1978); Frank Sealy (1955-1962), soccer and cricket; Jim Bardsley (1930-1937), basketball, tennis; and Bill Holowaty (1979-1985), ice hockey.

More than 800 people attended the awards dinner.

Keynote speaker at the event was UBC President Martha Piper who was introduced by diplomat John P. Bell, former Alumni Award of Distinction winner and ambassador, Canada's Year of the Asia Pacific.

The dinner was hosted by Haig Farris, president of the Alumni Association, and Bob Phillip, director of Athletics and Recreation.

Animal

Continued from Page 1

Engineering Research Council (NSERC) Industrial Research Chairs in Animal Welfare, to which Fraser and Weary have been appointed, were created with the support of a range of groups with strong ties to animal welfare issues. The B.C. Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (B.C. SPCA) and the B.C. Veterinary Medical Association joined forces with numerous animal agriculture groups to provide funding for the program. NSERC matched their donations.

"The broad-based support behind the positions is unique in the Canadian animal welfare research community," Fraser said.

Both Fraser and Weary are new to UBC. Fraser's research has led to innovations ranging from better pig pens to ways of reducing highway accidents involving wildlife. Weary's research includes the use of vocalizations and other behaviours as indicators of animal well-being.

"One of the most productive methods at our disposal in studying welfare is to look at aspects of the animal's behaviour. This is why much of the work being done on animal welfare today is done by scientists, like David Fraser and myself, who have a background in ani-

mal behaviour," Weary said.

"Behavioural approaches also have the advantage of being non-invasive: you don't have to give injections, take blood, or look at the animal's brain, and hence risk causing some harm or distress to the animal whose welfare you are ultimately trying to improve."

Fraser and Weary will continue research in their respective areas of expertise while at UBC, and also deal with the range of ethical issues surrounding the use of animals.

"The present-day debate over the proper relationship between ourselves and other species is not a new issue, like global warming; it is not an issue that will eventually go away, like mad cow disease; rather, it is one of our oldest and most vexing ethical problems, and one which different generations and different societies must grapple with as our values, beliefs and perceptions change," Fraser said.

The chairholders, who hold cross appointments with UBC's Dept. of Animal Science and Centre for Applied Ethics, will work closely with the UBC Animal Care Centre, with animal scientists in dairy, beef, poultry, aquaculture and other animal industries, and with biological and medical researchers.

"NSERC's commitment of more than \$800,000 indicates the seriousness with which we consider animal research issues. We want to ensure that animal research meets the highest ethical standards," said NSERC President Tom Brzustowski.

Weary studied animal behaviour at McGill and Oxford, where he earned a doctorate. He undertook post doctoral studies at McGill, Queen's and Concordia, focusing especially on the vocal behaviour of wild birds and mammals.

He joined Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada in 1992 as a research scientist. There he started his basic research on how vocal and other behaviour of pigs can provide information about an animal's physical and emotional state.

Fraser studied at the universities of Toronto and Glasgow. From 1975 to 1981 he worked in wildlife research, specializing in the behaviour and management of moose. From 1981 to 1997 he was a research scientist at the Canadian government's Central Experimental Farm in Ottawa where he worked on behaviour, management and animal welfare problems of pigs and other farm animals, focusing especially on the needs of mothers and newborns.

UBC botanist, chemist, zoologist newest Royal Society members

Three UBC researchers will receive one of the highest honours in the Canadian academic community when they are inducted into the Royal Society of Canada next month during a ceremony in Ottawa.

The UBC inductees to the society's Academy of Science are Prof. Thomas Cavalier-Smith, Prof. Michael Fryzuk and Prof. John Gosline.

Each year the society elects more than 60 "fellows" who are nominated for stellar research in the fields of science, social sciences and the humanities and for other contributions to the academic community.

In the field of science, where this year's UBC inductees reside, the society received 10 times as many nominations as available slots.

UBC is ranked second among Canadian universities, after the University of Toronto, in current number of fellows in the Royal Society with 132.

Botanist Cavalier-Smith, a world leader in studying cell evolution, has greatly reformed the classification of single-celled creatures such as Protozoa and established a sixth kingdom of life, the Chromista, which includes the kelps and other brown seaweeds. He has also proposed novel theories to explain why the cell nucleus of animals and plants contains so much more DNA than is needed for their genes, why so many of our genes have been invaded by virus-like pieces of DNA of no benefit to them, and how many different parts of living cells originated.

Fryzuk, a professor in the

Dept. of Chemistry, is recognized for his contributions in several areas of inorganic/organometallic chemistry. His findings of unusual bonding combinations between certain atoms and metals are forcing the chemical community to reformulate ideas about bonding patterns.

Gosline, a professor in the Dept. of Zoology, is a leader in the field of molecular biomechanics. Although his special interests are focused on mechanical and molecular design

principles of structural biomaterials (from spider silk to elastin to keratins and cuticles), he has had a broad impact on the entire discipline. His book, *Mechanical Design in Organisms*, which looks at the strategy of applying engineering principles to design in biological systems has had a profound effect on the field.

The mandate of the Royal Society of Canada is the promotion and development of learning and research in the arts and sciences.

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Research networks awarded \$94 million

Seven networks in the Networks of Centres of Excellence (NCE) program have been awarded \$94.3 million over four years by the federal government.

The networks funded include the Canadian Bacterial Diseases Network, the Canadian Genetic Diseases Network, Micronet, the Institute for Robotics and Intelligent Systems and the Protein Engineering Network. All succeeded in a competition for funding that included the 10 original networks launched in 1989.

The NCE program also includes four networks established in 1995 that will be funded until 2002, contingent on a positive mid-term evaluation next year.

UBC researchers participate in all 14 networks of the NCE program, with the Canadian Genetic Diseases Network headquartered on campus.

The program brings together research teams from all provinces and disciplines

to work in cooperation with universities, industry and government.

"Our investigators are ecstatic about this news," says Malcolm McMillan, director of the NCE Administration Office at UBC. "It means they can plan new research and complete existing projects. Until now, we weren't sure which of the original networks in the program would exist beyond March 1998."

The recent funding announcement shows the government's continuing commitment to the future of the NCE program, McMillan says.

NCE funding will end March 31, 1998 for the NeuroScience Network, Concrete Canada and Inspiraplex Networks after eight years of support.

UBC scientists are now involved in competing for \$9 million recently made available to fund new networks.

Further information on the program a can be found at www.nce.gc.ca.

Chan to take Board helm for second term

Shirley Chan has been re-appointed chair of UBC's Board of Governors for a one-year term, ending Aug. 31, 1998.

"I appreciate the confidence of the board in deciding to re-appoint me and look forward to working with Dr. Piper," she says.

Chan thinks the university is at a crossroads.

