THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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UBC REPORTS

PHOTO: MARTIN DEE

Welcome UBC Okanagan

On Thursday, September 1, the Okanagan Nation Alliance welcomed UBC Okanagan and Okanagan College to their traditional territory. The special cermony, featuring drummers, singers and dancers, was held at the UBC Okanagan gymnasium.

After months of preparation, UBC Okanagan is welcoming its first students this month, with orientations for returning students and first-year students held on September 6 and 7.

The official opening ceremony will be held on September 8. The day will include the following events:

11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Campus life showcase
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Opening ceremony
3p.m. – 5 p.m.	Academic colloquium with presidents of four international universities
7:30 p.m.	Free music concert featuring Judith Forst, UBC School of Music and Penticton Academy of Music students

For tickets to the colloquium and concert, visit www.ubc.ca/okanagan/opening and use code OPEN6. View the opening ceremony, starting at 12:30, via webcast at www.ubc.ca/webcast ☐

UBC Okanagan Facts and Figures

- UBC Okanagan is welcoming 3,500 new undergraduate and graduate students (projected Sept., 2005).
- UBC Okanagan's faculty has grown to 215 since the campus was officially established in July. That includes 18 new faculty members who come from across Canada, the U.S. and Australia.
- Since last year, the UBC Okanagan campus has added a third floor to its Arts and Sciences buildings to accommodate student body growth. A campus master plan is being submitted to the UBC Board of Governors for approval.
- UBC Okanagan features several new undergraduate academic programs including engineering, management and pre-pharmacy. A variety of graduate programs are being established, the largest of which is a new Master of Education program.

SEE INSIDE FOR UBC'S BACK-TO-SCHOOL STORIES

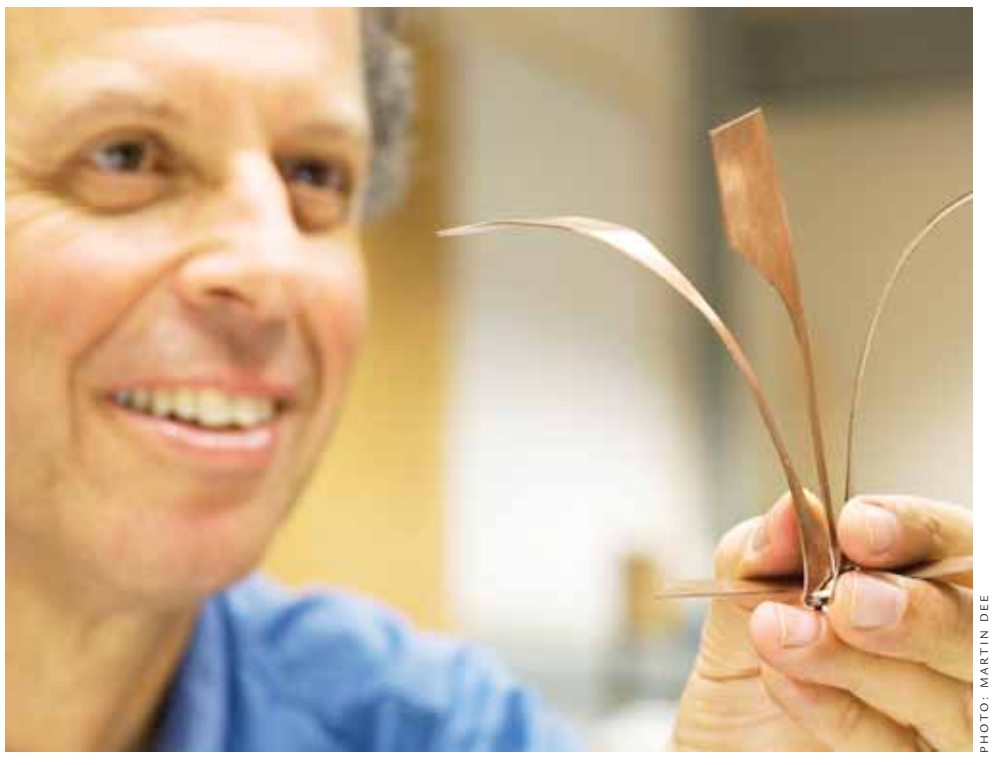

PHOTO: MARTIN DEE

Electrical engineering prof. Matt Yedlin is investigating many potential applications for the fleur-de-lis antenna.

Engineer Discovers Vastly Improved Antenna Design

BY BRIAN LIN

UBC electrical engineers have developed a three-dimensional, ultra-wideband antenna that could significantly improve wireless data transmission for anything from commercial to military communications.

The uniquely shaped antenna – resembling the fleur-de-lis (FDL) – not only covers a much wider range of bandwidth than conventional antennas, it produces stable, uniform signals unsurpassed by any existing models.

Invented by recent UBC PhD graduate Kim Dotto, who built the prototype in his garage using copper sheets, the FDL antenna's flared, horn-like structure has undergone rigorous testing at UBC, the France Telecom Research and Development Laboratory, and the Laboratoire D'Electronique, Antenne et Télécomunications at the Université de Nice.

"We've been able to confirm the FDL antenna's capacity to handle frequency transmissions from two to 26 gigahertz (GHz)," says Matt Yedlin, an associate professor in the Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Dotto's PhD advisor.

"To put that in perspective, cellular phones work at around 1.8GHz. Space communications – such as MOST (Microvariability and Oscillation of STars), Canada's first space telescope – come in at 2GHz," says Yedlin. "Other satellite transmissions range from four to 12GHz."

"In measurement applications, the FDL antenna covers a bandwidth range that would normally require 30 calibrated antennas," says Yedlin, who is taking the FDL south of the border for field tests with Seattle Wireless this fall.

The groundbreaking design, which had

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IN THE NEWS

Highlights of UBC Media Coverage in August 2005. **COMPILED BY AI LIN CHOO**

PHOTO: BAYNE STANLEY

More than 30 per cent of Western Canadian youth think their provinces should consider splitting from Canada.

Brain Proteins Affect Memory

The discovery of an association between low levels of brain proteins called complexins and impairments in memory and other cognitive functions in people with schizophrenia could lead to new treatments for the illness, reports *Maclean's Magazine.*

"If we can successfully treat the cognitive problems associated with schizophrenia, there is a much better chance of a successful recovery from this illness," says **Dr. Bill Honer**, a schizophrenia researcher at UBC.

Survival Instincts Took Over Passengers

UBC psychiatry professor **Steven Taylor** says the primitive, survival instinct that swept over some of the desperate passengers of Air France Flight 258 – after the plane skidded off a Toronto runway and burst into flames August 2 – have evolved with us from the earliest days of life on the planet.

"We have a bunch of primitive reflexes in which we exhibit behaviour like animals in certain situations," Taylor explained to *The Globe and Mail.*

Some Westerners Think Splitting from Canada Should be Explored

According to a recent poll, more than one-third of Westerners under the age of 30 think their provinces should consider quitting Canada, reports the *National Post*.

Gerald Baier, a UBC professor of political science, said young people are more likely to support the idea of sovereignty because they are often more open-minded than older generations.

"The question doesn't ask them to state support for the idea of sovereignty but for the idea of exploring it. Why shouldn't you look into all ideas? It might even be a matter of idealism."

