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Prof. Marcello Veiga starts his lessons with a song

ubc reports

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Humanities, science scholars earn Killams

Recipients will be recognized at Chan Centre gala tonight

by Hilary Thomson staff writer

THE NATURE OF PERSONALITY in early Greeks is the focus of research for Prof. Shirley Sullivan, one of 10 UBC Killam Research Prize winners who will be recognized at Celebrate the Stars, a gala event to be held this evening at the Chan Centre as part of Research Awareness Week.

The \$5,000 individual prizes are equally divided between arts and sciences disciplines.

"I am honoured to have my work recognized," says Sullivan, a faculty member in the Dept. of Classical, Near Eastern and Religious Studies since 1972. "In the humanities particularly, one wonders if one's work is making an impact.

It's gratifying to have the commitment to research acknowledged."

Sullivan studies the cognitive process and its relationship to personality as described in poetry, literature, philosophy and drama of the Archaic Age (750-450 BCE).

The early Greeks' view of personality has similarities to eastern thought, she says, in that the self was understood to be compartmentalized into a variety of faculties such as insight, emotion or decision-making that could operate independently and simultaneously with no single integrated psyche. Sullivan has studied how this view gradually evolved to match our current understanding of self and personality which was first described by Plato.

Nineteen UBC researchers are among those named Canada Research Chairs. See Researchers page 3.



When she started her research and first understood the many elements that comprise the early Greek notion of psyche, Sullivan admits she was a little alarmed at the work that lay before her.

"I thought 'this is going to take my whole life'—and it has," she says, adding that she has never tired of her subject and that colleagues' support and research achievements have provided a model of encouragement.

The UBC alumna has written five books on her subject and says the Killam prize will allow her to study abroad, preferably at Oxford. She is currently studying Euripides' play *The Hippolytus*, looking at how differences in the way charac-



Classics Prof. Shirley Sullivan is among the 10 UBC faculty to receive this year's Killam research prizes. The prizes, worth \$5,000, recognize scholars from both the arts and sciences. Hilary Thomson photo

Vanpools ease campus commute

Fleet comprises nearly one-third of vanpools in the GVRD

by Andy Poon staff writer

CONNIE FABRO KNOWS a good travel deal when she sees one.

For the better part of the past decade, she has managed travel contracts for the university as the travel manager in the Purchasing Dept. so it's no surprise that she commutes each day to the university from her home in White Rock via a vanpool.

"There are a whole bunch of us going to one place for work and with so many cars on the road, it's silly that we are each in our own cars driving to the same place," she says. "And then you add the expense of parking and such in driving your own car and it makes sense to vanpool."

Fabro travels in an eight-person vanpool arranged through the Jack Bell Foundation, a partner of the university's Trek Program Centre. When it isn't her turn to do the driving, she typically spends the 50-minute morning commute reading or resting.

"It's pretty quiet in the mornings. People seem to want very lit-

tle conversation then," she laughs. "And it's nice to have someone else do the driving; it takes the tension away."

Gord Lovegrove, director of Transportation Planning, says that the university's vanpool has grown to 26 vehicles from 16 in November 1997—an increase of more than 50 per cent.

The campus vanpool comprises nearly one-third of the Greater Vancouver Regional District's vanpool fleet. The Jack Bell Foundation partnered with UBC to form one of the first vanpool programs in the GVRD in 1992.

"It's a good return for investment for transportation for UBC," says Lovegrove. "It's reducing congestion and air pollution and getting people to campus in a less stressed way. It helps UBC create a more livable community and helps to attract and retain faculty, students and staff—all important factors in Trek 2000, the university's vision document."

Lovegrove says that as a result of the university's strategic transportation plan—officially approved by



Vanpooler Connie Fabro

UBC's Board of Governors in November 1999—significant progress has been made towards meeting the university's goal to decrease the number of single occupant vehicles travelling to campus by 20 per cent in the next few years.

"There's an increase of 23 per cent more transit service to campus," says Lovegrove. "That's 21 per cent more riders or 23,000 people taking transit to and from UBC each day."

Additional transit achievements include more than 500 staff discount transit passes issued and more than 5,000 participants in the student Fastrax program. The program allows one-zone transit passes to be extended through three zones.

see Commute page 2

B.C. government promises funding

Cut in tuition fees to be accompanied by increased dollars for universities

THE PROVINCE WILL compensate universities for a five per cent tuition decrease, according to a recent provincial government announcement.

The announcement also acknowledged the indirect costs of research by committing \$23 million from the current fiscal year's budget. An equal amount from this year's budget is committed to new equipment and library purchases.

"This step is a significant investment in people and ideas," says UBC

President Martha Piper, who also chairs the University Presidents' Council of B.C. "Increasing opportunities for education and research is arguably the most important investment a government can make toward developing a strong economy and a robust society."

"The priority given to university research is very encouraging," Piper adds. "The support will help position not only UBC but the whole province to compete effectively in the rapidly evolving knowledge-based economy. We look forward to continued investments in research excellence in B.C."

"We are certainly optimistic see Tuition page 2

Commute

Continued from page 1

While all of this may mean more bus riders, Lovegrove expects that the shift in class start times this fall will help relieve commuters of crowded buses during the morning rush.

Lovegrove concedes that the proposed U-Trek card—a transit pass with bundled car, vanpool parking and bike benefits—will not likely be ready this year, as the university, Translink and the AMS

have yet to resolve the issue of price for the cards.

“But the U-Trek card is not dead,” Lovegrove says. He points out that a student referendum on the issue may still be held sometime in the next academic year.

For Fabro, there has been an additional benefit to sharing a vehicle with other UBC faculty and staff members twice a day.

“We’ve got a good mix of people in the van from all over the campus,” she says. “It helps to be able to share ideas from around the university and it adds to my own un-

derstanding of how others look at issues on campus.”

MORE INFORMATION

For more information on how to set up a van or carpool and details of the university's strategic transportation plan, visit www.trek.ubc.ca.

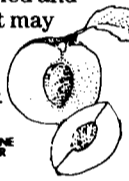
Tuition

Continued from page 1

about the premier's promise to make British Columbia the education province of Canada,” says Alma Mater Society President Erfan Kazemi. “The five per cent tuition rollback will undoubtedly save students money in the short term. However, in order to prepare for their education financially, students need to know what their tuition will be in next three to five years.”

CANCER PREVENTION You Can Have A Hand In It

The Canadian Cancer Society says that a well-balanced, varied and moderate diet may protect you against the risk of cancer.



Killam

Continued from page 1

ters make decisions contribute to conflict and tragedy.

Other UBC Killam Research Prize recipients are: Fine Arts Prof. **John O'Brian**; Psychology Prof. **Eric Eich**; Psychology Assoc. Prof. **David Geoffrey Hall**; Computer Science Prof. **David Kirkpatrick**; Computer Science Prof. **Alan Mackworth**; Chemical Engineering Prof. **James Piret**; Anatomy Prof. **Joanne Weinberg**; Geography Prof. **Graeme Wynn**; and Statistics Prof. **James Zidek**.

Also announced are the Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Fellowships. The fellowships top up faculty salaries by up to \$15,000 during sabbatical leaves. Scholars also receive a \$3,000 grant for research and travel expenses.

Recipients are: Sociology Assoc. Prof. **Dawn Currie**; History Assoc. Prof. **Caroline Ford**; Geography Prof. **Derek Gregory**; Statistics Assoc. Prof. **Paul Gustafson**; Psychology Assoc. Prof. **D. Geoffrey Hall**; Biotechnology Prof. **Wilfred Jefferies**; Asian Studies Assoc. Prof. **Ross King**; Physics and Astronomy Assoc. Prof. **Janis McKenna**; Law Asst. Prof. **Judith Mosoff**; Physics and Astronomy Asst. Prof. **Douglas Scott**.



