

## 3 Space age

Will the universe reveal its secrets to a satellite?

## 8 Parting words

With freedom comes responsibility, says scholar

# ubc reports

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



**BANNER YEAR** UBC banners now flying over Robson Square herald an initiative that is one of the key goals of *Trek 2000*, UBC's vision document. Renovations have begun on a 20,400-square-metre facility scheduled to open in the fall. The facility will offer innovative educational programs that complement the work being done by other institutions and are designed for the thousands of people who live or work in the downtown core. *Kevin Miller photo*

## Faculty, staff survey focuses on university as workplace

*Individuals to be asked how they feel about work they do*

by Hilary Thomson staff writer

UBC FACULTY AND STAFF will have a unique opportunity to make an impact on future decision-making on campus with the launch of a new project that seeks to map out the university's workplace values.

"As UBC's vision evolves and employees work to implement *Trek 2000* strategies, we need to know more about where people are coming from," says Jim Horn, associate vice-president, Human Resources. "We want to know what their priorities are, what barriers they may be facing as well as their general perception of what it's like to work here."

Faculty and staff at UBC recently received a letter from the senior administration asking for their participation in the project which will involve telephone interviews and surveys.

Their input will help the university build on its strengths, remove obstacles to further growth and move ahead with a common understanding of what factors influence individuals' actions, says Horn. For example, information could be useful in developing and revitalizing recognition programs.

Winnipeg-based Cultural Research, a 12-year-old Canadian company that has done similar work for private industry, universities and unions such as CUPE Na-

tional, will conduct the project. Data collection should be completed by year-end.

Initial consultations have been held with UBC administrators and faculty as well as union and non-union staff groups.

Horn believes that knowing the values at UBC is essential.

"Even though we rarely talk about our deeply held beliefs, they affect our actions and decisions

and are a significant factor in how work gets done, how people feel about the work they do and ultimately how successful an organization can be," he says.

The project starts with about a hundred confidential telephone interviews between Cultural Research staff and randomly selected UBC participants. Each interview takes about 20 minutes and has an open format so individuals can talk about what is important to them.

see *Values page 2*

## Historian recognized with top award from Arts faculty

*"Students have been my sustenance," says scholar*

by Don Wells staff writer

IF YOU ASKED History Prof. Allen Sinel's students if his gradual loss of eyesight has affected his abilities as a teacher, chances are they would say yes. He's better than ever.

Sinel has received the top award in the university's largest faculty, the Faculty of Arts. The Dean of Arts Award recognizes Sinel's outstanding qualities as a teacher, mentor and administrator.

"It's a wonderful capstone to a 37-year career," says Sinel. Currently the acting head of the History Dept., he will retire later this year.

"I've truly enjoyed these years, but probably my greatest pleasure has been running and participating in the History honours program, particularly the contact with interested students in a small class."

By all accounts, Sinel's students were richly rewarded through their contact with him. In naming him as this year's recipient, the selection committee noted that it has never seen so many letters of support from alumni.

"My students and my student readers have been my sustenance," Sinel says.

When his eyesight gradually de-

## UBC second in research grants

*Only University of Toronto researchers earn more*

UBC INVESTIGATORS have secured \$23.5 million over five years in federal research support for 195 science and engineering projects, earning them second place among Canadian universities for funding garnered in the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) annual grants competition.

A total of \$346 million was granted to more than 2,500 Canadian university researchers.

Top spot went to the University of Toronto which gained more than \$31 million for 245 projects. The University of Alberta ranked third with \$23.4 million granted to support 187 projects.

UBC is also second among Canadian universities for funding earned in the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) annual grants competition. Earlier this year, UBC researchers earned \$6.2 million from SSHRC.

"UBC researchers are very competitive at the national and international level," says Indira Samarsasekera, vice-president, Research. "And UBC innovation helps fuel economic growth with research jobs, spin-off companies and a high-tech infrastructure that will benefit research and development in this province for the long term."

Many recipients are junior re-

searchers who are demonstrating their capacity for significant future contributions, she adds.

UBC researchers in disciplines ranging from audiology to zoology were funded by NSERC for equipment such as ultra-low temperature freezers, for basic science projects and field studies.

Oldrich Hungr, an associate professor of Earth and Ocean Sciences who joined the Faculty of Science five years ago, develops methods to evaluate landslide hazards.

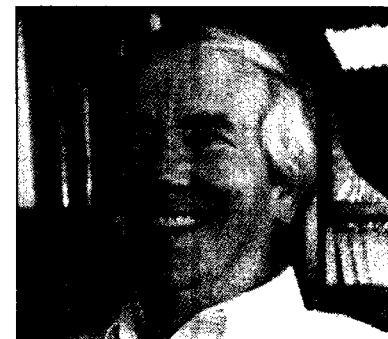
An expert in landslide dynamics, Hungr investigates the stability of slopes to determine the level of risk for buildings, roads and environmentally sensitive areas. One evaluation method involves computer modeling to help predict the distance and speed at which a landslide will travel.

His work helps to inform planners regarding risk and aids government and private industry in assessing the effectiveness of protective features, such as rock fall fences and earth barriers or berms.

The funding will help Hungr, who directs UBC's interdisciplinary Geological Engineering program, to train five or six graduate students.

UBC researchers conduct upwards of 4,000 projects annually and attract more than \$165 million in funding annually.

A complete listing of NSERC grant recipients may be found at [www.nserc.ca](http://www.nserc.ca). SSHRC grant recipients may be found at [www.sshrc.ca](http://www.sshrc.ca).



History Prof. Allen Sinel

established by an anonymous donor, recognizes exceptional contributions by Arts faculty in at least two of the areas of teaching, research, administration, public service and performance.

see *Award page 2*

LETTERS

**Learning, co-operation drive Universitas 21 e-learning project, says UBC manager**

Editor:

A recent letter by members of the Dept. of Educational Studies raised important issues about Universitas 21 which warrant a response.

The letter notes that U21 focuses on "collaboration and exchange" and sharing "expertise and resources in order to increase international understanding and improve learning." This includes meetings of deans and librarians, and formal U21 exchanges for faculty, students and staff.