Canadian Cops Track Pregnancy as Factor in Homicide

Police departments across Canada have started specifying on homicide forms whether slain women were pregnant.

A study by the U.S. Centres for Disease Control published this year in the *American Journal of Public Health* concluded homicide is a leading cause of pregnancy-associated injury deaths in the U.S., reports CanWest News Service.

"I think there's reason to be alarmed and concerned and presume that there will be some relationship (to U.S. rates), but it is a different context,'" says **Colleen Varcoe**, an expert on women and violence and an associate professor of nursing at UBC. □

CORRECTION

The August issue of *UBC Reports* reported on two researchers who have developed a unique robotic jaw. The article neglected to acknowledge a third researcher involved in the project, linguistics professor Eric Vatikiotis-Bateson. □

UBC United Way Kicks Off

The 2005 UBC United Way Campaign will kick off in mid-September raising essential dollars for the United Way of the Lower Mainland, an umbrella organization that provides funding to a variety of social services organizations.

This year organizers are emphasizing the connection between the United Way and *Trek 2010*, UBC's strategic vision document. As an organization committed to the community, the United Way embodies the values of community involvement and social responsibility that *Trek 2010* promotes, says Eilis Courtney, Senior Coordinator for UBC United Way.

Thanks to the generosity of the campus community, last year's campaign exceeded the goal of $525,000 by almost $2,000.

"We want to continue to build on that outstanding success by increasing the awareness of United Way throughout campus," says Courtney. "One way of doing this is increasing the number of volunteers in the campaign. This is a great opportunity for staff, faculty and students to build their leadership, public speaking and event planning skills."

For more information, contact Laura Laverdure, UBC United Way Campaign Coordinator at 604-822-8929, e-mail united.way@ubc.ca or visit www.unitedway.ubc.ca □

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Green Buildings Sprouting up at UBC

BY BRIAN LIN

PHOTO: MARTIN DEE

The UBC Life Sciences Centre is not only the largest building on campus, it's also one of the "greenest."

UBC's campus is getting greener with the completion of two new institutional buildings: the Life Sciences Centre (LSC) and the Fred Kaiser Building, both of which are loaded with innovative sustainability features that save both money and the environment.

The $110 million Life Sciences Centre is the largest building at UBC and was built to accommodate the Expanded Medical Education Program, which will nearly double the number of medical school graduates in the province to 224 by 2009. Featuring state-of-the-art labs, the LSC also houses two auditoria with high-speed video conferencing capability, which enables UBC medical students in Vancouver, Victoria and Prince George to attend lectures and interact in real time.

Lesser known high-tech features, however, will likely earn LSC a Gold Certification on the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system – making it the first educational building in Canada to achieve this high standard.

Teresa Coady, one of the architects who headed the design of LSC, says an annual saving of 5,500,000 kWh of electricity and nearly $200,000 in energy costs can be attributed to a dynamic monitoring and automatic "smart" system that reacts to the external environment.

"To balance the need for ample lighting and energy efficiency, photoelectric sensors are installed throughout the premises," says Coady. "They automatically adjust interior lighting based on the amount of natural daylight that comes through windows and atrium skylights."

Sustainability practices were also implemented throughout the construction of the 40,000-sq. metre LSC.

"Eighty per cent of the construction waste was salvaged and recycled," says Coady. "In addition, the design incorporated 10 per cent recycled and 30 per cent local materials to minimize the impact on the environment."

Some of LSC's sustainability features – natural ventilation, automatic lighting system, and sensor-controlled faucets – have also been adopted by the Fred Kaiser Building, which will officially open this month and will house the Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Designed to be a "living laboratory" for engineering students, the 5,370 sq. meter, $20-million facility is built over an existing lab so that little green space was affected. It even takes advantage of neighbouring deciduous trees to provide shading for the bottom two floors during summer while allowing daylight to penetrate in the winter.

"By using some unconventional materials, such as light-coloured roof stone, exposed concrete ceilings, a fused ceramic pattern on the exterior glazing, and plasma cut steel for the rooftop sunshades, we make the materials' natural properties work for us in terms of conserving or maximizing energy," says Mike McColl of Omicron/Architects Alliance, who is the head architect on the project.

Photovoltaic cells have already been installed on the skylights to store solar power for emergency lighting, and the UBC Campus Sustainability Office is now working to outfit the building with a hydrogen fuel cell that would provide back-up power. Both features will also serve as educational tools for electrical engineering students.

"As a result, this building contributes 2,500 tons, or 35 per cent less greenhouse gas emission annually than a traditional building of comparable size and function," says McColl.

Freda Pagani, director of the UBC Campus Sustainability Office, says the key to good sustainable building design is employing sustainability features without sacrificing comfort or cost efficiency.

"We've reached a point in sustainability where effective sustainability features can be rolled out seamlessly at equal or even lower capital costs," says Pagani. "So you can have your cake and eat it, too."

Not to mention big savings on operating costs, she adds. "In a way, good sustainability practices are like a gift that keeps on giving." □

Education Prof Designs Better Learning Spaces

BY LORRAINE CHAN

PHOTO: MARTIN DEE

UBC education professor Samia Khan.

UBC's new campus buildings are not only green, they have been planned to enhance learning.

The UBC computer science department recently asked UBC education professor Samia Khan, an expert in designing learning spaces, to help shape its new Learning Centre. The department wanted a space where students could put into practice the theories they were learning and overcome technical hurdles with a helping hand from teaching assistants.

"Current research shows that learning is a dynamic and collaborative process," says Khan. "The part I contributed to the discussion was how students can construct knowledge individually, in groups and with digital technology, and how that learning can be assessed."

Khan says the exchange translated into a flexible space where furniture on wheels can be easily reconfigured into single workstations or clusters to foster group learning. Electrical outlets and data ports run the length of the surrounding walls to provide students easy access throughout the Centre.

A resource centre for undergraduates, the new Learning Centre was unveiled at the July 2005 opening of a $40 million building expansion called the Institute for Computing, Information and Cognitive Systems/Computer Science (ICICS/CS) Addition.

Khan says technology can complement and extend the physical spaces for high school and university classrooms.

"For example, in science where it's essential for students to test ideas and build models, a simulation or remote access to scientific instruments from hundreds of kilometres away can extend laboratory and classroom spaces so learning can be fostered anytime and anywhere."

Khan is researching these types of hybrid learning spaces with high schools in Surrey and Langley.

"We want to develop science classrooms that are both face-to-face and virtual."

As well, Khan is working with education faculty and staff to design a new science education wing at the UBC Scarfe Building. □

Building a Strong Foundation

First-year Arts students benefit from small cohorts, cross-discipline teaching. BY LORRAINE CHAN

UBC's Foundations program acts like a hothouse incubator, equipping first-year UBC Arts students with research, writing and thinking skills they can draw on throughout their undergraduate years and beyond.

Created in 2000, the interdisciplinary learning model has inspired programs at Carleton University, Simon Fraser University and the University of Wollongong in Australia.

Foundations students benefit from small cohorts and cross-discipline teaching. The program combines the humanities — English, history and philosophy — with social sciences, which include anthropology, sociology, geography, psychology, classical studies and political science.

This year's courses focus on timely issues such as the impact of globalization on culture and scientific versus non-scientific forms of knowledge.

