



UBC REPORTS

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By **BASIL WAUGH**

What do polar bears and violins have in common? If you ask renowned concert violinist Eugenia Choi, she'll tell you they are both endangered species.

Choi, a UBC assistant professor of music, recently traveled to the Arctic with scientists, CEOs and politicians – including members of the new Obama administration – to see the impacts of global warming. There, she saw first-hand the plight of polar bears.

But closer to home, you don't have to look far for concrete examples of climate change, she says. Take her 300-year old, handcrafted Stradivarius violin. It's not that they don't make them like they used to, it's that they can't.

"For musicians, our instruments connect us to a natural world very much threatened by climate change," Choi says. "People wonder why a fine violin can cost more than a house. Largely, it's because global warming has changed how trees grow. You can no longer create new violins of the same quality. There just aren't the same types of wood or density."

"I feel a moral duty to protect these wonderful instruments so I use them to teach students about our relationship with environment," says Choi, who received her doctorate in music from the Juilliard School in



Eugenia Choi's violin connects her to ecosystems in danger.

2007. "As someone who cares passionately about music and nature, it is a great concern to me. That's why I do what I do."

And has she ever. Over

the past four years, Choi has helped environmental non-profit organizations such as the U.S.-based Nature Conservancy raise nearly \$1-million

dollars for conservation through fundraisers, benefit concerts, grants and corporate development.

This spring, she will also

perform a number of high-profile green benefit concerts, including the 2009 Aspen Environment Forum in late March and a New York City fundraiser for the Nature Conservancy in May, where she will play Vivaldi's Four Seasons.

"Music can be a powerful vehicle for change," says Choi, who joined UBC's School of Music – one of Canada's leading post-secondary music departments – in 2004. "It is a wonderful way to bring awareness to things that matter to you."

She says it is often difficult for musicians to control every aspect of a busy international touring schedule, but she purchases carbon offsets to lighten her ecological footprint. In Vancouver, she uses public transit, supports green and socially responsible restaurants and businesses and maintains a portfolio of ethical investments.

Asked how musicians can advance dialogue around climate change, Choi points to her life-changing 10-day voyage to the Norwegian Arctic aboard the National Geographic vessel the Endeavor.

Invited by the National Geographic Society to represent the arts and youth, she rubbed shoulders with luminaries from the world of science, politics, business and culture – including

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Celebrate Research: Weeklong activities showcase global and human perspectives

By **CATHERINE LOIACONO**

The entrepreneur, personalized genomics and work and family life balance are some of the topics to be explored in Celebrate Research Week March 7-14 at UBC's Point Grey and Robson Square campuses, as well as partner hospital sites.

"The impact of university research extends far beyond the campus, affecting the lives of British Columbians in many ways," says John Hepburn, vice-president research at UBC. "We warmly welcome members of the public at Celebrate Research Week events, which are hosted by UBC researchers working to cure disease, investigate the mysteries of space and matter, promote sustainability through technological and social solutions, and more."

You are Here, Navigating An Uncertain World – the theme for this year's series – celebrates the anniversary of several historical

events, including the 200th anniversary of Charles Darwin's birth, the 150th anniversary of *The Origin of Species*, and the 400th anniversary of Galileo's first use of a telescope to study the skies.

"The theme of this year's events reflects our commitment to understanding humanity's role as stewards of our planet, its life and resources," says Sid Katz, executive director, Community Affairs and Celebrate Research founder. "We want to engage the next generation of great researchers right here in British Columbia."

Emerging research themes in psychiatry will be explored by some of Canada's most promising young psychiatric researchers, including Jun-Feng Wang, John Ogrodniczuk, Christian G. Schütz and David Bond on March 7 at 800 Robson Square.

