

UBC REPORTS

Volume 45, Number 6

March 18, 1999

Find UBC Reports on the Web at www.publicaffairs.ubc.ca

Celebration of UBC authors...see Pages 5-8



Susan Stern photo

UBC Library staff (l-r) Margaret Friesen, staff training and development co-ordinator, University Librarian Catherine Quinlan, and fourth-year Commerce student and Main Library student assistant Tina Louie have their arms full with just some of the books written by UBC authors this past year. Some 133 UBC creators of books, CDs, CD-ROMs and videos will be honoured March 23 at a reception to be held downtown at the Vancouver Public Library.

New media on the rise in honoured work

by Susan Stern

Staff writer

The ninth annual UBC Authors' Reception March 23 — which honours the creative authoring forces on campus — is changing fast.

Although books comprise the majority of the 135 titles by 133 authors the past year, work in new media continues to grow with more CDs, CD-ROMs, videos, and books on disc among the publications.

"Publishing is not just print material anymore," says University Librarian

Catherine Quinlan. "What we see now at the Authors' Reception is the diversity that exists in the publishing world."

Quinlan says the reception provides a great opportunity to honour the achievements and the impact that UBC authors, composers and videographers have at home and around the world.

For the first time the reception, hosted by Quinlan and Vice-President, Academic and Provost, Barry McBride, will be held downtown at the Vancouver Public Li-

brary from 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

"I think going downtown will help us begin to develop a closer link with the community. The venue will give guests an opportunity to talk to our authors, composers and producers and find out the range of research at UBC," Quinlan says.

The event also recognizes the crucial support of all 13 UBC libraries, including the three hospital libraries.

"At UBC we are fortunate to possess one of the finest library systems in North America," says UBC President Martha Piper. "Our libraries serve as research laborato-

ries, providing scholars with both the raw materials and the facilities for their work. Our holdings are unique and draw researchers from all over the world."

The 1998 titles are predominantly in English, Quinlan says, but there are also French, German, Korean, Japanese and Italian publications reflecting UBC's diversity.

For more information on the reception call Margaret Friesen at (604) 822-4430 or e-mail mfriesen@interchange.ubc.ca

"Publishing is not just print material anymore."

— Catherine Quinlan

Math scholar one of two to win Sloan prize

Jingyi Chen, assistant professor of Mathematics, has earned his department's first Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellowship. He is one of only two Canadian university scientists to receive this prestigious award in 1999.

Competition for the \$35,000 US fellowships is fierce, involving nominations of most of the very best young scientists in North America who, according to the foundation, "show the most outstanding promise of making fundamental contributions to new knowledge."

"This is a tremendous honour for the department and UBC," says George Bluman, head of Mathematics. "We are most fortunate that Jingyi joined our department in 1997. Besides being a world class young researcher, he is also a fine teacher."

After completing a master's degree at the University of Beijing in 1986, Chen

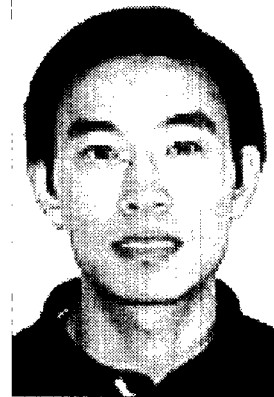
earned his PhD at Stanford.

Chen, on research leave at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology until the end of the semester, will use the fellowship to continue his research in differential geometry and geometric analysis, particularly the structure of curved spaces.

"The quality and reputation of the Mathematics Dept. is what initially attracted me to UBC," says Chen. "Of course I was aware that the campus and Vancouver are beautiful places to live and work."

The Sloan Research Fellowships were established in 1955 to support and recognize young scientists, often in their first appointments to university faculties. Each year, 100 are awarded in six fields of science; only 20 are given in mathematics.

Since the program began, 21 Sloan fellows have become Nobel laureates.



Chen

Gardeners to go wild at first-ever plant sale

by Bruce Mason

Staff writer

The growing number of people who are curious about incorporating native plants into their gardens will have a unique opportunity when the UBC Botanical Garden hosts the Lower Mainland's first-ever Native Plant Celebration and Sale, Sunday, March 28.

"The growing interest in plants that are indigenous to B.C. is more than a gardening fad — it's a long-term trend," says Rozalyn Harris, Friends of the Garden co-ordinator and co-organizer of the event. "We want to help promote this interest and raise awareness of native plants and habitats."

The timely event, which takes place from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the garden, is the first major local plant sale of the year.

The event features free admission, tours of UBC's Native Garden and exhibits by organizations. South Coast nurseries will be selling native plants and seeds, many of which are available only in the wholesale market.

"It's a broad-based, community driven event," says co-organizer, Ross Waddell, secretary of the Native Plant Society of British Columbia and program consultant for the City of Vancouver.

The society promotes the use of native species in urban landscapes. The city encourages ecological landscaping using native plants to help conserve water.

Plants featured will include everything from vine maples to bunchberry and other charming groundcovers, such as native ginger. Many species of shooting star (Dodecatheon) grow around B.C. So do trilliums, penstemons, lilies, ferns and other ideal garden plants.

"Living things are getting lost in the urban shuffle," says Paulus Vrijmoed of Linnaea Nurseries Ltd., a specialist in native plants. "Incorporating native plants takes gardeners beyond simply painting a pretty picture to recreating habitats that evolved with local insects, butterflies and birds."

UBC researchers have a long association finding, identifying and cultivating

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UBC scientists learn from one of the world's worst ecological disasters

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Letters

Underfunding not good news, says researcher

Editor:

I am disturbed by the discordance between the headline "Medical researchers garner MRC millions" (*UBC Reports*, Feb. 18) and the substance of the article which is that only 15 out of 99 applications for funding were successful and that, of the \$108 million awarded by the MRC, only \$4.5 million came to UBC. (Given the size of the population of British Columbia and UBC's claims to be second to none, we should have won 10-15 per cent of the awarded

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.

funds with a success rate of 25 to 30 out of 99).

The news is bad news. Either you should not have published an article on the results of the competition or you should have used a headline that reflected the real substance of the results of the competition. But to try to portray bad news as some form of good news is spin

doctoring of the most abject political character.

It is something that we have grown to assume is the norm for government and company press releases, but surely not in a university news publication.

**Prof. Emeritus
Michael Smith,
Director, Genome Sequence
Centre**

Edwin Jackson B.Sc., CFP

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Plant

Continued from Page 1

native plants. Many native species are selected by the Botanical Garden for development as cultivars and introduced to commercial nurseries in B.C. and around the world.

The Native Plant Celebration and Sale is at the UBC Botanical Garden, 6804 Southwest Marine Dr. Call (604) 822-9666, or (604) 420-4584 for more information.

The event is sponsored by the City of Vancouver Waterworks Design, Water Conservation Program.

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Fine a windfall for mineral research

Major benefits are predicted for B.C. industry as a result of an unusual payment to UBC's Mineral Deposit Research Unit (MDRU).

Last month — in a unique decision in the history of the B.C. Securities Commission — First Marathon Securities agreed to donate \$450,000 to MDRU after acknowledging it had breached provincial securities regulations.