Spanning two terms, Foundations is worth 24 credits, allowing students to select six credits of electives from the general arts curriculum to earn the required 30 credits to complete first year. The program is open to all first-year Arts students, who number about 2,000 each year. Foundations enrols annual cohorts of 120 to 200 students.

Foundations Director Ron Fedoruk says the program pushes students to view the world through multiple lenses and to also make sense of that complexity.

"One of the key ideas is that students are creators, as well as consumers, of culture," says Fedoruk, a theatre professor who also teaches Foundations courses.

He says the program prods students to think for themselves and to own their ideas. "They're encouraged to defend their position, they're encouraged to argue with us."

"It's messy, robust, sometimes adversarial," says Fedoruk with a wry grin. "It's not sitting around listening to jewels drop from the professor's mouth. But it makes the students more engaged with learning"

Faculty feedback shows this approach works, says Fedoruk. "We hear from faculty who teach senior classes that they can recognize a Foundations student because they create a welcomed dynamic in seminar classes."

Fedoruk explains that by third or fourth year, students are expected to present material and to defend an argument with a professor.

"That can be quite intimidating for some undergraduates. But students coming out of Foundations are already comfortable with the process."

Students also get used to dissent and strong opinions among their instructors. Foundations offers three courses, each taught by a cross-discipline team of three professors who collaborate on the theme, ideas and content.

Foundations also has nine or more teaching assistants (TAs), who in Fedoruk's view are "remarkably well-travelled and well read," to act as seminar discussion leaders, mentors and writing tutors.

Students are put through a rigorous weekly pace of three two-hour lectures and three two-hour seminars. While the lectures address the entire cohorts of 100 or more students, the seminars are limited to 20 where TAs and students further discuss the course material.

Fedoruk says the intense interaction forges a sense of community among the student cohorts and their instructors.

"These associations tend to continue throughout their BA so they feel connected to the student body and to the university in a way that students in a regular program don't get. That's as important as any other factor in the future success of Foundations students." □

UBC education student Sasha Wiley enrolled in Foundations during 2001. She says the program's warm, collegial relationships made her see her professors as mentors.

"Foundations broke down the barriers between the kids and the instructors. That approach made me more likely to get to know my profs in my later years."

UBC sessional instructor Larissa Petrillo witnessed Wiley's growth in Foundations.

"It's wonderful to work so closely with students one-on-one. You see their progress over the entire year in their ideas, writing, arguments and confidence in speaking at seminars."

Petrillo, who holds a PhD in interdisciplinary studies, says it's a huge advantage for students to receive continual feedback from one source.

"First-year students often don't see benefits until after the fact, when they're out there and there's no community, no personal connection in the same way there is in Foundations with the person who's marking their work."

For Wiley, that degree of personal attention sharpened her academic edge.

"I came out of Foundations writing excellent papers. It's the only place in university where professors and TAs worked with me for an entire year to write a good paper and to construct a strong argument."

Further, Wiley says the intellectual curiosity and diversity of views at Foundations inspired her to become a teacher.

"I got such a big picture view from having professors from different disciplines and from the different ways they look at the world," says Wiley. "I want to bring that breadth and open mindedness to high school education." □

PHOTO: MARTIN DEE

Foundations' close camaraderie and one-on-one mentoring help first-year students flourish, says alumna Sasha Wiley (l) and UBC sessional instructor Larissa Petrillo.

UBC an Innovator in Cross-Discipline Learning

UBC's Arts One is the granddaddy of interdisciplinary programs. Since 1967, it has been helping first-year students integrate their studies of the humanities, which consist of English, philosophy and history. The program differs from UBC Arts' other cross-disciplinary program, Foundations, which combines humanities with the social sciences.

Arts One maintains high standards and sets a fast pace. Students are expected to read every book on the reading list, participate in all lectures, seminars and tutorials and write a 1,500-word paper every two weeks. The program is worth 18 credits, allowing students 12 credits of electives.

Enrolling a total of 200 students, Arts One divides them into two separate groups with different instructors, timetables and subject matter. The students attend weekly lectures as cohorts of 100. They also attend weekly seminars in groups of 20 or less. To hone their writing skills, students meet in groups of four each week with a teaching assistant to read and critique each other's papers.

Science One asks students to jump into scientific inquiry with both feet. The program integrates first-year studies of the traditional sciences: biology, chemistry, mathematics and physics. By choosing appropriate electives, students meet the requirements for entry into all second-year science programs and pharmaceutical sciences.

An interdisciplinary faculty team teaches Science One courses. The program combines small classes, lectures, tutorials, laboratories and field trips. Students undertake a major independent research project.

Worth 27 credits and spanning two terms, the program stresses conceptual learning, and creative problem solving. Students are expected to ask questions, suggest solutions and defend their ideas, visions and findings.

Science One provides students with communications skills and places the onus on students to acquire knowledge and to develop the skills and initiative to create their own careers and opportunities. □

New Faces at UBC

Left to right: Matilde Bombardini, Neil Cashman, Liane Gabora, Handel Wright, Troy Visser, David Gillen, Colleen Varcoe.

MATILDE BOMBARDINI

UBC economics professor Matilde Bombardini shows that she's willing to go the extra distance for her field even it means watching 257 episodes of an Italian game show called *Affari Tuoi*, or "Your Business."

Bombardini focuses on international trade policy, particularly how industrial sectors lobby government. However, she says the television show gave her a perfect chance to study how people respond to risk.

"Research on risk aversion has wide application to both micro and macroeconomics, says Bombardini, who recently completed her PhD in economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

"It can measure the cost of business cycles. It can quantify the loss for consumers and workers due to the uncertainty faced during booms and recessions," adds Bombardini.

A native of Bologna, Italy, Bombardini says the game show's premise is simple.

"The hosts give participants one of 20 boxes. Each contain cash amounts that vary from one cent to 500,000 Euros ($749,000 Cdn)."

She says players then must decide whether to keep their own box, trade it for another box, or accept the host's offer of a definite sum of money.

"To mount that kind of controlled study would be expensive. But here it all was on the television show. I can analyze different samples based on gender or age groups."

NEIL CASHMAN

Neurology Prof. Neil Cashman, a Canadian leader in neurodegenerative diseases, was recruited to UBC from Toronto this spring to establish a program of research into protein misfolding diseases such as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). He will direct the new Vancouver Coastal Health ALS Centre, which is focused on research and treatment of the disease.

ALS is a progressive neuromuscular disease that eventually paralyzes limbs and muscles of speech, swallowing and respiration. There are about 2,500 Canadians living with ALS, for which there is no cure and only limited treatment.

"We'll also be looking for new drug and immunological therapies to defeat these devastating diseases," says Cashman, who is Canada Research Chair in Neurodegeneration and Protein Misfolding Diseases.

Protein misfolding also plays a role in Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases and it is implicated in prion (infectious protein) diseases such as mad cow disease and similar human illnesses, such as Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD).

Symptoms of CJD include anxiety, depression, withdrawal and behavioural changes. The disease progresses to include motor difficulties, involuntary movements and mental deterioration. Patients may live for only about one year after onset of symptoms.