U21 Pedagogica is correctly identified as responsible for academic quality assurance. U21 Pedagogica antedates the Thomson joint venture (TJV) by several years and is chaired by Stewart Sutherland, principal, University of Edin-

burgh. U21 Pedagogica is one of 10 projects identified at the U21 1998 AGM in Glasgow to shape U21. E-learning was too risky and costly to do alone and the TJV resulted.

The letter expresses concerns about university-corporate joint activities. I share these.

Careful scrutiny of Thomson Corp. subsidiaries resulted—a dozen meetings in eight months to discuss the joint venture structure and meet Thomson's executive group. It entailed reviewing massive legal documentation of the complex joint venture structure, whose complexity was designed to protect needs for academic independence and quality.

The President's Office and Board of Governors were satisfied that these were met. They concluded that U21 Global provided an opportunity for us to participate in global e-learning while minimizing financial, academic, and institutional risks.

Several misleading statements in the Educational Studies letter deserve comment.

The TJV "creates a very different relationship between the U21 uni-

versities and substitutes profit as the most important outcome." This is simply not true. The TJV is but one of the 10 key projects from 1998. Learning and co-operation are the drivers of U21; profit is not. With or without the TJV, U21 will be valuable in achieving our international goals.

Also, MIT will give away nothing when it shortly posts its course materials on the Web. MIT's courses, programs or degrees still carry

premium tuition fees.

Finally, it was implied that the TJV was morally unacceptable to the University of Toronto, causing it to leave U21. There is no evidence to support this. Rather we understand U of T faced several joint venture choices and decided to put its energies elsewhere.

*Prof. Michael A. Goldberg  
Faculty of Commerce and Business Administration; UBC Manager,  
Universitas 21*

**Award**

*Continued from page 1*

It is presented each year in the name of a living professor emeritus who has also made a significant contribution to the Faculty of Arts.

This year it is named for History Prof. Emeritus James H. Winter.

"I'm delighted that he is also being honoured," says Sinel. "He was one of my primary mentors when I first arrived, a wonderful teacher and always generous with his time and advice."

**Values**

*Continued from page 1*

Interviews will continue throughout the project. Focus groups will also be used to identify and discuss emerging issues.

"The beauty of this process is that faculty and staff can give their gut-level feelings directly," says Julie Stockton, director of Human Resources, who is co-ordinating the project. "This is a chance to be heard and an avenue to share what is important to the people who work here."

Topics for discussion will include areas such as recognition, commu-

nication, respect for each other's work, introducing new ideas, promoting understanding and general perceptions of UBC's challenges and how the university operates.

Interview data is held with the research company and will help inform surveys to be distributed to all faculty and staff in the fall.

Individuals return surveys anonymously to the research company and can follow up with a phone call if they have further comments.

A summary of results of the values project will be shared with all university faculty and staff.

For more information on the project call Julie Stockton at 604-822-5

**ubc reports**

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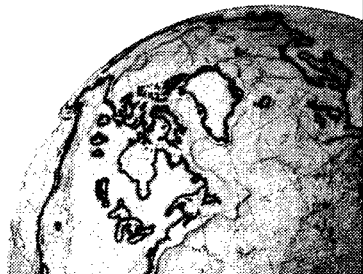
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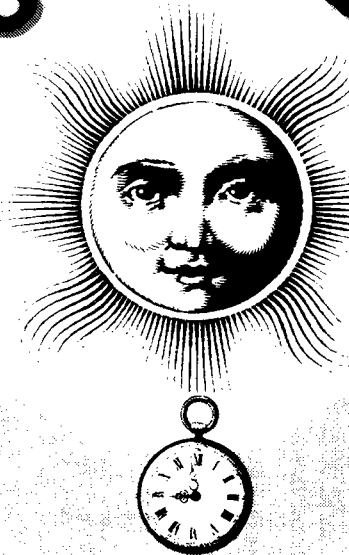
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Physicist Mark Halpern shows the carbon-fibre backing for a mirror used on satellites to collect light and define the field of view of outer space. The device is similar to one that will be mounted on a NASA probe to be launched June 30. Once in orbit, the satellite will enable Halpern's research team to gather information from the early universe and answer fundamental questions about its origin, fate and content. *Don Wells photo*

# NASA satellite mission to probe universe's mysteries

*Physics Prof. Mark Halpern is the lone Canadian on 13-member research team*

by Don Wells staff writer

PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY ASSOC. Prof. Mark Halpern will have his eyes on the skies June 30.

That's the launch date for a satellite mission that hopes to answer fundamental questions about the origin, content and fate of the universe.

A rocket will carry the Microwave Anisotropy Probe (MAP) satellite on a three-month journey into orbit approximately 1.5 million kilometres from Earth.

"There is a certain thrill about creating something that will remain intact for thousands of years after the Great Wall of China has crumbled," says Halpern, the lone Canadian in a 13-member team led by the National Aeronautic and Space Administration (NASA) Goddard Space Flight Centre in partnership with Princeton University.

The satellite will orbit for two years during which time it will measure the properties of cosmic background radiation over the full sky. More specifically, MAP will reach into deep space and record temperature variations so small that, if expressed as height variation, would be equivalent to under an inch on a mile-high plateau.

Astronomers believe that cosmic background radiation — the faint glow that bathes the universe — was emitted roughly 300,000 years after the Big Bang.

In effect, MAP will look back in time as it measures conditions in a source of light that has taken 13 billion years to reach earth. By way of comparison, light emitted from the sun reaches earth in about eight minutes.

The MAP project follows on the mission by NASA's Cosmic Background Explorer (COBE) satellite in the early '90s, which discovered subtle variations in the otherwise remarkably uniform early universe

that provided clues about its origin.

MAP's ability to more precisely measure temperature variations will enable it to produce a much more detailed picture of the early universe than COBE did.

The information will assist the researchers to determine the shape of the universe, how and when galaxies were formed, and if the universe will expand forever or collapse, Halpern says.

A third possibility, the one most widely supported by astronomers, is that the universe is in a delicately balanced state, on a cusp between expanding forever and collapsing.

As enthused as Halpern is about solving the greatest mysteries of

cosmology, he is equally interested in what the answers will reveal about fundamental physics.

"Not only are we going to be able to tell which of these theories is true, but we will also be able to learn about the underlying physics that caused our universe to expand the way it has," says Halpern. "Physics has to explain this in order to be complete."

The mission is under the direction of principal investigator Charles L. Bennett of the Goddard Space Flight Centre, under the scientific supervision of a team from universities that includes Brown University, UCLA and the University of Chicago.