Larry Rosen, chairman and CEO of Harry Rosen will look

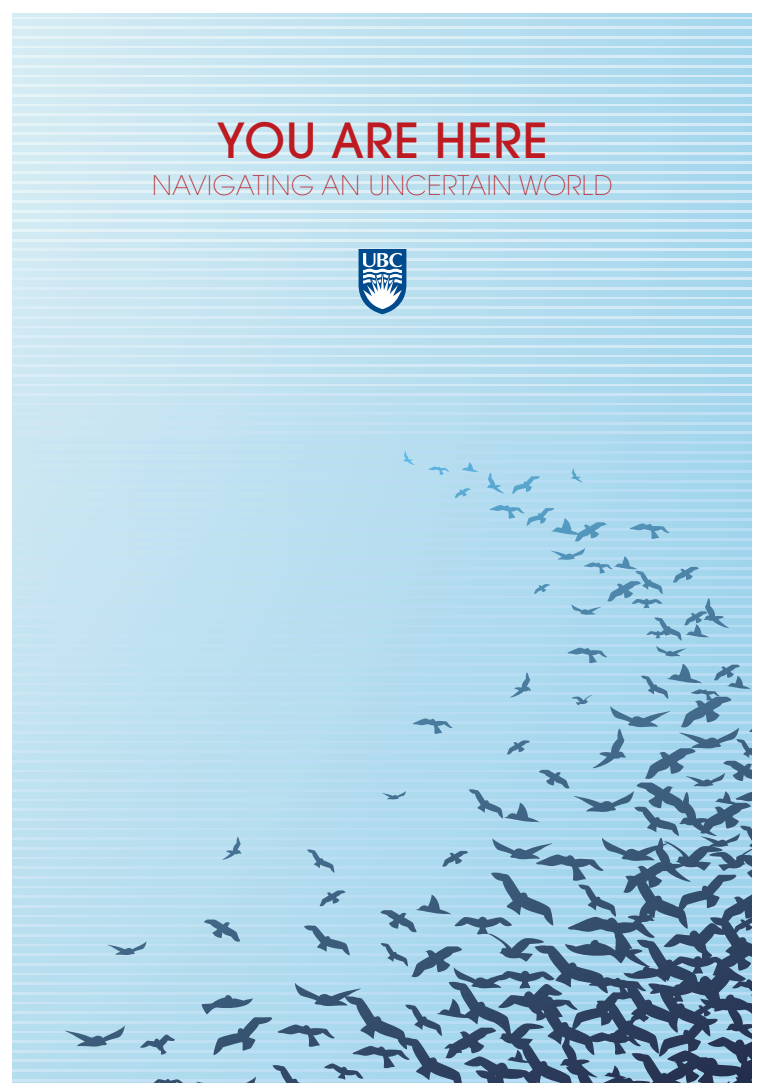
Inside the Entrepreneur on March 9 at Four Season's Hotel.

The Gairdner Foundation 50th Anniversary Symposium: Science and Future of Medicine is an all-day academic symposium featuring eight presenters, including Nobel laureates Harold Varmus, Roger Tsien, Carl Wieman and Sydney Brenner on March 11 at the Chan Centre for Performing Arts.

The 2009 Michael Smith Memorial Nobel Forum Personalized Genomics: Hope or Hype? is a free public forum on March 11 at the Chan Centre for Performing Arts. The forum will discuss the science, ethics and issues around personal genetic testing with a panel of award-winning medical geneticists including Nobel laureate Harold Varmus, Cynthia Kenyon and Muin Khoury and moderated by former NBC correspondent, Charles Sabine.

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IN THE NEWS

Highlights of UBC media coverage in February 2009. COMPILED BY SEAN SULLIVAN

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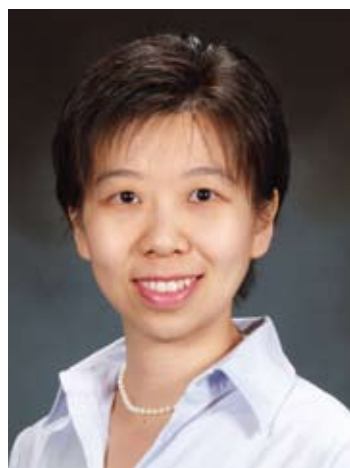


PHOTO: COURTESY JULIET ZHU

Juliet Zhu, assistant professor of marketing at the Sauder School of Business.

A colour-coded guide to thinking

Distracted at work? The colour of your walls may be to blame.

A UBC study published in the journal *Science* finds that the colour red is the most effective at enhancing our attention to detail, while blue is best at boosting our ability to think creatively.

"If you're talking about wanting enhanced memory for something like proofreading skills, then a red colour should be used," Juliet Zhu, an assistant professor of marketing at the Sauder School of Business, told the *New York Times*.

Zhu conducted the study with Ravi Mehta, a doctoral student.

The findings were also reported by *The Associated Press*, *Agence France-Press*, *The Independent*, *the Globe and Mail*, *Canwest News Service* and the *CBC*.

Fish on the move

Climate change will cause a massive dislocation of ocean life by mid-century, says a UBC-led study.

William Cheung, who led the project while a post-doctoral fellow with UBC Fisheries Centre, announced the findings at the AAAS Conference in Chicago. "We'll see a major redistribution of many species because of climate change," he told *Reuters*.

Fishers in the tropics may take the brunt of these changes, especially since many are from developing countries and are ill-equipped to deal with the loss in catch. Nordic countries like Norway, on the other hand, may see a gain in potential catch.

The *BBC*, *CNN*, *Agence France-Press* and *The Canadian Press* were among the international media outlets that reported the study. Scientists have made projections of climate change impact on land species but this is the first such study on marine species ever published.

UN call to cut overfishing is ignored

Thirteen years after the world rallied to curb overfishing, most nations are failing to abide by the United Nations' code of conduct for managing fisheries, the *Associated Press* reported.

Time magazine, *The Canadian Press*, *New Scientist*, the *CBC* and *FOX News* also covered the international study led by Prof. Tony Pitcher of the UBC Fisheries Centre.