Proteins, the fundamental component of living cells, are made up of long chains of amino acids which loop or fold about each other in a specific three-dimensional structure. Misfolded proteins can cause disease in surrounding cells.

Cashman's research labs at the Brain Research Centre at UBC Hospital and at UBC's Life Sciences Institute are the first labs west of Ontario dedicated to investigating misfolding diseases.

LIANE GABORA

Liane Gabora is introducing courses on the psychology of creativity and evolutionary psychology at UBC Okanagan this year. Her research focuses on the evolution of culture and its underlying cognitive mechanisms – it's part theoretical, part experimental, and part computer modeling.

Gabora, who has a PhD in cognitive science, moved north this summer from the University of California, Berkeley, to join UBC Okanagan's new Irving K. Barber School of Arts and Sciences.

"UBC Okanagan combines the benefits of a large, established university with the buzz and fertility of a cozy hideaway think tank, which amounts to an unprecedented opportunity for cutting-edge interdisciplinary collaboration," Gabora says.

"I am fascinated by the creativity of the human mind, by how adept we are at taking something and putting our own spin on it to suit our own needs," she notes. "Other species occasionally invent something new, but they do not cumulatively build on each other's inventions. They may have culture, but it doesn't evolve."

In exploring this, Gabora turns to several fields, including psychology, biology, anthropology and mathematics.

"To figure out when, where, and why we become so creative requires some digging (literally as well as metaphorically) from different fields. An interdisciplinary approach enables you to bring tools and perspectives from different disciplines to bear on your question of interest," Gabora says.

"As an example, some — though not all — ideas developed to describe the evolution of biological species also apply to the evolution of cultural ideas and artifacts."

Gabora places high value on collaborating with other researchers, and working with students. "Trading secrets is one thing that helps academics avoid getting stuck in a rut. Another is teaching. Students see things with a fresh eye; they keep professors on their toes."

Gabora is also working on a book titled Thought Tapestries: Origin and Evolution of the Creative Mind.

HANDEL WRIGHT

How do youth in Canada and the United States navigate issues of race, culture and national identity?

Handel Wright, a new UBC education professor, says incidents like the London bombings in July have made this question and others about race and cultural identity even more pressing.

"I believe similar questions related to multiculturalism and social cohesion are likely to be revived both here and in the United States," says Wright.

Originally from Sierra Leone, Wright completed his M.A. in English at the University of Windsor, an M. Ed. at Queen's University and a Ph.D in Education at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto. For the past 10 years, Wright taught at the University of Tennessee where helped to create North America's first named cultural studies of education program.

As Canada Research Chair, Wright is establishing the Centre for Culture, Identity and Education at UBC. The centre will focus on cultural studies and multiculturalism, forging international, national and community links.

Wright's own research looks at complex new youth identities and compares multiculturalism in Canada with that of the U.S.

Focusing on mixed-raced, multilingual, immigrant, culturally hybrid, or multiethnic youth, Wright will compare how high school students in Vancouver and Seattle see themselves in relation to their peers, communities and countries.

TROY VISSER

After a year and a half teaching at the University of Melbourne in Australia, visual perception researcher Troy Visser has joined the faculty of UBC Okanagan's Irving K. Barber School of Arts and Sciences as assistant professor of psychology. "My research interests are in perception and our ability to perceive sequences of objects in the world – if you are driving, for example, you look at a series of signs, cars, and pedestrians," he says. "Looking at something, though, is not the same as being aware of what's going on. I'm interested in what we're aware of and when." He explains that after focusing attention on one thing – say, a car on the road ahead – the human brain may take half a second before it can shift its attention to something else, such as a ball bouncing onto the road. It's a bit like blinking your eyes, attention-wise. Visser points out that in a moving car you travel quite a distance in that half-second interval, so understanding more about this "attentional blink" is quite important. The goal, says Visser, is to take things learned in the lab to places where attention is very important. "If I can make the driving environment a little safer, that's great," he says. Air traffic controllers, too, could benefit from visual perception research. Visser, who earned his PhD in psychology from UBC, looks forward to teaching at UBC

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Vastly Improved Antenna Design

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a U.S. patent issued this June, emerges at a time when the communications industry is desperately seeking ways to expand radio frequencies in order to keep up with tremendous growth in the demand for wireless technology.

The FDL antenna's ultra-wide bandwidth not only provides a more cost-effective alternative to current infrastructure – it costs as little as a dollar each to manufacture – the uniformity of its frequency response opens the door to many new applications.

"The most obvious use is ultra-secure communications for military operations," says Yedlin. "The FDL antenna enables transmission to be spread over a much wider range of frequencies, making electronic jamming virtually impossible."

Other applications being investigated include landmine detection, medical imaging – with the potential to augment X-rays and CT scans – and non-destructive environmental surveying, such as locating pipes and cable embedded in concrete.

"We're also considering using the FDL antenna as an inexpensive alternative to radio frequency imaging, a technique that might have huge implications for forestry," says Yedlin. The new radio frequency imaging technique employs a new mathematical algorithm, developed by PhD candidate Kim Lam, to process the reflected and transmitted waves from a target, such as a tree, to image its interiors. This imaging requires the utilization of the ultra-wideband of frequencies and uniform response provided by the FDL antenna.

"In a selective logging application, foresters could use the FDL antenna to image trees in the potential harvest area. The information from the images can contribute to better planning and ensuring that only the highest-quality lumber is harvested, reducing waste and maximizing foliage and regeneration." □

Scholarship Provides Unique Opportunity for International Students

BY AI LIN CHOO

Esther Maunze decided very early on in life that scoring exceptional grades would be the only way she'd make something of herself.

Growing up in a SOS Children's Village in Zimbabwe, a branch of an international child welfare organization which provides homes and education for orphaned or abandoned children and teenagers, Maunze knew hard work at school would eventually pay off and provide her with the opportunity to live and work overseas.

"In Africa, most people want to go abroad to study because we think that's where all the opportunities are," she explains. "As the first-born in my family, it was my responsibility to do well. I have three younger siblings and I wanted to show them that if you work hard, anything is possible."

Maunze's determination began to pay off when she was accepted at the SOS-Hermann Gmeiner International College in Ghana, a school that prepares gifted children from SOS Children's Villages for advanced education.

And her dream to live overseas finally materialized three years ago when she was offered a full scholarship to pursue her post-secondary education at UBC.

With a long history of community service, leadership roles and an outstanding academic record, Maunze was a strong candidate for a UBC International Leader of Tomorrow Award (ILOT).

"I was in my final year at high school when I heard about the award," says the fourth-year political science student. "My school counselor encouraged me to apply, and within 48 hours, my application was in the mail."

The award, first launched in 2001, provides financial support for a number of gifted international undergraduate students, who would otherwise be unable to pursue post-secondary education without substantial financial assistance.

"When I first got the e-mail from UBC congratulating me on the award, I honestly thought it was spam," she confesses. "When I finally realized it was for real, I was thrilled. I would never have been able to come to Canada without a scholarship or some means of financial aid."

Maunze's award provides her with $24,000 a year to pay for tuition fees, board and one annual trip home, and she receives help from her guardians at SOS as well.

Over the past five years, 77 awards have been offered to students from countries as far away as Kenya, Palestine, Guatemala, Bangladesh and Bosnia, says Don Wehrung, director of UBC's International Student Initiative (ISI), the team responsible for promoting the university to potential applicants overseas.