"Although we're challenged by financial restrictions, we need to protect the quality of teaching and research by finding alternative sources of funding that don't compromise our values," she says.

A board member since 1992 and chair since 1996, Chan is the manager of non-market housing for the City of Vancouver. Educated in Ontario and B.C., she re-

ceived a master's degree in environmental studies from York University in 1978.

Chan has been a director of VanCity Savings Credit Union since 1987, serving as chair from 1993 to 1995. She is also a director of Citizen's Bank and Little Mountain Residential Care and Housing Society, and vice-chair of VanCity Enterprises. She serves as a part-time adjudicator for the Public Service Appeal Board of B.C.

In 1993, the Alumni Association of Simon Fraser University honoured Chan with its Outstanding Alumni Award for service to the community.

Also re-appointed to board vice-chair positions were Harold Kalke and Joanne Emerman.



Stephen Forgacs photo

Lasting Legacy

First Nations elder Vince Stogan pauses to admire one of two Musqueam house posts erected by the Museum of Anthropology earlier this year. Carved by Musqueam artist Susan Point, the house posts mark the western entrance to the museum's Totem Village, a collection of outdoor sculptures and buildings widely regarded as the finest of its kind in the world. The museum is in the process of raising money to replace decayed roof beams in the Haida houses in the village, and to treat and reinforce the free-standing poles.

First Nations help guide future foresters' studies

by Sean Kelly

Staff writer

As the Faculty of Forestry's new co-ordinator of forestry programs for First Nations, Madeleine MacIvor will oversee a series of initiatives that have introduced First Nations content into the Forestry curriculum, and made forestry education more accessible to First Nations students.

MacIvor takes over Nov. 1 from Gordon Prest, who was the first co-ordinator when the position was created three years ago in collaboration with the First Nations House of Learning. The initiatives he helped develop have attracted attention from forestry schools throughout Canada and abroad.

"There is a need for First Nations to develop their capacity to enhance, manage and protect natural resources within their traditional territories," says MacIvor, who is currently co-ordinator of student services and community liaison co-ordinator at First Nations House of Learning. "And non-aboriginal students need to learn about First Nations issues so that they have a clear understanding of the context they will be working in as foresters."

When Prest started as co-ordinator,

there was only one First Nations student in Forestry. That student graduated last spring, and there are now 13 First Nations students pursuing Forestry degrees.

Forestry Dean Clark Binkley says the First Nations initiatives are a model for the rest of the world.

"Few First Nations people have gone through forest resources management programs anywhere in the world. I think many other professional forestry schools will benefit from our experience."

The universities of Northern B.C., Lethbridge, Toronto and Northern Arizona are among the institutions looking to UBC for ideas as they plan similar arrangements for First Nations students.

Forestry gives an annual course entitled "Perspectives on First Nations and Forest Lands."

As well, a guide for incorporating First Nations content into forestry education has been created.

It came out of the Indigenous Perspectives in Forestry Education Workshop held at UBC this summer which attracted participants from as far away as Australia and New Zealand.

A council of First Nations advisers from throughout B.C. provides guidance to the program on how to meet First Nations students' forestry education needs.



MacIvor

Samhain, Halloween — it's the same thing

by Sean Kelly

Staff writer

"Trick or treat!"

As costumed children go from home to home on Halloween collecting goodies, they will be acting out rituals dating back to a popular pre-Christian festival called Samhain, says David Lertzman, a PhD student in Community and Regional Planning.

Lertzman, who has studied "the Old Religion," will perform Halloween songs and ritual theatre at 8 p.m. as part of the Oct. 31 festivities at Green College.

The word Halloween comes from the feast of All Hallows which was instigated by the medieval church to coincide with Samhain, he says.

"To the old earth-based cultures, Samhain was a time of change, a time of darkness and chaos, where normal rules no longer applied," says Lertzman.

"Samhain was seen as a doorway between this world and the Otherworld, a time out of time, when the realm of the ancestors and fairies was closest. These spirits provided boons to good people, and played tricks on those who had taken advantage of others."

Wicca, a Saxon word meaning "to shape" or "to bend," may be the root of the modern word witch. It's also one of the names for the Old Religion, says Lertzman.

"Those we call witches were the medicine people. Their demonization and persecution in the Middle Ages and

later was part of the reaction of the Christian church against the older, earth-based religions," he says.

Lertzman also believes our familiar Halloween witch is based on an ancient crone figure, who had positive powers of healing.

Europe's ancient agrarian cultures were based on a lunar calendar, he says, and the three phases of the moon were characterized of a maiden, a mother, and crone. All three were aspects of one great goddess.

"Since Samhain marked the approach of barren winter, it was the time of the Crone. She was the grandmother of time and decay, holder of powers of divination. Her ability to die created the possibility for rebirth."

Lertzman is fascinated by the differences between the ancient conception of life as guided by cycles of birth, death, and rebirth, and modern society's aim of attaining ever greater levels of production and consumption by controlling nature.

His PhD thesis examines how ancient earth-based knowledge systems may contribute towards the transition to ecological sustainability.

"When we go back to the ancient roots of customs like Halloween, we see people attempting to be more integrated within the natural systems of the planet."

For more information on Halloween festivities at Green College, call 822-8660.

Calendar

November 2 through November 15

President's Lecture In Classical Studies

Hellenistic Kings And The Jew. Eric Gruen, History, U of California. Buchanan D-224 at 12:30pm. Call 822-2889.

Mechanical Engineering Seminar

The Institute Of Applied Mathematics: What's In It For You? Uri Ascher, Director, Institute of Applied Mathematics. CEME 1202 from 3:30-4:30pm. Light refreshments. Call 822-3770.

Astronomy Seminar

Liquid Mirror Telescope Observations? Paul Hickson, Hennings 318 at 4pm. Coffee/Tea at 3:30pm. Call 822-2802.

Green College Resident Speaker Series

The Complementarity Approach To Wildlife Reserve Selection: How To Choose Areas For Conservation. Clive Goodinson, Forestry. Green College at 5:30pm. Call 822-1878.

Tuesday, Nov. 11

Remembrance Day Ceremonies

President Martha Piper. War Memorial Gym, 10:15am. All welcome.

Green College Resident Speaker Series

Constructing Desirable Futures: Science, Policy And Sustainable Development. John Robinson, Director, Sustainable Development Research Institute. Green College at 5:30pm. Reception from 4:45-5:30pm. Graham House. Call 822-1878.

Wednesday, Nov. 12

Orthopedics Grand Rounds

Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction: The Next Generation. Dr. Brian Day, Orthopedics. Vancouver Hosp/HSC, Eye Care Centre Aud. at 7am. Call 875-4192.

Flu Vaccine

Flu vaccine will be given at UBC Student Health Service from 8am-3:45pm. \$10. Call 822-7011.