## Little things add up to environmental award

*Attention to detail is all part of doing a good job, says award-winning technician*

by Monica Kosmak  
Health, Safety & Environment

IN THE 23 YEARS that Sherman Yee has worked as a supervisory technician in UBC's Food, Nutrition and Health Program (formerly Food Sciences), he has only had a few meetings with the dean of Agricultural Sciences.

So when Dean Moura Quayle summoned Yee and his supervisor, Jim Richards, to a mysterious meeting, he was more than a bit concerned.

"It felt like getting called to the principal's office," he recalls, "and that's not usually a good thing."

Much to his surprise, it was a good thing — a ceremony to honour him as this year's recipient of the President's Environmental Award.

The award, which is given by the President's Office and the Environmental Programs division of the Dept. of Health, Safety and Environment, is intended to recognize the exceptional efforts of UBC employees in making environmental awareness and protection a fundamental part of their daily activities.

According to Mark Aston, manager of Environmental Programs, Yee was an outstanding candidate because in taking care of many lit-

tle things, his efforts add up to one big environmental achievement.

On a daily basis, Yee recycles materials used in experiments, uses UBC's chemical conservation programs, and manages hazardous materials safely.

He has established purchasing protocols to minimize the duplication of chemicals and ensures compliance with transportation of dangerous goods regulations. Yee also takes the time to prepare work procedures for all laboratory equipment and provides a comprehensive student orientation.

Why go to all this trouble? Yee insists that taking care of these details is part of doing a good job.

"I just do it," says the technician, whose concern for the environment evolved over the years. While he insists that his efforts are nothing special, he has been known to go the extra mile.

"Sometimes I'll see paper in the garbage can so I'll dig it out and put it in the recycling box," he laughs. "Maybe I'm just a scrounge."

Although honoured to receive the award, Yee insists he can't claim all the credit.

"Our building has a strong safety committee, and we always stand together. These activities have been in the fabric of our department and faculty for years."

To learn more about the President's Environmental Award, contact Mark Aston, Environmental Programs manager, at 604-822-9527 or aston@safety.ubc.ca.

## Arts dean resigns for U.S. opportunity

*Historian cites government's lack of commitment to arts*

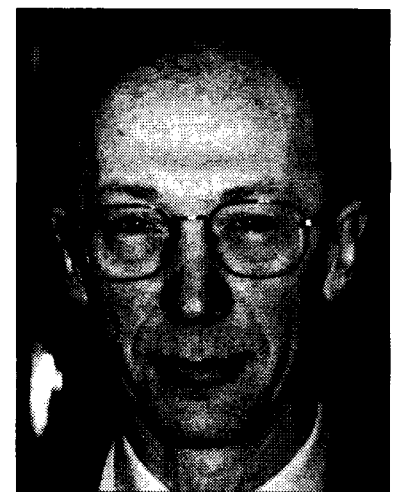
ARTS DEAN ALAN TULLY says that one of the primary reasons he is leaving UBC is to pursue another significant academic opportunity.

The 58-year-old professor of American colonial and revolutionary history will leave the university at the end of the year to become head of the History Dept. at the University of Texas at Austin.

"There is a sizable and tangible commitment to the humanities, social sciences and the visual and performing arts in the U.S.," says Tully. "That's not a criticism of the UBC administration — it's more a reflection of the fact that governments in our country don't pay the attention they should to the liberal arts."

The process of finding a new dean of Arts has begun.

"I am committed to finding a successor who will provide the strong, visionary leadership expected of the leading Faculty of Arts in



Arts Dean Alan Tully

Canada," says vice-president, Academic and Provost, Barry McBride.

Tully was one of five senior historians from U.S., Canadian and British universities who were approached by the University of Texas to help replace the 15 professors it lost last year, most to retirement.

"Alan's resignation is a big loss to the Faculty of Arts and UBC," says McBride. "During his short period as dean he has proven to be a strong, articulate spokesperson for the humanities and social sciences, a strategic thinker and an effective leader."

A former head of the History Dept., Tully was appointed dean pro tem in 1999 and dean the following year.

He replaced former dean Shirley Neuman who resigned in 1999 to accept a position as dean at the University of Michigan. Her resignation prompted the federal government to publicly reaffirm in the House of Commons its support for research in the humanities and social sciences.

Tully joined UBC in 1972 after studying at Queen's University, earning a master's degree in History at the University of Toronto and a master's degree and PhD from Johns Hopkins University.

## University seeks legacy for Olympic participation

THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS will make a final decision at its July 19 meeting on whether to accept the invitation that UBC serve as the site of the athletes' village for the Vancouver-Whistler 2010 Winter Olympics bid.

The board received a report by the Olympic Village Work Group at its May 17 meeting, including feedback from the consultation process carried out on campus and in the neighbouring community.

"The initial concerns identified by the board have been addressed," says Brian Sullivan, vice-president, Students. "A final decision will be made in July once arrangements for a legacy related to UBC's participation have been negotiated."

The proposal would see some 2,400 athletes, coaches and officials housed at UBC from Feb. 5 to 21, requiring games organizers to build approximately 1,200 new residential units to accommodate them.

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20

**Open Forum**

Frailty In Seniors. Rejean Hebert, The Institute of Healthy Aging, Buchanan B Penthouse from 10:30-11:30am. Call 604-822-0233.

## SATURDAY, JUNE 23

**UBC Bike Rodeo**

Third Annual UBC Bicycle Safety Rodeo. B Lot 1 from 10am-1pm. Call 604-822-9315.

## SUNDAY, JUNE 24

**Persian Night At MOA**

Amir Koushkani, Moushtag Group. \$25. For reservations, call 604-822-5087.

## MONDAY, JUNE 25

**Member Speaker Series**

Cross-Cultural Perspectives On Epistemic Development. Jeffrey Boles, Psychology, Green College at 7:30pm. Call 604-822-1878.

\$254; \$229 (group); \$127 (seniors). To register, visit [www.vst.edu](http://www.vst.edu). E-mail [ci@vst.edu](mailto:ci@vst.edu). Call 604-822-9815

**Vancouver School Of Theology Summer School**

The Shape Of Hope: Emerging Models Of Church. Carter Echols; various speakers. vst from 10am-3:30pm. Continues to July 6. \$300. To register, visit [www.vst.edu](http://www.vst.edu). E-mail [ci@vst.edu](mailto:ci@vst.edu). Call 604-822-9815.