The award ranges in value between $14,000 and $34,000 per academic year, and the amount is reviewed and adjusted annually to reflect any changes in a student's financial circumstances.

"The award was developed to enhance the cultural and socio-economic diversity of the student body, and to promote a greater understanding of global issues for faculty, staff and students alike," explains Wehrung.

"Our Board of Governors has approved expanding spaces for international students in undergraduate programs to up to 15 per cent of total enrolment from a wide diversity of countries by 2015, and we've interpreted that mandate to seek diversity in recruitment from all over the world, not just from countries with the biggest markets."

Including new registrants for September 2005, there are currently 3,384 international students enrolled in undergraduate, visiting student and exchange programs at UBC, and 1,689 graduate students, representing more than 12 per cent of the total enrolment.

As part of the university's commitment not to use B.C. provincial government grants to subsidize the education of international undergraduates, some 6.7 per cent of annual international tuition fees collected by the school fund the $1.5 million provided in international student assistance for this program.

Based on the success of the ILOT award, ISI has also been fund-raising over the past year to initiate a new humanitarian award that would financially enable international students from disadvantaged circumstances to attend UBC, without having to show a long track of community involvement.

"We have found that students from war-torn areas or other disadvantaged circumstances don't often have the luxury to volunteer their time in community efforts or take on leadership roles," explains Wehrung.

For her part, Maunze believes awards like the one she received are essential to ensuring a diverse community at post-secondary institutions, and she is a strong advocate for greater international student representation on campus.

"We have found that students from war-torn areas or other disadvantaged circumstances don't often have the luxury to volunteer their time in community efforts or take on leadership roles."

Over the past two years, Maunze has served as International Student Coordinator with the undergraduate student government. She has also been an active organizer and participant in Africa Awareness Week on campus.

"Our international student body at UBC is continually growing, so I wanted to help ensure that all students are represented on campus and feel like they belong to the campus community, regardless of where they come from," she says.

She's also taking her role as an international leader of tomorrow seriously, and would like to take on an internship in development work next year, and hopefully return to Zimbabwe one day and run for political office.

"The first thing I wanted to ensure was that my siblings would follow my lead and take school seriously," she explains. "Now that they're all doing well, I'd like to contribute to society in some way and I think development work or public service are the best ways to achieve that." □

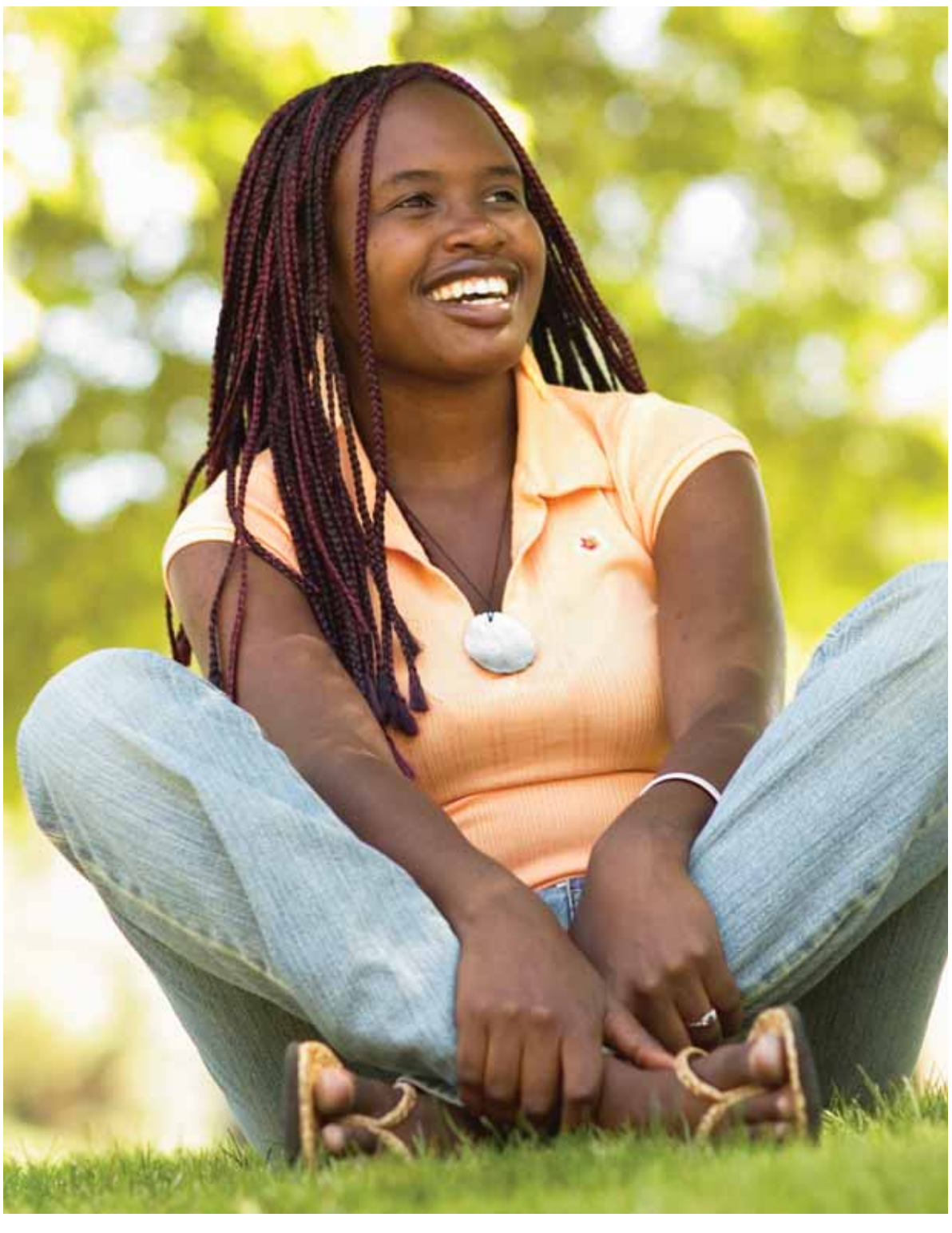

PHOTO: MARTIN DEE

Esther Maunze, a 4th-year political science student, enjoys UBC's diverse student body.

PHOTO: MARTIN DEE

Seen here with her son, Gray, UBC professor Kimberly Schonert-Reichl is leading national and international research on empathy training for children between ages three and 14 years.

Prof Examines Baby's Power to Teach Empathy

BY LORRAINE CHAN

Babies are adorable, but can they also effect powerful social change?

UBC professor Kimberly Schonert-Reichl says her studies show that babies can teach children empathy and help to stem the cruelty and bullying that can snake through classrooms and playgrounds.

Schonert-Reichl is an education and counselling psychology professor who has devoted 20 years to understanding the social, emotional and moral development of children. Since 2000, she has been evaluating the effectiveness of Roots of Empathy, an innovative program that invites babies and parents into elementary schools.

"A lot of social empathy instruction is contrived. But when you bring a real live human being into the classroom, it's really authentic. Children are invited to talk about the baby's feelings and that legitimizes their own feelings," observes Schonert-Reichl.

