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# ubc reports

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



Faculty, staff and students shared comments and posed questions at the university's third campus annual general meeting held last week at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts. More than 400 attended the event which featured tributes to campus innovators including Nobel laureate Prof. Emeritus Michael Smith who died last month. The university community will hold a celebration of the life of Michael Smith Nov. 6 at 4 p.m. in the Chan Centre. All are welcome to attend. *Martin Dee photo*

## AGM celebrates UBC innovators

*President singles out creative contributions of staff, faculty and students*

UBC IS MAKING GREAT strides in its trek to become Canada's premier university, according to information reported to more than 400 students, staff and faculty at the third campus annual general meeting. The meeting was held last week at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts.

UBC President Martha Piper credited staff, faculty and student innovators for their creative contributions in helping to achieve the university's goals as stated in *Trek 2000*, UBC's vision document.

"Innovators create a kind of magic," says Piper. "They change institutions by affecting others around them—engendering pride and permitting others to celebrate and revel in their success. The result is a sense of confidence that we can be the best we can be."

Piper and Terry Sumner, vice-president, Administration and Finance, reported on the university's financial position and progress made in implementing the university's vision.

Highlights of the 1999/2000 fiscal year include an increase in the provincial government grant to

UBC that has helped eliminate budget cuts on campus for the first time in 12 years, record federal research funding of \$68 million from the Canada Foundation for Innovation—the largest amount awarded to any Canadian institution—and the establishment of 160 new research chairs valued at \$120 million over five years.

In addition Piper cited the academic plan, the Learning Exchange in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside and a new alumni office in Hong Kong as examples of the year's innovations, along with programs such as the Faculty of Arts Foundations program, the new Master of Software Systems, and the combined Applied Science and Arts degree.

UBC's revenues for the year were close to \$836 million with an operating surplus of \$2 million. The provincial operating grant accounted for 33.5 per cent or \$280 million of the total.

Domestic student tuition fees were frozen in 1999/2000 for the fourth year in a row at 1996/97 levels. The provincial government recently announced the tuition fee freeze will be extended to 2001/2002.

The university provided \$26 million in scholarships, fellowships and bursaries, up five per cent *see Innovators, page 2*

## Educator, Ballard chair join UBC's Board of Governors

*Two are latest appointed to 15-member group*

A FORMER HEAD of the B.C. Teachers' Federation (BCTF) and the leader of a local alternative energy company have joined UBC's Board of Governors, each for a three-year term.

Elsie McMurphy served the BCTF for 15 years in a variety of capacities, including vice-president, president and executive director.

A teacher with almost 20 years' experience in B.C. public schools, she pursued teacher training at UBC. She received undergraduate and graduate Education degrees from the University of Victoria.

She has also taught at the University of Victoria, in Thailand and St. Vincent.

Firoz Rasul is chair and CEO of Ballard Power Systems, Inc., a company that is widely acknowledged as a world leader in the development and manufacture of fuel cells for use in zero emission passenger vehicles, portable power generators and all stationary power applications.

His community service includes presidency of the Aga Khan Ismaili Council for Canada. He previously chaired Focus Humanitarian Assistance Canada, an international emergency relief agency, and

served on the boards of BC Telecom Inc., Royal Bank Capital Corp. and Science World of British Columbia.

An industrial engineering graduate from the University of Hertfordshire in the United Kingdom,

Rasul holds a master's degree in Business Administration from McGill University.

UBC's 15-member Board of Governors comprises the chancellor, the president, eight persons *see Board, page 2*

## Professor helps veterans tell their stories

*Education Prof. Marvin Westwood believes we must do more on Remembrance Day, Nov. 11*

by Bruce Mason staff writer

THEY DISCOVERED BASEMENTS filled with bodies, saw buddies blown apart by landmines and other unspeakable events and they suffer in silence.

But UBC Education Prof. Marvin Westwood is helping Canada's soldiers regain their lives by sharing their stories. He says it's time for this country to pay more than lip service to Remembrance Day.

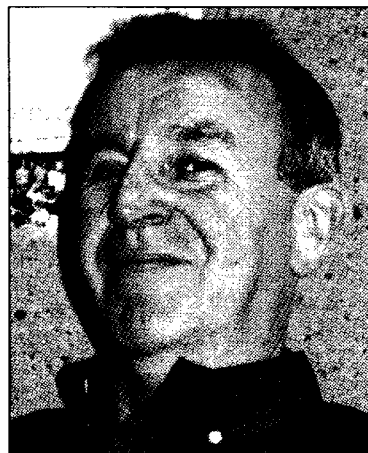
"We are justifiably proud of our modern international role and should do much more to honour and credit our peacekeepers," says Westwood, an expert in group counselling in Counselling Psychology.