"This is an innovative way to put something back into the industry which suffered from illegal activity," says Mike Bernard, communications manager for the securities commission.

MDRU was founded in 1989 as a joint venture between industry and UBC to increase knowledge about mineral deposits, to aid in discovery and in locating and developing new resources worldwide.

"Mineral exploration research and education was diminishing when MDRU was created," says Harlan Meade, president of Expatriate Resources Ltd., one of MDRU's industry partners. "In its short history it has helped establish excellence and technical expertise, which is restoring investor confidence. That's being recognized in this ruling of the regulatory securities commission."

The payment is part of the final settlement in the Cartaway Resources scandal, in which a penny stock listed on the Alberta Stock Exchange was controlled and promoted by First Marathon.

The payment will be made to the MDRU endowment fund, established with donations from industry, the Vancouver Stock Exchange and UBC matching

funds. The target for the endowment is \$3 million. It now stands at \$2 million.

The member-supported MDRU performs three important functions: conducting research, educating the next generation of scientists, and continuing education through ongoing workshops and seminars.

Ian Thomson, acting director of the unit in UBC's Dept. of Earth and Ocean Sciences, views the payment as recognition of the MDRU's positive and proactive leadership.

"UBC graduates are working and sought after in every sector and size of company in the mineral exploration and mining industry," he says. "MDRU research has helped provide an understanding of exploration opportunities in the Yukon and northwestern B.C. to name a few."

MDRU also conducts many popular short courses and workshops on specialized and technical topics as well as managing social issues, he says.

"It has exceeded our wildest dreams," says Peter Bradshaw, president of First Point Minerals Corp., co-founder of MDRU and chair of its fund-raising committee. "Our company has only seven full-time employees, but an association with the UBC research unit gives us an ability to conduct research which would otherwise be impossible."

"There is no question that MDRU has made a significant contribution to raising the quality of work and credibility of the industry and the endowment will only enhance its ability to continue to play that key role," he says.



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Think
About It.
UBC

Public Information Meeting

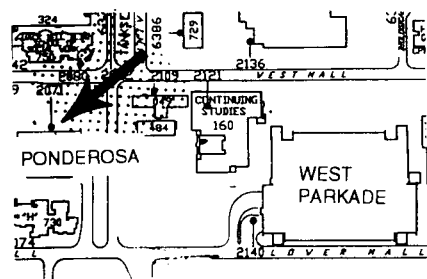
on the

Comprehensive Community Plan for the UBC Campus

Thursday, March 25, 1999,

12:30-2pm, Ponderosa Room,

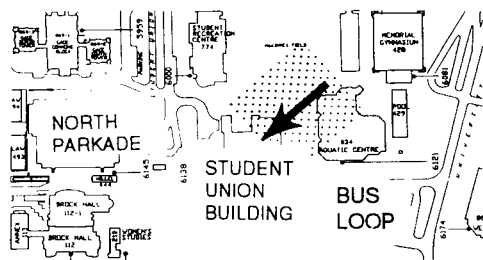
Ponderosa Building, 2071 West Mall



Tuesday, March 30, 1999,

7:30-9pm, Rooms 214-216,

Student Union Building,
6138 Student Union Blvd.



The Official Community Plan (OCP) for UBC provides a vision and goals for future development, broad land use designations, and objectives for more detailed planning. The purpose of the Comprehensive Community Planning process (called Area Planning in the OCP) is to interpret those policies and objectives as a framework for development approval. This will be the first of three public meetings and will focus on issues and options.

For further information, visit the Web site www.ocp.ubc.ca or call Jim Carruthers, Campus Planning and Development, 822-0469.

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Managing Editor: Paula Martin (paula.martin@ubc.ca)

Editor/Production: Janet Ansell (janet.ansell@ubc.ca)

Contributors: Bruce Mason (bruce.mason@ubc.ca),

Susan Stern (susan.stern@ubc.ca),

Hilary Thomson (hilary.thomson@ubc.ca).

Calendar: Natalie Boucher (natalie.boucher@ubc.ca)

Editorial and advertising enquiries: (604) UBC-INFO (822-4636) (phone), (604) 822-2684 (fax). UBC Information Line: (604) UBC-INFO (822-4636)

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Roy Corral photo

Sea otters were among the many victims when the oil tanker Exxon Valdez ran aground 10 years ago. The environmental catastrophe spilled 186 million litres of crude oil over 2,100 kilometres of pristine coastline in Alaska's Prince William Sound. An estimated 300,000 birds and thousands more wildlife and sea creatures were killed. Exxon paid billions of dollars in clean-up costs, fines and settlements, some of which has funded scientific research in the wake of the disaster.

Experts probe Valdez spill's 10-year legacy

by Bruce Mason

Staff writer

Just after midnight on March 24, 1989, the Exxon Valdez oil spill seized world attention. As the 10th anniversary of the Alaskan ecological disaster approaches, researchers at UBC's Fisheries Centre are using a new method to help answer the key question then and now: what is the lasting impact of this catastrophe?

Tom Okey, a visiting scientist at UBC, and Fisheries Centre Prof. Daniel Pauly have co-ordinated a scientific collaboration to construct an ecosystem model of the main area affected by the spill, Prince William Sound.

"Many excellent research teams have been studying the impacts, but their specialized focus has generally inhibited their ability to answer whole ecosystem questions," says Okey, who helped conduct an emergency study immediately after the costly spill a decade ago.

Using data contributed by experts on the biology of the region, Okey and Pauly have constructed a food web model of the ecosystem and the flows of energy among its components.

While images of oil-soaked sea otters — the disaster's poster animal — in the world's collective memory, scientists have only determined that the area is in recovery, with some species making more progress than others.

"The sea otter and other animals are only one of myriad components of the ecosystem," says Okey. "Otters feed on herbivores which in turn feed on plants that support a whole suite of other organ-

isms. We need to assess these interactions to quantify and comprehend the impact of the Exxon Valdez, other oil spills and other kinds of environmental impacts."

Okey will summarize his work to date on the model at an upcoming symposium, "Legacy of an Oil Spill: 10 Years After the Exxon Valdez," in Anchorage, Alaska March 23-26.

The UBC-led research program is increasing overall knowledge and helping to change marine resource management. In particular, a dynamic simulation routine developed by Prof. Carl Walters, also of the Fisheries Centre, helps provide resource managers with new insights into the functional responses of the ecosystem given changes in fishing or other stressors.

The Windows-based modelling approach is user-friendly, with the potential to give communities increased participation in resource management decisions. It has been presented to Alaska and U.S. agency representatives who are considering incorporating it into marine management and protection plans.

The UBC Fisheries Centre research group will include the model of Prince William Sound with three other Alaska models in a CD-ROM, "Alaska's Aquatic Ecosystems," to be used by marine resource managers and in Alaskan science education.

Citing the recent oil spill on the Oregon coast, Okey says, "It's really just a matter of time until oil is spilled along B.C.'s spectacular coastlines. The question is whether damage can be minimized. The Exxon Valdez disaster demonstrated that an ounce of prevention can literally be worth billions of dollars."