"The overall conclusion is really a bit depressing. Even the countries that score at the top of our range are not doing very well," said Pitcher.

Canada, the United States, Norway, Australia, Iceland and Namibia are the only nations that scored above 60 per cent on a code of conduct compliance rate – the equivalent of a "D."

CASE

Writing Team Earns Award

UBC Reports' team of writers won a Silver Award in the "Writing, Periodical Team" category of this year's District VIII Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) communications awards.

UBC also earned Gold for the visual design of its 2008 annual report entitled "Not Me. We." and a Silver for its new UBC Events website (www.events.ubc.ca).

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PHOTO: MARTIN DEE

Linc Kesler has taken the reins as Director of the UBC First Nations House of Learning.

A vision for Aboriginal engagement

By SEAN SULLIVAN

As UBC dedicates unprecedented resources to boost the recruitment of Aboriginal students, faculty and staff, it's also leading a charge to recast Aboriginal involvement and engagement at all levels of education.

One of the people leading that charge is Linc Kesler, who in January was named Director of the UBC First Nations House of Learning and Senior Advisor to UBC President Stephen Toope on Aboriginal Affairs.

His goals are ambitious: Attract new scholars to redevelop curricula that incorporate Aboriginal history. Engage Aboriginal people in the production and definition of knowledge. Maintain early contact with Aboriginal learners, helping to bridge gaps that have traditionally kept large numbers from university classrooms.

Born in Chicago, Kesler's mother was Oglala-Lakota from the Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota, his father a German-American from rural North Carolina. Following studies at Yale and the University of Toronto, Kesler taught for 20 years at Oregon State University, where he led a team that established an Ethnic Studies Department and an Indian Education Office.

In 2003 Kesler joined UBC as the first director of the nascent First Nations Studies Program. Under his leadership, the program has grown to offer a major and minor in First Nations

Studies, with three full-time and one part-time faculty.

The growth preceded UBC's new Aboriginal Strategic Plan, which outlines the university's engagement with Aboriginal peoples and communities, and its inclusions and representations of Aboriginal histories, cultures, and understandings. Kesler co-chaired the working group that developed the document.

Following extensive consultations across campus, a draft plan was finished in December 2008 and submitted to Toope for review.

The challenge now, Kesler said, is to put those good ideas into practice.

"Native people are very accustomed to seeing plans and initiatives announced with great fanfare, but not always seeing positive results follow," he said. "Our goal is to make it real."

As the strategic plan begins to take on a life of its own, Kesler says the university stands to make its greatest progress this year in the recruitment of more Aboriginal faculty and staff, and other faculty experts in Aboriginal areas.

"They can bring attention to areas in which we have real gaps in our understanding and what the university is able to offer," he said.

An example, he says, is the teaching of Canadian history. The standard curriculum has lacked a meaningful discussion of the relationship between First Nations and others in Canadian history.

"That's very significant

in terms of what kind of understanding Canadians have of issues such as land claims disputes, and their role in Canadians' own history," he said.

"We have to make up for the absence of some very basic knowledge at the university level, and that's unfortunate. It makes it more difficult for students to progress to advanced work."

There's also a vast, embedded set of assumptions about Aboriginal learners that need to be confronted, he said, most of which stem from social circumstances and a history of prejudice and marginalization.

But building a solid curriculum that incorporates First Nations practices is not the only answer.

"We can build a really good curriculum at the university level, but as scholars we must also engage with Aboriginal students at a younger age. For many reasons, too few Aboriginal students complete high school with university prerequisites"

There's a shared understanding among academics that there's a bottleneck, he said.

"If the students aren't coming through secondary education, and even earlier on aren't identifying university as something within their reach, they're less likely to stay connected with the curriculum and the choices that would get them to university, he explained.

"It's up to UBC to communicate with Aboriginal students much earlier in their careers to create greater awareness of what university is, and what it can do for them." ■

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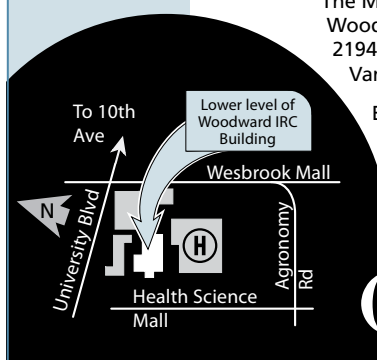
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Domestic abuse victims face cultural barriers: A role for physicians

By CATHERINE LOIACONO

Illuminating the barriers surrounding domestic abuse among South Asian women is part of Dr. Amritpal Arora's goal to help women in his community.

"Domestic abuse is an ever-present issue that casts a dark shadow over all communities and cultures," says Arora. "Over the past two years the issue of domestic abuse among South Asian women of the Lower Mainland has received a significant amount of attention. I wanted to delve deeper into the issue."