After working with veterans of the Second World War and the Korean War, he is turning his attention to Canada's current military reality.

The example of former general Romeo Dallaire illustrates the debilitating impacts of peacekeeping trauma, he says.

"As UN commander in Rwanda he was forced to stand by as tens of thousands of people were butchered," says Westwood. "The suffering was unfixable and, as the light went out in his eyes, Canadians witnessed the powerful effects of post-traumatic distress."

Peacekeepers are actually peacemakers, Westwood points out.



Education Prof. Marvin Westwood

Not really at war, they can only return fire under direct threat. They get killed, are held hostage at gunpoint, witness atrocities and have their lives threatened. They receive no hero's welcome when they return home.

Some are unable to work, or maintain relationships with children, including their own. For others the mere smell of meat conjures up human carnage.

Westwood estimates that 30 to 40 per cent of soldiers in war suffer from post-traumatic stress symptoms.

"Often it is worse than losing a limb," he says. "It's as if their souls have been damaged. They follow the unwritten code of silence and suffer the pain of living in a society that doesn't seem to care."

Westwood became aware of the problem when one of his in-laws, at age 80, wanted to get something off his chest before dying. He had been forced to kill an enemy up-close by hand and for decades drank heavily before being able to speak about it to anyone.

Determined to design new *see Veterans', page 2*

# Innovators

Continued from page 1  
cent from the previous year.

The funding gap for student instruction continues to be an issue, says Piper, with the gap between the cost of education and resources available for the four established B.C. universities totalling more than \$35 million.

Presentations celebrated the innovations of the late Michael Smith, Nobel laureate, award-win-

ning Music Prof. Rena Sharon, facilities manager George McLaughlin, a recipient of the President's Service Award for Excellence, and the Youth Millennium Project which encourages youth around the world to discuss and act upon global issues.

Alma Mater Society President Maryann Adamec highlighted the contributions of student innovators including students involved in the Natural Food Co-op and Arts students who put forth a design proposal that resulted in increased social space.

The 13 student athletes, staff and faculty who participated in the recent 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney were also recognized.

UBC's senior administration attended the meeting along with Linda Thorstad, the vice-chair, External on the Board of Governors and Prof. Doug Kilburn, former director of UBC's Biotechnology Laboratory.

Audience questions included queries and comments about campus morale, compensation packages for new faculty and tuition fees for international students.

Members of the business com-

munity received an update on UBC innovators from Piper and UBC Computer Science Prof. Gregor Kiczales at a meeting of Vancouver's Board of Trade, held Oct. 31.

Copies of UBC's annual report are available through the Public Affairs Office at (604) UBC-INFO or on the Web at [www.ubc.ca/annualreport](http://www.ubc.ca/annualreport).

Anyone who sends in feedback on UBC's Annual Report through the on-line evaluation form has a chance to win a Palm V donated by the UBC Bookstore. The winner will be chosen Nov. 30.

# ubc reports

Published twice monthly (monthly in December, May, June, July and August) by: UBC Public Affairs Office 310 - 6251 Cecil Green Park Road Vancouver BC, V6T 1Z1.

Tel: (604) UBC-info (822-4636)  
Fax: (604) 822-2684  
Website: [www.publicaffairs.ubc.ca](http://www.publicaffairs.ubc.ca)

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PUBLICATIONS MAIL  
AGREEMENT NUMBER 1689851

# Veterans' stories told

Continued from page 1

grams, Westwood received funding from the Royal Canadian Legion and Veterans Affairs for a pilot project.

The Legion continues to fund his life review program with veterans and his current work with peacekeepers.

His team includes Lorne Prupas, a psychologist specializing in working with first responders, physician Dr. David Kuhl, three UBC PhD students—Tim Black, Paul Whitehead and Jeff Morley—and four soldiers with para-professional training.

To date, approximately 25 peace-

keeper soldiers have been involved.

The program consists of 12 three-hour sessions, once a week. Sessions focus on allowing participants to speak about what happened to them on their tours of duty and how it has impacted their lives today.

Leaders provide specific group-based approaches and strategies for coping and resolving the trauma so participants can make a more successful return to family life and the world of work.