Continuing Education Workshop

Risk Management Workshop. F. Oboni; G. Oldendorff. Point Grey Golf and Country Club from 9am-5pm. \$700 (includes course material, lunch, attendance certificate). Call 822-3347.

Centre For India And South Asia Research Seminar

Themes In The Study Of The Indian Diaspora. Judith Brown, History, Oxford U. CK Choi 120 from 11:30am-1pm. Call 822-2629.

Concert

Wednesday Noon Hours. Diane Loeb, mezzo-soprano; Rena Sharon, piano. Music Recital Hall at 12:30pm. \$3 at the door. Call 822-5574.

Seminar

Multiculturalism, Nationalism And Anti-racism Education: Research And Current Debates In Canada. Various speakers. Graduate Student Center Thea Lounge from 4-7pm. Continues to Nov 13. Call 822-4315.

Ecology, Evolution And Centre For Biodiversity Research Seminars

Biological Control: Green Alter-

native To Pesticides, Or New Pests For Old? Daniel Simberloff, Zoology, U of Tennessee. Family and Nutritional Sciences 60 at 4:30pm. Refreshments Hut B-8 at 4:10pm. Call 822-3957.

The Eighteenth Century Circle

A New Episteme? Language And Post-modern Misreadings Of The Enlightenment. Nick Hudson, English. Buchanan penthouse from 5-7pm. Wine. Call 822-5195.

Senate Meeting

Regular Meeting Of The Senate. UBC's Academic Parliament. Curtis 102 at 8pm. Call 822-2127.

Thursday, Nov. 13

Concert

University Singers. James Fankhauser, director. Chan Centre at 12:30pm. Call 822-5574.

Opera Panel

Salome: The Play, The Opera, The Production. Peggy Jameson, Vancouver Opera; Floyd St. Clair, French; Jonathan Wisenthal, English. Buchanan penthouse from 12:30-1:20pm. Call 822-4060.

Seminar

On The Presence And Absence Of Behavioural Signatures In Sport. J. Tim McGarry, Human Kinetics. War Memorial Gym 100 from 12:30-1:30pm. Refreshments. Call 822-3913.

Occupational Hygiene Programme Special Seminar
Environmental Crisis: Indonesian Forest Fires And Air Pollution In Southeast Asia. Michael Brauer, Medicine. IRC #5 from 12:30-1:30pm. Call Eric Hamilton 822-9861.

Seminars in Biological Conservation

Why and How Should We Manage Forests For Biodiversity? Daniel Simberloff, U of Tennessee. MacMillan 166 from 2:30-3:30pm. Call 822-9695 or 222-4687.

Invited Speaker Seminar

3DDI - 3D Direct Interaction. John Canny, U of California. CICS/CS 208 from 4-5:30pm. Refreshments. Call 822-0557.

Genetics Graduate Program Seminar Series

Engineering Caulobacter Crescentus To Secrete Cloned Proteins: Studies At The Interface Of Basic Research And Biotechnology. John Smit, Microbiology. Wesbrook 201 at 4pm. Refreshments. Call 822-8764.

First Nations Discussion Circle

How Can A Place Have A Name? Laurie Ricou, English. Green College at 4:30pm. Call 822-1878.

Canadian Studies

Rethinking Vancouver Modern. Trevor Boddy, Western Architecture Critic, Globe & Mail. Green College at 5pm. Call 822-1878.

Friday, Nov. 14

Annual Health Policy Conference

Impending Doctor Drought?: New Opportunities For Old Mistakes. Centre for Health Services and Policy Research. Various speakers. Delta Pacific Hotel and Resort Conference Centre, Richmond from 8:30am-5pm. \$130; \$30 student. Call Juliet Ho 822-4969 or e-mail jho@chspr.ubc.ca.

Grand Rounds

Pain And The Child With Significant Neurologic Impairment. Tim Oberlander, Developmental

Pediatrics. GF Strong Aud. at 9am. Call 875-2307.

Lecture

Trans-Spotting: Cross-Dressing, Race And Cyberbodies. Anne McClintock, Columbia U. Hennings 200 at 12:30pm. Call 822-4225.

Concert

UBC Symphony Orchestra. Eiko Ogawa, piano soloist, Jesse Read, conductor. Chan Centre at 12:30pm. Call 822-5574.

Classical And Religious Studies Lecture

Paganism And Christianity In The Age Of Marcus Aurelius. Michael Chase, U of Victoria. Buchanan B-325 at 12:30pm. Call 822-2889.

Pharmaceutical Sciences Seminar

Role Of PI 3-Kinase In Signalling Pathways Regulating Hemopoietic Cell Function. Dr. Vincent Duronio, Medicine. Cunningham

160 at 12:30pm. Call 822-7795.

Occupational Hygiene Program Seminar

The Workers Compensation Board's Diamond Initiative. Workers Compensation Board of BC. Vancouver Hosp/HSC, UBC. Koerner G-279 (ground flr) from 12:30-1:30pm. Call 822-9861.

Law Seminar

JV Clyne Lecture: Canadian Legal Education In The New Economy. Harry Arthurs, Law and Political Science, York U. Curtis Moot Court 176 at 12:30pm. Call 922-5675.

Weekly Seminar

Fibre Fractionation In Hydrocyclones. Tazim Rehman, Chemical Engineering, ChemEng 206 at 3:30pm. Call 822-3238.

Mathematics Colloquium

Jack Morava, Mathematics, John Hopkins U. Mathematics 100 at 3:30pm. Refreshments Math Annex 1115 at 3:15pm. Call 822-2666.

Physical Chemistry Seminar

Muonium - A Unique Probe Of Dynamical Mass Effects In Chemical Reactivity. Don Fleming, Chemistry. Chemistry D-225 (Center Block) at 4pm. Call 822-3266.

Concert

University Singers. James Fankhauser, director. Chan Centre at 8pm. Call 822-5574.

Saturday, Nov. 15

Concert

UBC Symphony Orchestra. Eric Wilson, guest conductor; Eiko Ogawa, piano soloist. Chan Centre at 8pm. Call 822-5574.

Vancouver Institute Lecture

JV Clyne Lecture: Globalization And Its Discontents. Harry Arthurs, Law and Political Science, York U. IRC #2 at 8:15pm. Call 822-3131.

Notices

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.

Parents with Babies

Have you ever wondered how babies learn to talk? Help us find out! We are looking for parents with babies between four to 15 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, Psychology, 822-6408 (ask for Monika).

UBC Medical School

Needs male and female volunteer patients of any age, either healthy or ill to help students learn how to interview and complete a physical examination (external only). The total time for each teaching session is between two-four hours. Tues-Thurs. pm. Travel expenses will be paid. Call Vancouver Hospital/HSC 875-5943.

