

UBC REPORTS



SPECIAL CENTENARY EDITION



In 1908, B.C. legislators passed the University Act that created The University of British Columbia. In 2008, UBC invites people across the province to join us as we celebrate 100 years of academic, research and community achievement with a variety

of events and activities. This issue of UBC Reports is dedicated to telling a few of the stories of our contributions to the province, Canada and the world. Visit the web version for more historical content at www.publicaffairs.ubc.ca/ubcreports.

WHAT'S INSIDE: 3 Eyewitness to the Century 5 Research and Creative Achievers 4 Aggies Forever
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Invasion!

Many Vancouverites recall the 1968 “uprising” that saw 3,000 students take over the UBC Faculty Club

BY BASIL WAUGH, with notes from archived editions of UBC Reports and *The Ubysey*

It was a quiet day at the UBC faculty club on Oct. 24, 1968 – until several hundred students, a presidential pig candidate, and an American radical joined the faculty for lunch.

Students drank the faculty’s liquor, smoked their cigarettes, burned flags, and swam nude in the patio pool. Rock bands cranked out psychedelic jams until the small hours. Revolution, among other substances, was in the air.

To some, the sprawling be-in was the largest display of UBC student power since the 1922 Great Trek, ultimately giving students more say in how the university was run. To others, it was a case study in political clichés and revolutionary posturing. One thing is certain: it was the wildest time the then-private club – now UBC’s Sage Bistro restaurant – had ever seen.

“The idea was to liberate a place that represented the power of the establishment,” says UBC

alumnus Stan Persky, author of 26 books and former *Globe* and *Mail* books columnist, who helped to negotiate an end to the takeover as it threatened to erupt into violence. “So organizers targeted the faculty club, which at the time was off-limits to students and staff,” says the Capilano College philosophy instructor.

Herbert Rosengarten, a then-junior English professor, was in the games room when the motley crew began pouring in. “At first, I was mostly afraid for club’s new pool table, which had cost members a lot of money. After we secured the room, I went upstairs and watched someone burn a U.S. draft card. It had nothing to do with UBC or Canada, but I guess it was meant as a symbol of radical revolution.”

“Many students were there because they wanted to have a good time and wanted to show the faculty they could do this,” adds Rosengarten, who recently retired from UBC after 41 years. “They were not there in support of any particular

cause or grievance, just voicing their opposition to the Vietnam war and government in general. The few formal speeches I heard were very clichéd, mainly about Vietnam and student rights.”

Setting the stage was a pre-invasion noon-hour campus speech by traveling U.S. radical Jerry Rubin, a member of the Youth International Party, or Yippies. Wearing a National Liberation Front of South Vietnam flag as a cape, Rubin urged an audience of 1,500 students outside the Student Union Building to liberate themselves from all forms of establishment.

He urged students to “cast off the shackles of society” and denounced universities as “baby-sitting establishments.” Rubin then introduced the Yippee presidential candidate, Pigasus the Pig. “Why vote for half-pigs like Nixon, Wallace and Humphries, when you can have the whole hog? Pigasus.”

At the end of the speech, Rubin re-emphasized the need for students to take action and liberate themselves. “We’ve got all

PROF CLUB INVADED

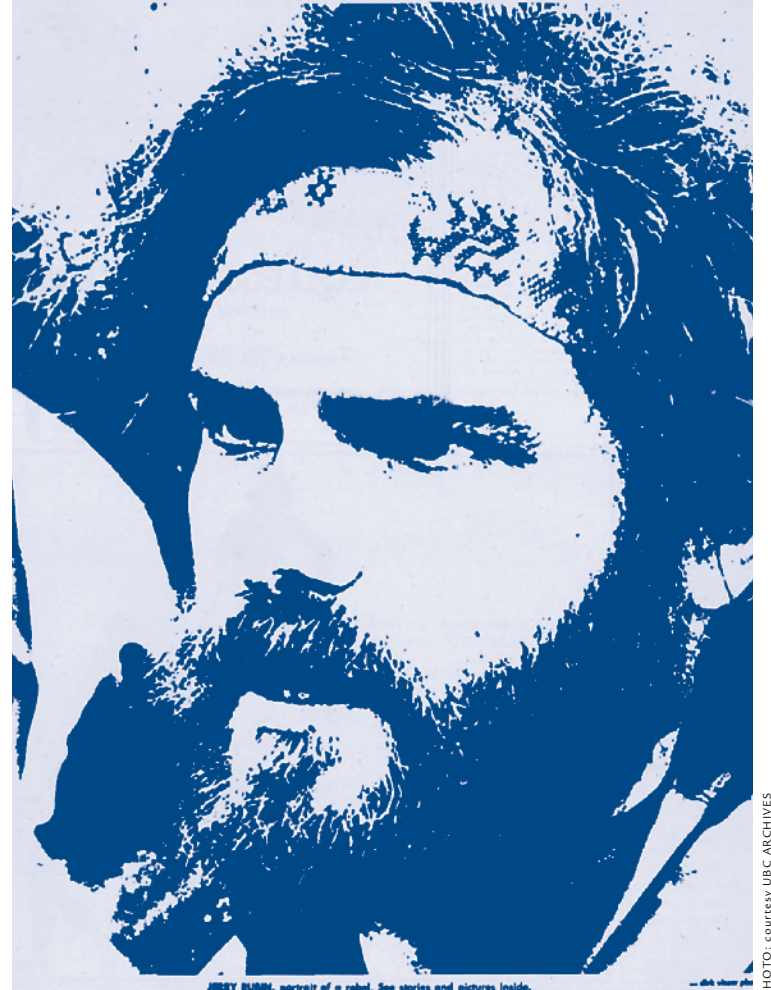


PHOTO: COURTESY UBC ARCHIVES

American “Yippee” leader Jerry Rubin urged UBC students to “cast off the shackles of society.”

these people here, now let’s do something. Is there any place on campus that needs liberating?”

“The faculty club,” yelled out a half-dozen members of the

crowd – and off they went.

The location had clearly been set in advance, as local media were present when the horde of students began flooding in.

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PHOTO: BUD MORTENSON

Brenda Tournier and Harold Etter are working on a UBC Okanagan online display of UBC historical memorabilia gathered from UBC alumni in the Thompson-Okanagan region.

Okanagan Alum Linked to 1922 Great Trek Region’s UBC grads embrace Kelowna campus

BY BUD MORTENSON

*We’re through with tents and hovels,
We’re done with shingle stain,
That’s why we ask you to join us
And carry our campaign.*

Agriculture student Harold C. Etter composed this four-line marching song in 1922 to buoy the spirits of his fellow UBC

students on the long trek from the university’s downtown Vancouver Fairview campus to Point Grey. His words, given voice by many, echoed along the historic Great Trek that ultimately helped lead to the creation of the Point Grey campus.

Fast forward 85 years.

This summer, the songwriter’s son – also named Harold – was exploring UBC history for a UBC

centenary online exhibit he’s working on. Combing through archives of UBC journals, Etter was surprised to discover in a 1982 edition of the UBC Alumni Chronicle the words to the song composed by his father.

“I didn’t even know about it until I was doing this research,” says Etter, who earned a PhD in botany from UBC in 1966 and went on to a career in plant physiology research and consulting. Now retired and living in Summerland, B.C., he’s an active member of the UBC Alumni Association’s Okanagan chapter and is gathering material for their centenary webpage.

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IN THE NEWS

Highlights of UBC media coverage in November 2007. COMPILED BY BASIL WAUGH

Controversial Process Saps Trees' Strength, Prof Says
New York Times interviewed UBC wood science professor **Shawn Mansfield** about a controversial genetic engineering process that seeks to turn trees into new energy sources.

Scientists are attempting to reduce the amount of lignin, a chemical compound that interferes with efforts to turn the tree's cellulose into biofuels. But the procedure can also sap trees of their strength because lignin provides structural stiffness and resistance to pests.

Mansfield is skeptical of the process. "Nature would have selected for lower-lignin trees if they could survive," he said.



PHOTO: MARTIN DEE

Benjamin Perrin aims to strengthen Canada's ability to put away criminals who traffic in human lives and child sex.

2010 Olympics Vulnerable to Sex Crimes

UBC law professor **Benjamin Perrin** warns that the 2010 Winter Olympics will make Vancouver a prime target for the sex-slave market.

"The Olympics give traffickers an easy cover story, and border guards aren't sufficiently trained to identify these people," said Perrin, founder of the Future Group, an international organization that battles human trafficking and child sex tourism.

Perrin, who said criminals see male sports tourists as sex tourists, also featured prominently in media coverage of two Canadians facing charges of child sex crimes in Thailand, including *Agence France Presse*, *Globe and Mail*, *National Post*, *Vancouver Sun*, *CTV* and *CBC TV*.

Perrin said Canada is "arguably amongst the worst countries at preventing pedophiles from exploiting children abroad."