"We have a moral and social obligation to provide programs in which peacekeepers can make a complete transition and re-entry

to inactive duty or civilian life and society," he says.

"I believe Remembrance Day observances must include recognition of the modern day soldier alongside those who served previously."

Members of the university community will gather in the foyer of the War Memorial Gym Saturday, Nov. 11 at 10:45 a.m. for UBC's annual Remembrance Day service.

Everyone is welcome at the service.

UBC Vice-President, Students, Brian Sullivan, History Assoc. Prof. Peter Moogk, Alma Mater Society President Maryann Adamec and Rev. Father James O'Neill of St. Mark's College will participate in the ceremony.

# Board

Continued from page 1

pointed by the lieutenant-governor, two faculty members elected by faculty, two full-time students elected by students and one person elected by and from the full-time employees of the university who are not faculty members.

By legislation, the board is responsible for the management, administration and control of the property, revenue, business and affairs of the university including the appointment of senior officials and faculty on the recommendation of the president.

The governors represent diverse backgrounds which provide valuable input during board deliberations. Decisions are made in support of UBC's mission to be the best university in Canada and one of the world's finest public universities.

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# When a Youth Calls... We Respond



Making friends can be hard in a new country. United Way sponsored programs helped make William feel part of his new community.

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This year, Creative Writing secretary Pat Rose is organizing a bake sale and jello race to raise money for the United Way, but that's not all. There's the pub night she's helping stage at a downtown tavern, a 50-50 draw, and if she can find a dart board... Rose is just one of the many university staff, students and faculty who are helping raise money for the worthy cause, say campaign organizers. *Bruce Mason photo*

# Staff member has fun and helps others at same time

*The campus United Way campaign marches toward its \$300,000 goal with the help of troopers like Pat Rose*

by **Bruce Mason** staff writer

ORGANIZERS SAY PAT ROSE is one of the true soldiers of UBC's United Way Campaign.

"I'm just having fun and raising a little money to help others," says the secretary of the Dept. of Theatre, Film and Creative Writing, who adds that she is flattered to be singled out.

Typical of Rose was her reaction to the discovery she had breast cancer last January. She didn't dwell on it. Instead she accepted the operation, chemotherapy and bouts of daily radiation as a challenge. Then, earlier this month she raised \$2,700 in the Run for the Cure.

This year, for UBC's United Way campaign, she's holding a Bake Sale and Jello contest on Nov. 21 and 22 in the hallways of the department.

"People who push blobs of Jello along a table in the best time will win photocopy cards," she ex-

plains. "If I can find a dart board I'm going to tie on balloons so people can pay to pop one for prizes."

She is also staging her second annual pub night at Fred's Uptown Tavern in the Dakota Hotel at Nelson and Granville in downtown Vancouver on Nov. 28 to benefit the campaign.

"Last year I won a prize at Granville Island for a party of 300 at Fred's," she recalls. "I'm popular, but not that popular, so I invited the entire university community and raised funds for the United Way."

Fred's invited her back this year and Pat, who did it all on her own last year, could use a hand selling tickets. Admission—\$5 for faculty and staff, \$3 for students—includes a complimentary drink.

Rose is also selling 50-50 tickets, in which the winner of a draw splits the total money with the United Way. Contact her at (604) 822-0699.

"At the end of our intensive two-week campus campaign we have achieved two-thirds of our goal of



\$300,000," reports Bill McMichael, UBC's campaign chair.

To illustrate the university-wide commitment he applauds the special efforts of the faculties of Commerce and Education, Athletics and Recreation, Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) locals 116, 2950 and 2278—in particular, custodial staff—and the students of Ritsumeikan House.

**MORE INFORMATION**

For more information on UBC's United Way campaign—including downloadable pledge forms—visit [www.unitedway.ubc.ca](http://www.unitedway.ubc.ca) or call (604) 822-8929.

# Popular collection focuses on the biggest picture of all

*English scholar's book of cosmic revelations takes Amazon.com by storm*

by **Bruce Mason** staff writer

IT IS HIGHLY UNUSUAL for a publication by an English professor to be picked as one of Amazon.com's top science books, named as an alternate selection by the Library of Science Book Club, called "monumental" by renowned astrophysicists and other leading scientists, and reviewed in the likes of *Sky and Telescope* magazine.