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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

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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 to the UBC Public Affairs Office (address above); by fax to 822-2684; or by e-mail to janet.ansell@ubc.ca

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THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, RESEARCH
ASSOCIATE VICE-PRESIDENT

The Office of the Vice-President, Research, is providing the leadership required to meet both the challenges and opportunities articulated in the Trek 2000 vision documents and those presented by new Federal and Provincial funding programs such as CFI, CIHR, BCKDF, Genome BC and the Canada Research Chairs. New opportunities within SSHRC and NSERC are also critical to UBC's research enterprise.

The Associate Vice-President, Research, will support the full range of activities of the office with particular responsibility for research associated with CIHR, SSHRC, Genome BC, and CFI. Nominations and applications are invited for this position.

The Associate Vice-President, Research will report to the Vice-President, Research. The individual, who will have a broad knowledge of both the academic and administrative sides of UBC, will play a leadership role in promoting and managing research on campus and at the affiliated teaching hospitals. Responsibilities will include:

- develop a health research strategy for UBC and enhance UBC's success at CIHR and CFI with the support of CFI and CIHR co-ordinators
- assist academic units to form and exploit research collaborations and liaisons
- develop policies and procedures for the effective management of research within new funding paradigms
- developing programs to enhance the competitiveness of faculty at federal research competitions
- work with other service units on campus to provide the best support for the research community (e.g. finance, human resources, purchasing, development and fund raising, research services, UILO etc.)
- analysis of research opportunities

The Associate Vice-President, Research, will work closely with the associate deans, Research, and will have the support of the Research Services' and University-Industry Liaison staff.

UBC hires on the basis of merit and is committed to employment equity. All qualified persons are encouraged to apply. Applications and nominations should be submitted to Marcia Lang in the Office of the Vice-President, Research, by April 1, 2001. Applicants should submit current CV's and the names of three referees.

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FEATURE

Program aimed at attracting and keeping top researchers at UBC

Researchers among latest stars to shine



I AM VERY PLEASED to introduce to the campus community the first UBC recipients of the Canada Research Chairs Program. As you will see, these individuals represent research excellence in health, natural sciences, technology, social sciences and humanities.

UBC placed among the top three universities in Canada in the inaugural appointment of these funded research positions with 19 chairs allotted of the first 199 offered. Gaining more than 10 per cent of available chairs is a real endorsement of UBC's ability to bring the best and brightest minds together. The appointments are the first installment of 163 such positions to be named at UBC over the next five years.

The CRC program offers exciting opportunities to attract and keep top-level investigators from across Canada and internationally.

With this new investment, our capacity for generating new knowledge and transferring this knowledge to students, to society and to commercial enterprises is enormously strengthened.

I congratulate all the recipients, their research teams and those who provided academic and administrative support to enable their success.

I would also like to formally acknowledge the contribution of our president, Martha Piper, for her role in the creation of this program by the federal government that will ultimately help to sustain and improve our quality of life.

*Prof. Indira Samarasekera
Vice-President, Research*

First round sees 19 chairs appointed

Designed to build Canada's research capacity, the Canada Research Chairs program will invest \$900 million over five years to establish 2,000 chairs in Canadian universities, their affiliated research institutes and hospitals. Appointment of the chairs is based on nominations from the universities.

ECONOMICS PROF. Paul Beaudry studies comparisons of economic change to help inform social and economic policy. He explores North American and European experiences surrounding issues such as plummeting incomes for less skilled workers, impact of burdensome student loans and gender equality in the workplace.

Izak Benbasat, a professor of Commerce and Business Administration, looks at the design of human-computer interfaces and seeks to improve the communication between information technologies and users. His work has relevance for e-commerce and building better business-customer communication.

Prof. John R. Grace of the Chemical and Biological Engineering Dept., investigates two crucial environmental issues: the emission of gases that cause acid rain and the overproduction of greenhouse gases. His work will contribute to preventing climate change and, improving Canada's energy sustainability and aid in the search for cleaner energy sources.

Babak Hamidzadeh, an assistant professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, explores ways to improve production, storage, search and retrieval, transmission, synchronization, and presentation of segments that interact in multimedia systems. He will work in collaboration with researchers in UBC's Microelectronics and Information Technology cluster.

Robert E.W. Hancock is a professor of Microbiology and Immunology who specializes in antibiotic resistance and combating life-threatening superbugs. He examines the way groups of amino acids called peptides interact with bacteria and their potential as a new class of infection-fighting drugs. He also looks at the role of genomics in antibiotic resistance.

Medical Genetics Prof. Michael Hayden investigates the relationship between genes and disease. His work has concentrated on two areas: a predictive test for the inherited Huntington's disease; and identifying new genes associated with high density lipoprotein or good cholesterol. He has also set up the only national program in the world that seeks to determine the psychological effects of genetic testing on patients.

Geography Prof. David Ley studies the effects of immigration on Canada's cities. He aims to assess how well immigrants integrate economically and whether immigrant communities or enclaves across Canada increase immigrant poverty. His work will help inform immigration policy.

Computer Science Prof. Alan Mackworth investigates artificial intelligence. The creator of soccer-playing robots that help explore the nature of perception and reasoning, he aims to build a model that links neuroscience and cognitive systems using computational intelligence. His research helps scientists

understand vision systems for navigation and problem solving.

Robert S. Molday is a professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and Ophthalmology. He studies the molecular, cellular and genetic interplay that leads to disease affecting vision. He is an expert on macular degeneration — the leading cause of blindness in the developed world. His work will contribute to better diagnostic methods and new treatments for diseases of the retina.

Prof. Christopher Overall of Oral Biological and Medical Sciences, recently discovered a new protein that acts in the body as a natural anti-inflammatory agent and may be useful in developing new drugs to fight cancer, arthritis and other chronic inflammatory diseases. His work investigates a family of tissue and inflammatory enzymes that are produced by cells and act like molecular shears enabling cancer to spread in the body. New information could control or even prevent the progression of diseases including cancer, arthritis and HIV.

Computer Science Prof. Nicholas Pippenger studies problems with classical computer technologies as well as looking at how to move beyond the reach of conventional computers to quantum computing. His research into mathematical calculations of changes in computerized shapes will contribute to areas ranging from the study of DNA to the creation of advanced materials.

Prof. Tim Salcudean of Electrical and Computer Engineering develops computer interfaces that convey the forces of touch. These interfaces allow users to feel and apply the forces of interaction while manipulating remote or virtual environments. His work has enormous practical applications from the operating room table to the remote operation of forestry and mining equipment.

Zoology Prof. Dolph Schluter studies sticklebacks, a group of fish found in B.C.'s lakes and streams that have evolved in thousands of variants of the original species. By mapping their genes and evolutionary progress, Schluter is building a model that can help scientists understand how species become vulnerable to extinction.

Prof. John Schrader directs UBC's Biomedical Research Centre. His research involves determining the signals the immune system cells send to each other and how these signals might go wrong in a process known as a faulty immune response. A better understanding of immune response could aid in therapies for diseases such as cancer and rheumatoid arthritis.

Curriculum Studies Prof. Peter C. Seixas documents the sense of historical consciousness for high school students and teachers. Looking at historical narratives found in texts, films, museum exhibits and other media, he will explore how versions of the past interact. Findings will help inform public debate about the teaching of Canadian and world history.

Medical Genetics Assoc. Prof. Elizabeth Simpson explores the links between genetics, brain development and behaviour. She is designing new models that will help illumi-

nate the role of genetic mutations in disorders such as schizophrenia, dyslexia and pathological violence. Her work may lead to new diagnostic techniques and drug therapies for specific brain disorders.