Facebook Bullies: Friend or foe?

UBC computer scientist **Richard Rosenberg** offered advice in a *Globe and Mail* article to Facebook users who garner friend requests from childhood tormentors.

"You have to take into account that you really don't know this person at all," Rosenberg said, "and it was not a pleasant relationship when you did."

While he doesn't dismiss the notion that some bullies may be reaching out for forgiveness, Rosenberg thinks that not responding should be the general rule of thumb.

The Law of Unintended Consequences

New York Times reported on a UBC study on the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. This is the U.S. legislation that was enacted in the wake of the Enron and WorldCom accounting scandals to improve the accuracy and reliability of corporate financial disclosures.

This objective may have been at least partly achieved, but **Joy Begley** and **Qiang Cheng** of the Sauder School of Business have found that the act may also have a serious side effect: It appears to have made Wall Street analysts less able to forecast corporate earnings. ■

Prof Witnessed Century's Global Conflicts

By Lorraine Chan

In 1958, 50 years after B.C. legislation brought UBC into being, Jan Solecki landed in Vancouver, having already seen firsthand many of the critical political events of the 20th century. Today at 88, the associate professor emeritus is celebrating a 50-year association with UBC and is hard at work on his memoirs.

"I arrived at UBC when there were lots of changes happening in the Soviet Union and in China," says Solecki.

Because of his Slavic background, roots in China, and survival of a brutal Japanese prisoner-of-war camp, Solecki – also a UBC alumnus – was able to give students and colleagues a more penetrating look at the Eastern Bloc and East Asia during a time when Cold War tensions were at their height.

Solecki is fluent in Russian, Polish and English, and can speak some Mandarin. "As a boy, I learned to read about 1,500 Chinese characters."

Between 1964 and 1984, Solecki taught Russian language and Chinese history at UBC. He specialized in the economics of the forest industry, fisheries and fuel and power in the USSR and China. His particular combination of language skills and sleuthing abilities earned him acclaim. During the mid-1960s, the Faculty of Forestry asked Solecki to produce a study on Soviet forestry practices, a pivotal paper that further boosted his academic career.

"Canada was especially worried that Russia would flood the world market with wood products," explains Solecki. "My figures indicated they wouldn't, that their forestry sector and economy were in trouble."

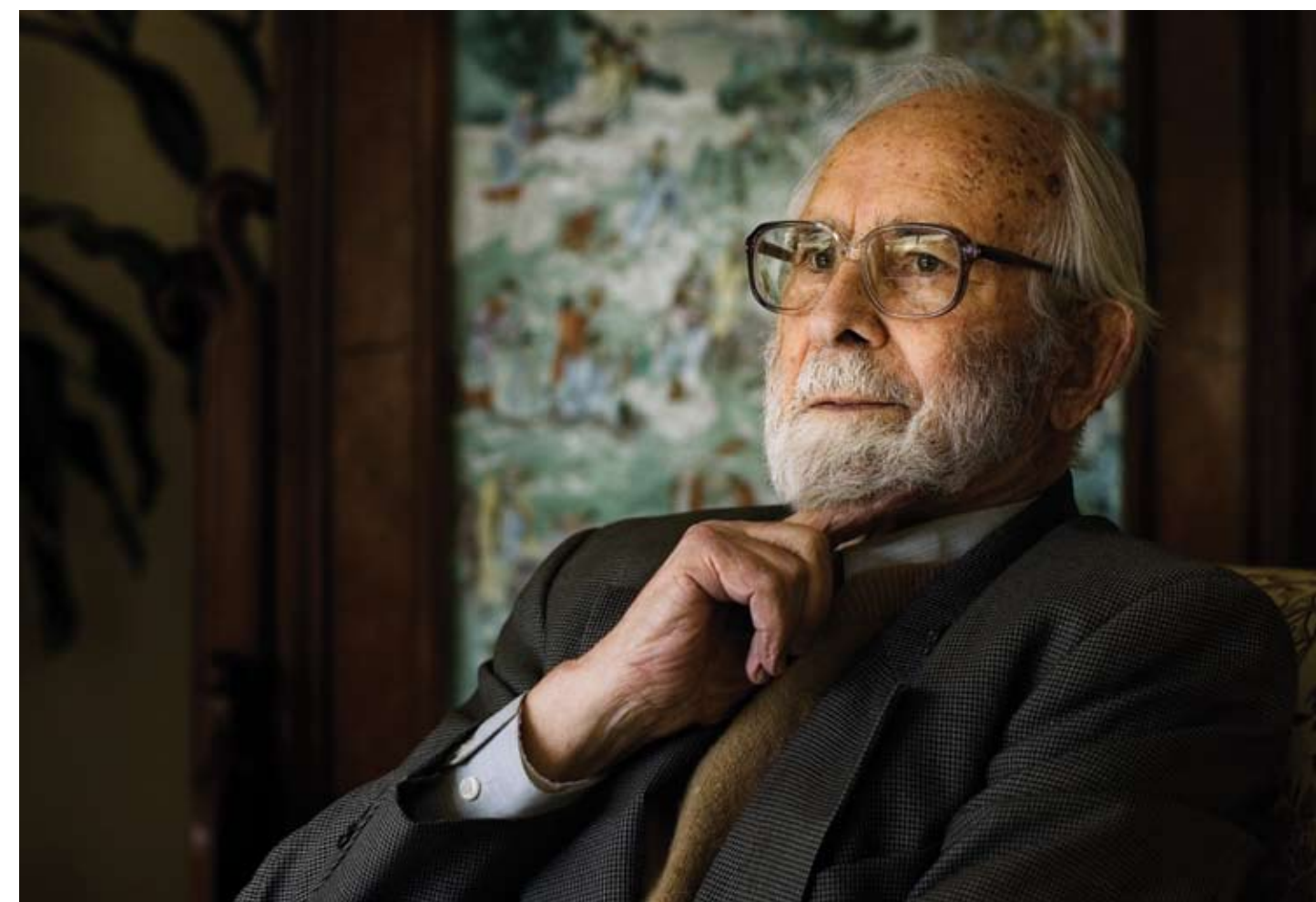
Solecki's findings proved correct and he became somewhat of a guru. "I was invited all over North America and Europe to present my views."

Solecki says he had no secret weapon except to mine publicly available data found in Soviet newspapers and Soviet and Polish international trade publications.

"I could generate any sort of information I needed from journals like *The Communist* and the *Planning Economist*," explains Solecki. "These would list in great detail the type of commodity, quantity and trade value with all partner countries."

Solecki was born in Inner Mongolia to a Russian mother and a Polish father. Their family lived among 10,000 Poles the Russians had sent to Manchuria to construct a railway.

Growing up, Solecki and his two brothers boarded at a Polish high school in the nearby province of Heilongjiang.



As a boy, Jan Solecki lived among the 10,000 Poles the Russians had sent to Manchuria to construct a railway.

PHOTO: MARTIN DEE

In 1939, Solecki won a Polish scholarship to study in Hong Kong where he soon mastered English. "I was to become an East Asia expert." However, the scholarship evaporated when Germany invaded Poland in 1939.

More tragic news followed in 1941 when Japan attacked Hong Kong the same day it bombed Pearl Harbour on December 7. Solecki joined the Hong Kong Volunteers as part of the British Royal Artillery and fought on the frontlines as a gunner. After 17 days, Hong Kong fell and Solecki was captured. He was a Japanese prisoner of war between the ages of 22 and 26, first at Hong Kong's Shamshuipo camp for two years and then another two years doing forced labour near Nagoya in Japan.

Solecki was starved and beaten. Standing 5'10," he saw his weight plummet from 170 to 120 lbs. The day of liberation stands out in his mind. Solecki and his fellow prisoners had been herded back from the factory and were locked in their barracks. Japanese soldiers stationed themselves outside with machine guns trained on the POW barracks and listened closely to a radio broadcast of Japan's surrender.

"We learned later that if the Emperor

of Japan hadn't surrendered, the guards would have then opened fire on us."

The loving regard with which Canadian POWs held their country intrigued him, explains Solecki. "Canada attracted me – the idea of wide-open spaces, forests and plains, which are very much like Manchuria where I grew up."

After the war, Solecki completed a BComm from the London School of Economics. He found a position with the British Foreign Office in London "reading and translating all kinds of documents and articles" Solecki stayed in that job for 10 years, with postings that included Switzerland and Germany. Then one day after visiting in Canada House in London, Solecki made up his mind: it was time to make a new life in a new country. He traveled to Vancouver ahead of his wife and children to scout opportunities.

At UBC, Solecki found a teaching assistant job. Prof. James St.-Clair Sobell offered him a position helping out with Russian language classes at the Dept. of Slavonic Studies. At the same time, Solecki started his MA in economics at UBC, which he completed in 1962.

Soon after, he moved to the University

of Washington (UW) where he taught Polish literature. There, he embarked on his PhD studies in economics. But lack of money scuppered his plans.