Do You Have Patellar Tendinitis (Jumper's Knee)?

Subjects are required for a study that will be using a nuclear medicine technique to examine the presence of inflammatory cells at the patellar tendon. Subjects aged 20-35 years with unilateral patellar tendinitis symptoms are encouraged to contact Dr. MacIntyre at 822-0799.

Museum of Anthropology

Current Exhibits. Written In The Earth. An exhibit exploring the roots of Coast Salish Art. Continues to Dec. 31. From Under The Delta: Wet-Site Archaeology In The Lower Fraser Region Of BC. Continues to April 1, 1998. 6393 N.W. Marine Drive. Wed.-Sun, 11am-5pm; Tuesday 11am-9pm (Free 5-9pm). Call 822-5087.

Studies in Hearing and Communication

Senior (65 years or older) volunteers needed. If your first language is English and your hearing is relatively good, we need your participation in studies examining hearing and communication abilities. All studies take place at UBC. Hearing screened. Honorarium paid. Please call The Hearing Lab, 822-9474.

CRSG

The Clinical Research Support Group which operates under the auspices of the Department 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.

Parents with Toddlers

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

Boomerang Family Research

Adults who have returned home to live and their parents are invited to participate in a study focusing on the experience, inter-personal relations and responses to this change in the family. Involves confidential interviews. Three chances to win \$100 in research raffle. Please call Michele at 269-9986.

Parents With Adolescents

Are you interested in learning how family conversation and activities are integral to the career development of your adolescent? We are inviting mothers and fathers with their 14/15 year old(s) to come to UBC to participate in parent-adolescent conversations about career. Follow-up for 6 months. \$100 honorarium paid. Please call Dr. Richard Young's project team, Counselling Psychology Dept. 822-3985.

Next calendar deadline:
noon, Nov. 3



A Dickens Christmas at Cecil Green Park

Get on the good list ... make your reservation NOW!

2nd Annual Christmas Buffet Lunch

Wed, Thur & Fri
Dec 3, 4 & 5
Two seatings:

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Make your reservation before Nov. 15th and receive \$1.00 OFF/person!

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Buffet Lunch is presented by UBC Catering & Special Events
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Sean Kelly photo

Asia-bound graduates David Sadoway (l) and Rani Sandhu get last minute advice from Asia Pacific Internship Program co-ordinator Education Prof. Marvin Westwood (r) and director Wayne Nelles of the Sustainable Development Research Institute. Sadoway, who is going to Mongolia, and Sandhu, who is going to India, are among 30 Canadian post-secondary graduates participating in the pilot project to take Canadian expertise in sustainable development to Asia Pacific countries.

Physicists behind two "brutal" global exams

Preparing exams may not be everyone's first choice of summer activities, but a couple of UBC physicists were happy to spend a portion of their summers slaving away to create questions in theoretical and practical physics.

Andrzej Kotlicki and Chris Waltham authored the two "brutal" five-hour exams given to students competing in the 28th International Physics Olympiad held in July in Sudbury, Ont.

"I've prepared a lot of exams, including some for the local Olympiad program," said Waltham. "But this may be the only time in my life that I get a crack at the international Olympiad."

Before the 266 students from around the world could sit down to their exams — five hours for each on two separate days — the professors' exams had to receive a passing grade from the international board of 110 national team leaders, who also had to translate the exams into a variety of languages.

"The exams received the team leaders'

approval very quickly," said Waltham.

But the biggest test lay ahead: Could any student score 100 per cent?

"I aimed at one student acing the theoretical exam. That would give me confidence that the whole thing was solvable by somebody at that level," Waltham said. "In fact, three students aced it. Nobody aced the practical exam, but people seldom ace practical exams."

An Iranian student achieved the top combined score, while students from Germany, Romania and Singapore scored 100 per cent in the theoretical exam. An Australian scored 95 per cent on the practical exam. The top Canadian ranked 47th. To be eligible, students must not have attended a post-secondary institution and must be less than 20 years old. The next Olympiad will take place in Iceland.

Since its inception in 1967, Olympiad exams have been prepared by scientists from the host country.

In Memoriam

Nathan Nemetz, Dorothy Lam Campus loses two friends

Two individuals who left lasting legacies at UBC died this past month.

Former UBC chancellor and B.C. Appeal Court chief justice Nathan T. Nemetz died Oct. 21. He was 84.

Dorothy Lam, philanthropist and wife of former lieutenant-governor David Lam died Oct. 16. She was 67.

Nemetz was chancellor of UBC from 1972 to 1975 and chaired the Board of Governors from 1965 to 1968. He maintained a lifelong association with the university after graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in History in 1934. In 1969 he received the Great Teacher Award and in 1975 received an honorary Doctor of Laws.

The Nathan T. Nemetz Chair in Legal History in the Faculty of Law is a lasting tribute to his contribution to UBC and the field of legal history.

Nemetz was appointed to the Supreme Court of British Columbia in 1963.

He was made chief justice of the Su-

preme Court in 1973, and chief justice of the Appeal Court, the top judicial post in the province, in 1978.

Through the David and Dorothy Lam Foundation, Dorothy Lam with her husband David, made significant endowments to many charities and educational institutions, including UBC.

Their gifts to UBC include the David Lam Asian Garden, the David Lam Management Research Centre, the David See Chai Lam Management Research Library and the Dorothy C. Lam Chair in Special Education.

The Dorothy C. Lam Chair, held by Prof. Linda Siegel, allows the Faculty of Education to pursue studies of individuals with special needs, analyse how they can best be educated, and address the effects on their intellectual and social development of including them in regular classrooms.

Both Dorothy and David Lam were recipients of the Alumni Association's Honorary Alumni Award earlier this year.

Interns go to work in developing countries

David Sadoway sees his placement in Mongolia as a chance to do some skiing. If he has time.

The 29-year-old graduate of the Environmental Studies Program at the University of Waterloo is off to Ulaanbaator to work with the United Nations Development Programme as part of a pilot project supervised by UBC's Sustainable Development Research Institute.

He'll help the Mongolian government design a plan to reconcile environmental and economic issues.

"I don't think they do much skiing there, but I know they've got big mountains," he says.

Sadoway is among 30 of Canada's brightest young graduates who are off to Asia Pacific countries for six-month work terms. Ten of his fellow participants are from UBC. Eight more are graduates of the universities of Victoria and Northern B.C. and Simon Fraser University.

The Asia Pacific Internship Program will spread Canadian expertise in sustainable development, strengthen ties with Asia Pacific countries, and bring back experience that will help them win jobs in Canada, says program director Wayne Nelles.

The interns are all post-secondary graduates from 21 to 29 years of age with a background in environmental and international development issues. They have been placed with government, business or non-governmental organizations in 10 countries, including Mexico, Pakistan and China.