Outreach key to security office's main service goals

by Hilary Thomson

Staff writer

Two years ago he was a long-haired biker look-alike working undercover in Vancouver's drug scene.

Today, as the new assistant director of UBC's Security, Mike Sheard is more interested in community policing than busting dope dealers.

"Our goal is meeting the needs of the members of this community," says Sheard, who joined the department in December.

"It's a service we're selling here and we're open for business."

Sheard comes to the job with a wide range of skills including problem-oriented policing, crime prevention through environmental design, and more than 20 years of service as a police officer.

He has worked as a child abuse investigator, a First Nations and East Indian liaison officer, a crime prevention consultant and an instructor.

His task is to direct UBC's team of 40 security officers in policing the campus community of some 50,000 students, staff and faculty, working and living in almost 500 buildings.

UBC's ratio of officers to the community is about standard for policing in Canada, says Sheard.

"We have a tremendous amount of expertise to bring to this community," he says. "Our officers know this place like the back of their hand."

Community outreach is key to Sheard's service goals. Campus Security will work with the local detachment of the RCMP in delivering safety programs, such as bicy-

cle safety sessions at University Hill School.

Department members currently participate in community crime prevention workshops at UBC on topics such as violence in the workplace, crisis intervention and robbery prevention.

Sheard also has plans to develop a course on defense against rape and aggressive behaviour.

"These days personal safety is the public's biggest policing concern," he says.

"We want to heighten our visibility and communication to let people know we are concerned and actively looking out for them."

Addressing a departmental staff survey was one of Sheard's first tasks. Topping the list was more training for Campus Security officers. The entire department will be attending two weeks of advanced training at the Justice Institute of B.C., the training centre for the province's

emergency personnel.

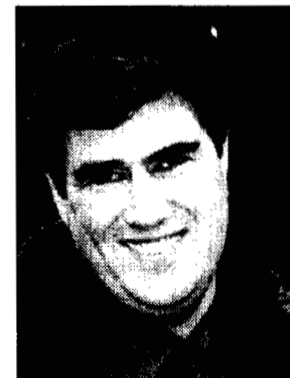
Sheard is eager to develop the department's systems for analysing data related to security incidents.

"If we study how, when and why crimes occur we can determine risk and put together prevention strategies," he says.

Sheard also aims to build the department's expertise in crime prevention through environmental design, which analyses building design, lighting and landscaping to reduce opportunities for crime.

These initiatives expand Campus Security's core activities of patrolling and responding to calls.

Last year, officers answered more than 9,000 calls for security service.



Sheard



Bug busters

ITServices

Students help SWAT millennium bug

Student SWAT teams are the latest recruits in the battle to beat the millennium bug on campus.

"We've enlisted students to conduct on-site visits to test personal computer hardware and to inventory software for Y2K compliance," says Nadine Hofmann, Y2K project co-ordinator at UBC's ITServices. "To date, we've trained seven students to help departments address their Y2K problems. More members will be added according to demand."

The SWAT teams are just one of the resources offered by ITServices on a fee-for-service basis.

Other services available for a fee include:

Y2K inventory: ITServices provides a secure Oracle database with friendly Web interface to help departments create the required audit report of equipment inventoried for Y2K compliance.

Y2K Intranet: This tool provides a central location to post departmental Y2K progress reports. It can be hosted on the department or faculty Web server or on ITServices' Web server.

Upgrades: ITServices can help with system upgrades and replacement for personal computers and laptops and assess servers and network operating systems.

ITServices also provides the following free services:

Y2K Kit: Available from ITServices Customer Support Centre, this floppy disk contains Y2K general information and links to software and hardware vendor Y2K Web sites. Also included is the program 2000.exe, which tests the Real Time Clock (RTC) and the Basic Input/Output System (BIOS) of the PC. A one-page "How to Use" document accompanies the disk.

Y2K Project Guide: A set of instructions to guide departments through the steps needed to reach Y2K compliance. The guide includes a list of all the equipment that can be affected by the Y2K bug and is available directly from the Y2K Web site at <http://www.itservices.ubc.ca/year2000>.

Y2K Project Schedule: An example of a timeline schedule featuring key tasks that need to be achieved this year to ensure Y2K compliance of equipment and software. The schedule is available on the Y2K Web site.

For more information about these services or other Y2K enquiries call (604) 822-2008, fax 822-5116, e-mail help@itservices.ubc.ca or check the Web page at <http://www.itservices.ubc.ca/year2000>.

Calendar

March 21 through April 3

Sunday, March 21

Storm the Wall
UBC Campus from 9am-5pm. Continues March 22-26 from 10am-5pm. \$45/UBC team; \$60/community team; \$25/youth team; \$10/UBC ironperson, \$15/community ironperson. Web site: <http://intramurals.ubc.ca> or call 822-6000.

Daffodil Days '99
The Canadian Cancer Society for Spring Festival '99. SUB North Plaza from 10:30am-2:30pm. Continues March 24-26. Bundle of 10 daffodils \$3. Call 253-8470.

Chan Centre Concert
Handel And Mozart At The Chan. Vancouver Cantata Singers; University Singers. James Fankhauser, director. Chan Centre Chan Shun Concert Hall at 2pm. Call Ticketmaster 280-3311. Web site: <http://www.chancentre.com> or call 822-2697.

Monday, March 22

Lectures In Modern Chemistry
Progress Toward The Total Synthesis Of Stemon Alkaloids. Prof. Peter Wipf. U of Pittsburgh. Chemistry D-225 (centre block) at 11:30am. Call 822-3266.

School Of Music Concert
UBC Student Composers. Music Recital Hall at 12:30pm. Call 822-5574.

Chemoprevention Group Seminar
Chemical Carcinogens And Human Breast Cancer: Implications For Primary And Secondary Cancer Chemoprevention. David Josephy, Chemistry and Biochemistry, U of Guelph. B.C. Cancer Agency John Jambor Room, 600 W. 10th Ave. from 3-4pm. Call Lilian Tse 877-6020.

Mechanical Engineering Seminar
Small Scale Machine Design For Mechanization In Developing Agricultural Economies. James Townsend, president, Canadian Society of Agricultural Engineering. CEME 1204 from 3:30-4:30pm. Refreshments. Call 822-3770.

Institute Of Applied Mathematics Colloquium
Recent Developments On Adaptivity For Solving Partial Differential Equations. Prof. Bob Russell, Mathematics and Statistics, SFU. CSCI 301 at 3:30pm. Call 822-4584.

Biochemistry Seminar Series
Transcriptional Regulation And Retinal Disease. Anand Swaroop, Human Genetics and Ophthalmology, U of Michigan. IRC #4 at 3:45pm. Refreshments at 3:30pm. Call 822-3178.

Astronomy Seminar
Optical Cirrus. Puragra Guhatakhurta, Lick Observatory, U of California. Hennings 318 at 4pm. Refreshments at 3:30pm. Call 822-2267.

Intersecting Asian Sexuality Series
Sex and Text of Foot Binding. Dorothy Ko. Rutgers U. CK Choi 120 from 4-5:30pm. Call 822-2629; 822-4688.