"I couldn't afford to write my doctoral thesis. I needed to earn an income since I was supporting a family with three children."

St. Clair-Sobell came to the rescue and told Solecki he could have a tenured position teaching Russian language if he came back to UBC. "So I did. I returned from Seattle with another masters degree in economics, not a PhD."

As a professor, Solecki was appreciated for his dry wit, dramatic stories and playing Russian songs in his classes. However, no one mistook him for a pushover. "Because of the life I've had, I had no trouble being firm with students. I told them, 'You can't feed the wolf with fairytales.' Stories are fine, but one must work."

Solecki is currently writing his memoirs. His earlier publications include *Escape to Life* (1998), a novel set in the 1930s about guerillas that liberate 1,000 Chinese prisoners from a Japanese experimental medical camp and *Bitter Cherries* (2002), a collection of short stories based on his wartime experiences. ■

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A YEAR OF CELEBRATION Join us as we celebrate 100 years of outstanding academic, research and community achievement with a year of diverse events and activities.

Jan 11
St John's College Symposium
Muslim Identities in the 21st Century
 Opening Keynote Speaker: Zarqa Nawaz
 Creator of Little Mosque on the Prairies

March 15
Michael Smith Memorial Nobel Lecture
 Professor Muhammad Yunus
 2006 Nobel Laureate Economics

April 15
Multiculturalism Lecture
 Professor Will Kymlicka

April 24-26
Museum of Anthropology's 3rd Annual Global Dialogue on Repatriation: Porous Borders
 Opening Keynote Speaker: Author Colonel Matthew Bogdanos

May 23-25
Alumni Weekend

September 28
Centenary Gala

January 11 – March 16
eXponential Future : exhibition of eight young Vancouver Artists

February 2
Treasures of the Tsimshian from the Dundas Collection

March 2, 4, 6 & 8
The Dream Healer Opera
 World Premiere

March 8-15
Celebrate Research Week

For more detailed information and a complete list of events visit: www.centenary.ubc.ca

Aggies Forever: *Evolution of a founding faculty*

BY LORRAINE CHAN

More than 50 years separate their student years at the Faculty of Land and Food Systems (LFS), yet common threads link the experiences of Trevor Arscott and Afon Halloran. Neither would hesitate to be known as an “Aggie,” the affectionate nickname that students at this faculty have embraced for decades.

And both would attribute their success to a faculty that positions itself on the forefront of social and scientific change. One of UBC’s three founding faculties, LFS (formerly Agricultural Sciences) changed its name in 2005 to better reflect its interdisciplinary research and focus on sustainability.

This holistic approach to growing and consuming food is what fuels her passion, says Halloran, a third-year student in the faculty’s Global Resource Systems (GRS) program, launched in 2000.

Over the next year, she will travel to Norway and Uganda to study natural resource conflicts and resolutions around such issues as land, water, forestry and food. The GRS program requires students to complete an international exchange to better apply theory to real-life situations.

Halloran says she feels a sense of common purpose with her peers and professors.

“I’ve gained confidence in being more outspoken about the things that I’m passionate about because of the people I’ve met here,” says Halloran, former president of Sprouts, Canada’s largest student-run food co-op, located in the basement of UBC’s Student Union Building.

Recently, she put herself on the 100-mile diet – which advocates eating only locally-grown foods – to see how this would impact her life. “It wasn’t bad. The only thing we’re really missing is carbohydrates, which are limited to corn and potatoes.”

Industrial agriculture is the norm now for most of us, she adds, but this paradigm is one she questions and hopes to change. While introducing the UBC Farm to elementary school children, she was shocked to see how little they knew about growing food. “They just assumed that vegetables come from the supermarket.” Halloran’s long-term goal is to advocate for marginalized farmers locally and globally, and to start up a seed bank for heritage plants and vegetables on Vancouver Island, “hopefully, near Ladysmith where I was lucky enough to grow up on 18 acres climbing trees and planting vegetables.”

A similar passion for agriculture infused Arscott’s time at UBC, an alumnus who completed his BSc in 1956. His focus was



Land and Food Systems student Afon Halloran questions industrial agriculture and aims to be an activist for marginalized farmers, both locally and globally.

on soil science, a fascination that sparked a successful 40-year career.

As a teenager growing up near Kingston, Jamaica, Arscott worked on sugar cane plantations and at age 21, won a government agricultural scholarship to attend UBC.

“UBC was an immense and pleasurable experience,” says Arscott, a professor emeritus of agronomy at Ohio State University (OSU). “Here was this little guy coming out of the small island of Jamaica and being exposed to the world through UBC.”

He traces his career path back to the

exciting labs and classes held in “tarpaper shacks” where he eagerly soaked up new knowledge offered by his physics, chemistry, microbiology and soil science profs.

This set the stage for his PhD studies in agronomy, the science of growing crops. Arscott traveled the world for many years working on OSU research projects in India, Brazil and Uganda. Arscott says he frequently drew on his early fundamentals, especially in developing countries where agricultural operations crossed many disciplines.

“It really helped me that I had a such

a broad general knowledge when I left, including topics like dairy science, agricultural economics and agricultural engineering.”

For example, his UBC dairy course came in handy shortly after he completed his PhD and was working in Honduras for a banana company that also kept a herd of dairy cows.

The dairy manager had trouble getting a successful read on his Babcock test, a process that measures the amount of butterfat in the milk. Day after day, the test failed until Arscott stepped in and solved the problem.

“I had underlined in my UBC notes how temperature was the key factor for the test,” he remembers with a chuckle. “Boy, were they surprised that this soil scientist knew something about dairy cows.”

But most gratifying, says Arscott, was creating positive change. “It was exciting because you could see the advances in agricultural sciences coming together with developments that included no-till practices and carbon sequestration.” Half a century later, LFS continues to innovate, says Dean Murray Isman, a professor of entomology and toxicology. “As a research intensive university, with our location and diverse population, we have a phenomenal geographic and political platform to do outstanding work at UBC.”

He observes that in practical terms LFS has had to evolve since its primary mandate at UBC’s founding was to provide agricultural training. “At that time, about 25 per cent of B.C.’s population was involved in agriculture. Now, it’s less than five per cent.”

Of more than 1,100 students enrolled at LFS, well over 80 per cent are urban dwellers. As a result, says Isman, “value-added” programs now focus on food safety, preservation and processing, as well as the importance of nutrition to human health.

He adds, “We’ve departed from the traditional discipline structure that used to exist, for example with plant science or animal science. We’ve got dynamic young faculty who are keen to use this integrative approach. Students say they really value the way materials on pressing social issues are taught.”

Other countries have taken notice of UBC’s leadership. Recently, the Chinese government has expressed interest in partnering with LFS to develop training programs in food safety and security.

For more faculty history: http://www.landfood.ubc.ca/alumni_history/fifties

OKANAGAN ALUM *continued from page 1*

“It’s been great to reconnect with UBC through the development of UBC Okanagan,” says Etter. “Being in an alumni group is all about connections – I think most people understand the connections we make between the university and the community. But we don’t think so much about connections through time.

“UBC has seen so much history,” he says, amazed not so much that his father’s part in the Great Trek was recorded but that he stumbled across the information after so many decades.

“The centenary certainly gives us a chance to take some time to reconnect with our university’s past,” says Etter. “Now we want to include UBC Okanagan graduates in that history and to start a new legacy here.”

To that end, the Okanagan alumni

chapter – representing about 8,000 UBC alumni in B.C.’s Thompson-Okanagan region – has created a contest inviting students to share their vision of UBC Okanagan’s place in the university’s first century. Offering a snowboard, ski passes and a mountain bike as prizes, the contest asks, “What does UBC’s 100-year anniversary mean to UBC Okanagan, to our campus, and to you?”

“We’re asking students to tie the great heritage of UBC to the newness of UBC Okanagan,” says Brenda Tournier, manager of alumni and community relations at UBC Okanagan. “How students express their ideas is wide open – written submissions, DVDs, pieces of art, whatever medium they want to use. Maybe even a song.” Other centenary projects in the

Okanagan include an interactive online map of the region, filled with information about UBC alumni in each community.

“You’ll be able to scroll over the Thompson-Okanagan region and see how many alumni from each program, from which years, live in each community,” says Tournier.

“The *1908 University Act* says the university is created for the province of British Columbia,” she says. “With the opening of the Okanagan campus, it becomes even more of a province-wide institution. We want to help UBC alumni here make the link between Point Grey, where their memories and ties are, to this campus where they can make a huge contribution. And we want UBC Okanagan graduates to feel a connection with that

great UBC legacy.”

The historical collection Harold Etter is gathering is part of that effort. Newspaper clippings, sweaters, pictures and other mementoes from alumni in the region will be reproduced on the web, to share the past with present and future UBC alumni.