Freshly graduated from UBC's Faculty of Medicine and working as a family physician, Arora's recent study, published in the journal *The Canadian Family Physician*, explores the impact of domestic abuse on South Asian women in the Lower Mainland to develop a better understanding of their experiences, coping strategies and barriers to seeking support to help family physicians provide better care.

"Although the impact of domestic abuse on a woman's health has been well documented, the impact on South Asian women has not been thoroughly investigated," says Arora. "Existing studies have found that domestic violence is one of the leading causes of suicide attempts by South Asian women. They are also more likely to suffer from depression and anxiety and report sexual health concerns more frequently."

Arora approached various women's agencies and gained the cooperation of 11 South Asian women between the ages of 24-54 who were either still in an abusive relationship or who had left. Participants were interviewed on the barriers



Study points to a role for family physicians to help South Asian victims of domestic abuse.

preventing access to social services as well as the role family physicians could play in helping them obtain necessary support.

"The question South Asian victims of domestic abuse undoubtedly face is why they choose to stay in an abusive relationship," says Arora. "A perceived lack of understanding by the broader community is what deters participants from seeking help."

According to the study, cultural expectations, family honour, isolation and the stigma of divorce are some of the major barriers South Asian women face.

Cultural expectations emphasize the importance of a patriarchal family and the

submissiveness and dependence of a woman on her husband.

"When women face difficulties in their marriage, tradition dictates that these problems are kept within the family," says Arora. "The ideals for a good wife often begin in childhood and can include the sacrifice of personal autonomy."

Along with fulfilling the cultural ideals of being a good wife, maintaining family honour was found to be a major barrier for woman.

"A woman is expected to uphold the honour of her husband's family and that of her parents," says Arora. "A woman who is experiencing abuse is often extremely reluctant to reach out for fear of the

consequences on her family's honour."

Divorce also carries a large stigma.

"Separation or divorce may give a woman's parents the reputation of raising unstable or unruly girls and affect the marriage prospects of younger siblings," says Arora. "Women themselves are often concerned about their own daughters' eligibility for marriage should they decide to leave."

"New immigrant women are also often financially, socially and psychologically dependent on their husbands," says Arora. "Many are discouraged from working and if they do work their finances are controlled solely by their husbands."

Consequently, when these women are faced with abuse, fear of not being able to survive independently serves as a significant barrier."

According to the study, the family physician can play an integral role in identifying victims of abuse and helping them obtain support that is both culturally sensitive and congruent with the desires of both the patient and the physician.

"Family physicians were seen as potentially important allies by participants," says Arora. "However, participants felt that physicians failed to recognize or ask about their abusive situations. Participants in the study were frustrated by the tendency of their physicians to swiftly prescribe medications without discussing their chronic complaints. When the participants did confide in their family physicians, the women were frustrated at divorce being presented as the only option."

Arora plans to become an advocate for change in his community and within his practice. He hopes the results of his study will help family physicians better identify, care for and support at-risk South Asian women.

"In the past, the community denied the issue, but now the community is trying to take steps to address the issue," says Arora. "My key message is that domestic abuse exists and is not acceptable and that there are support systems and resources available to women."

"My generation can help break the cultural cycle," says Arora. "We can educate and raise our children differently as well as promote change in our generation and the one prior to us." **R**

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The joy of teaching: EOS profs find new ways to enrich the classroom experience

By BRIAN LIN

“Fun” may not be the first word faculty always choose to describe teaching. It is, however, for Sara Harris and Roger Francois from the Dept. of Earth and Ocean Sciences (EOS).

The two oceanographers co-taught a first-year course for non-science students last term when Francois, a research scientist who only began teaching large survey courses when he joined UBC four years ago, used clickers for the first time.

Clickers are remote control-like devices that allow students to anonymously answer multiple-

choice questions at the click of a button. The results can be tallied and shown immediately to the class.

“The obvious and basic use of the clickers is as a quiz tool,” says Harris, who has used clickers since 2006 and has been working with the Carl Wieman Science Education Initiative (CWSEI) to incorporate clickers and other proven teaching methods into EOS courses.

“But when you pose thoughtful questions, they become a powerful facilitator of discussions,” says Harris.

Harris says using clickers was a learning experience for her but recent surveys have shown that students are finding the clicker exercises challenging and they provoke students to discuss material both before and

either as lead instructors in one of 12 currently targeted courses, as members of corresponding workgroups, or by receiving specific support from the STLFs,” says Jones. “We estimate that out of the more than 6,200 students who enrolled in EOS courses last year, 70 per cent were affected by these efforts.”

For example, STLF Erin Lane has been carefully measuring the degree to

students to conduct a mock town hall meeting on a topical environmental issue such as fish farming. Students role-play different perspectives on the issue: as scientists presenting findings on the environmental impact, as government officials promoting economic growth, or as journalists covering the meetings.

“The students have to research not only the technical side of fish farming but all of the opposing and proposing views,” says Steyn. “Then they have to communicate it.”