However there has never been a book like Dennis Danielson's *The Book of the Cosmos: Imagining the Universe from Heraclitus to Hawking*. It captures an evolving vision of the universe by showcasing history's exceptional thinkers in their own words.

"You could call it an anthology with an attitude, or a Lit. prof.'s picks of western cosmology's greatest hits," says Danielson, associate head of English. "Mainly it's a celebration of beauty and inspiration, as well as science."

From the audacious to the awe-struck, its 85 short chapters and more than 100 excerpts encompass ancient poetic philosophy, first-hand accounts of Copernicus and Galileo and the imaginative theories of Hawking and Tipler.

Danielson refers to his chapters

**OFFBEAT**

as "telescopes for the mind" and explains that, "you can use it as a source book of vital ideas on the universe, dip into one chapter, one cosmic vignette at a time, or read it straight through."

No stranger to large subjects, he edited *The Cambridge Companion to Milton* and that poet's ruminations on God, justice and humanity. He has lectured on topics such as Copernicanism, concepts of space, and the Anthropic Cosmological Principle in the U.S., Canada, England, Germany, and South Africa. And he is keenly aware, from the courses he teaches in the literature of cosmology at UBC, that there is rapidly growing interest.

"Students, who are eager to stretch the bounds of literature, revel in the chance to apply their reading skills to works of cosmology," he says. "And in this book, I wanted to combine serious scholarship with wide popular appeal among a curious, literate general readership."

Those features reflect interdisciplinary research at UBC where a new group of scholars specializing in cosmology has just formed. Much of Danielson's research was supported by the President's Fund.

He handpicked colourful scientific prose and excerpts from poetry and philosophy, diaries and dialogues from writers as diverse as Aristotle and Cicero, Einstein, and



English Prof. Dennis Danielson

Edgar Allan Poe. He also provided 40,000 words of his own commentary that make the book more scholarly and accessible.

Then, as he was completing the book and discovered he had cancer (from which he seems to have recovered, he says), some excerpts took on special meaning. Both his own life and the universe appeared to fit G.K. Chesterton's description of "Great-Might-Not-Have-Beens."

"This cosmos is indeed without peer and price. For there cannot be another one," wrote the British essayist and detective writer.

*The Book of the Cosmos: Imagining the Universe from Heraclitus to Hawking* (Perseus Publishing/Helix Books) is available at the UBC Bookstore for \$52.95.

Danielson will be featured as part of UBC Author Week at the Bookstore Nov. 17 at 12:30 p.m. Call 822-2665 for information.

# MBA program among top three

*Redesigned 15-month program earns high marks across the board*

by **Andy Poon** staff writer

UBC'S MASTER OF BUSINESS Administration (MBA) program is in the top three of the nation's business schools according to *Canadian Business* magazine's first comprehensive MBA survey.

"We are thrilled to be among Canada's top three business schools and delighted that the quality of our new program is being recognized at a national level," says MBA program director Ethel Davis.

Davis says the faculty underwent a major revision in its MBA program in 1995 based upon input from the business community, past graduates and current students.

"The redesigned program has had a tremendous impact on the students' learning experience through the integrated core, specializations, and an internship that allows the student to apply their new knowledge in the workplace, all in a 15-month program," says Davis.

"Not only that, there is also an opportunity for students to study abroad."

Graduates of the program also vaulted into fifth place in the magazine's salary ranking this year after placing 12th last year.

Since 1992, *Canadian Business* has been ranking the country's MBA schools and in the past three years it has focused almost exclusively on salary levels after graduation in its list.

The magazine expanded its survey this year to include quality of education, alumni satisfaction and international and gender diversity after prompting by the deans of several Canadian business schools.

"The fifth place salary ranking was a big factor but UBC basically scored in the top half of everything," says Conan Tobias, associate editor of *Canadian Business*.

Tobias, who co-ordinated the magazine's MBA project points out that UBC's high percentage of international faculty, 71 per cent, also contributed to the university's placing.

Queen's University and York University placed first and second in the magazine's survey.

**MORE INFORMATION**

*Canadian Business* magazine [www.canadianbusiness.com/index.shtml](http://www.canadianbusiness.com/index.shtml)

*Faculty of Commerce and Business Administration* [www.commerce.ubc.ca](http://www.commerce.ubc.ca)





## DIGEST

Geer up for  
scholarships

SIX CASH AWARDS worth \$52,500 are available in the Canadian Council of Professional Engineers (CCPE) 2001 national scholarships.