“We’re creating traditions for the Okanagan during the centenary celebration,” Tournier says. “Now is the time for creating legacy and tradition – as much as it is for honouring them.”

The UBC Okanagan Centenary website is at www.ubc.ca/okanagan/alumnirelations/centenary.html. Anyone with information or memorabilia to contribute to the online display project should contact Tournier at brenda.tournier@ubc.ca.

Global Research Ranking a Legacy of Founders’ Foresight

BY HILARY THOMSON

The following are excerpts from an overview of UBC’s research story, found on the web version of this issue of UBC Reports. It touches on barely a few of the thousands of researchers who have delved into almost every area of human inquiry.

In its 100-year history, the university has produced important new knowledge in all fields of endeavour, and much of that knowledge was built on work done by previous generations of investigators. Many of our outstanding researchers over the last century were students here, mentored by UBC faculty, and who returned on the strength of our research reputation. In turn, they have attracted students and junior researchers.

Our discoveries continue to earn international acclaim, enrich our lives, drive the local economy, and contribute to greater global understanding. Here is a sample of some of the important and inspirational research conducted in the latter part of UBC’s first 100 years. And this is only the beginning.

Dr. John Hepburn
Vice President, Research

INVENTORS AND INNOVATORS

In the early 1980s, UBC chemistry professor David Dolphin and UBC microbiologist Julia Levy started developing a light-activated drug now known as Visudyne™ – the world’s first treatment for age-related macular degeneration, the most common cause of blindness. The world’s most widely used ophthalmic drug ever, it has saved the vision of approximately 500,000 people since being launched in 2000. The product is made by QLT Inc., UBC’s most successful spin-off company. The research has led to about 50 U.S. patents, and royalties to UBC far exceed other licensees.

Engineer and former UBC Vice-President, Research, Indira Samarasekera’s work on improved methods of steel production resulted in technology that is used worldwide to improve quality of product that goes into everything from cables and steel-belted tires to refrigerators. She researched new processes of steel production involving a major emphasis on continuous casting and hot rolling and is credited for inventing mathematical models to predict the mechanical properties of hot rolled steel.

MICHAEL SMITH’S LEGACY AND UBC BUG BUSTERS

UBC chemistry professor, the late Michael Smith, earned the 1993 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for his work on programming segments of DNA. The DNA strand that was the focus of his work can be seen in the coloured glass windows of the building named in his honour, the Michael Smith Laboratories, on UBC’s Vancouver campus.

Smith recruited some top young investigators to UBC, including bacterial disease researcher B. Brett Finlay. A professor of biochemistry and molecular biology and of microbiology and immunology, Finlay has received international recognition for his work in identifying how bacteria such as E.coli invade the body; he has developed a cattle vaccine against the infection. Finlay also headed the SARS Accelerated Vaccine Initiative, an international fast-track response to combat the infection. He is the Peter Wall Institute Distinguished Professor, the university’s most prestigious academic honour.

UBC’S GENE SCENE

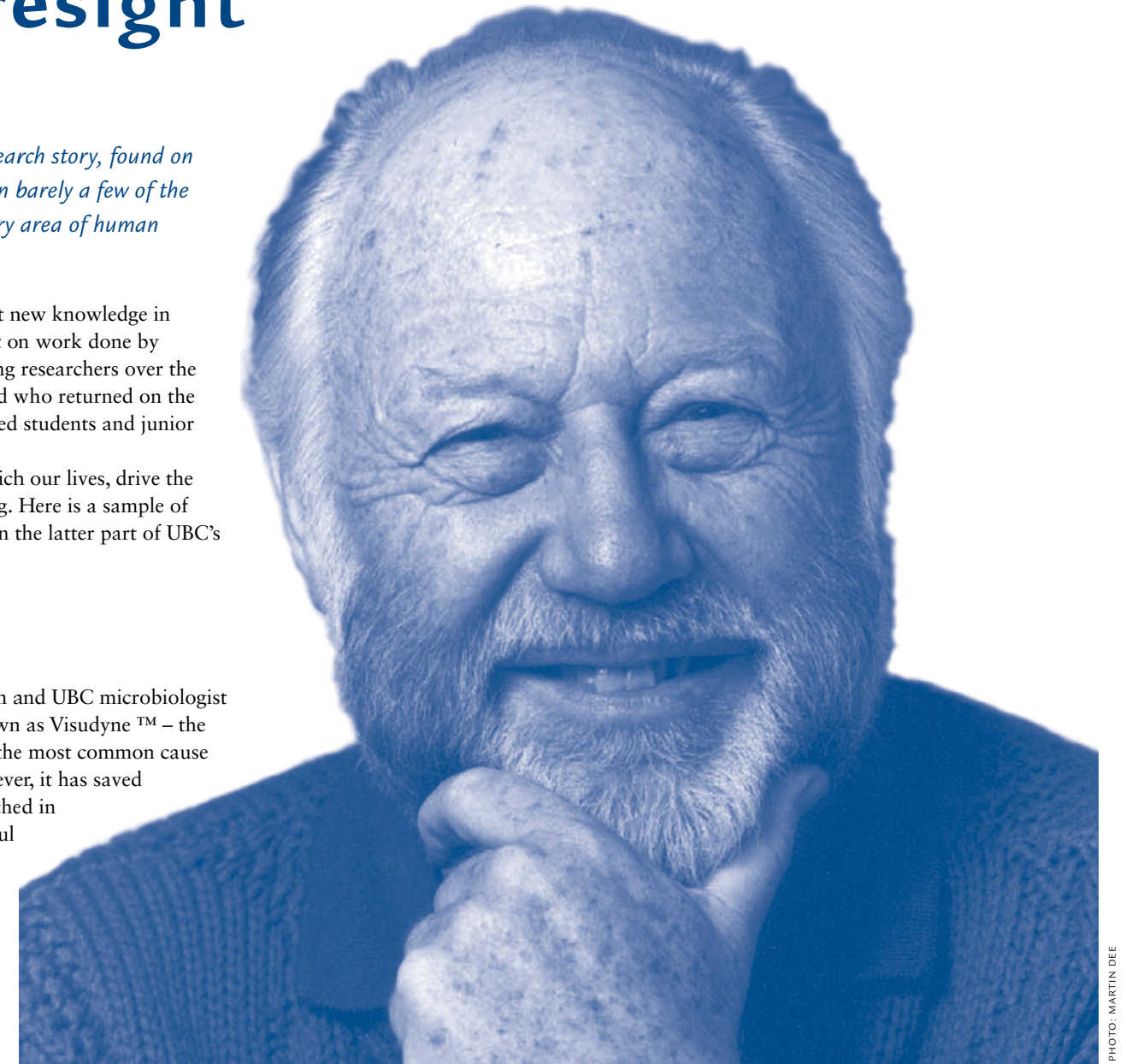
Over six days in 2003, Marco Marra and his team at BC Cancer Agency’s Research Centre deciphered the SARS genetic code. Working around the clock they announced on April 11 that they had completed a draft DNA sequence of the virus – the first in the world. Marra says the opportunity to work with Michael Smith influenced his decision to return to Canada from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. Marra directs Canada’s Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre (GSC) at the BC Cancer Agency. Smith was founding director of the GSC.

INVASION! *continued from page 1*

According to the Ubysey student paper, Rubin and small group of UBC students laid plans for the occupation the day prior. Speaking at SFU, Rubin allegedly mentioned a “pig parade” culminating with a march on the faculty club.

According to estimates, as many as 3,000 people crammed into the faculty club over the next few hours as word spread. There were reports of socialites and other non-students, including Town Fool Joachim Foikus, making the scene. By morning, satisfied with a good party, all but the most hardcore had made their way home.

At about 10 a.m. on Oct. 25, 1968, engineering students



The late Michael Smith earned the 1993 Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

STAR GAZERS

Physics and astronomy researchers Mark Halpern, Jaymie Matthews and Harvey Richer have made contributions to science that include uncovering the most distant star clusters ever seen; co-leading an international research team that confirmed the existence of the universe’s oldest known and farthest planet; building and launching the Balloon-borne Large Aperture Submillimetre Telescope (BLAST), a telescope that dangles from a 33-storey balloon that carried it to the edge of space; and building Canada’s first space telescope, the Microvariability & Oscillations of Stars (MOST) telescope – a suitcase-sized instrument dubbed the “Humble” satellite for its diminutive proportions and its relatively small (\$10 million) budget.

SOUNDS FISHERY

Daniel Pauly, one of the world’s leading fisheries conservation researchers, developed two of the world’s most important fisheries projects: FishBase is a global database of information on more than 28,000 species of fish, and Ecopath is an ecosystem-modelling software that predicts how fish populations might respond to various pressures.

GREEN MACHINE

Bill Rees, of the School of Regional and Community Planning, originated the ecological footprint analysis – a framework that describes the amount of productive land needed to support a given population. Rees has shown that to bring the present world population up to U.S. or

Canadian material standards with prevailing technology would require four additional Earth-like planets. Rees’ 1996 book, *Our Ecological Footprint*, has been translated into eight languages.