Dr. A. Jon Stoessel, a professor of Neurology, uses new imaging technology to investigate the cause and effects of Parkinson's disease. Positron Emission Tomography (PET) scanning offers detailed images of the brain's neural pathways that show how living brains are affected by and compensate for the damage caused by the disease. He will also try to determine if there are occupational risk factors for the disease. The new knowledge will aid in developing diagnostic tools and treatment guidelines.

Mark Vessey, an associate professor of English, is a Canadian literary and religious historian who studies how the Bible and other Christian writing influence culture and civilizations. One important aspect of his work concerns how scripture has influenced encounters between European and indigenous North American peoples and how those experiences are portrayed in Canadian literature, art and drama.

Janet Werker is a professor of Psychology who studies normal infant language development. Her documentation of the earliest stages of language learning will contribute to the early detection and treatment of children with language development problems. She also studies language development in bilingual and multilingual children, premature infants, and those genetically at risk for delayed language development.

MORE INFORMATION
For more information on the program and full profiles of the chairholder visit the Web site at www.chairs.gc.ca.

Student speaks out for human rights

A UBC student suggests other students incorporate their education as a tool to effect change

by Kate Woznow

IN MID-FEBRUARY, rather than spending the time writing my mid-term for International Relations 260, I joined a trio of Canadian students who decided to create an international incident of our own.

Freya Putt, Sam Price and myself, all members of the organization Students for a Free Tibet, participated in a public action directed towards members of the Team Canada trade delegation in Beijing, China.

We were protesting China's 52-year occupation of Tibet and the absence of this issue from the Team Canada agenda.

Our action is referred to as a direct action. It is a tactic used by non-government organizations to propel an issue of concern into the national spotlight, hopefully attracting media attention.

Unfurling a banner in the lobby area within the vicinity of an international signing ceremony celebrating \$1.4 billion worth of business deals, and having the event covered by national media outlets is deemed a successful action.

The publicity and reaction this

FORUM

action has received will hopefully benefit the six million Tibetans who continue to live under the repression of the Chinese government.

The momentum created by this action will continue to direct our efforts towards a peaceful resolution to this situation, unlike the prime minister's human rights speeches in China which by now have probably been forgotten by his hosts.

My interest in Tibet arose as a result of a visit I made there in 1999.

After graduating from high school, a friend and myself, feeling unsure of our academic pursuits in university, decided to work abroad in China.

We spent 10 months traveling and working in the country before joining my father in the western city of Chengdu, China and from there flew to Lhasa, Tibet.

Having no previous exposure to the political situation and history of this region, my first thought was how different Tibet and Tibetans were from their Chinese neighbours.

Within Lhasa there is a very distinctive divide between the Chinese quarter and the Tibetan quarter.

Equally evident was the tense atmosphere especially prevalent in



Travels in Tibet and the determination of the country's people to preserve their culture left second-year Political Science student Kate Woznow with a desire to help the cause for a free Tibet. *Kate Woznow photo*

the larger Tibetan cities where many of the pro-independence demonstrations have taken place.

It was a relief to leave this tension for the scenic countryside but the poverty of the local inhabitants, mostly nomads, and the ever-present evidence of Chinese soldiers was unavoidable.

The determination I saw exercised by the Tibetan people to preserve their unique culture left me with a desire to help their cause.

When I began my university

studies at UBC in 2000, I was able to become pro-active in the Students for a Free Tibet (SFT) chapter which has been operating since 1998.

Our chapter is one of the more than 600 SFT chapters worldwide. Becoming involved with a group of students who shared my concern for the Tibet situation has become a central focus of my university experience.

Through my work with this group, I have experienced an education far beyond the constraints of our beautiful, yet isolated campus.

Students become very focused on the subject material they are studying. However, it is important that we incorporate, whenever possible, our education as a tool to effect change.

If I learned one thing from my recent experience in Beijing, Canadian students are fortunate for the daily freedoms we take for granted.

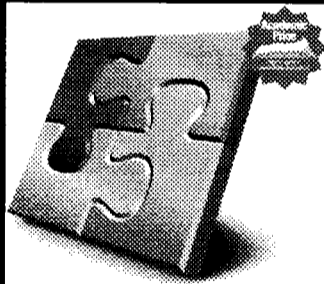
This is not to say that human rights abuses do not occur in Canada. Some of them have taken place on the very land where our campus is located.

But, students have the power to speak out.

Because we cannot always rely on our government officials and the business community to speak out for those citizens who are silent and do not share our freedoms, I believe it is our responsibility to be heard.

Kate Woznow, a second-year Political Science student, captured world media attention when she and a fellow protestor staged a brief human rights protest in the lobby of a Beijing hotel where Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's Team Canada trade delegation was meeting with Chinese firms. She is president of Students for a Free Tibet at UBC.

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Alma Mater Society payroll administrator Marnie Craft (left) and Applied Sciences student Andrew Tinka are among the 21 faculty, staff and students to be honoured by students with Just Desserts awards this year. Hilary Thomson photos

New scholarships to draw top students

Bank donates seed money to provide opportunities for young scholars

FOUR NEW undergraduate scholarships each valued at \$40,000 over four years will be awarded this fall as a result of the largest gift to date by a bank to the university.

A \$1.35-million gift from the Bank of Montreal will result in the annual UBC Bank of Montreal National Scholarships aimed at attracting outstanding undergraduate students from across Canada to UBC.

The gift will be matched by the university to create a \$2.7-million endowment.

"UBC and Bank of Montreal share the belief that our nation's future social vitality and economic prosperity will depend on the opportunities that we provide young

people today," says UBC President Martha Piper.

"We are extremely pleased to expand the university's financial aid program to provide additional access for outstanding students to undergraduate education through this partnership."

The UBC Bank of Montreal scholarships will rank among the premier university awards in Canada.

They will enhance UBC's position as one of the top universities in the country for scholarships and bursary dollars available to students.

"Our support for learning is not just a matter of philanthropy or good corporate citizenship," says Tony Comper, chair and chief executive officer, Bank of Montreal. "It also makes good business sense."

The new scholarships will be awarded to students entering UBC from high school or transferring from other institutions who demonstrate academic excellence in combination with significant contributions to the community through volunteerism, athletics, or artistic excellence.

In four years, the annual scholarships will result in a total of 16 UBC Bank of Montreal National scholars on campus each year.

"These scholarships emphasize the bank's commitment not only to learning, but also to reflecting the diversity of the country and the people of this great city. In this way, they will also reflect Bank of Montreal's own commitment to workforce diversity," says Rob Pearce, president, Personal and Commercial Banking Distribution for the Bank of Montreal.

Students serve up sweet recognition

Awards recognize individuals' contributions to student growth and success, says Alma Mater Society president

SOME OF UBC'S UNSUNG heroes have received Just Desserts Awards in recognition of their willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty.

"It's a two-way street," says Erfan Kazemi, president of the Alma Mater Society (AMS).

"These individuals do a lot to contribute to student growth and success. This is an opportunity to let them know how much we value their efforts."

In a student tradition begun in 1985, student societies across campus nominate faculty, staff and student award winners. This year there are 21 recipients.

Marnie Craft takes great pride in "making people happy every second Friday" in her role as payroll administrator for the AMS. It is a position she has held for the past 25 years.

"I love the challenge of continuously keeping up with new government rules and regulations, the constantly evolving AMS, and the opportunity of learning the new software for payroll computer systems," says Craft.

Watching the student executives and service coordinators grow to become much more confident with their leadership skills is her favourite part of the job.

Andrew Tinka was recognized for his contribution to student life as the president of the Engineering Physics Club and editor of the Engineering Undergraduate Society newspaper, which he helped to rejuvenate this past year.