First Nations Discussion Circle
The Documentation Of Hupa Narrative: 1888-1999. Victor Golla, Linguistics, Humboldt

State U. Green College at 5pm. Call 822-1878.

St. John's College Speaker Series
A Paleoclimatic Perspective On The Climate Of The 20th Century. Raymond Bradley, Geological Science, U of Massachusetts. St. John's College 1080 at 5:15pm. Call 822-8788.

Tuesday, March 23

Chemoprevention Group Seminar
Mutagenic Chemicals And Mutagenized Enzymes: Using An Engineered Mutation Assay To Study Human P450 1A2 Structure And Function. David Josephy, Chemistry and Biochemistry, U of Guelph. B.C. Cancer Agency John Jambor Room, 600 W. 10th Ave. from 8-9am. Call Lilian Tse 877-6020.

Microbiology And Immunology Seminar
Bioremediation As An Oil Spill Response Tool. Roger Prince, Exxon Research and Engineering. Wesbrook 100 from 12:30-1:30pm. Call 822-3308.

John Davidson Memorial Lecture
Molecular And Morphological Evolution In The Grasses. Elizabeth Kellogg, U of Missouri. BioSciences 2000 from 12:30-1:30pm. Call 822-2133.

Mountain Bike Challenge
Stormin' Mervin's. SUB North Plaza from 12:30-2pm. Web site: <http://intramurals.ubc.ca> or call 822-6000.

Moffatt Lecture
Stereochemical Adventures In The Total Synthesis Of Natural Products. Prof. Peter Wipf, Chemistry, U of Pittsburgh. Chemistry B-250 (south wing) at 1pm. Refreshments at 12:40pm. Call 822-3266.

Cecil and Ida Green Visiting Professor
The Dark Continent Of Film Noir: Racial Metaphors And Displacement In *The Lady From Shanghai*. E. Ann Kaplan, English and Comparative Literature, State U of New York. Buchanan D-239 at 2:30pm. Call 822-5675.

Museum Of Anthropology Lecture
Through Tropical Seas - Again. Carol Mayer, curator. MOA from 7-9pm. Web site: <http://www.moa.ubc.ca> or 822-8224.

Anti-Racist Education Lecture
Anti-Racist Response: Teaching Students How To Respond To Racism. Ishu Ishiyama, Counselling Psychology, Pacific Space Centre Aud. from 7-10pm. Reception to follow. Call 822-5512.

Chalmers Institute
Where Is God When Things Go Wrong? A Lenten Journey With The Man Of Sorrows. Nancy Cocks. St. Stephen's Anglican Church, West Vancouver from 7:30-9:30pm. \$25. To register call 926-4381.

Wednesday, March 24

Orthopedics Grand Rounds
Infections In Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction. William Regan. VGH, Eye Care Centre Aud. at 7am. Call 875-4192.

UBC Teaching Community TAG Seminar
Adding Animation To Your Web Pages (Advanced). David Lamb. Basement Window Lab A from 9am-12noon. To register call 822-9149.

Alcan Stack'em Danno
Spring Festival '99 Aluminum Can Sculptures. SUB North Plaza 9am-1:30pm. 1-4 people teams. Grand prize. Cans provided. Entry deadline March 22 at 5pm. Web site: <http://www.recycle.ubc.ca> or call 822-3827.

Dumpsters In Bloom
Spring Festival '99 Team Dumpster Painting. SUB North Plaza from 9am-3pm. Event. 8 teams of 4-10 people will be chosen (randomly). Paint supplied. Web site: <http://www.recycle.ubc.ca> or call 822-3827.

Alcan Spinnerama/Total That Bale!
Spring Festival '99 Recycling Trivia. SUB North Plaza from 10:30am-2:30pm. Continues to March 26. Web site: <http://www.recycle.ubc.ca> or call 822-3827.

The Great Garbologist Hunt
Spring Festival '99 Litter Collection. SUB North Plaza from 11:30am-1:30pm. Collect litter on campus for a min. of 30 min. to be eligible to win a great prize. Bags/gloves supplied. Faculty/staff may not participate due to the Collective Agreement. Web site: <http://www.recycle.ubc.ca> or call 822-3827.

Spring Birding
Spring Festival '99 Bird Watching. SUB North Plaza from 12:30-1:30pm. Continues to March 25. Web site: <http://www.recycle.ubc.ca> or call 822-3827.

Obstetrics And Gynecology Research Seminar
The Role Of Platelets In Pre-Eclampsia. Dr. Keith Williams. B.C.'s Women's Hosp. 2N35 at 2pm. Call 875-3108.

Geography Colloquium
Deglacial Plumbing Of The Laurentide Ice Sheet: An Esker Story. Geography 201 at 3:30pm. Call Trevor Barnes 822-5804.

Geophysics Seminar
Does Thick-Skinned Tectonics Involve Very Weak Faults In The Deep Crust? John Booker, U of Washington. Geophysics/Astronomy 260 at 4pm. Call 822-4108.

Ecology, Evolution And Biodiversity Seminar
How Much Does Predation Affect Population Fluctuations In Lemmings? Deb Wilson, Zoology. FNSB 60 at 4:30pm. Call 822-2069.

Respiratory Research Seminar Series
Evidence Of Diaphragm Injury In Humans. Assoc. Prof. Darlene Reid, Rehabilitation Sciences. VGH, doctors' residence, third floor conference room from 5-6pm. Call 875-5653.

The Inaugural D. Harold Copp Lecture
Prof. Salvador Moncada, The Wolfson Institute For Biomedical Research, U College of London. IRC #2 at 5pm. Call 822-9235.

St. John's College Speaker Series
The Freedom To Write In Indonesia: Colonial And Post-Colonial Times. Prof. Teneke Helwig, Asian Studies. St. John's College 1080 at 5:15pm. Call 822-8788.

Thursday, March 25

Occupational First Aid Course
Level 1 And CPR-A Certification For UBC Staff, Faculty And Students. Firehall #10, 2992 Wesbrook Mall from 8:30am-

4:30pm. \$90. Call Pamela 822-2029.

Equity Seminar
Discrimination And Harassment Awareness For Administrators. Maura Da Cruz; Margaret Sarkissian, facilitators. Ponderosa Maples Room from 9am-3pm. E-mail Joan McBain at jmcbain@equity.ubc.ca or call 822-6353.

Chan Centre Concert
An Evening Of Opera. UBC Opera Ensemble; UBC Choral Union. Chan Centre Chan Shun Concert Hall at 12:30pm. Web site: <http://www.chancentre.com> or call 822-2697.

International Students Workshop
Job Hunting Workshop II: How To Prepare For An Interview. International House from 12:30-2pm. Web site: <http://www.international.ubc.ca> or call 822-5021.

Southeast Asia Research Centre Seminar
Media and Democratization in Southeast Asia: A Philippine Case Study. Sheila Coronel, executive director, Philippine Centre for Investigative Journalism. CK Choi #120 from 12:30-2pm. Call 822-2629.