Nelles hopes the pilot program will turn into an annual opportunity for Canadian post-secondary graduates.

"UBC has a chance to take a leadership role in supporting education and training for employment in the field of sustainable development," he says.

Everyone involved with the pilot project stands to benefit, he says. The federal government can demonstrate its commitment to sustainable development while at the same time strengthening its focus on cultural and economic partnerships with Asia Pacific. UBC increases its profile as the North American academic gateway to Asia, and the graduates acquire invaluable experience at a time when 16 to 17 per cent of 18 to 29 year-olds are unemployed.

UBC experts, especially in the area of sustainable development, provided the interns with extensive economic, environmental and cultural training before they left at the end of September. In many cases, faculty and staff who have lived in the destination countries provided insights on what to expect.

Education Prof. Marvin Westwood, an expert in cross-cultural adjustment and re-adjustment, gave the interns tips on coping with the confusion and loss of confidence that can result after landing in new and unusual surroundings.

When they return in six months, the interns will be taught how to access the job market, and how to market their newly acquired cultural expertise to Canadian employers.

UBC collaborated with Langara College and the University of Northern British Columbia to offer the program. The pilot program is funded by Human Resources Development Canada.

Asian fires not just bad for health says air expert

When the World Health Organization called environmental health scientist Michael Brauer, he knew what they wanted had something to do with the smoke blanketing large areas of Southeast Asia.

Two days later, the air pollution specialist was in Malaysia dealing with health issues caused by forest fires burning out of control in neighbouring Indonesia.

What he found was more an environmental crisis than a health emergency.

His findings will be the subject of a seminar called "Environmental Crisis: Indonesian forest fires and air pollution in Southeast Asia" taking place November 13 from 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. in Woodward IRC lecture hall 5.

"The environment has become so stressed in Southeast Asia that one incident can push the whole system out of control," he says. "This experience reinforced for me that we can't degrade the environment and not expect a crisis."

Forest fires are lit throughout Indonesia every year to clear land for plantations. But this year was different.

A delayed monsoon and existing drought conditions, blamed by locals on the El Niño phenomenon, resulted in the fires blazing out of control. Over 500,000 hectares of forest had been burning since early June, with smoke becoming a critical problem in September.

Brauer, an associate professor in the Dept. of Medicine, spent a week in Malaysia acting as technical adviser to the country's health ministry and Institute of Medical Research. He co-ordinated efforts to combat the air pollution, helped identify local resources and worked with

researchers to assess health damage and determine protection measures.

Clinic visits for respiratory complaints had tripled since the fires began, says Brauer. Infants, asthmatics and others with pre-existing lung or heart conditions were the most affected.

Medical resources were able to handle the influx, Brauer says, since the problems, though plentiful were not critical.

Although some rain did fall the day he arrived, Brauer says the visibility remained reduced to several hundred metres. People wore masks outside and children were kept

home from school when the smoke was at its worst.

"One of the most difficult aspects was psychological," says Brauer, who holds a joint appointment in the

"There was no escape from the smoke — no place to run."

—Assoc. Prof. Michael Brauer

Occupational Hygiene Programme. "There was no escape from the smoke — no place to run."

The concentration and toxicity of the smoke this year was similar to previous years, however, the duration of the pollution and the spread over huge densely populated regions made the situation unprecedented, he says.

Brauer feels that unless the extent of the fires' health impact is defined, economics will dictate they continue unregulated.

Among his recommendations to the Malaysian government are that health officials measure the effectiveness of protection practices such as wearing masks or staying indoors. He has also initiated studies assessing the health impacts of the smoke pollution.

For further information on the seminar, call Eric Hamilton of the Occupational Hygiene Programme at (604) 822-9861.



Chris Petty photo

UBC alumni (l-r) Helen Swangard, Jean Robinson and Mary Henderson take a moment during the recent Great Trekker luncheon to reminisce about the university they knew. Both Swangard and Robinson were part of the Great Trek 75 years ago that saw 1,200 UBC students march from Fairview to Point Grey to call attention to the government's delay in delivering on the promised UBC campus.

Great Trek set student activist stage in 1922

As an example of student activism and serious commitment to a goal, the Great Trek is hard to beat.

But for those who were there on Oct. 28, 1922, it was also a lot of fun.

"I remember I had a long gown," says Jean Robinson (Arts and Science '23). "I kept tripping on it all the way up Granville Street."

Friends Helen Swangard (Arts and Science '23), Muriel Ledingham (Home Economics '30), and Robinson's sister Mary Henderson (Nursing '29) laugh at the memory.

The four were among 29 UBC alumni attending a recent luncheon held to mark the 75th anniversary of the Great Trek. Original trekkers and graduates from the years 1916 to 1930 were reunited at the event, sponsored by the Alumni Association as part of UBC's annual Homecoming Week.

"By the time we got here to UBC we had blisters, but we didn't care," says Robinson. "It was exciting — it was fun."

The Point Grey campus was originally scheduled to open in the fall of 1913 but the government's seeming lack of commitment to the outbreak and the outbreak of war put construction on hold for more than a decade.

In 1915, the university opened in temporary quarters at the Fairview site

of Vancouver General Hospital. Conditions were not good. Classes for 1,176 students spilled over into tents, church basements and nearby homes.

"We had Greek classes right in a hospital bedroom," says Robinson. "The conditions were terribly crowded."

In the summer of 1922, students circulated a petition to convince the government to resume construction on the university.

"All the kids went home for the summer and got signatures from every town in B.C.," says trekker Swangard. "Everybody canvassed for that petition — it was a great success."

Students gathered 56,000 signatures

that summer, an impressive total considering only 500,000 people were living in the province.

The Great Trek was the centrepiece of the students' publicity campaign.

On Oct. 28, 1922, a parade of trucks, floats and almost 1,200 students walked through downtown Vancouver to the cheers of onlookers. After a streetcar ride from Davie and Granville to 10th and Sasamat, the marchers continued on foot to the UBC site.

The half-constructed Science building, now the Chemistry building, provided a dramatic photo-op, as students perched themselves on its steel girders, waving banners and chanting slogans.

They then positioned themselves on a field to form a giant U-B-C.

Students ended the trek by depositing stones collected along the route in a cairn commemorating the occasion. The cairn still stands between the Chemistry Building and Trekkers restaurant.

President-elect of the Alma Mater Society at the time, Ab Richards dedicated the cairn as "a milestone in the history of

the university and a landmark for the future. It also marks one of the greatest efforts ever put forward by an undergraduate student body in support of its university."

Richards and a

student committee presented the petition at the legislature in Victoria and met with Premier John Oliver. The government responded to the widespread public support by agreeing to a loan of \$1.5 million to resume construction of the campus.