"I'm honoured to be recognized for my efforts, but it really wasn't such hard work—I just tried to

have as much fun as I could this year," says the fifth-year Engineering student.

Tinka credits the hard work of a team of students who help to produce *NEUSpaper* each month.

In his role as editor, he looks forward to reading the articles written by his colleagues, as it's an opportunity to learn from different per-

spectives.

Among the other faculty, staff and students to win Just Desserts Awards are: Mechanical Engineering Assoc. Prof. **A. Bruce Dunwoody**; English instructor **Peter Dickinson**; Germanic Studies Prof. Emerita **Marketa Goetz-Stankiewicz**; Geography Prof. **Cole Harris**; Political Science lecturer **Don MacInnis**; English Prof. **William New**; History Asst. Prof. **Stephen Straker**; Psychology Prof. **Peter Suedfeld**; **Tara Stewart**, Graduate

Students' Society; School of Human Kinetics systems analyst **Cliff Storlund**; Faculty of Law career development officer **Danielle Raymond**; Pharmaceutical Sciences lecturer **Colleen Brady**; former registrar **Richard Spencer**; Science Assoc. Dean **Paul Harrison**; Microbiology lecturer **Tracy Kion**; Math Prof. **Philip Loewen**; Microbiology lecturer **Diane Oorebeek**; Physics and Astronomy Assoc. Prof. **Kristin Schleich**; and Microbiology lecturer **Karen Smith**.

Doctor heads to China on trip back in time

Pioneering father built medical unit in northern China

IN HIS OWN VERSION of the Orient Express, Dr. Donald Paty, director of UBC's Multiple Sclerosis Research Programs, is about to head to China on a sentimental journey.

Paty, his son Breay and his nephew Philip—also physicians—will travel in April to Changzhou in southern China to honour the achievements of his late father, Dr. Robert Morris Paty.

In 1924 — more than a decade before Canadian doctor Norman Bethune started a medical unit in northern China—34-year-old Robert arrived from Atlanta to serve as a medical missionary with the Southern Methodist Church.

"My father was something of an adventurer," says Donald. "My mother, too—she was only 19 at the time they went to China."

Within one year, Robert became fluent in Chinese and took over direction of the area's hospital when his predecessor died of typhus. In

1933, only nine years after his arrival, he had raised enough money through a nation-wide tour of the U.S. to found and build a new 300-bed hospital.

The Patys made their home in China and most of their five children, including Donald, were born there. Family photos show the eminent neurologist as a toddler in the arms of his amah in front of impressive hospital buildings whose verandahs are reminiscent of the family's Old South roots.

In 1940 Americans were asked to leave the country and the Patys returned to the U.S. to settle in Georgia. Robert returned to China after the Second World War for 18 months. He later worked in New York, Asia and Africa and retired at age 75. He died in 1983.

And now, 77 years after Robert's arrival, the three doctors have been asked by that same hospital in Changzhou to give a medical

OFFBEAT

symposium in honour of the man who is famous there for his contributions to medical care.

With obvious pride, Paty points to a framed certificate on the wall of his office that is written in Chinese characters.

"That's my dad's lifetime honorary membership in the Chinese medical association," he says, adding that he inherited some of his father's wanderlust and moved with his wife and young family to Borneo at the outset of his own medical career.

The three Paty doctors will each give a short talk at the memorial symposium on their specialty topics.

Donald will present a seminar on diagnosis and follow-up of multiple sclerosis with an emphasis on magnetic resonance imaging.

Breay, a fellow in endocrinology at the University of Washington



Dr. Robert Paty (front left) at clinic

will discuss diabetes and pancreas islet cell transplants.

Philip, a cancer surgeon working in New York City, will make a presentation on future directions in research and treatment for colorectal cancer.

Robert Paty and his three medical descendants all graduated from Emory College University in Atlanta, Ga. Breay is also a UBC medical graduate.

Discussion

Unity 1918. Kevin Kerr, Playwright. Buchanan B-226 from 12:30-1pm. Call 822-9824.

Concert

UBC Chamber Strings. Chan Centre at 12:30pm. Call 822-5574.

Earth And

Ocean Sciences Colloquium

Combining And Calibrating The Geophysical And Geochemical Inversion Problem In Dynamic Continental Crust. A Processes-Oriented Investigation Of The Ivrea Zone Crustal Section, Northern Italy. Geroge Bergantz, U of Washington. GeoSciences 330-A at 12:30pm. Call 822-3278.

Alternative And

Integrated Medical Seminar

Ayurvedic Medicine. Sivakumar Varma, Chopra Centre for Well Being. IRC#5 from 12:30-1:30pm. Call 822-7604.

Forestry Public Lecture

Science In Service In Society: The Role Of Research. Peter Farnham, vice-president, Forestry and Raw Materials Research, Christine Dean, director, Western Timberlands Research, Weyerhaeuser. ForSciences 1005 at 12:30pm. Call 822-2727.

Joan Carlisle Irving Lecture

Trauma, Gender And The Politics Of National Filiation: Australia And Moffatt's Night Cries. E. Ann Kaplan, State U of New York. Lasserre 102 at 12:30pm. Call 822-2757.

Botany Seminar

Using Chlorophyll Fluorescence To Investigate Nutrient Stress In Oceanic Diatoms. Rana El-Sabaawi. BioSciences 2000 at 12:30pm. Call 822-2133.

Film

The Blue Kate (China). CK Choi 120 from 1-3pm. Call 822-4688.

Intercultural Studies In Asia Seminar

Gender And Development: One Man's Cross-Cultural Perspective. Shiraz Ramji, SFU. CK Choi 129 from 1:30pm to 2:30pm. Call 822-4688.

Walter S. Owen Lecture

Legal Governance And Social Relations: Empowering Agents And The Limits Of Law. Prof. Alan J. Hunt. Curtis 101/102 from 5:30-7:30 pm. Reception to follow. Call 822-3151.

UBC Young Alumni Event

From Backpacks to Briefcases. Cecil Green Park House from 7-9pm. \$20. Refreshments. Call 822-3313.

Art Exhibition Opening Reception

Stephen Andrews: Likeness. Belkin Art Gallery from 8-10 pm. Call 822-2759.

FRIDAY, MARCH 23

Health Care And Epidemiology Rounds

Public Health Information System. Layton Engwer, BC Centre for Disease Control. Mather 253 from 9-10am. Paid parking available in B Lot. Call 822-2772.

Art Exhibition

Stephen Andrews: Likeness. Belkin Art Gallery from 10am-5pm. Call 822-2759.

Seminar

The Role Of National Marine Conservation Areas In Conservation Of Marine Biodiversity. Tom Tomascik, Parks Canada. Hut B-8, Ralf Yorque room from 11:30am-1pm. Call 822-2731.

Concert

UBC Korean Ensemble. Music Recital Hall at 12:30pm. Call 822-5574.

Occupational And Environmental Hygiene Seminar

Research In Agricultural Health And Safety At The University Of Washington Pacific Northwest Agricultural And Health Center. Matt Keifer, co-director. UBC Hosp., Koerner Pavilion G-279 from 12:30-1:30pm. Call 822-9861 or 822-0585.

Mathematics Colloquium

Phase Transitions In Computer Science. Jennifer Chayes, Microsoft Research. Mathematics 100 at 3:30pm. Refreshments, Mathematics Annex 1115 at 3:15pm. Call 822-2666.

Chemical And

Biological Engineering Seminar

Overlapping Effects Of Cytokines (IL-3 and GM-CSF) On The Growth And Proliferation Of Hematopoietic Cells. Muhammad Arshad Chaudry. ChemEng 206 at 3:30pm. Call 822-3238.