The awards will support Canadian engineers pursuing advanced studies and research within and outside of the field of engineering.

Three CCPE-Manulife Financial scholarships valued at \$10,000 each will be awarded to engineers returning to university for further

study or research in engineering.

Two CCPE-Meloche Monnex prizes of \$7,500 each will help engineers returning to university in a field other than engineering.

A CCPE-ENCON Endowment of \$7,500 will support a professional engineer studying engineering failure investigation, risk management or materials testing.

The deadline for applications for the scholarships is April 1.

To be eligible, candidates must be registered members of a provincial or territorial association that regulates professional engineers in Canada.

For more information on the scholarships, visit [www.ccpe.ca](http://www.ccpe.ca).

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Enquiries: UBC-INFO (822-4636) • Rate: \$16.50 for 35 words or less.

Additional words: 50 cents each. Rate includes GST.

Submission guidelines: Ads must be submitted in writing 10 days before publication date to: UBC Public Affairs Office, 310 - 6251 Cecil Green Park Road, Vancouver BC, V6T 1Z1. Ads must be accompanied by payment in cash, cheque (made out to UBC Reports) or journal voucher.

## Accommodation

### Wanted

**PROFESSOR COUPLE** (Canadian and American) from Japan with one child (21 mo.), N/S, neat people, require furnished house in Vancouver with yard, yard service, linens, etc. July 15-Sept. 30. No prior pets, no prior smokers. Will pay up to \$3000/mo. Affiliated SFU Philosophy. Ref. Steven Davis, SFU Philosophy, e-mail: [sdavis@sfu.ca](mailto:sdavis@sfu.ca); call Wyn Roberts 444-9264. E-mail: [danny@surugadai.ac.jp](mailto:danny@surugadai.ac.jp) and I will arrange a friend to see you.

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### LLUVIA PRESCHOOL

Fall 2000. Afternoon preschool for ages three and four years old. Monday to Thursday from 1:30pm. Cost: \$230/mo. Call UBC Child Care Services 822-5343.

### UBC FACULTY AND STAFF

Retirement income and financial planning. Edwin Jackson, Certified Financial Planner. Ascot Financial Services Limited. Investments, life insurance, annuities, know-how. Call 224-3540.

## Wanted

### BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED

Established historical performance society located in Lower Mainland seeking board members. Areas of expertise or interest required include adult education, marketing, human resources, fundraising, and/or board development. Call David 876-3465.



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# Market takes stock of federal battle for power

*Traders in Commerce's Election Stock Market have a knack for predicting who'll get the most votes*

by **Andy Poon** staff writer

WITH NEARLY TWO WEEKS since the federal election call, politicians working the campaign trail may want to keep an eye on UBC's Web-based Election Stock Market (UBC-ESM) for an indicator of how their party will fare when the votes are tallied on Nov. 27.

"At predicting seat shares and popular votes share, the market has been very good," says Commerce and Business Administration Prof. Tom Ross who, along with colleague Prof. Werner Antweiler, serves as a director of the election market.

The pair has organized and operated election markets during the 1993 and 1997 federal elections as well as the 1996 provincial election.

In fact, during the 1997 federal election, the UBC-ESM did a better job of predicting the popular vote among the parties than two of the nation's major pollsters. That year, the market came out ahead of May 30th polls conducted by Gallup and Angus Reid, placing behind only the Environics poll.

"Our traders certainly use poll information to guide their investments, but by being more forward-looking than polls can be, they can often generate more accurate predictions," says Ross. "Overall, this is a bunch of regular folks scattered across the country with no particular political expertise who have done very well at predicting election outcomes."

The UBC-ESM provides an opportunity for people to learn how financial markets work by buying stock in the political fortunes of the Liberals, Canadian Alliance, Conservatives, New Democrats and Bloc Québécois.

It is made up of three distinct markets: popular vote, share of seats and a majority government market.

This year's market, sponsored by the *National Post*, opened on Oct. 9 and has already attracted more traders than each of the previous three markets.

Earlier this week, the market was predicting the Liberals would have 40.5 per cent of the popular vote and 51 per cent of the seats followed by the Canadian Alliance with 31 per cent of the seats.

In 1993, 250 traders participated while 100 people traded in a market shortened by technical constraints in 1997. During the 1996 B.C. provincial election, 100 traders

played the market. This year, there are active participants in every province and even a few traders in the U.S.