## TUESDAY, JULY 3

**Green College Special Lecture**

Life Narrative: A Fractured Restorying. Ken Gergen, Swartmore College; Mary Gergen, Penn State U. Green College at 5pm. Call 822-1878.

**Vancouver School Of Theology Lecture**

Who Are The Jews In The Fourth Gospel. Rabbi Daniel Boyarin, U of California at Berkeley. vst Epiphany Chapel from 7:30pm to 9:30pm. Refreshments. E-mail [ci@vst.edu](mailto:ci@vst.edu). To register e-mail Call 604-822-9815.

**Vancouver School Of****Theology Summer School**

The Faith Journey of Abraham and Sarah, Part 2. Walter Vogels. vst from 8:30am-10:30am. \$254; \$229 (group); \$127 (seniors). To register, visit [www.vst.edu](http://www.vst.edu). E-mail [ci@vst.edu](mailto:ci@vst.edu). Call 604-822-9815.

## TUESDAY, JULY 10

**Vancouver School Of Theology Lecture**

The Vision Of An Ecumenical Church Today. Prof. Kuncheria Pathil, Systematic Theology and Ecumenics, Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram. vst Epiphany Chapel from 7:30-9:30pm. Refreshments. To register, visit [www.vst.edu](http://www.vst.edu). E-mail [ci@vst.edu](mailto:ci@vst.edu). Call 604-822-9815.

**Cultural And Media Studies**

The Resilience Of Traditionalists In Iran. Alireza Farahmand, editor-in-chief, Kar-Afarin. Green College at 7:45pm. Call 822-1878.

# calendar

## JUNE 17 THROUGH JULY 14

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27

**Music**

Persian Summer Breeze: Mystic Music And Sufi Dance. Chan Centre at 8pm. \$25. Call 604-822-2697.

## THURSDAY, JUNE 28

**Campus Community Town Hall Meeting**

E-Visioning Administrative Practices At UBC. Steve Relyea, vice-chancellor, U of California; Randy Ebeling, assistant vice-president, U of Texas; Robert B. Kvik, associate vice-president and executive officer, U of Minnesota. For Sciences 1005 from 9am-4pm. Refreshments. Call 604-822-9821.

## FRIDAY, JUNE 29

**International Conference**

The Fifth International Conference On Communication, Aging And Health. Various speakers. Hyatt Regency, 655 Burrard St. To register, e-mail [cah@audiospeech.ubc.ca](mailto:cah@audiospeech.ubc.ca). Call 604-822-5798.

## MONDAY, JULY 2

**Vancouver School Of Theology Summer School**

Jewish Mysticism And Early Rabbinic Texts. Daniel J. Boyarin, vst from 1:30-3:30pm. Continues to July 6. \$254; \$229 (group); \$127 (seniors). To register, visit [www.vst.edu](http://www.vst.edu). E-mail [ci@vst.edu](mailto:ci@vst.edu). Call 604-822-9815

**Vancouver School Of Theology Summer School**

Foundation In Christian Spirituality II: The Classic Tradition. Sheila Fodchuk, vst from 10am-3:30pm. Continues to July 6. \$352. \$317 (group); \$176 (seniors). To register, visit [www.vst.edu](http://www.vst.edu). E-mail [ci@vst.edu](mailto:ci@vst.edu). Call 604-822-9815.

**Vancouver School Of Theology Summer School**

The Faith Journey Of Abraham And Sarah, Part 1. Walter Vogels. vst from 10am-12noon. Continues to July 6.

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 4

**UBC Campus Tree Walk**

Tree Identification And Tree Lore. Prof. Tony Griffiths, Prof. Shona Ellis, Botany. UBC Rose Garden from 1-3:30pm. Bring a notebook and hat. To register e-mail [admiss@mail.botany.ubc.ca](mailto:admiss@mail.botany.ubc.ca) or call 604-822-2133.

## THURSDAY, JULY 5

**Scholar In Residence Lecture**

The (Canadian) Curriculum Of Métissage - What's That, Eh? Assoc. Prof. Cynthia Chambers, U of Lethbridge. Scarfe 310 from 1-2pm. Call 604-822-5214.

**Vancouver School Of Theology Lecture**

Are God's People Destined To Remain Stiff Necked - Or Supple? Carter Echols. vst Epiphany Chapel from 7:30-9:30pm. Refreshments. E-mail [ci@vst.edu](mailto:ci@vst.edu). Call 604-822-9815.

## MONDAY, JULY 9

**Vancouver School Of Theology Summer School**

Paul's Mysticism And Conversion In Light Of Jewish Mysticism. Daniel J. Boyarin, vst from 1:30-3:30pm. \$254; \$229 (group); \$127 (seniors). To register, visit [www.vst.edu](http://www.vst.edu). E-mail [ci@vst.edu](mailto:ci@vst.edu). Call 604-822-9815.

**Vancouver School Of Theology Summer School**

Scripture And Liberation. Richard Rohr, vst from 8:30am-3:30pm. \$352; \$317 (group); \$176 (seniors). To register, visit [www.vst.edu](http://www.vst.edu). E-mail [ci@vst.edu](mailto:ci@vst.edu). Call 604-822-9815.

**Vancouver School Of Theology Summer School**

Thomas Merton And The East: Passing Over And Coming Back. Donald E. Grayston, vst from 8:30am-3:30pm. \$352; \$317 (group); \$176 (seniors). To register, visit [www.vst.edu](http://www.vst.edu). E-mail [ci@vst.edu](mailto:ci@vst.edu). Call 604-822-9815.

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 11

**Scholars in Residence Lecture**

In Search Of The Historical Adolescent: Towards A Sociocultural History Of Teenagers In Canada. Assoc. Prof. Cynthia Comacchio, Wilfrid Laurier U. Scarfe 310 from 12noon-1pm. Call 604-822-5214.

## THURSDAY, JULY 12

**Vancouver School Of Theology Lecture**

The Contemplative Stance In An Active Life. Richard Rohr, Center for Action and Contemplation. Christ Church Cathedral, 690 Burrard St. from 7:30-9:30pm. Refreshments. E-mail [ci@vst.edu](mailto:ci@vst.edu). Call 604-822-9815.