EXAMINING ECONOMIES, COMMUNITIES

Economist W. Erwin Diewert is a world expert on economic theory, measurement and policy analysis who has developed new techniques to measure factors such as productivity and inflation. His contributions to economic theory, especially production theory, have been the source of numerous doctoral dissertations all over the world. He is one of UBC’s most cited faculty members. His work in productivity measurement and dynamics has led to better understanding of patterns and trends in productivity growth, innovation and living standards for statistical agencies, government departments and policy analysts all over the world.

Prof. Emeritus Arthur J. Ray is an historian and historical geographer who specializes in Aboriginal relations, the fur-trade, and the adaptive capacities of aboriginal peoples. Ray is a principal figure in treaty discussions and aboriginal land claims and has served as an expert witness. In 2000, he launched the first comprehensive and comparative study of aboriginal rights litigation in Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the United States.

For much more UBC research visit the full article at: www.publicaffairs.ubc.ca/ubcreports.

Hare and AMS president Dave Zirnhelt, who later served in the B.C. legislature for the New Democratic Party, to stage a campus-wide day of reflection to try to make sense of the occupation and address student concerns.

At the resulting “teach-in,” held on Oct. 30, 1968, several classes persuaded their professors to scrap exams. As for longer-term effects, students were given an increased role in UBC’s governing bodies over the next five years: In the early 70’s, the number of students on the university’s senate increased from four to 12, and in 1974, two students were elected to UBC’s board of governors for the first time.

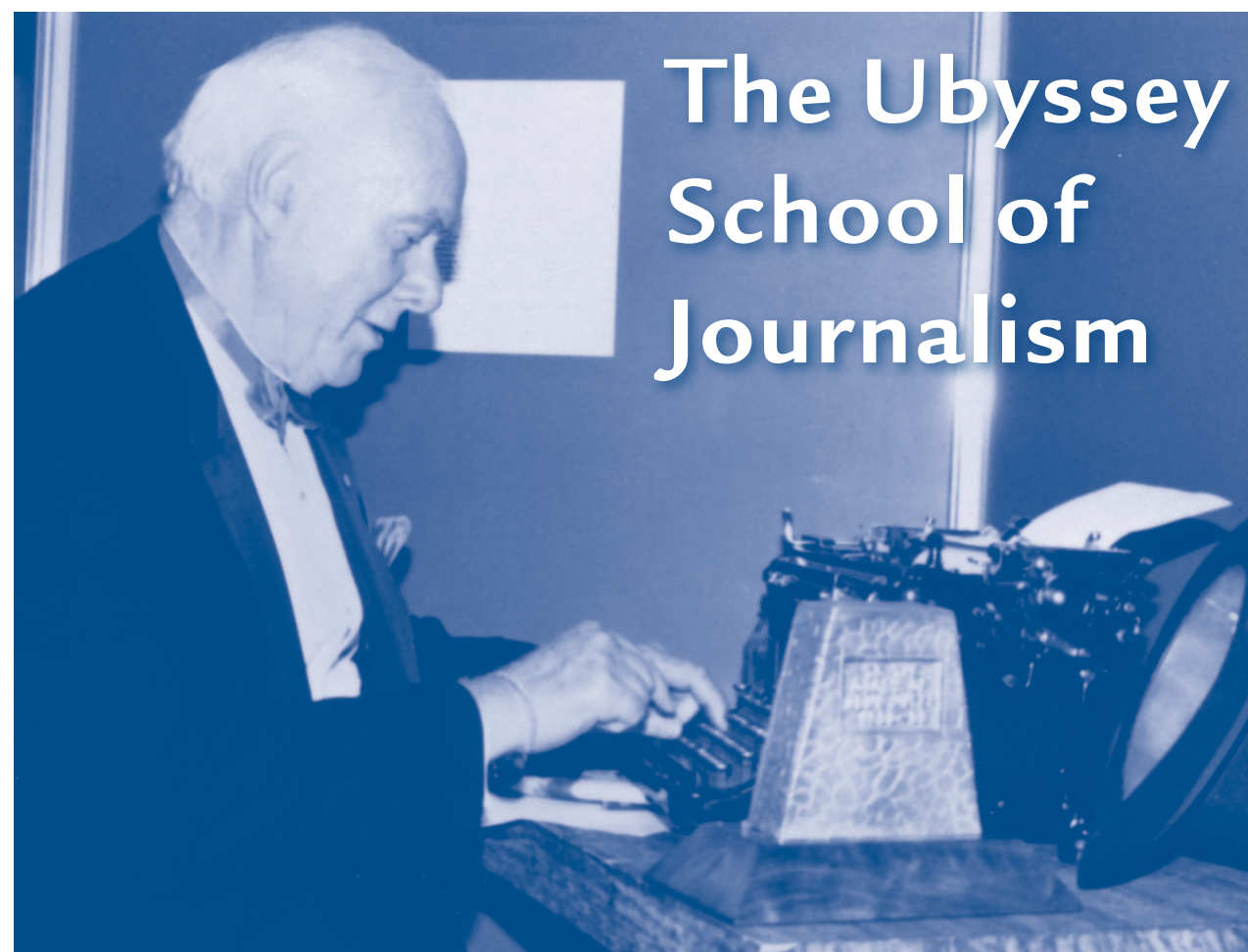
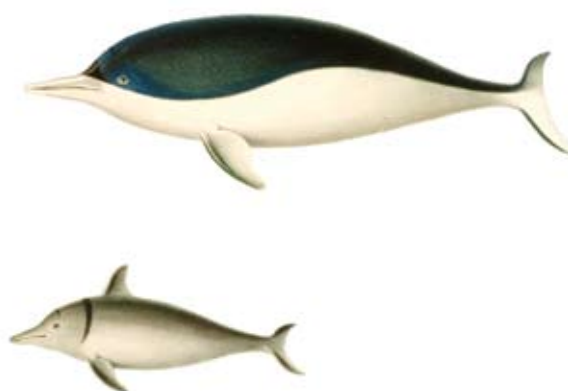
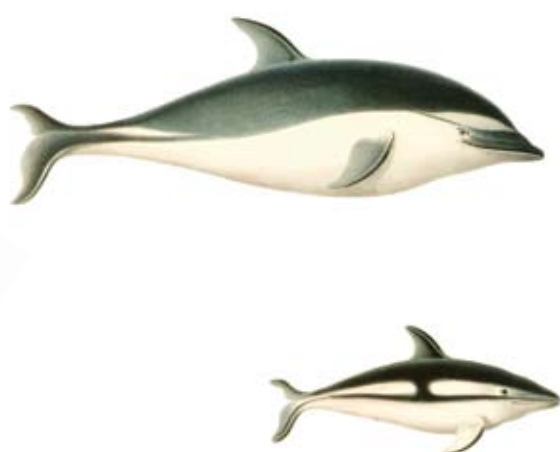


UBC Library Vault . . .

UBC Library's collection of rare treasures has been largely concealed from the public eye – until now. Deep in the vault of the library and hidden across campus are exceptional collections of rare books, manuscripts, fine art, maps and archival material in climate-controlled storage designed to prevent deterioration. These collections have grown in value and stature over the 100-year history of the university and continue to support teaching and research by scholars at UBC and around the world.

To bring some of these rare gems to light, UBC Library has selected highlights from its collection and they are now available to view online.

Under the banner of *UBC Library Vault*, items range from the meticulous, such as zoological giraffe drawings by an 18th-century naturalist, to the monumental – for instance, pages from a German book of prayer created at the dawn of western printing in 1500.



The Ubyyssey School of Journalism

Pierre Burton organized a mock campus kidnapping to get his first scoop.

BY RANDY SCHMIDT, with notes from archived editions of *The Ubyyssey*

They're found in many Canadian newsrooms. They've helped explain the world's news to us for decades. And they have one thing in common: they cut their teeth as intrepid reporters covering the serious – and not-so-serious – side of campus life for the student newspaper *The Ubyyssey*, once called "the vilest rag west of Blanca."

Ubyyssey alumnus Earle Birney, beaten by Nazi storm troopers in 1935 for failing to salute their flag, worked for the CBC following World War II before going on to become a distinguished Canadian poet and two-time winner of the Governor General's Award for Literature.

Pierre Berton, who wrote in an anniversary edition of the *Ubyyssey* that he organized a mock student kidnapping on campus to get his first scoop, went on to become a journalist, author and national icon.

Allan Fotheringham carried on a written war with campus engineers, was chained by them to a downtown Vancouver clock at one point (an honour apparently bestowed by student engineers on other *Ubyyssey* writers as well), and went on to earn a devoted readership as a journalist and columnist at *Maclean's*.