Registered traders use their Web browser to log into their trader account and check market prices and the account information needed to carry out trades. Markets are also opened for a B.C. provincial election expected before next June. No commissions or other fees are charged to traders.

"As in other financial markets, you make money by 'buying low and selling high,'" says Ross. "While the market is operating, traders will earn profits by selling contracts at prices higher than they paid for them and lose when they sell for less than the prices paid."

Individual traders may receive back more or less than they invested, depending upon how well they predicted the election outcomes. Contracts or shares will earn post-election dividends, or liquidation values, which depend on the outcome of the election.

**MORE INFORMATION**  
For complete information about how to invest, hours of operation, trading, market quotes, liquidation values, and registration, visit [esm.ubc.ca](http://esm.ubc.ca).

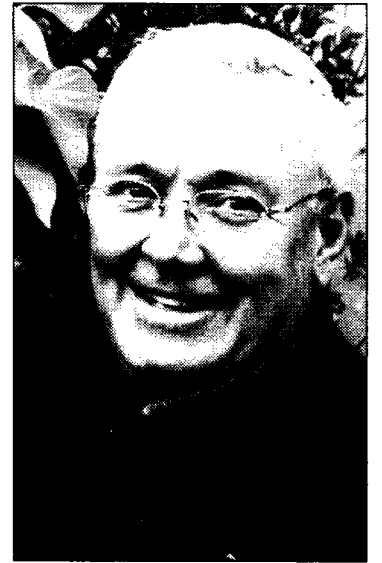
## Honour Roll

Zoology Prof. **David Jones** has received the Flavelle Medal from the Royal Society of Canada.

The award is given for outstanding contributions to biological science during the past 10 years.

Jones is recognized as one of the world's premier comparative physiologists. In his current research he hopes to reveal the circulatory and metabolic secrets of such champion divers as elephant seals and leatherback turtles.

Past recipients of the Flavelle Medal include UBC Prof. Emeritus Michael Smith, Zoology Prof. Peter Hochachka and Sir Frederick Banting.



David Tarrant

**Ward Wilson** has joined the Dept. of Mining and Mineral Process Engineering as the new Industrial Research Chair of Mining and the Environment.

Wilson will pursue his interest in mine waste management after 10 years of research and teaching at the University of Saskatchewan.

Wilson also serves as a consultant in projects around the world for mining companies such as Cominco, Freeport-McMoran, Kennecott, Placer Dome RioTinto and Newcrest Mining.

Assoc. Prof. **Steve Cockcroft** has been appointed head of the Dept. of Metals and Materials Engineering in the Faculty of Applied Science.

Cockcroft will focus on increasing the profile of the materials discipline and hiring new faculty members.

In addition to his administrative duties, Cockcroft conducts research that involves computer-simulations of casting processes for aluminum.

He is also working on projects with a number of companies such as Canadian Auto Parts, Toyota Inc. and Alcan.

Cockcroft had been acting head since December.

Renowned UBC gardening expert **David Tarrant** has been voted a Fellow of the Year by the Garden Writers' Association of America.

The award is reserved for individuals who have demonstrated an exceptionally high degree of skill, professional ethics and dedication within the 1,500-member association.

Best known as the host of CBC-TV's *Canadian Gardener* for 17 seasons, Tarrant has spent more than 30 years at UBC's Botanical Garden. As education co-ordinator he is in high demand around the world for his knowledge and his ability to share the joy of his subject.

"The award is a fitting tribute to David's influence and inspiration to literally thousands of gardeners through television and his untiring outreach work at the Botanical Garden," says Moura Quayle, dean of Agricultural Sciences.

Six members of the UBC community have been recognized by the Canadian Society for Chemistry (CSC) for significant achievements in Canadian chemistry at a celebration entitled "Milestones of Canadian Chemistry in the 20th Century."

**Raymond Andersen**, a professor of Chemistry and Earth and Ocean Sciences, conducted the first investigation of the secondary metabolism of cold-water organisms. His work has had implications in the development of anti-asthma drugs.

Chemistry Prof. **Melvin Comisarow** helped develop Fourier Transform Ion Cyclotron Resonance Spectroscopy, a form of mass spectrometry that is recognized as having the highest resolution and greatest versatility.

Chemistry Prof. Emeritus **William Cullen**'s exploration of the interaction of arsenic species with living systems has been important in shedding light on arsenic species which are implicated in cancer of the skin, bladder, or lung.