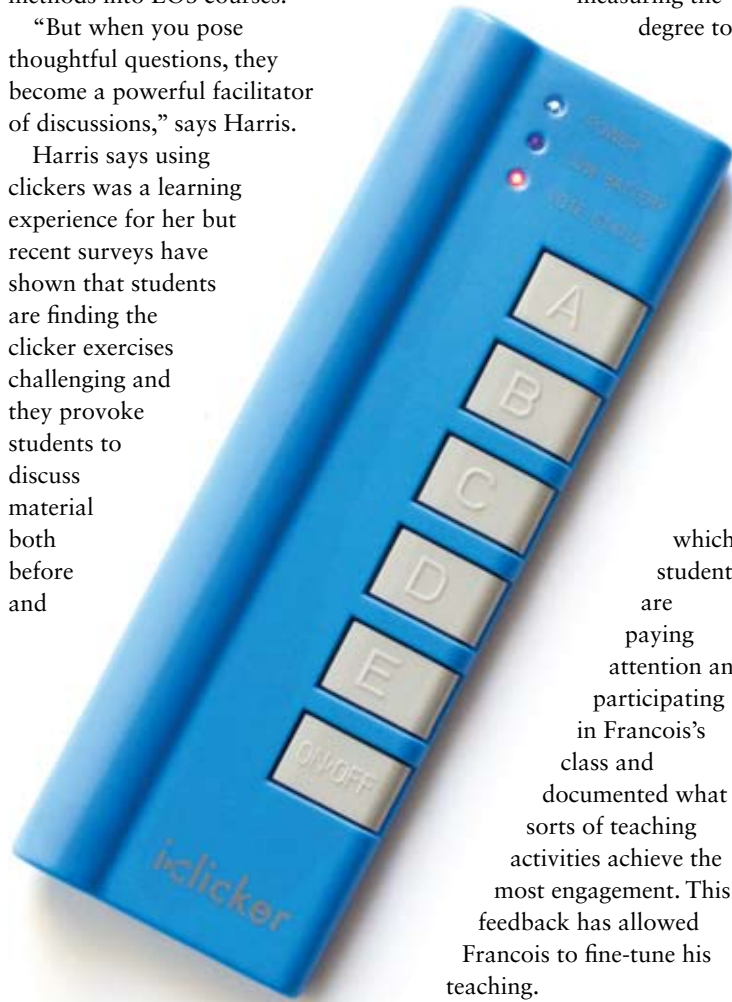
What CWSEI has added to this teaching style, says Steyn, is the scientific investigation of the impact these different approaches have on student learning. With the help of STLFs, the department is evaluating student understanding of key

concepts, class participation, and their overall attitude towards their field of study before and after specific courses or modules within a course.

The CWSEI’s strong emphasis on learning outcomes (what the faculty want the students to take away and retain long after they’ve finished the course) and on using pedagogy that is based on what is known about how people learn are also making both the instructors and students more aware of what is being taught, why, and how best to learn it, say Steyn and Jones.

As for Francois, he’s co-teaching the course he shared with Harris with another instructor, who is now using clickers for the first time.

For more information, visit www.cwsei.ubc.ca or www.eos.ubc.ca/research/cwsei



which students are paying attention and participating in Francois’s class and documented what sorts of teaching activities achieve the most engagement. This feedback has allowed Francois to fine-tune his teaching.

In addition to activities supported by CWSEI, EOS was the first of the science departments to receive funding for a five-year transformative plan – the department is also undergoing a curriculum review to ensure its 11 bachelor degree streams are made up of courses that progress logically and meet the needs of its students.

“At the best of times, curriculum reform is like pushing water uphill with a garden rake,” says EOS Department Head Paul Smith. “This is because it takes considerable time and energy, both of which are in short supply in the busy lives of faculty.

“The combined efforts of CWSEI and the universal curriculum review have contributed to a high level of enthusiasm within the department.”

Prof. Douw Steyn has also sensed greater interest in teaching among his colleagues. He teaches second- and third-year courses in the environmental science program and uses a variety of activities, including mock town hall meetings, to keep his students deeply engaged.

“As instructors, our role is to facilitate student learning rather than capturing them by way of lecturing or making them read a particular set of texts for a course,” says Steyn. “And we’ve got to instill in them a sense of responsibility in their own learning.”

To do this, Steyn guides his

after they register an answer.

That increased student engagement is what made teaching fun for Francois. “There is definitely more interaction between the students and myself compared to before. Essentially you see students becoming more interested and more involved,” says the professor and Canada Research Chair in Marine Geochemistry, who adds that he often gets bombarded with questions after class by students invigorated by the discussions.

“You feel that you’re doing a better job. It’s gratifying.”

“I think it’s pretty fun when students collectively have this ‘Ah-ha’ moment,” says Harris. “As an instructor, I often work with an individual student who’d come to my office confused. We’d go through a concept together and when they get it, it’s great. But that’s one student – when it happens with 150 students, that’s pretty satisfying.”