International House

Multicultural Festival

Festiva 2001. International House from 5-10pm. \$3-\$5. Call 822-1265.

Concert

Operatic Excerpts. UBC Opera Ensemble, UBC Choral Union, UBC Symphonic Wind Ensemble. Chan Centre at 8pm. Continues March 24 at 8pm. Call 822-5574.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24

Vancouver Institute Lecture

Politics And Education: Reflections On Current Dilemmas. Michael Stevenson, president, SFU. IRC #2 at 8:15pm. Call 822-4636.

NOTICES

Habitat For Humanity UBC

Is looking for volunteers. Come help out on the construction site and build homes for low-income families - no skills required. For more information and to register for an orientation, e-mail habitat@vancouver.net or call 681-5618.

Family Career Development Project

Parents and adolescents are invited to participate together in research that addresses how parents and adolescents talk about the youth's future. If your family faces challenges such as unemployment or illness, call 822-4919 to participate.

Parents With Toddlers

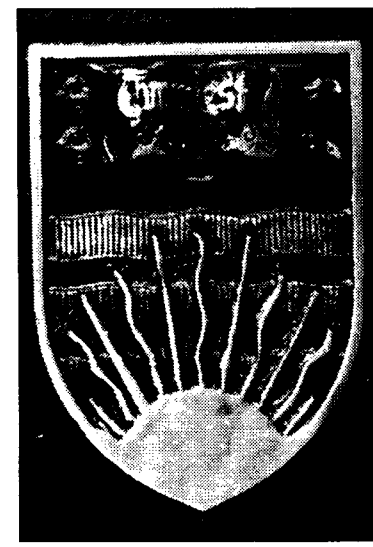
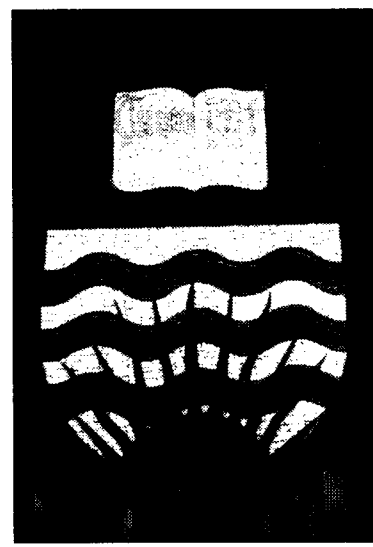
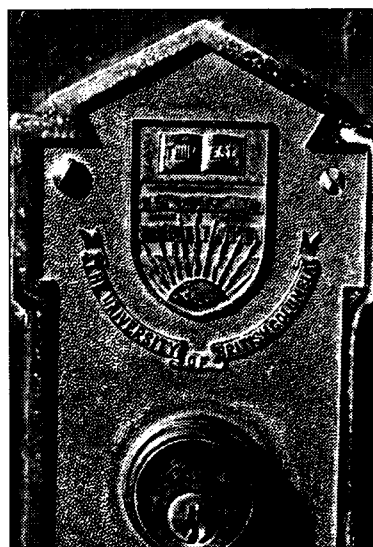
Did you know your child is a word-learning expert? We are looking for children (one to five years old) and their parent(s) to participate in language studies in the Psychology Dept. You and your child and a trained researcher will play a word game using puppets and toys or pictures. During your visit, you will remain with your child at all times. If you (or someone you know) might be interested in bringing your child for a 30-minute visit to our research playroom, please contact Dr. Hall's Language Development Centre at 822-9294.

Born Between 1930 And 1976?

The Adult Development And Psychometrics Lab at UBC is looking for men and women born between 1930 and 1976 to participate in a series of focus groups looking at what it means to be your age today. Call Rick 822-5250.

Participants Wanted

Are you a postmenopausal woman with Type II diabetes interested in beginning an exercise program? St. Paul's Hospital Healthy Heart Program and Diabetes Centre are recruiting participants who do not smoke or use insulin, for a research project on the effect of exercise on diabetes for women. Call Darcy Cuff 806-8601.



The university's crest has taken many forms over the years. Public Affairs staff will offer a seminar on the university's new visual identity and how to use it in communication materials tomorrow, Friday, March 9. The seminar will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Board and Senate room of the Old Administration Building. To reserve a space, call UBC-INFO (822-4636). Dianne Longson photos

Morris And Helen Belkin Art Gallery

Landscape paintings by leading British artist, Peter Doig. Continues to March 11. Tuesday to Friday, from 10am-5pm, Saturday 12noon-5pm, Sunday 12noon-5pm (Closed Mondays and statutory holidays). Call 822-2759.

UBC Birdwalks

Anyone who is interested can meet at the flagpole above the Rose Garden on Thursdays at 12:45pm. Look for a small group of people who are carrying binoculars and bird books, (and bring your own, if you have them). Call 822-9149.

Premenstrual Asthma Study

UBC/St. Paul's Hospital researchers are seeking females with asthma and regular menstrual cycles for a study of estrogen's effects on asthma symptoms and lung function. Must be 18-50 years of age and NOT taking birth control pills. Honorarium and free peak flow meter provided. If interested, please call 875-2886.

Parkinson's Research

A research team from UBC is asking for the assistance of people with Parkinson's to participate in research. This research is aimed at understanding how Parkinson's may affect complex activities such as managing multiple tasks. Participation involves performing fairly simple tasks, some of which involve responding verbally to computer screen displays. If you are a healthy person of the age 50 years or older, we are also in need of several people to participate as part of a non-Parkinson's comparison group. Call Todd Woodward, Psychology Dept. at 822-3227.

Sexual Assault Research

The Anxiety and Fear Laboratory in the Psychology Dept. requires female volunteers who have experienced unwanted sexual activity to participate in a research project. If you have ever had sex with someone when you didn't want to, because the other person said no, forced or threatened to force you, or because you were given alcohol or drugs, and you would be interested in helping us with our research, please call 822-9028. Confidentiality and privacy protected.

Museum Of

Anthropology Exhibition

Attributed To Edenshaw: Identifying The Hand Of The Artist: Two Case Studies: Northwest Coast Art. Continues to Aug. 31. Conversations: The Tecson Philippine Collection. Continues to Sept. 3. Wed.-Sun. 11am-5pm, Tues. to 9pm (5-9pm free). Call 822-5087.

Traumatic Stress Clinic

Psychologists conducting research at the Traumatic Stress Clinic at UBC Psychiatry are offering free treatment to people suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). PTSD is caused by events such as physical or sexual assault, and motor vehicle accidents. Call the Traumatic Stress Clinic at 822-8040.

AMS Rentsline

Helping students find housing since 1993, the AMS Rentsline is UBC's off-campus housing registry. This service gives students access to hundreds of rental listings, and landlords access to thousands of students looking for housing. You can call the Rentsline from any touchtone phone 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Call 714-4848.

Faculty Women's Club

The Faculty Women's Club brings together women connected to the university either through their work or that of their spouses, for social activities and lectures. Its main purpose is to raise funds for student scholarships. There are 19 different interest groups within the club, ranging from art appreciation and bridge to hiking. To join call Elizabeth Towers, president, at 224-5877 or Gwyneth Westwick, membership at 263-6612.

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) Research

Infectious Diseases researchers from VGHI seek volunteers diagnosed medically with CFS to participate in a study about managing symptoms. Call Kenna Sleigh 875-5555 ext. 62366.

UBC Fencing Club

UBC Fencing Club meets every Monday and Thursday from 7-9pm in the Osborne Gym. Learn decision-making, poise and control. Newcomers welcome. Drop-in fee. Leave message at 878-7060.