Chemistry Prof. **David Dolphin**'s collaborative research in the field of photodynamic therapy has led to the discovery of Visudyne, a drug used in the treatment of age-related macular degeneration, a leading cause of blindness in the elderly.

Chemistry Prof. **Brian James**' work has greatly expanded the understanding of homogeneous catalysis, especially in the areas of hydrogenation and oxidation. Reactions of abundant common gases such as hydrogen, oxygen, and carbon monoxide with organic compounds, in the presence of suitable metal-based catalysts in solution, can generate, for example, valuable materials such as pharmaceuticals and agrochemicals.

University Prof. Emeritus **Charles McDowell**, former head of UBC's Chemistry Dept., was among those singled out for having had a powerful effect on the quality and quantity of chemical research and graduate work in universities across the country.

The CSC is the national technical association which represents the field of chemistry and the interests of chemists in industry, academia, and government.

# Outstanding scholar and curator

*Anthropologist helped focus world attention on Northwest Coast art*

MARJORIE MYERS HALPIN, an anthropologist and authority on Northwest Coast art has died at age 63.

An associate professor at UBC, author, teacher and lifelong scholar, she was Northwest Coast curator at the Museum of Anthropology (MOA) Halpin helped bring visually striking Northwest art to world prominence. Her doctoral thesis on Tsimshian crests used as family emblems, completed in 1973, is still considered a landmark study.

## IN MEMORIAM

"With Marjorie's death we have lost an outstanding scholar and curator who combined a sharp and penetrating intelligence with a sensitive and discerning eye," says MOA Director Ruth Philips.

"She was a strong personality and a dedicated teacher who enjoyed debate and matching wits with others. We are all going to miss her very much."

Halpin was known for her contributions to the MOA's use of visible storage, which ensured visitors would have a larger grasp of the significance of the art on display. And she worked extensively with such aboriginal artists as Bill Reid, Dorothy Grant, Robert Davidson and Ron Hamilton.

She worked at the Smithsonian Institution for five years before emigrating to Vancouver in 1968 for her doctoral studies.

Her books include the best-selling *Totem Poles: An Illustrated Guide* and *Potlatch at Gitsegukla: The 1945 Notebooks of William Beynon*. She was treasurer on the first board of the Canadian Ethnology Society, which later became the



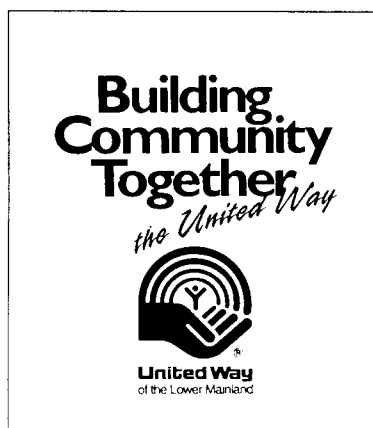
Marjorie Halpin

Canadian Anthropology Society.

At the time of her death, Halpin was working on projects on aboriginal artists Dorothy Grant and Ron Hamilton.

Two months before she died, she was invited to give a paper at a conference in Paris on Claude Levi-Strauss, another world-renowned anthropologist, who sat on a panel at which she gave her keynote paper.

Halpin died at home in White Rock and is survived by her adopted daughter, Lisa, and grandson, Ryan.



## PROFILE

*The second of a two-part series  
featuring 12 of UBC's newest  
faculty members*

# Arriving minds



Asst. Prof. Joerg Bohlmann



Asst. Prof. Robert Hall



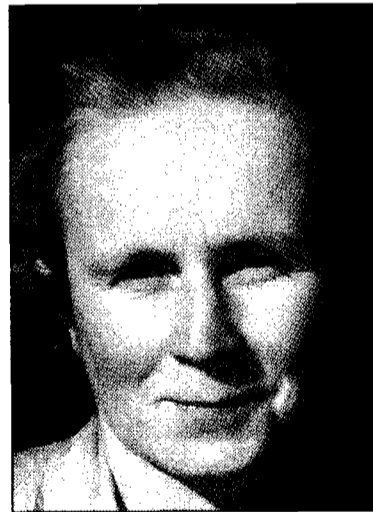
Asst. Prof. Erin Hurley



Lecturer Michael Pungente



Asst. Prof. Andrew Riseman



Asst. Prof. Janis Sarra

SEVENTY NEW FACULTY members have joined UBC since the start of the year, boosting the number of full-time faculty members to 1,822.