The first classes were held on the UBC campus three years later on Sept. 22, 1925.

As current Alma Mater Society Vice-President Ruta Fluxgold says, "The Great Trek still reflects the spirit and pride of UBC students. We should always remember that students played a major role in building UBC and that their voices had a tangible effect on the development of the campus."

"By the time we got here to UBC we had blisters, but we didn't care."

—Jean Robinson



Campus works

Administrative Systems Project

Revamped systems put information at fingertips

by Stephen Forgacs

Staff writer

By the end of the year, three of UBC's four major administrative information systems will be operating on a new computer platform — an important step in the ongoing Administrative Systems Project (ASP).

"The first people to work with these new systems will quickly come to recognize the advantages," says John Chase, UBC's director of Budget and Planning and co-chair of the project steering committee. "They will be able to manage and maintain the information they rely on, and to generate reports tailored to their needs."

Aimed at making administrative information easier to access and manage, the project has involved an extensive review and evaluation of hundreds of operating procedures as well as the migration to the new operating platform.

The first systems to "go live" was the Integrated Human Resource Information System (IHRIS). The Financial Management Information System (FMIS) and Viking, the Alumni/Development system will become operational later this year.

It is anticipated that the conversion of the existing Student Information Systems (SIS) to its new operating platform will be completed early in the new year.

UBC began the process of revamping its administrative information systems in October, 1995. It was decided that replacing the existing mainframe technology with a distributed environment would be less expensive to operate, and that, coupled with the introduction of new management-oriented system applications, these two initiatives would better position the university's departments to manage their activities.

The major goals were: movement from a centralized mainframe to a distributed computer environment; installation of new application software oriented to management requirements rather than straight transaction processing; and to achieve this at no net increase in costs to the university.

In June 1996, a consortium of vendors led by Sierra Systems Consultants Inc. was hired to help with the reconfiguration of the university's computing resources.

As the first three systems become operational this fall, the offices of Financial Services, Human Resources, Budget and Planning, and Purchasing will gain "update" access to the new applications, as will several pilot sites, including the deans' offices in the faculties of Medicine and Arts, the central administration office in the Psychology Dept., Student Services, Plant Operations and Housing and Conferences. The remaining deans' offices will be provided access by March 31, 1998, with individual departments being phased in over the succeeding 12 months.

Update access means that these areas will be able to enter information directly into the systems rather than delivering information in a variety of formats for further processing as has been the case with the previous systems.

Other university sites will gain access to the system during the following year dependent on organizational readiness and connectivity. Training programs will be provided for staff before the systems become operational in their areas.

More information on the Administrative Systems Project can be found on the World Wide Web at www.interchange.ubc.ca/andrea/bj/asp.htm.

Better communication goal of doctor training

The Faculty of Medicine is developing a new training program to help doctors in B.C. communicate more effectively with patients.

"Patients who take a more active, informed role in their own care can respond better to treatment," says Prof. William Godolphin of the Dept. of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, who is leading the project.

Called Informed Shared Decision Making (ISDM), the project will immediately begin assessing the communication needs of both doctors and patients to ensure the training program is effective. The program will offer advanced communication skills for medical students at UBC, continuing medical education for doctors and communication skills for patients.

Some 80 per cent of the complaints heard by the College of Physicians and Surgeons arise from a lack of communication, Godolphin says.

Last year, about 15 undergraduate medical students helped to conduct surveys, focus groups and patient interviews to learn where the communication gaps were. The information was used to design pilot communication courses that will be delivered later this year to medical fac-

ulty and students.

The program will be evaluated and refined with courses for doctors starting in spring 1998. Courses for patients are planned for next year, likely in conjunction with disease-related organizations offering patient education.

The UBC project team, which includes medical educator Angela Towle and sociologist Rachael McKendry, combines a range of expertise including ethics, law, linguistics and psychology. It is supported by a management committee of health communicators and educators, and student and faculty representatives from the Faculty of Medicine.

A variety of continuing education formats such as small group workshops with doctors and patients will be tested to determine how to deliver the information, says Godolphin.

Once the B.C. program has been evaluated, the team expects to launch similar programs across Canada.

The project is funded by grants from the B.C. Medical Services Foundation, UBC's Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund and a three-year \$137,000 grant from the Max Bell Foundation, a national agency funding medical education.

News Digest

UBC's Fire Protection Engineering Program, in the Faculty of Applied Science, has entered into a \$75,000 per year contract with the City of Vancouver.

The contract includes provision of services to the city including courses, seminars and workshops in fire protection engineering, post-fire analysis and other topics, and the undertaking of research programs aimed at specific problems identified by the city's Permits and Licenses Dept. and the Vancouver Fire Dept.

The contract was spearheaded by Vancouver Fire Chief Glen Madiss; Bob Maki, chief building inspector for the City of Vancouver; Program Director Jim Mehaffey; and Protection Engineering Inc. President John Ivison, an adjunct professor.

The first UBC students entered the one-year program leading to a Master of Engineering (MEng) degree in Fire Protection Engineering in 1994. The program is unique in Canada and one of very few internationally.

.....

Faculty and staff will find it is easier and less expensive to make travel plans, thanks to contracts awarded to two travel agencies.

As part of a five-year deal, North South Travel and The Rider Travel Group will assign special agents to serve UBC customers starting Nov. 1.

"UBC people do a lot of travel, and much of it is research related," says Purchasing Dept. Travel Manager Connie Fabro. "We want the best deal possible because travel costs come out of grant funding and department budgets."

The travel agencies will provide a lowest airfare guarantee, and access to special rates from preferred airlines, car rental companies and hotels.

Both agencies also have Web sites that allow customers to request reservations and fill out traveler profiles.

An information session will be held Nov. 12 at 2 p.m. in room 241 of the General Services Administration Building.

.....

Cultural relations in Quebec, the First Nations in a multicultural society and racial tensions in Nova Scotia's Coal Harbour high school are among the topics of a November seminar.

The David Lam Chair in Multicultural Education, held by Prof. Kogila Adam-Moodley, will host the two-day seminar titled Multiculturalism, Nationalism and Anti-Racism Education: Research and Current Debates in Canada.

The seminar will be held Wednesday, Nov. 12 and Thursday, Nov. 13 between 4 and 7 p.m. in Thea's Lounge at the Graduate Student Centre.

Speakers include Heribert Adam, Simon Fraser University; Janine Hohl, Université de Montreal; Michael Marker, UBC's Ts'kel program; Patrick Solomon, York University; and Blye Frank, Mount Saint Vincent University.

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The classified advertising rate is \$16.50 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 November 14, 1997 issue of UBC Reports is noon, November 3.