This infectious sense of satisfaction may be why 69 per cent of tenure track EOS faculty members are currently engaged in some form of pedagogical reform, according to recent statistics compiled by Brett Gilley and Francis Jones, two of the four CWSEI Science Teaching and Learning Fellows (STLFs) working in EOS.

“Faculty members are involved

Peer Teaching Network

Faculty of Science instructors who want all of the benefits but none of the stress of a peer review now have a new option: the Peer Teaching Network (PTN) launched recently by the faculty’s Science Centre for Learning and Teaching (Skylight).

“The PTN is designed to support faculty in developing their instructional skills in a collegial and informal setting,” says Jack Lee, a research associate with Skylight who modeled the new initiative in Canada after similar programs in the Europe and Australia.

Faculty members who join the network are matched with a colleague from a different department in Science. The pair meet first to discuss their expectations and issues they’d like to address, followed by a visit to each other’s class. They then exchange feedback in a debrief meeting.

“It’s easy to get caught up in the standard teaching practices of our own discipline and forget to look and see what’s new in other areas that we could adapt to our own,” says Rachel Pottinger, a computer science assistant professor who participated in the pilot program before PTN was formally launched.

“I had the opportunity to see a fascinating class that some day I hope our department could emulate. I also got a chance to talk to someone about my teaching who was not already biased – for good or bad – by the norms of teaching in our discipline.”

For more information or to join PTN, visit www.skylight.science.ubc.ca/PTN

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GREEN VIRTUOSO

continued from page 1

former President Jimmy Carter, Chevy Chase, Colorado Gov. Bill Ritter and the CEOs of Google, DuPont and eBay.

For her, the turning point of the trip was when the unexpected happened: her hosts asked her to play outside.

“Classical musicians are indoor creatures, you have to remember,” she says of her impromptu performance on an Arctic rock ledge. “We perform in climate-controlled concerts halls on sensitive instruments, trying to get that perfect sound.”

But against the dramatic backdrop of an ecosystem in danger, she played a stirring Bach solo violin sonata to an audience of world leaders and media.

“After days of talking, this was finally a moment for people to really reflect,” says Choi, noting that the music and setting packed an emotional wallop, moving many to tears. “It was completely outside of my comfort zone, but I know it was the highlight of the trip for me and others.”

“If we’re going to tackle something like climate change, you really have to speak to both peoples’ hearts and minds,” Choi says. “Talking, that really works for the mind. But you need music to speak to the heart.”

Last year, UBC earned the top grade among Canadian post-secondary institutions and third overall in the annual College Sustainability Report Card, a survey of 300 North American universities and colleges’ sustainability activities.

For more information on Eugenia Choi visit: www.eugeniachoi.com

Jimmy Carter’s trip report: www.cartercenter.org/news/trip_reports/arctic_July2008.html

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CELEBRATE RESEARCH

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UBC’s Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy presents The Unhurried Family on March 10 at Juliet’s Café, 1905 Cornwall Ave. This cafe offers three short talks on research into stress and coping in infants, couples and families as well as strategies to enhance life balance, health and well-being.

On March 11, UBC Prof. Carlos Ventura will explore and their effects on buildings, bridges and other structures. The talk, Learning from Earthquakes to Prepare for Earthquakes, discusses seismic risk in B.C., and will explain the research at UBC’s Earthquake Engineering Research Facility, 2235 East Mall.

A Wealth of Knowledge and Experience: Research Partnerships in the Downtown Eastside is a session that showcases health research being conducted in partnership between university researchers, community members and service providers. This event will be held on Monday March 9 at Ray Cam Co-operative Centre.

On March 14, Robert Evans, UBC Mechanical Engineering Prof., director of the Clean Energy Research Centre and author of *Fuelling Our Future: An Introduction to Sustainable Energy*, will explore the topic Sustainable Transportation: How B.C. Can be a Showcase for the New “Electricity Economy.” This event is presented by the Vancouver Institute and will be held at the Woodward Instructional Resources Centre.

A highlight of the week is the March 12 Celebrate Research Gala, where UBC honours its outstanding investigators. The accomplishments of more than 200 UBC research award winners will be celebrated with video vignettes and performances by members of the UBC School of Music.

For a complete listing of Celebrate Research Week events, visit www.research.ubc.ca and click on the information box. **R**



Jennifer Selgrath learned her own resilience after a serious accident last year.

Fulbright profile: What makes oceans, and researchers, resilient?

By **BRIAN LIN**

Jennifer Selgrath’s quest to study and restore the resilience of ocean habitats in the Philippines took a detour last year when she and her bike were struck by a car and thrown into oncoming traffic.

On the road to recovery, however, she learned her own strength and resilience – and found a renewed passion for research.

Growing up in Southern California on the beach where *Baywatch* was filmed, the PhD candidate with the UBC Fisheries Centre’s Project Seahorse dreamed of becoming a dancer. But her dreams expanded – she is still a dance artist – when she traveled to Southeast Asia as an undergrad and realized that answers to the most severe environmental problems weren’t as straightforward as she’d thought.