The following are six of the new researchers and teachers on campus. The first six were profiled in the Oct. 19 issue of *UBC Reports*.

## Joerg Bohlmann

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, Biotechnology Laboratory, Forest Sciences and Botany, Faculty of Forestry and Faculty of Science

BACKGROUND: PhD, Biology, Technical University Braunschweig

TEACHING OBJECTIVE: My first teaching objective will be to train students to ask interesting and fundamental questions and learn the tools to address these questions. My favourite question for students in Forestry and Botany: How can a Douglas fir tree contin-

ue to grow to its enormous dimensions and survive for hundreds of years in the same physical location, while a weed like *Arabidopsis* is dead after only few weeks?

RESEARCH OBJECTIVE: My group and I are studying the chemistry, biochemistry and molecular genetics of natural defence mechanisms and pest resistance in conifer trees that are of primary importance to Canadian forestry. One objective we have is to develop a genomics platform for forest research in Canada.

WHY ATTRACTED TO UBC: The potential to develop a strong research program in forest biotechnology, excellent colleagues and a wonderful place to work and live

## Robert Hall

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, Mining and Mineral Process Engineering, Faculty of Applied Science

BACKGROUND: PhD, Queen's University

COURSES TAUGHT: Introduction to Engineering Design—a brand new course that is part of the Integrated Engineering program

TEACHING OBJECTIVE: I would like to instil in students the confidence and skills necessary to solve unstructured design problems.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVE: To gain a better understanding of the interactions of equipment in a mining context

WHY ATTRACTED TO UBC: The opportunity to be involved in both the Mining program and the Integrated Engineering program which allows me the opportunity to be involved in multi-disciplinary learning. Secondly, the beautiful background of Vancouver which is one of the best spots in Canada for triathlon training

## Erin Hurley

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, English and Theatre, Faculty of Arts

BACKGROUND: PhD, City University of New York

COURSES TAUGHT: Postcolonial Drama: Black Diaspora Performance, Performing Quebec/Quebec Performance, Mimesis, and Introduction to Drama

TEACHING OBJECTIVE: I would like students to come away with an understanding of the performing arts' multiple and various contributions to public life and social structures.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVE: My current research focuses on the national and international discourses of Québécois theatre, particularly around questions of immigration and assimilation.

WHY ATTRACTED TO UBC: I was drawn to teaching and researching in two cognate, but historically and conceptually distinct, fields (English and Theatre) and to working to translate and integrate their approaches.

## Michael Pungente

LECTURER, Pharmaceuticals and Biopharmaceutics, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences

BACKGROUND: PhD, Chemistry, UBC

COURSES TAUGHT: Co-ordinates the problem-based learning tutorials for Drug Delivery Systems

TEACHING OBJECTIVE: I believe strongly that 'students teaching students' is such a powerful and effective way for students to learn. I encourage my students to work together—it helps them get to the limits of their own understanding much more effectively than listening to me explain things.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVE: I research education methodologies which helps me implement problem-based learning and other non-traditional teaching methods in the pharmacy program.

WHY ATTRACTED TO UBC: I was attracted to UBC largely because I wanted to move to a bigger city, and I wanted to do my PhD in

organic chemistry under the supervision of the late Prof. Larry Weiler.

## Andrew Riseman

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, Faculty of Agriculture Sciences

BACKGROUND: PhD, Horticulture, Pennsylvania State University

RESEARCH OBJECTIVE: My first and more fundamental research area is how stresses affect the form and function of plant roots and how the plant genetic background influences this interaction. The second and more applied area of research will concentrate on developing new ornamental plant cultivars for the nursery industry derived from plant material located at the UBC Botanical Garden.

WHY ATTRACTED TO UBC: The things that attracted me to UBC include the administration facilities in the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, the plant collection in the UBC Botanical Garden and the city of Vancouver.

## Janis Sarra

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, Faculty of Law

BACKGROUND: LL.M., S.J.D., University of Toronto

COURSES TAUGHT: corporate law, insolvency law, contract law

TEACHING OBJECTIVE: To provide law students with the framework to analyse and effectively apply legal concepts to practical problems and to encourage enthusiasm for the law in the process of addressing those challenges

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES: Current projects are in the areas of insolvency law and the intersection between private law and public law, corporate governance reform, research on shareholder/creditor remedies

WHY ATTRACTED TO UBC: The reputation of the Faculty of Law for legal scholarship, and the opportunities for research and teaching