Anthropology And Sociology Colloquium
Ethnographies Of Violence, Reading Police Reports As Ethnographic Texts. Charles R. Menzies. AnSo 205 from 12:30-2pm. Call 822-2878.

Earth And Ocean Sciences Colloquium
The Challenge Of Large Engineering Projects In Remote Regions Of The World. Evert Hoek. GeoSciences 330-A at 12:30pm. Call 822-3278.

Botany Seminar
Cloning And Expression Of Genes Encoding Divergent 4CL Enzymes In Poplar. BioSciences 2000 from 12:30-1:30pm. Call 822-2133.

Cecil and Ida Green Visiting Professor
Can One Know The Other? Showing and Discussion Of Pratiba Parwar's 1993 Film, *Warrior Marks*. E. Ann Kaplan, English and Comparative Literature, State U of New York. Buchanan A-106 at 12:30pm. Call 822-5675.

Genetics Graduate Program Seminar
Genomic Impact Of Human Endogenous Retroviruses. Dixie Mager, Medical Genetics. Wesbrook 201 at 3:30pm. Refreshments at 3:15pm. Call 822-8764.

TAG Mentoring Program
Faculty And Graduate Student Pub Night. Graduate Student Centre penthouse from 5-8pm. Call 822-6827; 822-0831.

Green College Special Lecture
Theories Of Modernity. Charles Taylor, Philosophy, McGill U. Green College at 5pm. Reception to follow. Call 822-1878.

The Pendulum Cafe Concert Series
An Evening With...TBA. Pendulum Cafe from 7-10pm. Call 822-8998.

School Of Music Concert
Collegium Musicum. John Sawyer; Ramona Luengen, directors. Music Recital Hall at 8pm. Call 822-5574.

Friday, March 26

Pediatric Grand Rounds
Outcome From The Canadian NICU Network. Shoo Lee, Neonatology, B.C.'s Children's Hosp. GF Strong Aud. from 8:30-10am. Refreshments. GF Strong lounge at 8:30am. Call Ruth Giesbrecht 875-2307.

Health Care And Epidemiology Rounds
The Gap - Health Care Needs Of Street Kids In British Columbia. Various speakers. Mather 253 from 9-10am. Paid parking available in Lot B. Call 822-2772.

Enviro-Fair
Spring Festival '99 Get informed! SUB North Plaza from 10:30am-2:30pm. Web site: <http://www.recycle.ubc.ca> or call 822-3827.

Regional Recycling Mini-Depot
Spring Festival '99 Container Return. SUB North Plaza from 11am-2:30pm. Web site: <http://www.recycle.ubc.ca> or call 822-3827.

Alcan Slamman-Canna
Spring Festival '99 SuperGrizz Can Dunk. SUB North Plaza from 11:20am-1:20pm. Web site: <http://www.recycle.ubc.ca> or call 822-3827.

Fish 500 Seminar
Parental Care Evolution In The Cichlid Fishes Of Lake Kinneret And Lake Tanganyika. Sigal Balshine-Eam. Hut B-8 Ralf Yorke Room at 11:30am. Refreshments at 11am. Call 822-4329.

Occupational Hygiene Program Seminar
Ethics And Genetics: Susceptibility Testing In The Workplace.

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: UBC-INFO (822-4636). Fax: 822-2684. An electronic form is available at <http://www.publicaffairs.ubc.ca>. Please limit to 35 words. Submissions for the Calendar's Notices section may be limited due to space.

Deadline for the April 1 issue of UBC Reports — which covers the period April 4 to April 17 — is noon, March 23.



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

A
Celebration
of
UBC Authors

March 23, 1999, Vancouver Public Library
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.



“You just jot down ideas as they occur to you. The jotting is simplicity itself — it is the occurring which is difficult.”

— Stephen Leacock



Event celebrates diversity of

Ninth Annual A

Stories by Susan Stern

Staff writer

Mandakranta Bose

The World My Mother Gave Me

Prof. Mandakranta Bose, the director of the Intercultural Studies in Asia program in the Faculty of Graduate Studies has produced this volume of essays by scholars in Asian literature at UBC who explore the ways in which women's responses to the world are shared between generations.

The scholars also found that women in India, China, Japan, Korea and Indonesia often have similar reactions and ways of communicating in dealing with life's events.

Bose considers the collection an exciting step towards bringing these diverse women's cultures within a common, broad perspective.

"There is a sense of stability among these women which has enriched their minds. It broadens my own perspective," Bose says.



Bose

"There is a sense of stability among these women which has enriched their minds. It broadens my own perspective."

— Prof. Mandakranta Bose

Raymond Lam



Lam

Seasonal Affective Disorder and Beyond: Light Treatment for SAD and Non-SAD Conditions

Dr. Raymond Lam, director of the Mood Disorders Clinic at UBC Hospital, looks at the use of light treatment for bulimia, pre-menstrual syndrome (PMS) and other disorders of the circadian system or biological clock. Using it for some sleep disorders and problems associated with jet lag or shift work is also covered.

The treatment is usually used to treat seasonal affective disorder (SAD) or winter depression.

"Studies indicate that bright light can affect serotonin regulation, which may be abnormal in people with SAD. So that's why there is interest in using light to treat other disorders that may involve serotonin such as bulimia and PMS," Lam says.

It is the first book that brings together the idea of using light to treat these varied conditions and is designed for researchers and clinicians interested in using light as a treatment.

Stephen Chatman

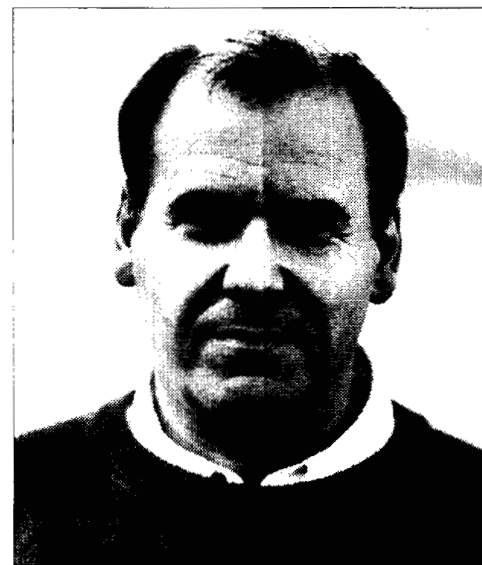
Due West, Blues & Bells, Greater Love, In Flanders Fields, Rose-Cheek'd Laura (musical scores); *Creatures of Earth and Sky* (CD)

Among the beautiful music created recently by Music Prof. Stephen Chatman, the most significant publication is a collection of five choral pieces, "Due West." It will be recorded with 14 of his other compositions by the Vancouver Chamber Choir on CD.

"They are pieces about nature and the West for which I have a great affinity," says Chatman. "I worked with the sounds of wasps, trains and chickadees to create varied moods and musical textures."

Chatman has published 50 works since 1980. Approximately 25,000 copies of his work are sold as sheet music every year.

"Pop music comes and goes but classical music can have a lasting legacy," Chatman says.