“In my Los Angeles-based worldview, sustainability was a goal that seemed achievable by moderately shifting my lifestyle,” says Selgrath. “It was through my interactions with the local communities that I understood why people sacrifice long-term sustainability for short-sighted gains, especially when basic survival is on the line.”

The experience was “uncomfortable but inspiring,” according to Selgrath, who began devoting her energy to environmental education, policy and research – and eventually landing at UBC.

“Project Seahorse is highly unusual in a university setting, because we advance marine conservation by blending academic rigour with applied management and policy work,” says Selgrath. The groundbreaking project, headed by Prof. Amanda Vincent, works with partner organizations around the world to conduct marine biology research and

apply the findings immediately to improve the lives of communities that rely on fisheries resources, while helping conserve and rehabilitate ocean environments at the same time.

As part of her PhD work, Selgrath examines viable strategies for rehabilitating coastal ecosystems in the Philippines, which are among the most diverse marine environments in the world. Decades of exploitative fisheries practices, including blast-fishing and trawling, have left the area severely damaged and the local fishers’ livelihoods in peril.

“The area is experiencing very different pressures from what most people here in Canada are familiar with when it comes to fisheries conservation,” says Selgrath. “Fishers there largely draw on the marine resources for food and to supply tropical aquarium and traditional Chinese medicine trades.

“While the methods and scale of the fishing practices are different, the consequences of and damage to the marine environment are similar to that of large-scale fishing fleets – destroying marine habitats such as coral reefs and seagrass, and reducing biodiversity.”

The good news, says Selgrath, is that her research is indicating that damaged marine habitats could bounce back. “What I’m attempting to find out is what contributes to this resilience,” she explains.

“Protecting habitats is the most effective way to conserve biodiversity. But do we protect habitats that are most robust and therefore have a better chance of rebounding, or do we protect habitats that are more sensitive so they don’t get to the point of being beyond recovery?”

To understand the intricate factors affecting the marine ecosystem, Selgrath is turning to both new technology and good old-fashioned footwork. She

has convinced Planet Action, a French satellite imaging company, to donate decades of satellite images of the region – worth approximately \$150,000 – so she can analyze and identify areas most threatened by habitat degradation.

Starting this fall, she’ll use her Fulbright Scholarship to visit the Philippines and interview fishers in these communities to learn where they fish, what practices they’ve used historically and what methods they now use to adapt to the decline in fish abundance.

“I’ll then tie the fishing pressure and coral survival data together to evaluate how habitats respond to human activities, and suggest what the communities can do to conserve the longevity of their livelihood while continuing to prosper in the meantime,” says Selgrath, who’ll collaborate with colleagues from the Philippines-based Project Seahorse Foundation.

“The toughest part of any conservation effort is convincing people to change their behaviour,” she acknowledges. “As a marine biologist, my job is to provide communities that rely on the ocean for survival with information that they can use to determine their own approach to long term sustainability.”

From the brink of death and after months of rehabilitation, Selgrath has chosen research as her lifelong career.

“I wouldn’t have done any of the things I did before the accident – teaching, dancing and research – if I didn’t love them,” says Selgrath, who could barely follow one train of thought at a time following the injuries suffered in the accident. “But out of everything I love, research affords me the opportunity to transform the future of the ocean and to sustain the wellbeing of the people who rely on it. It gives me the tools to make a real difference in the world.” **R**

You're invited to the English Language Institute Open House

March 13, 2:30-4:30pm
2121 West Mall, UBC Point Grey

Come find out about our programs. Join a building tour, observe classes, check out sample student work and meet instructors and students.

Light refreshments. **Enter a draw for two nights in Whistler!**

eli.ubc.ca/ur

Continuing Studies

English Language Institute

Paralympic showdown at UBC

Canadian Paralympians were the star attraction at **UBC Thunderbird Arena**, a 2010 competition venue, last week.

Team Canada, reigning World Champions, took on Germany, U.S.A and Japan at the **Hockey Canada Cup Ice Sledge Hockey Tournament**, Feb. 24 – March 1. The gold medal tilt, broadcast by TSN, occurred after UBC Reports' press deadline.

In addition to UBC Thunderbird Arena, **UBC Robson Square** will serve as the centre for approximately 5,000 non-sponsor media from around the world in 2010.

To learn more about **UBC's 2010 research, learning and facilities**, visit www.ubc.ca/2010.



Lionel E. McLeod Health Research Scholarship Winner

The Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research (AHFMR) is pleased to announce that Johanna Schuetz has received a 2008 Lionel E. McLeod Health Research Scholarship. The award honours Dr. Lionel McLeod, the founding president of AHFMR.