## NOTICES

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The tours office is located in the foyer of the UBC Bookstore. Free drop-in tours are offered daily at 10am and 1pm from Monday to Friday. Office hours are 8:30am-4:30pm Monday to Friday. The tours office now also offers a couple of package tours with variable rates: a children's tour and the Spirit of the Pacific Tour which includes a visit to the MOA, Nitobe Gardens, a walking tour and lunch at Sage Bistro. E-mail [campus.tours@ubc.ca](mailto:campus.tours@ubc.ca). Call 604-822-8687 (UBC-TOUR).

**Research Project Volunteers Needed**

Stress And Coping In Female Clerical Workers. Educational and Counseling Psychology, and Special Education is seeking female clerical workers to participate in study on stress and coping. If experiencing workplace distress/frustration, we would like to learn more about your experiences. Call 604-822-9199.

**Female Participants Needed For Sexuality Study**

The Psychology Dept. is conducting a study directed at understanding how a woman's physiological arousal relates to her subjective experience of

sexual arousal in women with or without sexual arousal difficulties. If you are a heterosexual woman between 18-35, who is currently involved in a heterosexual relationship and who a) isn't having any sort of sexual difficulties, or b) has problems with sexual arousal please call 604-822-2952. Participants will receive an honorarium and all inquiries will remain strictly confidential.

**Legal Clinic Open**

UBC Law Students' Legal Advice Program (LSLAP) has recommenced its summer clinical program of full-day clinics all over the Lower Mainland. LSLAP has been working in the community for more than 30 years and is currently British Columbia's second largest legal aid organization. For more information, visit [www.lslap.bc.ca](http://www.lslap.bc.ca) or call 604-822-5723.



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## CALENDAR POLICY AND DEADLINES

The *UBC Reports* Calendar lists university-related or university-sponsored events on campus and off campus within the Lower Mainland. Calendar items must be submitted on forms available from the UBC Public Affairs Office, 310 - 6251 Cecil Green Park Road, Vancouver BC, V6T 1Z1. Phone: 604-UBC-info (604-822-4636). Fax: 604-822-2684. An electronic form is available at [www.publicaffairs.ubc.ca](http://www.publicaffairs.ubc.ca). Please limit to 35 words. Submissions for the Calendar's Notices section may be limited due to space. Deadline for the July 12 issue of *UBC Reports*—which covers the period July 15 to Aug. 11—is noon, July 3.



# Environmental Programs Summary Report 2000

UBC REMAINS COMMITTED to being a responsible steward of the environment. Environmental Programs is responsible for implementing a number of initiatives outlined in the policy (#6) on Environmental Protection Compliance. Below are the highlights of some of the activities and accomplishments in 2000 and their contribution to the University and the local community.

The full Environmental Programs Annual Report 2000, which contains information on the UBC environmental management system, environmental awards at UBC, training and awareness activities, regulatory compliance issues, and disaster management, is available to download and view at [http://www.safety.ubc.ca/environmental/ep\\_annual\\_report\\_2000.pdf](http://www.safety.ubc.ca/environmental/ep_annual_report_2000.pdf) or copies can be obtained from Health, Safety & Environment, 604-822-2029.

## Reducing Environmental Impacts

THE REDUCTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS is achieved as a result of many activities, but of most significance is the handling of 125 tonnes of hazardous waste and the co-ordination of the disposition of 50 tonnes of PCB waste in 2000. The majority of this waste was either re-used, recycled, treated, or diverted from conventional disposal facilities. While the Chemical Conservation Programs proactively reduce the environmental impacts through re-use or recycling options, just as important is the destination of any material leaving the facility. Significant effort is constantly placed into identifying environmentally responsible solutions for UBC's hazardous waste.

In 2000 the Environmental Services Facility organized a special replacement program for mercury containing thermometers and manometers. Mercury is listed by Environment Canada as a toxic substance and through this program mercury containing equipment was replaced and recycled free of charge and replaced by non-toxic equipment. This was made possible through partnerships with Fisher Scientific and Nu-Life Industries.

## Ensuring Compliance

THE UNIVERSITY ENSURES COMPLIANCE with environmental regulations, University procedures, and best management practices through a number of activities, not least of which is through the environmental compliance audit program.

The UBC environmental compliance audit program continues to meet its performance targets. In 1998 Environmental Programs began a three-year program to audit all operations and units deemed to have a high, medium, or low relative environmental risk. As of Dec. 31, 2000 only six out of 166 audits remained to be completed. In executing this program more than 1,600 recommendations have been made over the last three years and currently 60 per cent of those recommendations have been implemented.

## Reducing Liability

THROUGH SEVERAL PRO-ACTIVE STRATEGIES, the future environmental liability of the University is being reduced. Examples from 2000 include,

- participating in regulatory stakeholder sessions, to identify potential future concerns, and to provide input from UBC's perspective on proposed regulatory initiatives,
- removal of five high-risk underground storage tanks as part of the UBC's storage tank management program, and
- an assessment of water, gas and electrical utility services was coordinated in conjunction with UBC Utilities, to determine priorities for emergency planning. One result of these assessments was the planned installation of gas shut-off valves at 50 buildings on campus.

## Increasing Awareness

INCREASED AWARENESS on campus regarding environmental and emergency preparedness issues takes several forms including: newsletters, interviews during audits, articles in campus newspapers, formal seminars, training programs, departmental emergency planning sessions and the web site. In 2000 Environmental Programs significantly expanded the number of events and displays that it participated in and reached approximately 3,500 people through a variety of formal training and in-formal education and awareness activities.

In addition, Environmental Programs staff volunteered in several local community events including Oceans Day, False Creek tree planting and Musqueam Stream Restoration. The objectives of this community outreach are to improve relations with the community-at-large, obtain a better understanding of local environmental issues, and develop a stronger environmental ethic among staff.



Susan Harper accepts the President's Environmental Award for 2000, presented by Mark Aston, Manager Environmental Programs. Also present (l-r) Harold Schrempp, Alan Russell (head, Civil Engineering) and Helmut Prion (chair, Safety and Environment Committee).