Chatman



Gelmon, Olivotto, and Kuusk

Drs. Karen Gelmon, Ivo Olivotto, Urva Kuusk

Breast Cancer: All you need to know to take an active part in your treatment

This updated second edition of an easy-to-read self-help book by three UBC doctors at the B.C. Cancer Agency deals with the way women are treated for breast cancer in Canada.

Gelmon, Olivotto and Kuusk say it's unique because it walks patients through each step — from diagnosis to prognosis — and dispels panic, allowing the patient to have straight-forward information.

By providing information, the book helps women make treatment decisions at a time which is usually very stressful.

The comprehensive book has chapters about mammograms, risks of developing breast cancer, benefits and side effects of surgery, radiation, hormone and chemotherapy.

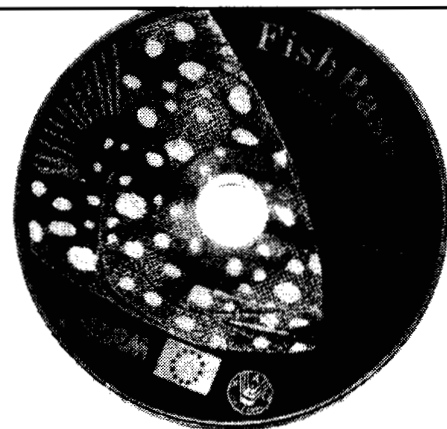
There are also chapters on coping with the disease, reconstructive surgery, non-traditional therapies, physiotherapy and women's advocacy groups.

List of U

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UBC community's creativity

author's Reception



Julie Cruikshank

The Social Life of Stories: Narrative and Knowledge in the Yukon Territory

Anthropology Prof. Julie Cruikshank has written an illuminating and theoretically sophisticated study of indigenous



Cruikshank

oral narratives. It is based on more than a decade of personal experience living and working in the Yukon Territory.

The theme is that one of the enduring values of informal storytelling is its power to subvert official orthodoxies — to challenge conventional ways of thinking.

Cruikshank tries to convey the range of ways several older women taught her that their stories have social lives and that their meanings shift as tellers address different audiences and situations.

"They always insisted that ancient stories continue to be used to address contemporary issues," says Cruikshank. "In other words, these stories are grounded in material circumstances — in the lives of real people."

" these stories are grounded in material circumstances — in the lives of real people."

— Prof. Julie Cruikshank

Daniel Pauly



Pauly

FishBase 98 (CD-ROM, concepts, design and data sources)

The fourth edition of the only computerized encyclopedia of fish has key data on the biology of every known species in the world's marine and fresh waters. Even better, the book is packaged with two CD-ROMs with a content equivalent to more than 200 other books and it is on the Web at www.fishbase.org.

"Giving credit to FishBase's 350 collaborators around the world was key to the success of this database," says Fisheries Prof. Daniel Pauly, co-editor with German scientist Rainer Froese. "Also, we make a strong effort to incorporate local knowledge, including 70,000 local names of fish in addition to the 50,000 scientific names."

FishBase is designed for fisheries managers, researchers, teachers, students, conservationists, environmental consultants, museums, aquariums and the general public.

John Helliwell

How Much Do National Borders Matter?

Economics Prof. John Helliwell challenges the popular perception that the world has become so globalized there is no economic importance left to national borders. The evidence in his book shows that the extent of globalization is far less than is generally thought.

"There has come to be a large gap between perception and reality," Helliwell says.

His surveys show people falsely believe Canada's trade ties to the United States to be tighter than those among the provinces. In fact, Helliwell's evidence shows that interprovincial merchandise trade linkages are more than 10 times as intense as those between the provinces and U.S. states.

Helliwell also found movements of people and services are even more focused on national rather than international destinations.

"It is true for Canada and the U.S. and also for other industrial and developing countries that their internal economic structures are more intense than are international linkages," Helliwell says.



Helliwell

Brian McIlroy

Shooting to Kill: Filmmaking and the "Troubles" in Northern Ireland

Assoc. Prof. Brian McIlroy, chair of UBC's Film Program, critically examines the treatment of Northern Ireland's "troubles" portrayed in films such as Jim Sheridan's "In the Name of the Father" and "The Boxer," Neil Jordan's "The Crying Game" and Terry George's "Some Mother's Son."

His main argument is that Irish and British movies, television dramas and some narrative shorts tend to convey the impression to North Americans that the main struggle is between the Catholic Republican community and the British Army.

"It's all one-sided," says McIlroy. "One is hard-pressed to find sympathetic or substantial representation of Northern Ireland's one-million Protestants."

He says most liberal intellectuals and government policy-makers rarely question the assumption that the Republican community is the underdog in need of support.

"Since films are very influential in forming public opinion, I think it's important to discuss the cultural arena around the conflict," McIlroy says.



McIlroy

authors

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News Digest

Individuals working on projects that contribute to the betterment of humankind are invited to apply for the international Rolex Awards for Enterprise.

Five awards of \$75,000 (US) and 10 of \$25,000 (US) will be given in five areas: Science and Medicine; Technology and Innovation; Exploration and Discovery; the Environment; and Cultural Heritage.

Past recipients of the awards include McGill University Asst. Prof. Amanda Vincent whose work on seahorse populations in the Philippines is a model for conserving threatened fish stocks while finding alternate employment for the people who rely on them.

For an application form, fax the Rolex Watch Company of Canada at (416) 968-2315. Deadline for applications is July 31.



The Brenda and David McLean Lectures in Canadian Studies

R. Colebrook Harris

Brenda and David McLean Chair in Canadian Studies
Professor of Geography

THE NATIVE LAND QUESTION IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

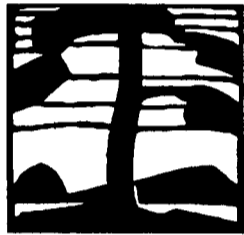
Monday 29 March, 5pm: Ambiguities of the Colonial Encounter

Tuesday 30 March, 5pm: Confederation and the Native Voice

Wednesday 31 March, 7:30pm: Canada and the Indian Question

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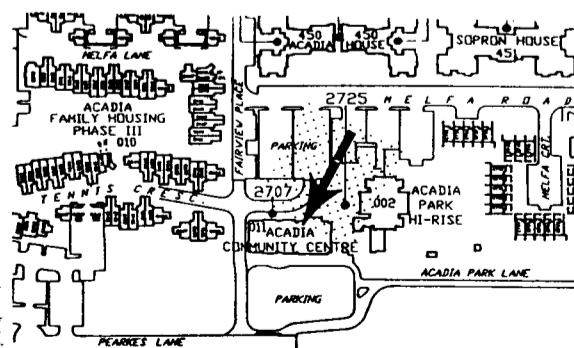
on the

Acadia Park

Infill Housing Study

Wednesday, March 31, 1999,

7:30-9pm, Activity Room,
Acadia Fairview Commons Block,
Acadia Park, 2707 Tennis Crescent



To present and review the infill housing study for Acadia Park for the area bounded by Acadia Road, Osoyoos Crescent, Pearkes Lane and Toronto Road. This study for increased residential density conforms to the Official Community Plan and is subject to Board of Governors approval.