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

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DUNBAR AND 41ST SUBLET \$850 include hydro, top and main flr of house. South facing, lg windows, two decks, washer/dryer, dishwasher, gas fireplace, parking, furnished. Avail immed approx six mo. Call 261-7795 or 538-6601.

JASMINE'S Peaceful location for this private, comfortable double with ensuite bath and separate entrance, 10min from UBC. Nightly and weekly rates. Short walk to buses, cafes, shopping, cinema, and forest trails. Call 224-9191.

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Services

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Events

ICONOGRAPHY COURSE 6 days at St. Mark's College. Taught by renowned iconographer from Russia, Vladislav Andrejev and his assistant. Nov 10-15, 6 hrs per day. Call 874-0891.

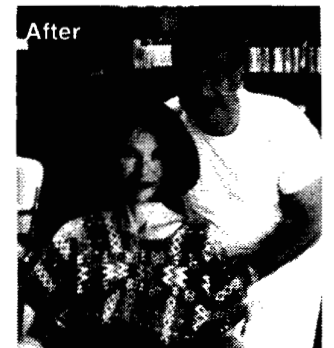
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Stephen Forgacs photo

Easy Pieces

Second-year mechanical engineering students (l-r) Natalie Allinson, Chris Chong-Ping, Tiffany Harder and Elan Groberman study and dissect an IBM electric typewriter as part of a reverse engineering assignment for their Introduction to Design course. Reverse engineering can provide designers with an opportunity to find ways to modify and improve an existing design.

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People

by staff writers

Economics Prof. **Paul Beaudry** has won the Petro Canada Young Innovator award for his research into ways Canadian society can protect jobs, families and communities as the economy changes in an effort to stay competitive.

"His work has the potential to be of significance to society at large," said Petro Canada President and Chief Executive Officer James Stanford.

Petro-Canada Young Innovator Awards are provided to help ensure that outstanding young Canadian researchers can continue their careers in Canada.

•••••

Education Prof. **Jane Gaskell** has been awarded the Whitworth Award for Educational Research by the Canadian Education Association.



The prize is awarded each year to honour a person who has made a noteworthy contribution to educational research in Canada.

Gaskell, associate dean and professor in the Dept. of Educational Studies, was recognized for her research on school improvement.

The award was established in 1967 by Fred Whitworth, former director of the Canadian Council for Research in Education.

•••••

Jim Carruthers of Campus Planning and Development has received the President's Environmental Award for 1997.

The award recognizes UBC employees who have made exceptional contributions to environmental awareness and protection efforts.

Carruthers, a development planner, helped develop procedures to assess potential environmental contamination in sites owned by the university.

He is the third recipient of the award. Previous recipients were Diana Hastings, Wood Science and Paul Harrison of the Botany Dept.

•••••

The creators and builders of BCnet, Canada's first regional Internet, were recognized recently by Prime Minister Jean Chretien for their contributions.

Jack Leigh, director of University Computing Services at UBC and BCnet president; UBC Computer Science Dept. Facilities Manager and BCnet Director **John Demco** and UBC Central Networking Manager and BCnet General Manager **Michael Hrybyk** were presented congratulatory letters from Chretien in Ottawa this summer.

BCnet was officially opened as Canada's first regional network in June 1988 after becoming operational in 1987. Leigh was responsible for the development of BCnet together with Herb Widdifield of UVic and Ian Williams of SFU. BCnet continues to operate under the umbrella of the three universities as B.C.'s provincial regional Internet service provider.



Special Initiative

MAJOR EQUIPMENT COMPETITION

The B.C. Health Research Foundation (BCHRF) is conducting a special competition for major equipment with a deadline of **December 1, 1997**. BCHRF is making a total of up to \$1 million available to allow provincial health researchers to secure, in advance, the partnership funding required for a major equipment competition the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) will be conducting in early 1998.

Successful applicants to the BCHRF competition will be awarded up to 60% of the cost of the equipment requested, contingent on the recipients successfully applying for and receiving CFI funding for the other 40%.

For further information check our web site or contact:

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Profile

Between the Lines

Caring and studies combine to challenge cancer's taboos

by Sean Kelly

Staff writer

Compassion and curiosity are the motivating forces behind Ulrich Teucher's unusual career as a children's nurse, and as a scholar.

"I like working with people and caring for people. It's the inclination that I have," says the soft-spoken PhD candidate in Comparative Literature.

His thesis, "Illness and Metaphor: Narratives of Life," examines the use of metaphors of illness in autobiographical narratives written by people with cancer.

It combines arts and science in an interdisciplinary, cross-cultural project that challenges the taboos surrounding cancer and involves him in the debate about the role of psychological approaches to cancer therapy.

"Cancer is a situation that is almost impossible to articulate," says Teucher. "Self-identity is disrupted. The pain can be inexpressible, and one feels isolated because cancer evokes fear, and there are taboos against talking about it."

Teucher's thesis undertakes a systematic account of the use of illness metaphors in autobiographical cancer narratives like Audre Lorde's *Cancer Journals* and Christina Middlebrook's *Seeing the Crab*.

He also invited patients in Vancouver and Hamburg hospitals to write short descriptive narratives and used anonymous questionnaires to investigate how patients and non-patient groups in Canada and Germany characterize cancer.

His findings reveal interesting cultural differences and similarities between the North American and German samples.

For instance, German writers use a unique metaphor for cancer — *krake*.

"It means octopus. You can hear how the sound of the German word embodies the danger and sense of fear of the tentacles grasping the body," says Teucher.