## Enhancing Customer Service

IT IS A GOAL of Environmental Programs to provide exceptional customer service. To measure and track the service provided, surveys and evaluations of courses and programs are conducted:

- the third customer survey for the Environmental Services Facility resulted in a third consecutive increase in service satisfaction,
- the average rating of several measures used to evaluate the environmental compliance audit program was 4.3/5, and
- the average rating of courses and workshops undertaken throughout the year was 4/5.

## Partnerships

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS has succeeded in elevating the impact of numerous programs by developing internal and external partnerships, which has resulted in enhanced success. Examples include,

- the storage tank management program with Plant Operations and CP&D,
- the Emergency Planning Steering Committee which coordinates the activities of approximately 20 people from across campus working towards improving the emergency preparedness of UBC and resulted in obtaining \$810,000 from the provincial government for seismic upgrading,
- the 30 active volunteer members of the emergency social services team,
- the Environmental Youth Team Interns funded by the BC Ministry of Environment, Lands & Parks, who assist in conducting environmental audits on campus, and
- the mercury reduction program involving Nu-Life Industries, Fisher Scientific and UBC Purchasing.

For further information on UBC's Environmental Protection Compliance Policy #6 please either contact the Department of Health, Safety & Environment, or refer to <http://www.policy.ubc.ca/policy6.htm>

## DIGEST

## Going the distance

Continuing Studies' Distance Education and Technology group has won a B.C. Innovation Award from the Centre for Curriculum, Transfer and Technology.

The award recognizes the group's groundbreaking work developing the Post Graduate Certificate in Technology-Based Distributed Learning.

The online certificate program includes five courses that provide educational practitioners with the information they need to teach online. It was developed with the Monterrey Institute of Technology in Mexico and is delivered internationally over the Internet.

For more information on the program visit [itesm.cstudies.ubc.ca/info/](http://itesm.cstudies.ubc.ca/info/)

## New Canadian Studies Centre coming

A new International Canadian Studies Centre will be established at UBC next month.

It will provide a focus for international research and learning on Canada both within and beyond UBC.

Co-ordinating both graduate research in Canadian Studies and housing the undergraduate program in Canadian Studies, the centre will link research and learning at both levels and provide leadership in current and future research on Canada.

The centre will house the Brenda and David McLean Chair in Canadian Studies and the Program in Canadian Studies and will host various symposia as well as co-ordinate and advance international collaborative research projects and a mentoring program.

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PLEASE RECYCLE

## PLACING CLASSIFIED ADS

Deadline: for the July 12 issue: 12 noon, July 3.

Enquiries: 604-UBC-INFO (604-822-4636) · 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.

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**SEPT. 1 (OR SOONER)** large one BR suite, Dunbar area, at nominal rent in exchange for early morning and late afternoon transportation of two children to and from UBC child care and a local elementary school. Wanted, responsible N/S with driver's license, own vehicle and impeccable driving record. No criminal record. Ref. req. Perfect for grad/undergrads or UBC staff. E-mail [fogarassy@techbc.ca](mailto:fogarassy@techbc.ca). Call Tony Fogarassy 604-266-3744.

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**GALIANO ISLAND RETREAT** Secluded 2.5 acres waterfront cottage. Spectacular SW ocean view, beach access, canoe avail. Sleeps four, \$100/night or \$650/week, min. two nights. E-mail [verenakra@hotmail.com](mailto:verenakra@hotmail.com). Call Verena 604-599-6978.

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## Honour Roll

Three members of UBC's Faculty of Medicine were recently honoured with 2001 Career Achievement Awards by the B.C. Research Institute for Children's and Women's Health.

Pediatrics Prof. **Derek Applegarth** is the founder and associate director of the Biochemical Diseases Laboratory at Children's and Women's Health Centre of British Columbia. His research has improved understanding and methods of diagnosing and screening for cystic fibrosis and other complex metabolic diseases of children.

Pathology Prof. **Shirley Gillam**'s contributions in the fields of molecular biology and virology include discoveries in unraveling the genetic structure of the rubella virus (German measles) and the methods by which the virus multiplies in humans.

Pediatrics Prof. **Jim Jan** has advanced a multi-disciplinary approach to research and to the care of children with developmental disabilities, particularly in the areas of visual impairment and sleep disorders.

UBC MBA students **Kevin Chan** and **Helen Goodland** earned top prize in the third annual CIBC Ivey Business Plan Competition in London, Ont.

Chan and Goodland won the competition for their plan for Clearigo Solutions Inc., a Vancouver-based mobile software solutions provider.

**Paul Thiele**, founder and former director of the Crane Memorial Library, has been elected chair of the board of directors of VOICEPRINT, The National Broadcast Reading Service.

VOICEPRINT provides daily broadcasts of newspaper and magazine articles and other information materials read by volunteers. It is heard by more than two million Canadians.

Physics and Astronomy Prof. **Matthew Choptuik** has won the Royal Society of Canada's 2001 Rutherford Memorial Medal for Physics.

Choptuik is cited as a world leader in the field of numerical general relativity and for his discovery of the Choptuik effect which has contributed to the understanding of black holes as well as critical phenomena in other areas of physics.

Prof. **Alan Hannam**, associate dean of Graduate and Postgraduate Studies in the Faculty of Dentistry, has been awarded the Research in Prosthodontics and Implants Award for 2001 from the International Association for Dental Research.

A professor of Oral Health Sciences, Hannam studies musculoskeletal biomechanics of the mouth, jaw and face.

He looks at the interaction between the structure and use of the jaw muscles, craniofacial shape, jaw motion, skeletal stresses and bite forces.

**John Demco**, computer facilities manager in the Computer Science Dept., recently received a Community Service Award at the 2001 Canarie IWAY Awards.

The award recognizes Demco's efforts to establish and maintain the distinct Canadian Internet domain .ca.

The Canarie IWAY Awards celebrate exceptional achievement in the field of advanced broadband innovation. They are given by Canarie Inc., Canada's advanced Internet development organization.