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

Classified

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 journal voucher. Advertising enquiries: UBC-INFO (822-4636).

The deadline for the April 1 issue of UBC Reports is noon, March 23.

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

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

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B & B BY LOCARNO BEACH Walk to UBC along the ocean. Quiet exclusive neighborhood. Near buses and restaurants. Comfortable rooms with TV and private bath. Full breakfast. Reasonable rates. Non-smokers only please. Call 341-4975.

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THOMAS GUEST HOUSE 2395 W. 18th Ave. Visitors and students of UBC are most welcome. 15 min. to UBC or downtown by bus. Close to restaurants and shops. Daily rates from \$50 to \$100. Please call and check it out at 737-2687.

TRIUMF HOUSE Guest house with homey, comfortable environment for visitors to UBC and hospital. Located near the hospital. Rates \$40-\$65/night and weekly rates. E-mail: housing@erich.triumf.ca or call 222-1062.

FOR RENT Beautiful renovated character home 3 BR and library, 2 bath, in great northwest Dunbar location. Sunny, south-facing sundeck, skylights, two gas F/P, H/W floors, large kitchen, open floorplan. N/S. Close to UBC. \$2000. Call 264-8661.

DUNBAR AND 41ST Sunny, bright suite in house. Large windows. Upstairs and main floor. Two decks to garden. W/D, D/W, M/W. Private parking. Quiet neighborhood, close to buses, shopping and parks. \$950/mo. Avail. May 1. Call 538-6601.

FURNISHED APARTMENT for rent. 2 BR, 2 bath, gas F/P, near VGH. Bright, very clean. N/S, N/P. Avail. Apr. 1. \$1400/mo. plus util. Call 872-3666.

DELIGHTFUL YALETOWN STUDIO Furnished/self-contained. 19th floor, city, mountain and water views. Includes util., secured parking, spa/gym, communal garden terrace, weekly maid service. Avail. Apr. 15/30-Aug. 31 '99. \$1500/mo. Call 608-2570.

SUBLET May 1-Aug. 30. Large, airy 2 BR, comfortably furnished, 12th near Granville. Handy to UBC. \$875/mo. for two people, negotiable for one. E-mail: richelle@interchange.ubc.ca or call 737-7902.

LG. SEMI-FURNISHED BR and sitting room in upper floor of quaint Dunbar St. home incl. meals (mainly organic foods), cable TV, laundry facilities and shared bath. 5.5 kilometres from UBC. Across street from bus to UBC or downtown. Parking space avail. N/S please. Avail. immed. \$750/mo. Call Phoebe, Peter and Pooky the cat, 224-7074.

Next deadline:
noon, March 23

Accommodation Wanted

ARE YOU A FAMILY or older couple with space to share? Woman in her 50's with a mild disability looking for long-term accommodation in Point Grey or South Vancouver. Seeks bed-sitting room with private bath. Situation with family or older couple ideal. Enjoys kids, pets. Very flexible tenant. Needs some help with meal preparation and housekeeping, but adjusts easily to family's routines. Will pay up to \$600/mo. rent and \$130/mo. food. Desires occupancy after May 1. If interested, call Andrea 222-2279.

JULY-DEC. 1999. Academic couple with 2 young children seeks furnished 3 BR accommodation near UBC for sabbatical visit. Use of car helpful. Robert Magrath, Division of Botany and Zoology, ANU, Canberra, Australia. Robert.Magrath@anu.edu.au. Call 61-2-6249-3060. Fax 61-2-6249-5573.

House Sitting

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RENT-PAYING HOUSESITTERS available. Sabbatical couple seeking housing convenient to UBC for May. Homeowners from Michigan will care for your home, lawn, pets while renting. Ref. avail. E-mail fernhill60@aol.com or call 731-5926.

Services

UBC FACULTY MEMBERS who are looking to optimize their RRSP, faculty pension and retirement options call Don Proteau, RFP or Doug Hodgins, RFP of the HLP Financial Group for a complimentary consultation. Investments available on a no-load basis. Call for our free newsletter. Serving faculty members since 1982. Call 687-7526. E-mail: dproteau@hlp.fpc.ca or dhodgins@hlp.fpc.ca.

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Drip Dry

Robert Dierker of Ultimate Bike Gear Ltd. takes a break during the UBC TREK program's recent alternative transportation awareness day. He's riding the RainGo, one of two rain canopies he designed and donated to the program. This year's commuter challenge drew 558 participants, almost quadrupling last year's efforts. Winner in the large group category was the Microbiology and Immunology Dept. Chemical Engineering won the small group category. Winners received TREK program memorabilia. The next commuter challenge will be held Clean Air Day, June 2.

Hilary Thomson photo

People

by staff writers

Michael Weiss has been appointed director of the English Language Institute (ELI) at UBC. A former principal of Columbia College, an independent academic college in Vancouver, Weiss has many years of experience in international education. Part of Continuing Studies, the English Language Institute offers courses in English as a second language to students who wish to build their competence and confidence in the language before applying for post-secondary programs.

•••••

French Assoc. Prof. Emerita Marguerite Primeau has been invited by the Canadian Embassy in Paris to participate in the Salon du Livre, a major book exhibition to be held in Paris March 18 - 24. Primeau, author of *Sauvage-Sauvageon*, won the Prix Champlain in 1986. Primeau will give readings at the exhibition and the book's English translation by UBC French graduate Margaret Fuller will be honoured at the event.

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Part-time degree aimed at top real estate executives

A Bachelor of Business in Real Estate (BBRE), a new undergraduate degree designed to create a standard of education for the real estate industry, has been approved by the UBC Senate.

The part-time degree program, to be offered through the Faculty of Commerce and Business Administration's Real Estate Division, will focus on contemporary real estate topics.

"This is not a degree that teaches someone how to sell a house," says Derek Atkins, acting dean, Faculty of Commerce and Business Administration. "It's a degree directed at executives in large corporations who deal with major property transactions, such as Colliers MacCauley, Inc. and government departments such as Public Works Canada."

The need for the program was identified by the real estate industry says Robert Laing, executive director of the Faculty Programs for the faculty.

Laing says the Real Estate Institute of British Columbia has been

the driving force behind the initiative with significant funding from the Real Estate Foundation of B.C. The curriculum has been developed in consultation with the real estate industry to ensure it meets accreditation requirements.

Course topics range from property law, management and development to investment analysis and appraisal, building construction, business ethics and urban studies.

Courses will be delivered by distance education, primarily print-based together with Internet delivery.

"This will allow industry professionals to continue their careers while simultaneously advancing their formal education beyond the diploma level," says Laing. "It will prepare them to meet the challenges and opportunities of an increasingly com-

plex and dynamic industry."

UBC's Real Estate Division will deliver the real estate courses and several of the business courses. The Open University will deliver the general education and other business courses required.

To be eligible, students must have completed the diploma in Urban Land Economics plus additional real estate, general education and business courses.

The program is expected to begin in September, pending final approvals from the Open University and the provincial government. Applications will not be accepted until approval is given.