Statistical Consulting And Research Lab (SCARL)

SCARL offers statistical advice and long or short-term assistance to researchers. Resources include expertise in many areas of statistical methodology and a variety of statistical software. Web site www.stat.ubc.ca/scarl, e-mail scarl@stat.ubc.ca or call 822-4037.

Chan Centre Tours

Free tours of the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts are held every Thursday. Participants are asked to meet in the Chan Centre main lobby at 1pm. Special group tours can be booked through www.chancentre.com or at 822-1815.

TAKE FLIGHT

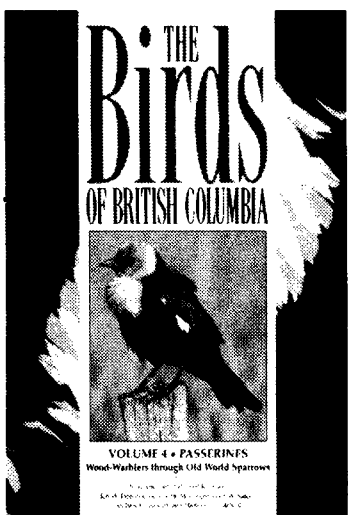
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A recent survey of how adults from different cultural backgrounds talk to their children will help speech pathologists tailor educational and counselling practices to more effectively fit the family's needs, says Audiology and Speech Sciences Prof. Judith Johnston. Hilary Thomson photo

Study suggests different tack for learning disorders

Cultural differences in how adults talk to children need to be considered, say speech researchers

by Hilary Thomson staff writer

SPEECH SCIENTISTS call it Motherese.

This special combination of language and behaviour that adults use to talk to young children has been re-examined from a cultural perspective in a recent study completed at UBC's School of Audiology and Speech Sciences in the Faculty of Medicine.

The survey of 97 Chinese-Canadian and western mothers in Vancouver uncovered different beliefs and practices when it comes to language interactions with children.

"Cultural differences become particularly important when children have learning disorders," says Prof. Judith Johnston who conducted the study with PhD student Mei Yin Wong. "We need to know about these differences if we are to offer parents advice that is culturally appropriate and useful."

Speech language pathologists work intensively with parents on parent-child interaction patterns that foster language learning. Advice to parents has largely been based on research with western families, however, and cultural influences were virtually ignored.

Chinese-speaking Canadians form the second-largest client base for speech language pathologists in Vancouver after English speakers. There are few Cantonese-speaking speech therapists.

Mothers of children two to four years old responded to the 32-item survey that was developed in both English and Chinese. The survey looked at beliefs and practices regarding the value of talking with children, methods of parental teaching, including children in adult conversations, and other issues.

Researchers found that Chinese-Canadian survey respondents agreed more strongly than western mothers that young children learn best when they are given instruction and that young children should always be encouraged to communicate with words rather than gestures.

Western mothers believed more strongly than Chinese-Canadian respondents that using baby talk hampers a child's language learning, that young children learn im-

portant things while playing, and that children should be included in conversations with adults outside the family.

Differences in practices included more use of picture books or flash cards to teach language amongst Chinese-Canadian mothers. Western mothers tend to favour reading a storybook at bedtime, talking about what happened during the day and repeating what the child says while adding new words to build language skills.

"This information has real clinical implications," says Johnston, who is a developmental psychologist as well as a speech language pathologist.

"In areas where western practices are not appropriate, we can help Chinese-Canadian families find practices from within their culture that will have the same effects. A better cultural fit means our edu-

cational and counselling programs will be more effective."

For example, storytelling in a Chinese-Canadian family might replace book reading in a Western family.

Designing a survey where nothing "got lost in translation" was a challenge, says Johnston.

She and Wong consulted with child language scholars and also with speech language pathologists and social workers from both cultural groups. In addition to developing the survey in both languages, it was translated into Chinese and back into English twice to ensure the highest degree of comparability.

About three to five per cent of young Canadian children have language learning difficulties, according to a recent study.

Support for this study was provided in part by the Community Care Foundation, an organization that seeks to maintain, protect and improve the community's medical and health-care services.

Social workers build skills close to home

Program aims to increase number with advanced clinical, management skills

SOCIAL WORKERS in B.C.'s Interior are now working on their Master of Social Work (MSW) at home.

A three-year, part-time program is being offered through distance education.

"We're interested in increasing the number of MSW graduates in the province because they go into advanced clinical practice and into policy and management positions. In this way they meet the continuing demand for social workers in the province and provide the professional leadership that is required," says Prof. Graham Riches, director of the School of Social Work and Family Studies.

Part of the program's objective is to try to serve the Okanagan and Cariboo regions, Riches says.

The northern part of the province is served through a graduate program in social work at the University of Northern British Columbia.

Impetus for the program came from the heads of University College of the Cariboo (UCC) and Okanagan University College (OUC), says Prof. Roopchand Seebaran, co-ordinator of the distance education program.

"They told us that there's a real demand for the graduate program in the areas they service," he says. "Two public meetings were held

and almost 100 people attended each one. We were told that was a fraction of the interested people."

The program relies on a combination of face-to-face and on-line courses. It makes use of faculty resources and facilities from OUC, UCC and UBC. The on-line courses are provided with the assistance of the UBC's Distance Education and Technology Centre.

Twenty-four students who are unable to leave the area to attend university full-time are now half-way through the program.

Student Carrie McNeely says the program is perfect for her because she has a large family and works full-time at Royal Inland Hospital in Kamloops.

The program requires a serious commitment of time. McNeely spends two evenings a week and one day on the weekend studying and doing assignments.

"My family supports me completely and picks up the slack around the house," she says.

As part of the program, McNeely and the other students must attend three three-day weekend workshops for each course.

"It's quite a marathon. You're really exhausted when the weekend is over," she says.

Students are spread out over a huge area, including Salmon Arm, Trail, Williams Lake and Nelson.

The Master of Social Work program, which is self-funded, will be evaluated this summer to measure its success in meeting its objectives.

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Conference to focus on inquiry-based learning

Approach promotes critical thinking and problem solving

MAXIMIZING THE educational experiences of students is the focus of the first UBC Learning Conference to be held May 14-15 in the Great Hall of the First Nations House of Learning and Ponderosa Centre.

Called Bringing the Excitement of Discovery to Student Learning, the conference will explore inquiry-based learning strategies in which students' learning processes mirror research processes. Effective use of these strategies encourages such skills as critical thinking and problem solving in learners.

The conference is sponsored by the Centre for Teaching and Academic Growth (TAG) and the President's Office.

"The purpose of the conference is to discover what's happening on campus with regards to inquiry-based learning and find out what's working and how it can be improved," says conference co-ordinator Ingrid Price.

Participants will have opportunities to learn from each other via a series of concurrent sessions.

Gary Poole, director of TAG, hopes both proponents and critics of inquiry-based learning will attend the conference, which will also be open to students.

The conference will also include keynote addresses from speakers

chosen for their prominence in the area of inquiry-based learning.

Bruce Alberts, president of the National Academy of Sciences and a member of the Boyer Commission on undergraduate education, is among the scheduled speakers.

Brief proposals for sessions are welcome from faculty, staff and students. Proposals should be sent to Ingrid Price, conference co-ordinator by fax to (604) 822-9826 or e-mail to ingrid.price@ubc.ca by March 9.

For more information on the conference and proposal guidelines visit www.cstudies.ubc.ca/facdev/UBClearn.



Fourth-year Computer Engineering student Amy Au-Yeung is among the many UBC Golden Key Honour Society students who volunteer every week at a Vancouver elementary school. The society recognizes and encourages scholastic achievement through chapters at universities worldwide. *Daria Wojnarski photo*

Volunteers champion learning

In a school in which English is a second language for most, student volunteers help make a difference

TWENTY-YEAR-OLD Amy Au-Yeung wants to pass on her enthusiasm about university to children in elementary school.