And the list goes on, including former PM John (Chick) Turner and journalists such as BCTV News Hour's Keith Bradbury and CBC TV's Ron Haggart, *The Province's* Eric Nicol, and *The Vancouver Sun's* Alex MacGillivray, just to name a few. Current journalists who made the *Ubyyssey* their after-class home include *The Globe and Mail's* Michael Valpy and Rod Mickleburgh, and the *The Vancouver Sun's* Vaughn Palmer, Katherine Monk

. . . unlock the treasures



Pictured below are images from the *UBC Library Vault* that are accessible online. They include (from left-to-right): 1 & 2 Pages from an early Buddhist work (539-597) which unified Buddhist doctrine in China. 3 & 4 Pages from a book of Gregorian chants published in 1730. 5 & 6 Text from a Missal, or liturgical book of prayer, dating to 1500. 7 & 8 Images from Robert John Thornton's *The Temple of Flora*, an illustrated flower book first published in 1807 and generally accepted as the greatest of all English botanicals.

UBC Library Vault serves as a gateway to distinct images and stories from the university's special collections. A series of gifts featuring imagery from the rare collections are planned – card sets are now available and can be purchased at www.ubcvault.ca. Other upcoming gifts include prints, journals and umbrellas. Each time you purchase a gift from the *UBC Library Vault*, a portion of the proceeds is directed to one of the library's many funds and endowments.



and Jonathan Woodward. A few of these award-winning reporters graciously agreed to provide recollections:

The '50s Joe Schlesinger, Veteran CBC TV Foreign Affairs Correspondent:

The day I wandered into the Ubyyssey office in 1951 changed my life. I was new to UBC and to Canada. I was a refugee from communist Czechoslovakia, a news junkie by necessity because bad news, news of war and other disasters had governed my life. At The Ubyyssey I suddenly discovered there was more to news than just death, destruction and deprivation, that news didn't have to hurt, that it could also be fun.

We covered frosh festivals, pool dunkings, homecoming parades and other antics of post-puberty initiation. Even more important for me was the discovery was that you could be irreverent and disrespectful of authority - be it the UBC administration, the government or even the fraternities and campus jock heroes - and get away with it. That feistiness and the freedom, the privilege of being free even to make a fool of yourself, were infectious. I was hooked. And still am.

Allan Fotheringham, formerly of The Vancouver Sun and Maclean's:

Our hero was Pierre Berton, who boasted that he never went to classes. He claimed that an absent-minded prof in his last year lost the final exam and passed everyone.

My tenure at The Ubyyssey was three years and it was marked by a vicious war with the engineers. I called them uncouth louts in my column. The first time they kidnapped

me I was trying out for the Thunderbirds basketball team. They took me downtown at rush hour and chained me to the Birk's clock. Firemen had to rescue me.

The second time, I was sitting with my date at the Stanley Park Tea Room. The doorman said there was someone to see me. Next thing I know, I'm out at Horseshoe Bay, a mile or two into the bush. I got a degree [BA] in spite of The Ubyyssey.

The '60s Michael Valpy, Globe and Mail Senior Writer:

A century-old UBC! And I was there -- a few years beyond UBC's half-century mark -- I was there at The Ubyyssey following in the footsteps of Pierre Berton, Allan Fotheringham, Himie Koshevoy, Earle Birney, John Turner, Joe Schlesinger and other iconic Canadian journalists whose if I'm allowed a Biblical reference of which Birney at least would approve) "shoe's latchet I am not worthy to unloose."

UBC's story would be incomplete without the annals of The Ubyyssey cemented into its history. It was never just a college newspaper. It annually captured all the awards handed out to the Canadian university press. Its editors and reporters went on to become some of Canada's leading journalists as well as some of its leading politicians (Turner), academics and writers (Birney and Stephen Scobie) and lawyers (Mike Hunter and Lorraine Shore).

It was cheeky, brazen, talented, innocently accepting of its own brilliance. It could scandalize the university community as well as be its muscular voice -- as it was in the 1960s when it unleashed itself in defence of the

university administration's demands for fair funding from the provincial government.

My journalist's soul resides forever in The Ubyyssey. I wrote something critical once of engineering students. They kidnapped me, chained me to a pillar in the lobby of the engineering building, and put a dunce's cap on my head with a sign reading "Stupid." Ever since I have been mindful of reader response.

The '70s Vaughn Palmer, Vancouver Sun Columnist:

I began working on The Ubyyssey as a delightful diversion from the class schedule in my second year (1971-72) and for better or worse, it turned into a career.

The paper was run as a commune in those days (no titles, everyone has a say, issues decided by a show of hands) but the actual lines of authority were no less transparent than they are in the usual newsroom dictatorship.

[We had] much fun with Wally Gage's and Doug Kenny's university administration, student council, endless debate over building the pool, and the occasional serious issue.

The other highlight was not getting thrown in the pool in front of the library by the engineers (unlike my co-editor Mike Sasges). Mind [you], Sasges also managed to graduate, which I did not, to my continued embarrassment. As for my alleged role in throwing a piano off the balcony of the Student Union Building, I deny that absolutely.



Associate Dean, Research

The Faculty of Medicine, University of British Columbia invites applications and nominations for the position of Associate Dean, Research. This is a part-time position to be filled by an internal candidate with an expected start date of April 1, 2008.

Faculty-wide responsibilities are: (a) to provide leadership to facilitate the success of Faculty of Medicine Research initiatives in Point Grey; (b) in partnership with the Senior Associate Dean and Assistant Deans Research, to lead the integration of the research effort at all sites, with other faculties at UBC, and with other research universities; and (c) to oversee the Faculty grants approval process and central monitoring of grant applications.

Point Grey Campus (excluding UBC Hospital) responsibilities are: (a) to maximize, with other research leaders, the research effectiveness of the Life Sciences Institute and Centre for Disease Modelling; (b) to work with the Basic Science Department Heads and Research Centre Directors to maximize the research effectiveness of the campus; and (c) to represent the views of researchers on the Point Grey campus in all appropriate forums.

The individual will work closely with the Senior Associate Dean, Research to develop new strategic research initiatives for the Faculty of Medicine. The incumbent will report to the Senior Associate Dean, Research and through the Senior Associate Dean, is accountable to the Dean. Resources will be available to support the position.

Faculty of Medicine | Dean's Office www.med.ubc.ca

Applications, accompanied by a detailed curriculum vitae and names of three references, should be directed to:

Dr. Alison Buchan
Senior Associate Dean,
Research
c/o Thi Nguyen
Faculty of Medicine
University of British Columbia
Room 317, Instructional
Resources Centre
2194 Health Sciences Mall
Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z3
(searches@med.ubc.ca
with subject line: Associate
Dean-Research)

Closing date: January 31, 2008.

Faculty members, students, staff and alumni in the Faculty of Medicine are actively engaged in innovative, leading edge research, education and community service on university and hospital campuses across the Province. Together we aim to create knowledge and advance learning that will make a vital contribution to the health of individuals and communities, locally, nationally, and internationally.

The Faculty of Medicine is the major source of research funding for UBC with over \$174M in 2006-07. On the Point Grey campus there are 3 major research hubs: the Life Sciences Institute, Biomedical Research Centre and the Centre for Blood Research with two major new initiatives the School for Population and Public Health and the Centre for Brain Health.

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

UBC hires on the basis of merit and is committed to employment equity. We encourage all qualified applicants to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents of Canada will be given priority.

www.ubc.ca & www.med.ubc.ca

Upon graduation, Magnolia Unka (left) and Sita-Rani MacMillan will help to counteract a national shortage in First Nations lawyers and educators.

Education and Law among oldest UBC Aboriginal Programs

BY BASIL WAUGH

Magnolia Unka and Sita-Rani MacMillan want to improve the lives of Aboriginal people in Canada: they're just going about it in different ways. One plans to use the court room, the other, the classroom.

One of over 500 Aboriginal students at UBC, Unka is studying First Nations Legal Studies in the Faculty of Law, including aboriginal law, litigation and self-government. She can also gain first-hand legal experience representing Aboriginal clients at UBC's First Nations Legal Clinic on Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.

classes in our first year so we are really comfortable and ready to teach full-time in the classroom by our final year."

As two of B.C.'s longest-running Aboriginal education initiatives, these programs are helping to address a national shortage in Aboriginal lawyers and educators. Since it was established in 1974, NITEP has educated more than 330 Aboriginal teachers, while the law program, founded in the mid-'80s, has graduated more than 200 Aboriginal lawyers.

Over the past three decades, UBC has introduced a wide variety of Aboriginal academic programs, research projects, student services and community outreach projects. These include initiatives in Arts,

elected to Canada's Parliament.

When Unka and MacMillan want to connect with other Aboriginal students, staff and faculty at UBC, they visit the First Nations Longhouse. A recipient of the Governor-General's award for architecture, the Longhouse serves as a "home away from home" where students can study and learn in a surrounding that reflects Aboriginal traditions and cultures.