For more information, including admission requirements, call Graham McIntosh, manager of External Programs, Real Estate Division, at (604) 822-8255.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Centre for Chinese Research Director

The Institute of Asian Research is seeking applications from within the university for the post of director of the Centre for Chinese Research.

Applicants should hold academic appointments at UBC and have demonstrated commitment to research on China. The successful applicant will be expected to take up the appointment on July 1, 1999.

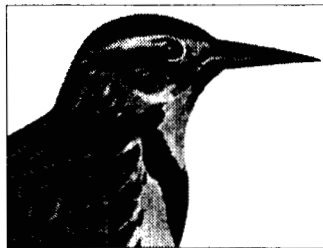
The successful candidate will be expected to develop research programs focusing on China, seek funding from external donors for the programs of the centre, organize conferences and seminars on the centre's research interests and projects, administer the budget of the centre, and chair the centre's management committee. The centre director will be expected to collaborate with the director of the Institute of Asian Research in developing inter-centre and interdisciplinary teaching and research initiatives. The centre director will also serve on the council of the institute.

UBC hires on the basis of merit and is committed to employment equity. We encourage all qualified persons to apply.

The appointment will be for a fixed term of three to five years. The deadline for applications is March 31, 1999. Applicants should send a letter describing their position, a curriculum vitae, and the names and addresses of three references to:

Pitman B. Potter, Director
Institute of Asian Research
C.K. Choi Building, Room 251
1855 West Mall, UBC
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Say It With Flowers

John Heady and Krista Hewlett of UBC Plant Operations join in the Live at UBC Spring Festival with a ceremonial primrose planting on the north plaza near the Student Union Building. Upcoming festival highlights include Storm the Wall, the Stack 'em Danno Alcan Aluminum Can Sculpture Contest, the Great Garbologist Hunt and the Alcan Slammas-Canna Dunking Contest. For a listing of festival events, check out the Web site at www.liveat.ubc.ca.

Hilary Thomson photo

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AMS March 22 to 26
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Forum

Science and media: bridging the gulf

by Eve Savory

Eve Savory, a documentary science and environment journalist with CBC TV's The National and a graduate of UBC's Faculty of Arts, is the recent recipient of UBC's Great Trekker Award. The following is an excerpt of remarks she made at the awards ceremony.

I'm going to take this opportunity to ride one of my favourite hobby horses. It's the gulf between my trade—journalism—and that practiced by the people whose stories I most like to tell—the scientists, physicians and engineers. This university is in a position to become the Canadian leader in bridging that gulf.

When I look back at my time here, the gulf between the cultures existed even among students.

I was in Arts and we were always marching somewhere—usually against the war in Vietnam. The science students didn't show up much and we figured they were already locked away in their ivory tower.

Since those days in the late '60s I think the gulf has become a chasm. Most of us journalists come from a humanities background. It seems some reporters take their view of science directly from the Handy Guide.

Writing about science scares many of us. It scares me. Our job is to get the story first, fastest and right and it's hard getting science right. Especially when you're trying to be first and fast.

So, far too many reporters mangle it, twist it, sensationalize it or totally miss the point.

It's not all one-sided. Scientists can be cutting in their sarcasm about our attempts—so hostile, they refuse to talk to us, or unintelligible when they do.

And those scientists who do enjoy communicating science require courage because some of their colleagues scorn and deride them.

The outcome of this mutual inability or unwillingness to do the job right is public confusion about matters scien-

tific. For example, eight out of 10 people in a survey of 20 countries said global warming is caused by a hole in the earth's atmosphere.

And there's the dear woman in Chicago who ties knots in her electric cords to keep her utility bill low.

Some in the media have distorted reality so badly that some people now believe everything—the water, the air, the food—is poisoning them, except that which really is poisoning them.

Some years ago I watched a demonstration on TV against the temporary storage of barrels of PCBs on a dock in Quebec.

There was a young man, his face twisted with anger, as he shouted about the government poisoning his community. As he spoke a cigarette dangled from his mouth

just inches from the face of the baby in the carrier against his chest.

But there's something else, something scarier happening.

Increasingly you see uncritical articles in the media on channelling, angels, healing hands, auras, witches, the paranormal and extraterrestrial visitors.

Jon Franklin, a Pulitzer Prize-winning science writer in the United States, has written, "What we are seeing, in the press and in our society, is nothing less than the deconstruction of the Enlightenment and its principle institution, which is science."

Raymond Eve, a sociologist at the University of Texas did a survey of New Agers. He points out that as a group they are often highly educated, affluent and have the clout to influence school curriculum and research policies. He found a large majority believe they can communicate with the dead, and that nine out of 10 New Agers believe psychics can pre-

dict the future. They also believe that science causes spiritual decline and scientists have dangerous powers.

Perhaps it is not as bad in Canada. But there is definitely a growing suspicion and cynicism towards science and medicine in the public.

Last year I did a documentary on the possibility of irradiating ground beef to kill the E. Coli bacteria and prevent ham-

burger disease. I got hate mail. I was accused of covering up a conspiracy involving the nuclear industry and a UBC scientist.

I fear that the growing distrust will damage our universities and perhaps our society.

Yet, I'm optimistic.

I'm optimistic because UBC now has the Sing Tao School of Journalism. The school's director, Donna Logan, is committed to science journalism.

And it's because UBC's president, Martha Piper, wants to promote interdisciplinary education and is committed to public awareness of the research at UBC.

It's because Grant Ingram, the principal of St. John's College, is planning to bring science and journalism students together—to get to them before the walls go up.

And it's because UBC is doing some of the best and most newsworthy science in the country—and it has a large number of scientists who, bless them, are willing to forgive us our errors and talk to us.

So I'm going to give some examples of what others have done that could be a model for UBC.

The British Association for the Advancement of Science has a well-established media fellowship scheme. Scientists get to spend a week in a newsroom, researching stories, setting up interviews, asking questions, writing stories.

How about one-week internships in

TV, radio, or print newsrooms for UBC science students who are interested in understanding how media works?

How about having a lecture about journalism and the importance of communicating science compulsory for all first-year science students?

How about the journalism students spending a couple of hours a term in a lab of their choice? And not just for the ones who want to cover science.

How about a Science Writer in Residence? A quick search on the Web turned up half a dozen, including ones at Cambridge, the University of Wisconsin - Madison and one attached to Columbia University's medical college.

Imagine if UBC had a journalist whose job was to hang out with researchers on campus, write stories about them and get them published. Perhaps a position could be shared with SFU, UVic and UNBC.

Oxford University has a chair devoted to the public understanding of science, funded by Charles Simonyi of Microsoft. Could UBC tap into his research?

And every summer for the last 13 years Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Mass., has offered fully-funded science writing fellowships for reporters and editors.

There is also the opportunity for an additional seven weeks of field work in places like Alaska, Sweden and Brazil. Maybe UBC could offer a scaled-down one-week version of such a fellowship to a recent UBC journalism graduate or a working science reporter.

There are dozens of science organizations in Canada—from the B.C. Science Council, to Canadian science writers, the biological societies, the Academy of Engineering and the Royal Society—which are trying to promote the public awareness of science.

What we need is a university to start at ground zero—with the students—and that university should be UBC.



Savory