A mother of two young boys, Schonert-Reichl says it's immensely moving to watch students bond with infants. Aimed at children between the ages of three and 14 years, the program sets up monthly visits over an entire school year.

"The kids who are the loudest, toughest, or most vulnerable, they're the ones who connect the most with the baby."

Roots of Empathy is delivered in eight provinces, including B.C., by a Toronto-based, non-profit organization of the same name. The program is currently running in 1,100 classrooms in rural, urban and Aboriginal communities, reaching a total of 28,500 children. More than 68,000 children across Canada have participated in the program since its inception in 2000.

> **"The kids who are the loudest, toughest, or most vulnerable, they're the ones who connect the most with the baby."**

To date, 150 B.C. schools have taken part in the Roots of Empathy training. The B.C. Government was so impressed with the results, it recently committed $1.27 million to expand the program to every school in the province over the next four years.

Schonert-Reichl is not affiliated with or paid by the Roots of Empathy organization, but she says it's a privilege to test theory against such "a well-run and fantastic program." She explains that trained instructors use the baby's classroom visits to cue specific lessons that range from respecting others to infant development.

"I couldn't have asked for better findings," she says beaming. "In one of our studies, we found an 88 per cent decrease in aggression for children who participated in the Roots of Empathy program – the aggression can include behaviour such as violence, anger or gossiping."

Schonert-Reichl stresses the program's preventative value. "For children who had not taken part in the program, their aggression actually increased by 50 per cent."

She says those findings came from a study that compared five Roots of Empathy classrooms with five control classrooms. Researchers conducted individual interviews with each of the 132 elementary school children prior to and after the test period. The children were asked a series of questions that tested their social and emotional understanding. As well, teachers rated the children before and after the study on nine dimensions of aggressive and positive behaviors.

Roots of Empathy founder Mary Gordon says the UBC studies have aided the program's growth. A former kindergarten teacher, Gordon first piloted the program in 1996 at two Toronto classrooms.

"When we incorporated in 2000, we set out as one of our goals that we'd be an evidence-based organization, that although we know our program works, we would also have the data to back it up," says Gordon.

"Well, Kim's studies completely complement and validate our goals. Kim has set the gold standard for research. We don't run any programs without her measurements."

Working with Schonert-Reichl on the studies are Clyde Hertzman, a renowned UBC health care and epidemiology professor, and an extensive team of education graduate students. The project has won funding from UBC Hampton Research Grant Fund, the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP) and the B.C. Medical Services Foundation of the Vancouver Foundation.

Directed by Hertzman, HELP is an interdisciplinary network of faculty, researchers and graduate students from B.C.'s four major universities. It links scholars, government and communities in creating and applying new knowledge about early childhood development.

The Roots of Empathy success story has triggered international interest. Japan ran a small Roots of Empathy pilot in 2003. Australian schools are currently running the program and New Zealand will launch a pilot in 2006. Gordon says UBC will play a pivotal role throughout the expansion.

"To maintain the integrity of the program and the high standards of research and evaluation, we're using the baselines Kim has established. She'll be co-ordinating all the data gathered on foreign soil," remarks Gordon.

Within Canada, Schonert-Reichl says the next Roots of Empathy study will explore long-term effects of empathy training.

"We want to measure the impact on children over a three-year period after they've had exposure to Roots of Empathy."

As well, Schonert-Reichl says the research team will start assessing the program's impact on academic achievement. "We'd love to show that it not only makes you a nicer person, it makes you do better in school."

Gordon concurs this study will affirm a true strength of the program.

"People go nuts when we say we can decrease bullying. But what's most encouraging to me is that when children are kinder and more empathic, they're freed up to learn. It changes the entire tone of the classroom."

Note: Roots of Empathy founder Mary Gordon has been invited by the UBC Alumni Association to speak at Magee High School in Vancouver on October 3. For more information, call 604.822.3313. □

New Faces at UBC

continued from page 5

Okanagan. His wife, Jeneva Ohan, is a clinical psychology researcher and will also join the UBC Okanagan faculty in January.

"One of the reasons we chose to come here is because we knew the quality of research and teaching that goes on here," says Visser. "We have the opportunity to get in on the ground floor in an environment that's student- and research-focused, dynamic and interdisciplinary – in addition to being in one of the most beautiful parts of the world we could imagine."

DAVID GILLEN

UBC Sauder School of Business students intent on understanding the complex arena of transportation operations and logistics are finding an excellent resource in professor David Gillen. An internationally acclaimed expert, Gillen is the director for Sauder's Centre for Transportation Studies.

"Given the rising fuel costs and tighter security measures, clear policies and practice of transportation studies and supply management are more necessary than ever," says Gillen.

Gillen adds the federal government must play a stronger role in defining those polices. "It is imperative that we have a national transportation policy that is going to facilitate Canada's access to world markets."

The federal government also needs to be much more involved in urban transportation issues, says Gillen, pointing to "Canada's commitment under Kyoto and the demographics that will shift more retirees to urban areas."

Gillen has published more than 100 books, technical reports and journal papers in various areas of transportation economics and Canadian and U.S. transportation politics.

He has acted as a consultant for the governments of Canada, the United States, Germany, the UK, Ireland, Thailand and Ghana, as well as airlines, airports and private sector companies.

Gillen holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Toronto. He held prior teaching appointments at the University of Alberta, Queens University, University of California, Berkeley and Wilfrid Laurier University.

COLLEEN VARCOE

A research-rich environment is what drew Colleen Varcoe to UBC's School of Nursing.

A UBC alumna, Varcoe joined the faculty in April, after working at the University of Victoria for eight years.

"UBC's nursing school is a Canadian leader in research and I wanted to be part of that," says Varcoe. "I also wanted the chance to work with students in the school's excellent graduate programs."

Her research includes investigations of aboriginal health, violence against women, and health-care economics.

"Coming to UBC has allowed me to connect with experienced researchers. It was the research environment I was looking for," says Varcoe.

She has joined a research team, headed by Nursing Prof. Joan Bottorff, (leaving to become dean of the Faculty of Health and Social Development at UBC Okanagan) that is looking at tobacco control among pregnant women and mothers of the Gitksan First Nation in northwestern B.C.

She is also involved in two collaborative projects. Working with researchers in the Faculty of Medicine and Education, she is studying rural aboriginal maternal care. In addition, Varcoe and a team of investigators from universities across Canada are examining the effects of violence on women, including both health effects and the economic impact of leaving an abusive partner.

Passionate about promoting ethical practice, Varcoe has taught an undergraduate course in nursing ethics. She will teach a graduate course in health policy this fall.

To balance her busy professional life, Varcoe likes to feel the wind beneath her wings. An avid paraglider, she and her partner run a paragliding school from their recreational property in the Fraser Valley.

"The sense of freedom is amazing – it helps me keep my perspective." □

PHOTO: MARTIN DEE

John Hepburn plans to strengthen link between research collaborations with other countries and other international exchanges at UBC.

New VP Research Describes Growing Global Vision

BY HILARY THOMSON

A monster research enterprise that also advances student learning is how UBC's new vice-president, Research, describes his vision for the university.

Prof. John Hepburn, a laser scientist, takes over from acting vice-president, Research, David Dolphin on Oct. 1. A UBC faculty member since 2001 and dean of science since 2003, Hepburn has a unique perspective on the university's research activities.