## DIRECTOR, ENROLMENT SERVICES AND REGISTRAR

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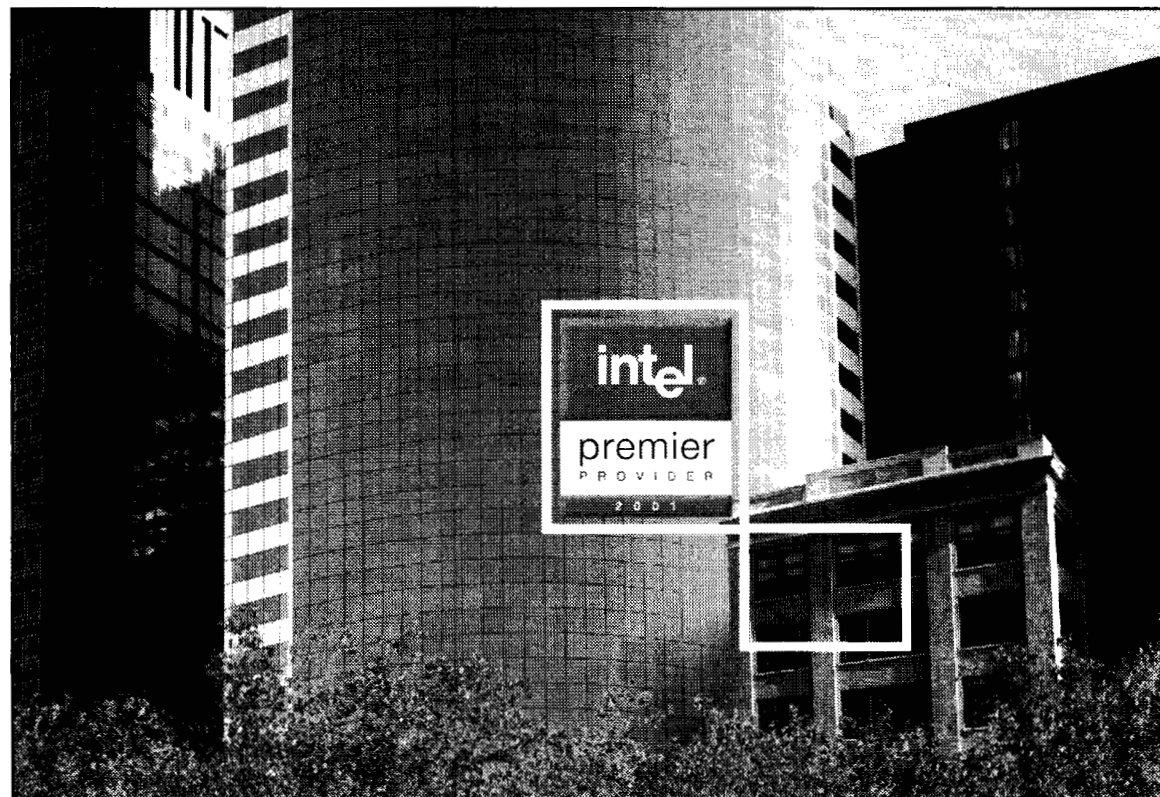
Key to the transformation of the experience for prospective and admitted students at UBC, the Director, Enrolment Services and Registrar will provide visionary leadership to the integration and improvement of enrolment services. Responsibilities will include recruitment, admissions, scholarships, financial aid, classroom services, student information systems, records and registration functions, supporting both undergraduate and graduate programs.

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The successful candidate will be a strong and persuasive communicator, able to represent UBC and to relate effectively with students, faculty, staff, government officials and a variety of external contacts. Experience building support in an academic setting for a strong customer focus and an innovative client-care philosophy is a must. Senior administrative roles in higher education that demand highly developed interpersonal, organizational, communication and negotiation skills will provide a platform for excellence in the role.

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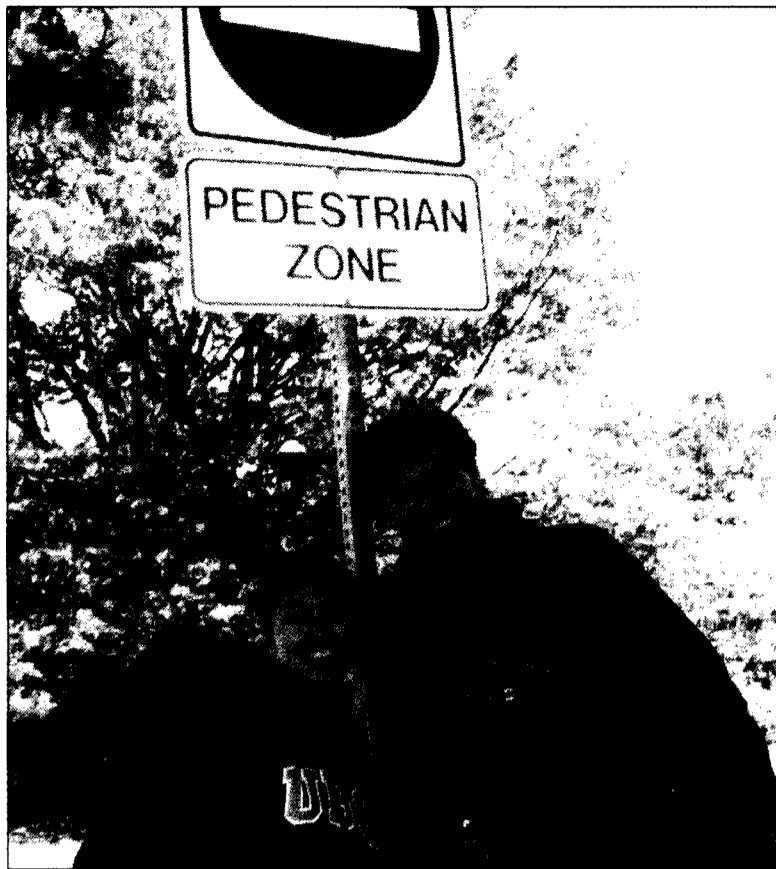
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**IN THE ZONE** Second-year Arts student Jennifer Chan (left) and Adam Wright, a third-year Science student, lead the way for tourists, school children, VIPs and others in campus walking tours. Perfect for summer visitors, free, drop-in tours last about 1-1/2 hours and are offered daily at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., Monday to Friday. Tour guide Kevin Neilson also offers package tours such as the Spirit of the Pacific tour that includes a visit to the Museum of Anthropology, Nitobe Gardens and ends with lunch at Sage Bistro. Children's tours are also available. For more information call 604-822-8687 (UBC-TOUR), email campus.tours@ubc.ca or drop by the tour booth in the Bookstore. The tours are a service of the Ceremonies and Events Office. Hilary Thomson photo

## Project explores abuse connections

*Initiative among several aimed at exploring child and family issues*

by Hilary Thomson staff writer

EXPLORING LINKS between animal abuse and family violence is the research focus for two members of the UBC Child and Family Project.