"I am honoured every time I step foot in it," says Unka of the Longhouse, which includes a Great Hall, Xwi7xwa Library, a computer lab, counselling, advising, and other student resources. It houses the

"The battle for Indian children will be won in the classroom, not on the streets or on horses. The students of today are our warriors of tomorrow."

"Growing up, I was always aware of the injustices that Native people faced within the legal system," says Unka, a member of the Northwest Territories' Dene First Nation. "I entered law to address these injustices and improve the system from within."

MacMillan is training to teach public, band and independent school through the UBC Faculty of Education's Native Indian Teacher Education Program (NITEP). Currently doing a practicum at Vancouver's Nootka Elementary School, MacMillan is teaching 28 children social studies, weaving Aboriginal history and perspectives into her lessons.

"I would like to work as an elementary school teacher," says MacMillan, a member of Saskatchewan's Sakimay First Nation. "We begin teaching

Education, Forestry, Land and Food Systems, Law, Medicine, Science, and the Sauder School of Business, plus more than 100 courses with an Aboriginal focus. UBC's Trek 2010 vision statement pledges ongoing improvements to UBC's accessibility to Aboriginal people and its ability to meet their educational needs.

Since retired Senator Leonard Marchand (Okanagan First Nation) graduated in 1958, UBC has educated generations of Aboriginal leaders, including B.C.'s new lieutenant-governor Stephen Point (Skowkale First Nation), retired judge and hereditary chief Alfred Scow (Kwicksutaneuk First Nation), Chief Kim Baird (Tsaawwassen First Nation), Grand Chief Ed John (Tl'azt'en First Nation), the late Métis scholar and activist Howard Adams, and the late Frank Calder (Nisga'a First Nation), the first Status Indian

UBC First Nations Student Association and a variety youth programs aimed at burgeoning Aboriginal leaders and scientists.

Inspired by a number of female Aboriginal lawyers, Unka says she is proud to be following their footsteps at UBC. "A Cherokee elder once said: 'The battle for Indian children will be won in the classroom, not on the streets or on horses. The students of today are our warriors of tomorrow.' To me, that really sums up the importance of Aboriginal students in university."

"I have never doubted that NITEP was the right program for me," says MacMillan. "It has helped guide me towards a very positive future. I just hope to give back as much as has been given to me."

For more information, visit www.longhouse.ubc.ca. ■

A Long History of Creative Achievers

BY JULIE-ANN BACKHOUSE

UBC's history of creative arts goes back to its founding years. The following is extracted from a longer text on the web edition highlighting 50 UBC contributions from the arts.

UBC has shaped and inspired many talented, artistic individuals who have produced outstanding creative work and left a legacy of brilliant teaching. Today many are known in the international cultural arena and have represented Canada to global audiences. Who are some of these quiet, and not so quiet, creative achievers and what they have created?

Pre-1950s

UBC Players' Club. Founded in 1915, the Players' Club was the longest running student drama society in Canada. The club aimed to provide training in theatre for UBC students with one-act plays performed every spring and fall throughout the province.

Dorothy Somerset. Actor and Teacher. One of Somerset's greatest contributions was making theatre an accepted academic discipline at a university level. Her association with UBC went back to the 1920s when she started teaching French. In 1937 she became the first member of the new Department of Extension and was drama supervisor for 20 years. She became director of the UBC Players' Club in 1934 and served as first artistic administrative head of the Frederic Wood Theatre until her retirement in 1965. Somerset successfully petitioned the UBC senate for a separate theatre department, becoming the first head of UBC's theatre program in 1958. Paying tribute to her vision and passion, UBC established the Dorothy Somerset award and the Dorothy Somerset studio. She received an honorary degree from UBC in 1965 and died in 1991.

1950s

Bertram Charles Binning. Artist and Teacher. Binning was a distinguished Canadian painter who founded the Department of Fine Arts at UBC in 1955. Binning represented Canada at the prestigious Sao Paulo and Venice biennales and his work can be found in private and public collections including: the Vancouver Art Gallery, the Art Gallery of Ontario and the National Gallery of Canada.

Philip Keatley. Producer. Keatley was the original producer of *The Beachcombers*, Canada's longest running television drama (from 1971-1990) and CBC's most successful syndicated series airing in 35 countries. He also produced two other long-running series, *Cariboo Country* (1960-67), one of Canada's first to be filmed on location, and *Cold Squad* (1998-2005). Keatley is a 1951 BA graduate from UBC.

1960s

Wayson Choy. Novelist and Teacher. Choy graduated from UBC in 1963 where he studied writing under Earle Birney. He returned in 1977 for a brief period and was taught by Carol Shields in the Creative Writing Program. His novels *Jade Peony* (1995), *Paper Shadows* (1999) and *All That Matters* (2004) have won several awards and he received the Order of Canada in 2005. Choy currently teaches writing at Humber College in Toronto.

Bing Thom. Architect. Thom studied architecture at UBC, graduating in 1966. Locally he is known for his stunning design of the Chan Centre for Performing Arts at UBC and internationally he is recognized for the Canadian Pavillion at Expo 1992 in Seville Spain. Thom received an Order of Canada in 1995.



Dorothy Somerset, UBC Theatre Dept. Founder in front of the newly constructed Frederic Wood Theatre in 1958.

1970s

Jeff Wall. Photographer. Wall studied art history at UBC, receiving his MA in 1970. A leading figure in the Vancouver school of photoconceptualism, Wall broke new ground in the mid-'70s, mounting large, colour transparencies in lightboxes. A major retrospective of his work *Jeff Wall: In his Own Words* opened at the MOMA in New York this year, touring to the Art Institute of Chicago and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. In 2005, a solo exhibition was held at the Tate Modern, London.

Ben Heppner. Operatic Tenor. Heppner graduated from the UBC School of Music in 1979 and attracted national attention when he won a CBC Radio talent festival that same year. He has received critical acclaim with major opera companies and leading orchestras in Europe and the United States. Heppner continues to tour and record regularly, performing at some of the world's most prestigious recital venues including New York's Metropolitan Opera, Milan's La Scala, the Vienna State Opera and London's Covent Garden.

1980s

Keith Maillard. Author and Poet. Maillard has published 13 novels over the past 30 years. He was nominated for a Governor General's award for *Gloria* and won the Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize for *Motet*. A UBC professor in the Creative Writing Program, he teaches across all of the nine writing genres offered and has inspired countless young Canadian writers.

Linda Svendsen. Author, Screenwriter, Teacher. Svendsen produced and co-wrote *Human Cargo*, a six-hour CBC TV mini-series on refugees that sold to 82 countries, won seven Gemini awards, 4 Leo awards and the 2005 Peabody Award. Other projects include *At The End of the Day: The Sue Rodriguez Story*, which won two Geminis and a Leo for Best Screenplay, and *The Diviners* which won three Geminis, including Best Movie. She joined UBC in 1989 and is currently the Chair of the Creative Writing Program.

1990s

Jane Coop. Pianist and Teacher. Coop is a highly regarded Canadian pianist. She has toured extensively throughout North America, Britain, Western and Eastern Europe, Russia, China and Japan. Her

recitals have graced the international stages in New York, London, St. Petersburg, Warsaw, Prague, Beijing and Tokyo. Coop is also an active recording artist, with 13 titles and numerous Juno nominations. She is currently a professor at the UBC School of Music where she has received the designation of Distinguished UBC Scholar.

Ken Lum. Artist, Curator, Teacher. Lum taught art at UBC from 1990 to 2006, six of those years as head of the Graduate Program in Studio Art. At UBC he was awarded the Killam Award for Outstanding Research (1998), the Distinguished University Professor Award (2003), and the Dorothy Somerset Award for Outstanding Achievement in Creative and Performing Art (2003). As an artist, Lum has represented Canada at the Sydney Biennale, the São Paulo Art Biennale, the Shanghai Biennale and Documenta. He was guest professor at the École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts in Paris and has also taught at leading art academies in Germany, France and China. He currently teaches at Bard College in New York State.

Eden Robison. Novelist. Robison is a novelist and member of the Haisla First Nation. She has published two novels, *Monkey Beach* (2000) and *Blood Sports*, (2006) and a collection of stories *Traplins* (1998) which was awarded the Winifred Holtby Prize and was a *New York Times* Editor's Choice and Notable Book of the Year.

The Next Generation

Considered the next generation of Canadian writers, a few of the many recent UBC graduates include: **Anosh Irani.** Novelist and playwright. Irani has published plays and two novels *The Cripple* and *His Talismans* (2004) and *The Song of Kabunsha* (2006). His work has been selected for CBC Reads and he has received a Governor General's award nomination. **Madeleine Thien.** Novelist. In 2001, Thien received the Most Promising Writer Under Age 30 award from the Canadian Authors Association. She lived up to that promise when her debut novel, *Certainty*, (2006) won the 2006 First Novel Award from Amazon.ca and Books in Canada. ■

Find that UBC Plaque



Pay attention as you walk across campus, and you'll notice a plethora of plaques marking elements of our history. Test your own UBC historical knowledge by visiting the web version of UBC Reports and seeing if you can identify the location of this marker and six others. www.publicaffairs.ubc.ca/ubcreports

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Mary Campbell (centre) led UBC's women's basketball to win the 1930 world championship.