UBC Reports recently talked with Hepburn to learn more about his ideas for UBC research.

Q. What do you mean by monster research enterprise?

I mean research dominance across a wide range of disciplines, such that UBC is recognized as one of the leading centres for scholarly work and applied research. We're already excellent in many areas of research – but I think our impact can be even greater.

Q. What can be done to change a common perception of conflict between teaching and research?

It drives me crazy that when people say teaching, they only mean classroom instruction. Guiding and training students and post-docs in a research lab is advanced teaching, but almost never gets counted as teaching. We need to create mechanisms where students at all levels can participate in the excitement of discovery. Whenever students are part of the process of inquiry, they are learning – whether it's in a lab or a classroom.

Q. But isn't there a conflict between research and teaching for undergrads?

There doesn't need to be, if we build on our successes in involving undergrads in research. I'd like to see even first-year students exposed to the big research ideas on this campus. Researchers should be challenged to explain their work to undergrads so they want to get involved in research. By the same token, administrators have to appreciate that including undergrads in research means substantial investments of time and money. It needs to be supported and included in teaching credits for faculty.

Q. What does UBC Okanagan need before it can be fully integrated into the university's research enterprise?

The big challenge is infrastructure. Although very good research was conducted at UBC Okanagan when it was a college, investigators haven't had research tools that they need, such as dedicated labs and a research library. In addition, we need to build a culture at UBC Okanagan where research is rewarded. At both campuses, we have the challenge of involving undergrads in research, but with UBC Okanagan's smaller classes, it may be easier to accomplish.

Q. How can the work of UBC's social sciences and humanities researchers be better understood and promoted?

As with other areas, infrastructure, such as an excellent library, is the first thing. But we also need to make sure a research culture is nurtured among faculty and students. Research should be one of our primary tasks and if everyone's thinking that way, it generates excellent research. It cuts both ways, though. University administrators have to recognize that good research is hard work and provide suitable rewards and motivation.

It's a fact of life that in many areas of science and engineering, particularly biomedical science, research generates big bucks. That leaves a sense of under-appreciation among other researchers, including basic scientists. So a common problem is finding ways to recognize research excellence independent of research funding. It needs to be valued because of its impact.

Much social science and humanities research is not grant-based. Researchers who seek grants must "sell" their research idea, which creates a culture of self-promotion. We need to make sure our non-funded researchers don't get ignored in that culture.

Researchers also need to take responsibility for their own impact, to believe their own research is excellent and tell people about it. We can facilitate that, but they have to do it. If you do nothing, you're going to wait a long time for someone to recognize your brilliance.

Q. What needs to be done to better recognize the role of graduate students and post-doctoral fellows in the research enterprise?

So much of the research done at a university is done by grad students and post-docs. Getting the world's best to come to UBC is going to convert us into a monster research enterprise. Support is critical, but not the only consideration. What motivates students is infrastructure and a performance environment that enables them to do their best research. That's key because it's the basis for future jobs. It's a virtuous circle – once you get better grad students and infrastructure, the research quality improves. Then, even more excellent grad students are attracted to the university and you keep building on success.

Q. Is there priority attached to building UBC's international research reputation?

Yes, I think there has to be. Recognition of excellence in research has to be international recognition. Our researchers, and that includes students, have to be out there in the world, doing their research and promoting their research. If you want to interact with world-class peers you have to go outside Canada. The federal government had to cut back on operating costs for international research in the '90s. I think those investments need to be made again. For a relatively small investment added to money put forward by foreign governments, we can get access to a huge international network of researchers.

Q. What will help create a monster research enterprise?

Consistent, continuing and secure funding is needed from the federal government. The overall research climate is very good, but funding has tended to spike, which makes planning difficult. We need more funding for operating and indirect costs of research.

More provincial government engagement in university research and graduate studies is also needed. In Alberta, Ontario and Quebec, the provincial government funds infrastructure, centres of excellence, graduate scholarships and provides other significant funding. Signs are good that our provincial government is looking for ways to help us move forward.

The other component is industrial support of fundamental research – this support hasn't advanced in the last five years and is one of the reasons Canada lags behind other G-8 countries in research and development. □

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M - F 10:00am - 7:00pm

Starbucks at Pacific Spirit Place
M - F 7:00am - 9:00pm 9starting October)
Starbucks at Fred Kaiser
M - Th 7:00am - 6:30pm

Arts 200 at Buchanan A
M - F 7:30am - 3:30pm & 6:15pm - 8:45pm

Edible at Scarfe
M - Th 7:45am - 6:00pm & F 7:45am - 3:00pm

EVERYDAY

- Pacific Spirit Place at SUB
  A&W, Koya, ManchuWok, Rotiz, Subway, Pizza Pizza, Simply Pasta
- Starbucks Stores *new*
  at SUB & Fred Kaiser
- We Proudly Brew Starbucks
  Steamies at UBC Bookstore
  Pond Cafe at Ponderosa
- 99 Chairs
- Tim Hortons at Trek Express *new*
- Arts 200 at Buchanan
- Barn Coffee Shop
- Bread Garden
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THINKFOOD UBC FOOD SERVICES

Introducing the Faculty of Land and Food Systems

BY AI LIN CHOO

Imagine sailing across the South Pacific aboard a cruise ship while gaining academic credit towards a Bachelor of Science degree at the same time.

That's exactly what fourth-year Global Resource Systems student Jordan Marr did, and he didn't have to pull any strings to convince anyone.

Last year, Marr was selected as one of 12 Canadian participants in the prestigious Ship for World Youth (SWY), a unique international cultural exchange program organized by the government of Japan. The program brings together over 200 youths from around the world to learn about international cooperation and understanding, as well as to foster cultural sensitivity and friendship.

"It does sound like all play, but the trip allowed me to gather with people from all over the world and discuss environmental and sustainability issues in a cross-cultural setting," Marr explains. "There were courses offered on board and round-table discussion groups that were focused on a variety of subjects."

What excited Marr most about the experience was learning about and meeting different people from all over the world. It didn't hurt that his participation was encouraged by his faculty, and almost necessary in order to graduate.

As part of the Global Resource Systems program, students have to complete an international experience requirement that can take the form of an academic exchange, field study or internship.

Offered by the Faculty of Land and Food Systems (formerly Agricultural Sciences), the program combines a field of study such as international development or sustainable agriculture within a specific region of the world, and combines language skills, cultural experience and real-life applications of global sustainability.

This five-year-old program and students like Marr embody the changing face of the newly named faculty.

Murray Isman, the faculty's Dean pro tem, explains that as global links between countries, people, animals and shared natural environments intensify, the need for interdisciplinary, collaborative and systems-based research at universities has increased as well.

"The change from Agricultural Sciences to Land and Food Systems exemplifies the diversity of our faculty in a world more concerned about the interconnectedness of our land, food, water, health and environment," he says.

"It also illustrates how the overlap of disciplines actively work to provide the education, research and knowledge necessary to ensure the sustainable production of healthy food and the responsible use of natural resources."

The change in title is also part of a larger international trend to tackle misperceptions associated with the word agriculture as being primarily farming-related.

While the faculty still maintains its agricultural roots, it was clear from surveys that the name was not encompassing enough to represent its diversity - especially when it came to potential students.