Nursing Asst. Prof. Janet Erickson and Social Work Prof. Mary Russell have been working together on the issue as part of the project that undertakes interdisciplinary research on a spectrum of issues around children and families.

Working with UBC investigators from areas that include education and animal welfare as well as community agencies such as the B.C. Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) and the BC/Yukon Society of Transition Houses, the researchers are identifying connections between child, wife and animal abuse and aim to improve detection and intervention.

"The field of family violence tends to be fragmented," says Russell. "We hope to raise awareness among health professionals, corrections officers, social service workers and others about the connections."

More than 50 children and 100 women die as a direct result of family abuse in Canada every year according to Statistics Canada and B.C. Institute Against Family Violence

surveys.

More than 60 per cent of women who entered a transition house reported that their partners had also abused or killed their pet, according to an Ontario study. In B.C. last year, the SPCA investigated more than 7,000 animal abuse cases.

Researchers estimate the overlap between these different types of abuse is more than 50 per cent.

Investigators plan to develop inter-agency reporting protocols so that social workers and animal welfare agencies can share information in violence-related cases.

Russell and Erickson are also developing an interdisciplinary family violence distance education course with Women's Studies Asst. Prof. Sunera Thobani and Assoc. Prof. Angela Henderson in the School of Nursing. The course will be offered in January 2002.

The Child and Family Project will prepare a research agenda this summer in consultation with university and community groups that will look particularly at community-based research on child and family issues.

"We want to create and sustain linkages between academics, other professionals and community members and to stimulate discussion," says Education Prof. Hillel Goelman who has directed the project since it started in 1999.

For more information about the project call 604-822-6593 or visit the Web site at [www.educ.ubc.ca/research/childandfamily/](http://www.educ.ubc.ca/research/childandfamily/).

## Pioneering director, student volunteer earn YWCA awards

*QLT founder and Canadian Blood Services director also honoured*

UBC FACULTY, STAFF and students have been honoured in four of the 10 categories in the annual YWCA Women of Distinction awards.

Ruth Sigal, director of UBC's Women's Resources Centre (WRC), was given a Life Achievement Award.

A founding member of the Vancouver Crisis Centre, Sigal has directed the WRC since 1977 with responsibility for co-ordinating staff and 60 volunteers, program development, teaching, and community outreach.

The WRC serves more than 25,000 men and women annually. Sigal, who was recently honoured with a President's Service Award for Excellence, will oversee the centre's move to Robson Square later this year.

Miranda Lam, a third-year Law student, was recognized in the category of Young Women of Distinction.

Lam has been actively involved in the British Columbia Youth Parliament (BCYP), both as a Law student and while she pursued three years of study in UBC's Psychology Dept.

With her leadership, the group was able to raise significant funds for BCYP's largest annual services



Ruth Sigal



Miranda Lam

project—Camp Phoenix, a week-long summer camp for children. Lam is currently a member of the board of Volunteer Vancouver.

Prof. Dana Devine of the Dept. of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine was recognized in the category of Science, Research and Medicine.

A faculty member since 1987, Devine is also director of research and development for Canadian Blood Services and founded the new Centre for Blood Research.

She studies the role of blood platelets in cardiovascular disease and blood transfusion.

Alumna and Prof. Emeritus Julia Levy earned her award in the category of Entrepreneur/Innovator.

A member of UBC's Microbiology

Dept. from 1958 until her retirement in 1999, Levy founded and is currently president and chief executive officer of QLT Inc., a leading biotech pharmaceutical company.

Their best-known product, Visudyne™, is used to treat age-related blindness and has obtained regulatory approval in 31 countries worldwide.

Levy was recently awarded an honorary degree by UBC.

The YWCA annual awards program, created in 1984, celebrates women in the Greater Vancouver area who have made outstanding contributions to the community through professional or volunteer work.

UBC was a sponsor of the Life Achievement category.

## We all leave footprints, reminds scholar

*Message conveys appreciation of all we have, and what we offer*

by Prof. Emeritus Martha Salcudean

*The following is an excerpt from an address Salcudean gave upon receiving an honorary degree from UBC during Spring Congregation last month. An award-winning researcher, she is a professor emerita of Mechanical Engineering.*

WHETHER YOU CHOOSE to start your career in the private or public sector or continue to study toward a higher degree, always remember that you are fortunate to live in a country in which democracy and freedom are taken for granted, a country rich in traditions, but open to change, a country which challenges you to work and achieve your dreams, a country in which your ethnicity, race, colour, and gender enrich the whole we represent, and where your achievements, successes and rewards are dependent upon your work, your determinations, and your willing-

ness to give as a person to those around you.

How fortunate you are to be part of a generation that has not known and hopefully will never know, the horror of wars and dictatorships.

I have seen something of both. I was a child of war-torn Europe.

The Second World War uprooted my family and me and only an extraordinary chain of events spared our lives. After the war, when Nazi Germany was defeated, our hopes were dashed when another era of dictatorship engulfed Eastern Europe, another era of injustice, oppression and lack of opportunity.

I vividly remember the time of my graduation — no celebrations, no choices, and no opportunities. I could not choose the city in which to live, the place to work, or the apartment to call home.

I had to accept whatever the oppressive state allocated to me or be sent to jail for sabotaging the system.

It was not easy to persevere and keep believing that there would be a light at the end of the tunnel for my family and me. But here we are! No wonder I still think that my life here is too good to be true.

### FORUM

Love for my family, my interest in people, my trust in friends and a steely determination never to give up gave me strength and I continued to struggle for what I believe in.

I wanted to believe what Disraeli wrote, "Man is not the creature of circumstance. Circumstances are the creatures of men" (and, of course, of women).

The freedom and opportunities you have bring with them the responsibility to live your lives so that when you reach my age and look back you can proudly say to yourself "I did my best."

Only a very few extremely gifted individuals create world famous works of art, or revolutionize science and technology and leave an obvious mark for future generations to see.

Nevertheless all of us leave footprints of some kind. We all can contribute to the best of our abilities.

The way we do our work, the way we treat our parents, our spouses and children, and our neighbours — this is all part of what we can do for others and what, in turn, we hope to receive.