That's one of the reasons why she spends several hours a week doing volunteer work at Queen Alexandra Elementary School in Vancouver.

"I do this work because I like kids and it's more meaningful than sitting at home watching TV," says Au-Yeung, a fourth-year UBC Computer Engineering student. "This

is an inner city school and some of the kids don't think about life after high school. They know I go to university and I want them to see it as a possibility."

Au-Yeung assists Grade 2 teacher Karen Dixon by doing one-to-one work with the students and leading groups in projects.

Dixon appreciates the help. "There are numerous benefits. A lot of children here don't regularly receive one-to-one or small group instruction. It's great for the chil-

dren to be with someone who's attending university when many of their parents are new to the country and struggling to make a living," says Dixon.

Eighty percent of the students at Queen Alexandra Elementary School are English as a Second Language (ESL) students.

"When children are ESL they often don't have the same enrichment opportunities to be read to in English and so aren't getting the same exposure as non-ESL students to the English language," says Dixon. "The volunteers help develop the children's vocabulary and reading strategies."

Most of the volunteers in Dixon's class, including Au-Yeung, are members of the UBC chapter of the Golden Key International Honour Society.

The society is a non-profit, academic honours organization founded by students for the purpose of recognizing and encouraging scholastic achievement.

It facilitates interaction among high-achieving students from diverse faculties and degree programs within universities and reinforces students' contact with academic staff through chapter programs.

Membership is based on academic merit and limited to the top 15 per cent of bachelor's degree students.

"Golden Key volunteers are very reliable and they tend to be younger than other volunteers—more like an older brother or sister to these children," says Dixon.

The volunteer work doesn't mean Au-Yeung has let her marks slip.

"If I'm really busy with midterms or projects I can cancel. I try not to because I do miss the kids," she says.

Expectant mothers, HIV patients will be focus of two clinical trials

by Andy Poon staff writer

UBC RESEARCHERS were successful in gaining almost \$5 million in funding for clinical trials from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) in its most recent round of competition.

Patricia Janssen has received \$1.3 million over two years from CIHR for clinical trials examining early labour support at home for expecting mothers.

Janssen, an assistant clinical professor in the Faculty of Medicine's Dept. of Family Practice and an adjunct faculty member in the School of Nursing, will compare whether a telephone consultation or a home visit by nurses yields better results in advising women in early labour on the best time to go into a hospital.

"If a pregnant woman comes into the hospital before labour is established she is in an environment where she is less active and eating and drinking less than she would be at home," says Janssen. "She may also be inclined to take pain medication which she wouldn't have if she were at home. These factors may increase her risk of having a Cesarean section."

Janssen says the current system of telephone triage—telephone conversations between hospital staff and expecting mothers—results in 40 per cent of first-time moms being admitted to hospital before labour is established.

Janssen is working with co-investigators Nursing Prof. Elaine Carty, doctors Joel Singer, Michael Klein, and John Zupancic of the Faculty of Medicine and Dr. Douglas Keith of Surrey Memorial Hospital on the study. The clinical trial is expected to begin in late



Asst. Prof. Patricia Janssen

spring at B.C. Women's Hospital and Health Centre and Surrey Memorial Hospital.

The Canadian HIV Trials Network, which is centred at UBC under the direction of Dr. Martin Schechter, and researchers at the University of Ottawa were awarded \$3.7 million over four years by CIHR to conduct a controlled clinical trial to determine the best management of people with advanced HIV infection for whom the best available AIDS drug cocktails have failed.

"These new drugs have been a quantum leap forward in AIDS treatment, but now they are beginning to fail because of their toxicity and the ability of HIV to develop resistance to them," says Schechter. "There is a worldwide search for answers. It is gratifying to see this international trial, which was developed here in Canada, come to fruition through CIHR funding and help to lead the way."

Schechter, who heads UBC's Dept. of Health Care and Epidemiology, will work with researchers from the U.K. and the U.S. in the multinational trial.

CIHR is the major federal agency responsible for funding health research in Canada. It has replaced the Medical Research Council of Canada and Health Canada's National Health Research and Development Program.

GIVE SOMEONE A SECOND CHANCE.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
CENTRE FOR
KOREAN RESEARCH
DIRECTOR

The Institute of Asian Research is seeking applications from within the university for the post of director of the Centre for Korean Research. Applicants should hold academic appointments at UBC and have a demonstrated record of research on Korea. The successful applicant will be expected to take up the appointment on July 1, 2001.

The successful candidate will be expected to develop research programs focusing on Korea, seek funding from external donors for the programs of the Centre for Korean Research, 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, 2001. Applicants should send a letter describing their interest in the position, a curriculum vitae, and the names and postal and e-mail addresses of three references to:

Pitman B. Potter, Director
Institute of Asian Research
C.K. Choi Building, Room 251
1855 West Mall, UBC
V6T 1Z2
Tel: (604) 822-4688
Fax: (604) 822-5207
e-mail: potter@interchange.ubc.ca

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VANCOUVER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY Affordable accommodation or meeting space near the Chan Centre and MOA. 17 modestly furnished rooms with hall bath are avail. Daily rates starting at \$36. Meals or meal plans are avail. in the school cafeteria. For more information call 822-9031 or 822-9490.

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TRIUMF HOUSE Guest house with homey, comfortable environment for visitors to UBC and hospital. Located near hospital. Rates \$40-\$80/night and weekly rates. Call 222-1062.

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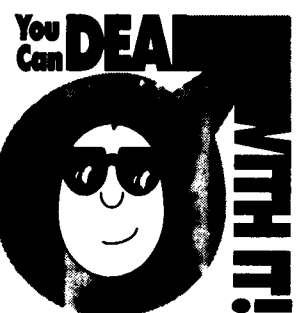
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BRITISH COLUMBIA & YUKON DIVISION

Pilot project to test virtual lifelong learning environment

Video, still images, 3D models among types of learning materials that will be made available

by **Andy Poon** staff writer

UBC HAS JOINED a \$3.4-million, nationwide test project aimed at improving the access and usefulness of Canada's high-tech network infrastructure for educators and students.

The project—dubbed BELLE for Broadband Enabled Lifelong Learning Environment—is designed to make quality, peer-reviewed multimedia learning materials such as video, still images, three-dimensional models, and virtual environments at participating universities and colleges across the nation available to a broader audience.

"For example, the customized course packages individual professors have developed that are sold at university bookstores may be made available online," says Jim Tom, director, Networks, at UBC's ITservices.

UBC is among the 10 post-secondary institutions participating in the project in which each school is working to digitize, classify and make available current and new forms of multimedia learning materials on-line.

As part of the test effort, each institution will install and run a special workstation connected to the national high-speed research network, CA*net3, to allow stu-

dents and educators across the country access to each school's multimedia learning materials.

Tom says that UBC has spent a year developing and building a system to store learning materials for this purpose.

"It's mostly printed materials at this point but we want to also be able to eventually share multimedia materials and to reuse and repurpose learning materials generated at one institution with another for greater efficiency and collaboration between universities," says Tom.

In addition to UBC, the participating schools include the Banff Centre for the Arts, McGill University's Faculty of Medicine, Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, Seneca@York, Sheridan College, the University of Alberta, the University of Calgary, the University of Lethbridge, and the Vancouver Film School.

The BELLE project is being led by Netera Alliance, a not-for-profit corporation charged with developing and managing Alberta's advanced Internet network. The project is supported by a \$1.7-million grant from CANARIE Inc., Canada's advanced Internet development organization, with matching funds from the participating institutions.

The test project is due to wrap up in February next year.