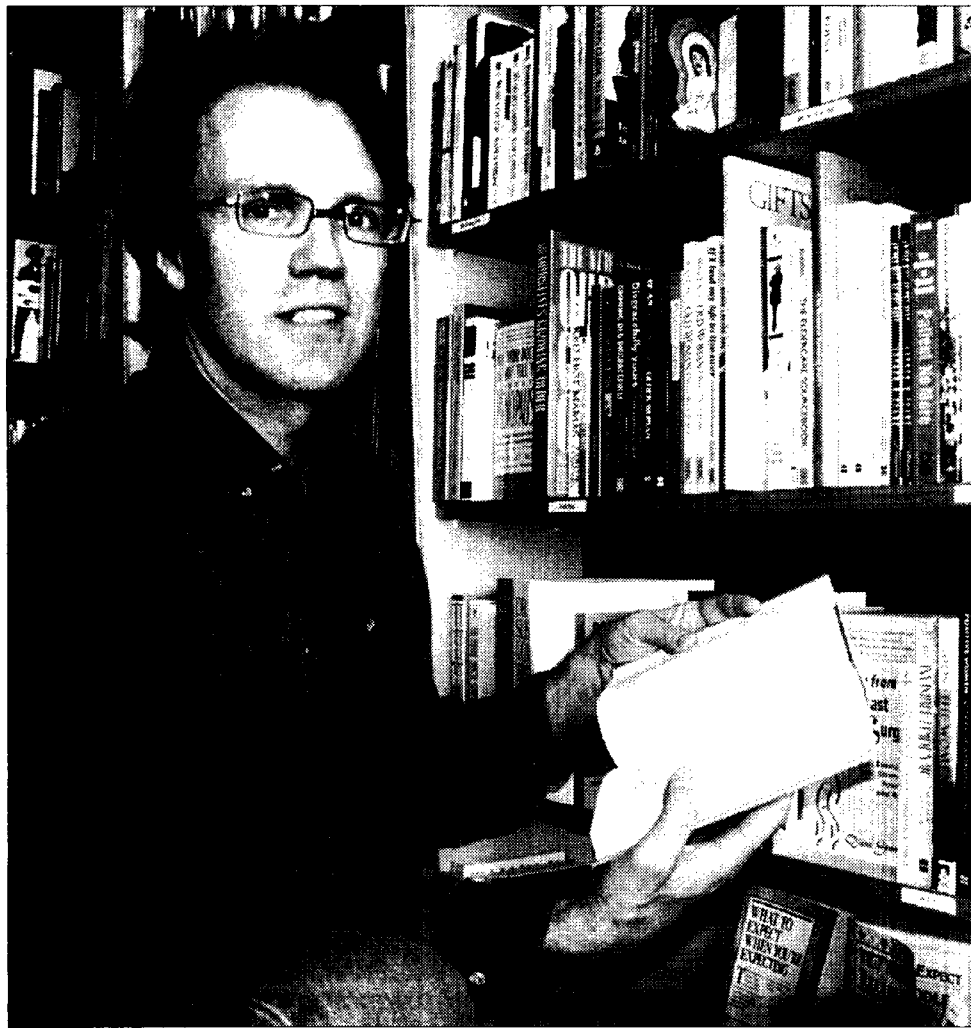
Battle metaphors are common among North American and German writers.

"You 'fight an enemy,' you are 'threatened,' you want to 'achieve victory,' and so on," Teucher explains.

But some North American writers declare 'total war' on their cancer, a phrase notably absent in German cancer narratives because of its objectionable connections with the Second World War.

Other people would rather not 'do battle,' preferring to integrate the 'enemy' within a narrative of acceptance.

Some writers show the uncertainty of their situation by recording unre-



Sean Kelly photo

What cancer patients have to say about themselves, their emotions and their disease is the subject of Ulrich Teucher's cross-discipline, cross-cultural study.

lated episodes. Still others use multiple voices to represent how emotions change from moment to moment as one undergoes cancer treatment.

"And many people do not want to write or talk about their illness at all — and that is how they cope," says Teucher.

Teucher is careful not to take a dogmatic position in the debate about psychological approaches to getting better.

"It's complex," he says with characteristic thoughtfulness.

He explains that some cancer patients and health care professionals believe that mental states play a crucial role in recovery. Such is the view of O. Carl Simonton, he says, a doctor who wrote the controversial book *Getting Well Again*.

But other cancer patients, and most doctors, counter that cancer is strictly a medical condition — the patient will feel better when the cancer is cured.

"I believe that the attitude of the patient can help them cope with the illness. So in that respect, there is a psychological component to illness. However, it is impossible to prescribe certain metaphors or certain psychological approaches as cures, and it is impossible to say with authority that one's cancer comes from a certain psychological problem."

But Teucher is concerned that certain kinds of self-narrative, certain therapeutic psychological approaches, may do more harm than good.

Battle metaphors, for instance, sometimes provide a sense of control in a frightening situation. However, in battle, the combatant aims for victory, and must always be strong and brave.

So battle narratives invalidate a whole range of emotions, and leave the patients feeling like 'losers' where the cancer situation is uncertain or incurable, he says.

In other cases, people believe they are the cause of their own illness. If only they could find some kind of key within themselves, they could unlock the secret cause of the illness and become well.

"They therefore have the added anxiety of feeling responsible for their illness, even though the cancer could turn out to have environmental or hereditary causes — we just don't know."

Teucher has seen the anxiety cancer evokes close up. Born in Switzerland, he spent 10 years as a health care worker in Germany, much of it as a children's nurse in a cancer ward.

Motivating children undergoing cancer treatment demanded creativity and spontaneity.

"We painted our hospital gowns because children associate white hospital gowns with pain. We raced wheelchairs and we got out big syringes and had water fights. Once, at 3 a.m. a child woke up and wanted to bake a cake. So, we baked a cake."

He took time off to travel in Asia, studying Eastern attitudes towards living and dying.

And having spent part of his early childhood in Illinois, where his physicist father took a temporary position at the University of Chicago, it was natural for Teucher to visit old friends in the U.S.

During these trips, he visited children's hospitals, often taking part in clinical routines, in order to learn

new ways to care for patients.

On a visit to a cancer centre in nearby Seattle, Teucher traveled to Vancouver, where he fell in love with the blend of European and North American culture.

He immigrated to Canada in 1987, and began studying for a new career after he discovered Canadian regulations did not permit him to work as a children's nurse.

While intending to become a physiotherapist, Teucher met Ted Langley, a literature professor at Langara College.

"I was inspired by his passion. He helped me discover in literature the same interests that guided me as a children's nurse — the struggle of people to find meaning in life in times of crisis."

Teucher decided to study literature, drawing upon his former career for inspiration. For his Bachelor of Arts graduating essay, he interpreted Boethius's *Consolation of Philosophy* as one of the first self-help books for re-evaluating life in the face of death.

He went straight into the PhD program, and the idea for his thesis came when he noticed that illness narratives were becoming more common but had received little critical attention.

"Ulrich's project is interdisciplinarity at its best. It is literary scholarship that relates to work going on now in psychology and in contemporary psychoanalysis," says Michael Chandler, a Psychology professor and one of Teucher's thesis supervisors. "The history of self-identity is to a great extent recorded in literature."

English and Germanic Studies Prof. Eva-Marie Kröller and Germanic Studies Asst. Prof. Steven Taubeneck complete the supervisory committee.

According to Kröller, Teucher's work makes special demands on the resources of the university because it is multilingual and because of his professional health background.

"Interdisciplinarity is the wave of the future. Students like Ulrich have diverse skills and a wealth of career experience to offer to future employers. It is a challenge to accommodate them, but the way they thrive at UBC is a credit to the university," says Kröller.

Teucher is happy to have found a way to combine his interests in literature and psychology with his experience helping ill people.

"Besides defining the literary characteristics of illness narratives, I hope my research helps seriously ill people come to terms with the problems of identity caused by their illness, and that it will help family members, friends and professional care workers to approach ill people with greater sensitivity."