UBC is the third agricultural faculty in Canada to achieve a similar change in image, and follows the lead of numerous schools in Australia and the United States.

PHOTO: MARTIN DEE

M.Sc. Plant Science student Faride Unda with Exacum samples.

Pedagogical changes now include an increasing focus on student-centred learning and practical work experience, and the faculty is also transforming its role at the new UBC Okanagan campus with plans to expand its agroecology program to the school in the near future.

"Our faculty's role is to tackle the fundamental issues of safe, healthy and sustainable land and food resources. These are the most basic building blocks in society and subjects everyone can relate to," says Isman.

As one of UBC's three founding faculties, Land and Food Systems has had a long record of achievement on campus.

The UBC Faculty of Agriculture, as it was until it changed to Agricultural Sciences in 1969, in the early days engaged in research and education in plant, animal and food related topics including swine, poultry, dairy, and a range of crops.

And while the faculty still tackles issues concerning the production of healthy and sustainable food, the emphasis has shifted to encouraging students to approach broader and integrated issues of sustainable land and food systems across international lines.

Marr says he was excited by the interdisciplinary opportunities the faculty presented.

"The greatest benefit I think is connecting with people from a variety of backgrounds and disciplines and learning about various cultures and places," he explains.

"I do feel fortunate to be in the program. Living in the city, you often forget about basic societal issues such as where food comes from," he says. "The program has really given me a sense of that and has shown me that what affects one person, will likely affect the next as well, not just here, but also across borders."

For more information, please visit: www.landfood.ubc.ca □

The recent merger of three programs at the School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture will make way for new joint and interdisciplinary programs, and research opportunities this fall.

UBC's Environmental Design and Landscape Architecture programs joined The School of Architecture in July 2005, and the school will now offer four graduate degrees and one undergraduate degree.

"Landscape architecture is constantly evolving to create healthy, evocative places in complex environments," says Cynthia Girling, Landscape Architecture Program Director.

"Aligning with architecture, our sister professional program, is long overdue and will provide students and faculty with numerous new opportunities."

The Landscape Architecture program was previously administered by the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences (recently re-named the Faculty of Land and Food Systems). The expanded School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture will continue to operate as a distinct, focused professional and research unit within the Faculty of Applied Science. □

UNIVERSITY TOWN

times

ISSUE NO.2 SEPTEMBER 2005

- UNIVERSITY BOULEVARD
- HAWTHORN PLACE
- THUNDERBIRD
- HAMPTON PLACE
- SOUTH CAMPUS
- EAST CAMPUS
- CHANCELLOR PLACE
- NORTH CAMPUS
- GAGE SOUTH

Did you know?
Since 1998, despite a 19 per cent increase in students, UBC has:
- Reduced CO2 emissions from buildings and transportation by seven per cent
- Reduced energy use in core and ancillary buildings by eight per cent (for a savings of $5.4 million)
- Decreased water use by 27 per cent, enough to supply 5,000 homes for a year.

Showcasing Leadership on Sustainability Street

The hodgepodge of overgrown planters and aging signposts that now characterize Stores Road between Main Mall and West Mall will soon be a thing of the past as the collaborating minds of UBC's sustainability community push ahead with a plan to transform the area into a Sustainability Street – a working demonstration of sustainable design at UBC.

The departments of Land and Building Services, Campus and Community Planning, the Campus Sustainability Office and the Design Centre for Sustainability gathered input from the UBC community to determine how best to transform this public space and demonstrate the university's expertise in sustainability. This information, together with university physical planning policies, and innovative research projects on campus has become a set of instructions for the design team. The area will be re-invented, re-landscaped, and re-paved to showcase best management practices for sustainable development such as the collection and re-use of water, alternative energy, and unique landscape management practices.

Sustainability Street will be one of UBC's signature projects for the upcoming World Urban Forum in June 2006.

UBC is recognized internationally as a leader in campus sustainability initiatives.

Chancellor House Recognized for Design Excellence

Ramsay Worden Architects has received an Award of Excellence in Urban Development for Chancellor House as the Best Low-Rise Development 2005 by the Urban Development Institute, Pacific Region. Located in University Town's Chancellor Place Neighbourhood, Chancellor House is a collection of terraced apartments and duplex townhomes in a style that responds to the neighborhood's existing buildings – both heritage and modern.

Ramsay Worden Architects has designed several other buildings in Chancellor Place, all for Intracorp Developments. Environmental responsibility was fundamental to all decisions, and concepts for Chancellor House set the direction for all subsequent projects of Intracorp in Chancellor Place Neighbourhood.

Winter Sports Centre Goes Green

Planning is underway for a new UBC Winter Sports Centre that will be a secondary venue for Men's & Women's Hockey for the Vancouver 2010 Olympics. The existing Thunderbird Winter Sports Centre has served UBC Athletics and the University community for 40 years, but like any aging elite athlete the facility is in need of repair and replacement.

The new centre will be a multi-functional facility with two new ice surfaces and the rehabilitation of the existing main rink. The $40.8m facility ($30.8m contributed from the Vancouver Olympic Committee) will have a new entry plaza from Wesbrook Mall & Thunderbird Blvd as well as direct access to the athletic fields to the south. It will have temporary Olympic seating for 7,000 people and permanent seating for 5,500. The project is to be designed to achieve the equivalent of a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) silver building rating, which ensures a high standard of energy efficiency.

Construction will be completed in January 2008.

Award winning and now-occupied Chancellor House.

Construction of the new Thunderbird Olympic Centre will begin in 2006.

PLANNING UPDATE

Why Own When You Can Share?

UBC's TREK Program Centre has introduced a new 12-month pilot Shared Vehicle Program (SVP). The SVP operates using a web based booking system that lets UBC staff and faculty who choose not to commute to work via car, have access to a vehicle during work hours for business meetings or research trips. Cars, trucks and vans are rented via a convenient monthly billing service.

For further information visit: http://www.trek.ubc.ca/

University Public Events

The University Town community is invited to meet and greet fellow members of the campus community and to get updates on such initiatives as the new University Boulevard Neighbourhood and the Centre for Interactive Research on Sustainability (CIRS), a building planned for UBC's Great Northern Way Campus that will showcase state-of-the-art sustainable building and urban development practices. Neighbouring community members are welcome too!

Open House: September 14, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m., on the plaza at the Northeast corner of the Student Union Building

Town Hall Meeting: September 20, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m., in the Hebb Theatre, 2045 East Mall. Snacks and refreshments will be served.

Strategic Transportation Plan Approved

UBC's Board of Governors approved the University's 5-year Strategic Transportation Plan (STP) in July. The plan includes a revised target to reduce daily Single Occupancy Vehicle trips per person by 30 percent from 1997 levels, and a new target to maintain daily automobile traffic at or less than 1997 levels.

For further information visit: www.planning.ubc.ca/corebus/transportation.html

Welcome Logan Laners!

On September 15th residents of University Town are invited to attend a Hawthorn Place community BBQ. This annual event will feature food and entertainment and will welcome the new residents of Logan Lane, UBC's latest faculty and staff co-development townhouse venture. Visit the University Neighbourhoods Association (UNA) website for further details: www.myuna.ca