Honour Roll

Music Prof. **Stephen Chatman's** *Tara's Dream* is the first-ever Canadian work to be short-listed as a semi-finalist in the Masterprize international composition competition.

The 11-minute work is one of 12 orchestral works selected from 1,131 entries from 62 countries in the global competition for new music based in London, England.

All semi-finalist works will be broadcast beginning in April through BBC Radio 3, European Broadcasting Union members, and radio networks throughout the world.

The worldwide potential audience is 150 million listeners.

The first place winner in Masterprize receives \$70,000.



Assoc. Prof. Sarah Otto

variation of endangered species.

A faculty member since 1995, Otto is one of six fellowship recipients from universities across Canada. She will be able to pursue her research full-time over the next two years with support from the award and from UBC.

NSERC Steacie Fellowships are awarded to the most outstanding Canadian university scientists or engineers who have earned their doctorate within the last 12 years. The other B.C. recipient is Dr. Ben Koop of the University of Victoria.

Geography Asst. Prof. **Matthew Evenden** has earned a major international award from the American Society for Environmental History.

His doctoral dissertation, "Fish vs. Power: Remaking Salmon, Science and Society on the Fraser River, 1900-1960," has been selected for the 2001 Rachel Carson Prize for the best dissertation in environmental history.

Evenden, a West Vancouver native, teaches historical and environmental geography of Canada and the U.S.


The prize will be presented at an urban banquet this month in Durham, N.C., during the society's annual conference.




Asst. Prof. Matthew Evenden

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PROFILE

*A mission accompanies
singing mining professor*

Rock and soul



by Bruce Mason staff writer

TWELVE MINUTES BEFORE class, students rush to a few remaining seats, fighting their way through faculty, staff and assorted fans lining the hallway outside the engineering lecture theatre.

Up front, Marcello Veiga, an assistant professor of Mining and Mineral Process Engineering, consults his notes — musical notes.

He paces, tuning a small four-string guitar to the harmonica held around his neck as he passes out tambourines and other percussion instruments.

Cale Dubois, a fourth-year student, picks through a chord progression on the guitar he has brought to the Mining 519 lecture to jam with the professor.

Feet tap, and faces smile as infectious bossa nova and samba rhythms fill the air. The duo sing Cat Stevens' "Father and Son" from hand-written lyrics propped up on the podium.

Veiga's classically trained voice soars above the rest, clear and clean as the streams he envisions, solid as the earth he wants to protect. It is the voice of an experienced performer with something to say.

"Music encourages my students to get to class on time and helps me capture their undivided attention," says Veiga, a world authority on mercury pollution. He will bounce a ball off walls if he senses he is losing his students, he says.

An orchestrated series of wisecracks, cartoons and skits make that highly unlikely.

"What really sets Marcello apart from many professors is his obvious passion for teaching and his natural sense of humor which is never far away," says Dubois.

A bell is barely audible over a rousing version of The Eagles' "Hotel California." Hoots and applause signal the start of another lecture in Mining and the Environment.

When the music stops, the lecturer doesn't miss a beat and the message starts, delivered with the same full measure of gentle intensity and good humour. If Veiga has his way, the perceptions of every student will be altered in the hour-long lecture.

"My responsibility to students is to get them thinking about ethical behaviour, which has been sadly lacking in the history of engineering," says the Brazilian-born Veiga. He spent more than a decade in the mining industry after earning a metallurgical engineering degree from the Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro and a master's degree in environmental geochemistry from Federal Fluminense University.

"It's essential that the profession address the conflict our work often causes in communities."

The great-grandson of the former president of Brazil and the grandson and son of cabinet ministers, he sensed something wrong with an industry that was not

Mining Asst. Prof. Marcello Veiga tunes up his class with a cavaquinho as a prelude to discussing the effects of poverty and the ethics of engineering. Bruce Mason photo

aware it affects the lives of billions of people worldwide, during and after operations.

His concern led to serving on United Nations missions in various South American countries and to UBC where he earned a PhD in 1994. He joined the faculty three years later.

"Approximately 13 million miners in 55 countries are involved in artisanal mining, using mercury to recover gold," he says. "Entire families depend on it for their very survival. Daily life for many women and children includes separating poisonous mercury from gold with their bare hands."

HE HAS PHOTOGRAPHS, hundreds of them, transferred to electronic images. They seem like visions from other worlds, virtually impossible to comprehend as they flicker across a computer screen.

"What is lacking most in Canadian education is a deep understanding of poverty, which is the main cause of environmental problems of the planet," says Veiga, who delivered a special lecture — Mercury in the Andes: An Appalling Tale of Misunderstandings and Blunders — at Green College last month.

"Because most of UBC's mining graduates will most likely work in areas such as South America, Africa and Indonesia, they must be fully aware of how powerful a motivator poverty is," he says.

"They must learn that people respect the environment in different ways. It is not enough to just say, 'Stop doing that!' This is just one of many, many cultural issues and sensitivities," he explains.

A cartoon of the legend of Pocahontas with a cast of an army of miners wreaking havoc on the environment illustrates Veiga's approach. It is not just another cartoon he tells his classes as he assigns an analysis of the portrayal of villainous miners as homework.

He also asks them to sift through the media for stories about the negative impact of their chosen profession and to play min-

gram between UBC and the University of Sao Paulo. Daughter Mariana is a first-year UBC Biology student and son Victor is a student at University Hill Secondary, where Veiga sometimes gives presentations.

And he assumes his share of the university's role in the community. A past president of Vancouver's Brazilian Community Association, he organized soccer matches between local Brazilian teams and colleagues and students in his department under the team banner, "The Rest of the World."

WHEN GLOBAL ATTENTION began to focus on the burning of the Amazon rainforest, Veiga sounded an alert in an article in *Nature* magazine about the dangers of mercury contained in trees, which was being released into the atmosphere. It was front-page news in Brazil.

He also warned that jewellers working with gold were polluting the air with mercury.

Veiga is one of 30 researchers from 10 departments in UBC's Centre for Environmental Research in Minerals, Metals and Materials. The group is close to helping to solve a terrible Canadian mining pollution problem at Britannia Beach where 600 kilograms of copper and zinc has leaked into Howe Sound every day since 1974.

An innovative 1,000-year plug devised by the team will hopefully seal the mine permanently this summer.

Typically Veiga's role is unorthodox and inventive. He is experimenting with earthworms to determine metal bioaccumulation and how far pollutants move up in the food chain.

Music is essential to his own life. It paid for his education and he spent a full year trying, in vain, to make a living from performing at weddings and other venues.

Self-taught on the harmonica since the age of 10, he learned to play guitar with his mother at 14, and now wants to spend more time playing and singing with other musicians. He practices daily on instruments such as the stringed cavaquinho and continually expands his repertoire.

"I love all music. It is a powerful means of communication," he says, "but I have learned not to sing opera to my students. It puts them to sleep."

ers or environmentalists in skits in class.

"This is real. It's serious. And I have lived the stories I tell," says Veiga, who was given a piece of a net, removed from the waters around Minamata, Japan in 1997, in recognition of his ongoing work there.

For more than 20 years the net held back mercury-infested fish which caused horrific human suffering in the '50s and '60s. He is regularly called to Peru and other places to monitor mercury spills.

Veiga also acts locally.

Canadians have an ambivalent attitude to mining, but consume 10 tonnes of mineral products each every year.

The release of selenium from this country's coal mines is one area of his research and he formed the Centre for Responsible Mining to encourage students to tackle such issues as corporate responsibility for the tragic impact of closures in Canada's mining communities.

He takes his work and the university home.

His wife Sonia, a former student, earned a PhD in Metallurgical Engineering in a joint exchange pro-