Peak Performances in the Flight of the Thunderbirds

BY DON WELLS

UBC's history in varsity athletics can be traced back to the fall of 1908, when the University's predecessor institution, McGill University College of British Columbia, fielded a rugby team, which captured the Miller Cup as city champions in March of 1909.

Since that time, a relatively equal amount of British and North American sport traditions have endured through the decades to create an athletics program of great breadth and diversity within the modern context of Canadian university sport. What other university, for example, is today a proving ground for both world champion rowers and major league baseball players?

While objectivity is admittedly elusive in determining who or what is best in the world of sport, there have been a handful of accomplishments that surely serve as milestones in the sporting history of UBC – and indeed the province of British Columbia – and which may never be forgotten, particularly among the some 18,000 former UBC students who have worn the blue and gold colors of “Varsity.”

July 1930

After defeating UBC's women's basketball team in the final game of the 1930 national championships, the renowned Edmonton Grads earned the right to represent Canada at the upcoming Women's Olympiad. Owing to scheduling and funding issues, the Grads declined the

invitation to participate and suggested that their respected opponents from UBC take their place.

Even though a city-wide fundraising effort only raised approximately half the money required to make the epic journey, UBC's team departed on a three-week voyage by sea and rail to Prague where they met France in the gold medal match. Led by the scoring touch of Thelma Mahon and Mary Campbell, and playing on an outdoor cinder court before an estimated crowd of 10,000 spectators, UBC prevailed 18-14 and was crowned world champions.

August 1954

While the Vancouver-hosted 1954 British Empire and Commonwealth Games are commonly remembered as the setting of the legendary “Dream Miracle Mile” race between the fastest men in the world – Roger Bannister and John Landy – the host nation's crowning moment took place on the Vedder Canal near Chilliwack. It was there, as the Duke of Edinburgh looked on, that UBC's eight-man rowing crew stunned the rowing world by defeating the heavily favoured British crew for the gold medal.

The win sparked a golden era in the sport, with UBC rowers winning medals in the 1956, 1960 and 1964 Olympic Games, including gold for the varsity eight in 1956 in Melbourne, as well as for coxless pairs partners George Hungerford and Roger Jackson in 1964 in Tokyo.

February 2007

Competing at Dalhousie university in Halifax, UBC's men's and women's swim teams earned another mark in Canadian university sport history by each claiming its 10th consecutive Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) championship – an unprecedented achievement in any CIS sport.

Two-time Olympian Brian Johns ended his record-setting varsity career with a third CIS Male Swimmer-of-the-Year title, another unprecedented exploit. The women's team was led by the foursome of Caitlin Meredith, Haylee Johnson, Michelle Landry and Stephanie Nicholls, who set a new Canadian record in the 4 x 100 metre medley relay with a time of 4:04.97.

Don Wells is a Vancouver writer, video producer and communications strategist. He graduated from UBC in 1989, worked with UBC Athletics from 1989-97, and authored the just-released 160-page historical book Flight of the Thunderbirds, with over 300 photographs. It is exclusively available at the UBC Bookstore (Main campus, UBC Robson Square and UBC Okanagan), or on-line at www.bookstore.ubc.ca, for \$39.95.

A Century Later, Aspiring to Global Influence



Prof. Stephen Toope, President and Vice Chancellor

BY PROF. STEPHEN J. TOOPE,
 President and Vice Chancellor

In the latter half of the 20th century Canada emerged as one of the world's most successful societies, noted for its broadly shared commitment to social inclusion, its embracing of cultural diversity, its robust economy, and its strong public finances. Yet these successes are fragile, and could be undermined in the short term by Canada's under-performance in social, economic, scientific and cultural innovation. Already, Canada's performance on the measures of social development and productivity is falling in comparison to OECD leaders.

All around the world, ambitious peoples and governments are recognizing that future social success will depend upon the education of highly qualified people and upon the production of new ideas and innovation through research. The global sites of creativity today are places such as Boston, Tokyo, London, and the Silicon Valley. What distinguishes each of those places is the presence of one or more great world universities. Today, Canada has no university in the top rank of global intellectual powerhouses. It has only two or three universities capable of vaulting into that league. One of them is UBC.

If UBC were to emerge as a global leader there would be important internal and external effects. The university would be able to attract even stronger students, faculty and staff in a virtuous circle of achievement and recognition. The alumni's pride in the university would increase. It would be even easier to make the case for increased public and philanthropic support. The university would also contribute fundamentally to the diversification and transformation of the BC economy and would serve as an

idea-engine, a catalyst to social health and cultural attainment.

The BC Premier's Technology Council recently argued that BC must ensure that one of the province's universities becomes a “top 20” global university. Currently only UBC consistently ranks in the top 40 of a variety of world ranking scales. Although I am reluctant to measure our achievements on what are rather misleading scales, I do agree that UBC can and should aspire to global influence.

This will not happen unless we do an even better job than we have done in the past of setting and maintaining priorities in each of our Faculties. No university, not even the wealthiest, can be equally good at everything. And UBC is not the wealthiest; on a per student basis, we can currently spend roughly 50 per cent of what the best public universities in the United States of America can spend. Aside from focusing our resources, UBC will also have to attract significant sources of new revenue if we are to succeed in creating a globally influential university across a range of disciplines.

Over the last 20 years or so, UBC has changed dramatically. What was a university with a modest, and primarily provincial, aspiration to influence has become a player on the world stage in fields as diverse as genomics, opera, infectious disease, fisheries conservation, and Japanese philosophy and religion. This has been achieved first by a raising of sights, then by a clear articulation of values, and then by the hard work of excellent students, a devoted and talented staff, alumni volunteers, and superb faculty members.

Since arriving at UBC, I have been struck again and again by the high standards that so many amongst us set and achieve. This is an ambitious place, filled with

smart people with heart who really want to make a difference in the world. I am deeply inspired by the zest and zeal in Vancouver and Kelowna. I firmly believe that our sights are already set high. This is the first step in making UBC even more influential than it is today.

I also believe that the values of our university are sound; the discussions that led to the creation of Trek 2010 galvanized our community to pursue a commitment to:

- » The free, open, respectful, and challenging exchange of knowledge, ideas and perspectives.
- » Transformative undergraduate, professional school and graduate student experiences, enabling students to become exceptional global citizens.
- » Outstanding research that addresses the fundamental cultural, social, economic, ethical, scientific, and health challenges facing B.C., Canada and the world.
- » Sharing the results of our work as freely and widely as possible.

Over the next decade, if UBC is to achieve global influence, it must **aspire** to greater achievement in teaching and research. It must **focus** its energies and ambitions. It must **engage** more deeply with the communities that send us their children and that generate the issues that our researchers are inspired to address. It must **convince** our society that new investments in UBC will create generations of leaders and social, scientific, cultural, and economic innovation.

The above is excerpted from *Where Does UBC Stand, a letter to the UBC Community*. Full text, and video clips are available at: <http://www.president.ubc.ca/>

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The Holiday Feast at Cecil Green Park House

Tuesday, December 11

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We are seeking an outstanding new investigator who will contribute to the renewal of the Department in research and education. Candidates must have a Ph.D. degree, a minimum of 2 years postdoctoral research experience, a record of accomplishment that demonstrates their potential as an independent researcher, and show demonstrated potential for excellence in teaching. Candidates with research interests in any areas of contemporary Pharmacology or Therapeutics are encouraged to apply. All members of the Department maintain active, well-funded research programs that encompass many areas of modern Pharmacology. Successful candidates should complement and extend the Department's expertise in research and education.

Areas of special interest within the Department include cardiovascular, neuropharmacology, infectious diseases and respiratory pharmacology. Salary and rank will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. The position is subject to final budgetary approval. Special attention will be given to those qualities that are complementary to existing research strengths within the Department and within institutes or other departments within the University.

Anticipated start date is July 1, 2008. Applicants should send their letter of application, curriculum vitae, the names and addresses of 3 referees, 3-4 relevant reprints, a record of teaching effectiveness and a brief (2-3 page) outline of their proposed research program, by 31 December 2007.

Interested applicants should apply to:

Dr. David Fedida, Ph.D., B.M., B.Ch.,
 Associate Head
 Anesthesiology, Pharmacology and Therapeutics
 2176 Health Sciences Mall
 The University of British Columbia
 Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z3, Canada
 email contact is: aileen.to@ubc.ca

UBC Faculty of Medicine (www.med.ubc.ca)

UBC hires on the basis of merit and is committed to employment equity. We encourage all qualified applicants to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents of Canada will be given priority.



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