Ms. Schuetz is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in the Department of Medical Genetics, Faculty of Medicine at the University of British Columbia. She has received numerous awards and scholarships during her academic career, from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research, and the University of British Columbia. Ms. Schuetz's research focuses on the genetics of susceptibility to non-Hodgkin lymphoma, a type of cancer with the fifth highest incidence in Canada. More knowledge in this area could help better predict and treat this deadly cancer.

The Lionel E. McLeod Health Research Scholarship is given annually to an outstanding student at the University of Alberta, University of Calgary, or University of British Columbia for research related to human health. Olivier Julien at the University of Alberta and Michael Galic at the University of Calgary also received awards this year.

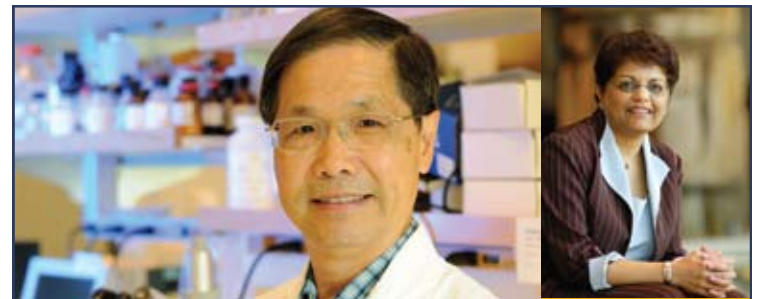
Dr. McLeod was the Head of Endocrinology at the University of Alberta, Dean of Medicine at the University of Calgary, President of AHFMR from 1981-1990, and President and Chief Executive Officer of the University Hospital, Vancouver.

AHFMR



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www.ahfmr.ab.ca



Your voice matters



UBC faculty and staff are invited to participate in UBC's first

Workplace Experiences Survey

Take the opportunity to tell us what's important in creating a better workplace.

Share your viewpoint at

www.focusonpeople.ubc.ca

February 23 – March 18, 2009.

The Workplace Experiences Survey is an initiative of Focus on People: Workplaces at UBC



UBC'S CELEBRATE RESEARCH WEEK

YOU ARE HERE

NAVIGATING AN UNCERTAIN WORLD

Each year in March, UBC faculties, departments, schools, research hospitals and partner institutions are invited to host discussion forums, lectures, seminars, open houses and symposia on topical and timely issues related to their research.

From Fine Arts to Chemistry everyone is invited to participate in this week-long event. Almost all of these events are FREE and open to the public, students, faculty, staff and schools. For updates and a complete listing of these events visit:

WWW.CELEBRATERESEARCH.UBC.CA

7 MARCH SATURDAY

Faculty of Medicine Research Day
KALEIDOSCOPE OF POPULATION & PUBLIC HEALTH
10:00AM – 12:00PM

How can we improve the health of our most vulnerable and disadvantaged citizens? Join faculty members of UBC's new School of Population and Public Health talk about their research into a variety of topics, including emerging health threats and rapid responses to combat them; understanding how to prevent cancer and other chronic diseases; how to maintain a healthy society; how to protect and enhance our health care system; and the latest issues in occupational and environmental health. Contact: Brian Kladko, brian.kladko@ubc.ca.
Robson Square, 800 Robson Street

Faculty of Medicine Research Day
EMERGING RESEARCH THEMES IN PSYCHIATRY
2:00PM – 4:00PM

A discussion of the problems being tackled – and the breakthroughs achieved – by some of Canada's most promising young psychiatric researchers, including: Jun-Feng Wang, John Ogrodnick, Christian G. Schütz and David Bond. All welcome. Contact: Brian Kladko, brian.kladko@ubc.ca.
Robson Square, 800 Robson Street

9 MARCH MONDAY

University-Industry Liaison Office
BRIDGING THE GAP:
Bringing Medicines to the Poor of the World
7:00PM – 8:30PM

A symposium to discuss how UBC is addressing the obstacles to researching diseases of, and delivering medical technologies to, the developing world. Featuring Drs. Brett Finlay, Robert Hancock and Kishor Wasan, with Ian Bell and Michael Gretes. Contact: Jennifer Choi, jenniferchoi@gmail.com.
Robson Square, 800 Robson Street - room C150

10 MARCH TUESDAY

Sauder School of Business
SUSTAINABILITY AND SOCIAL INNOVATION
Reception: 5:00PM – 6:00PM
Presentation: 6:00PM – 7:30PM

Professor James Tansey and research associates will discuss the projects that have marked the beginnings of the Centre for Sustainability and Social Innovation (CSSI). Contact: Jessie Lam, jessie.lam@sauder.ubc.ca.
Robson Square, 800 Robson Street

11 MARCH WEDNESDAY

Gairdner Foundation 50th Anniversary Symposium
SCIENCE AND THE FUTURE OF MEDICINE
9:00AM – 5:00PM

An academic symposium featuring eight esteemed presenters, including four Nobel Laureates (Drs. Carl Wieman, Harold Varmus, Sydney Brenner and Roger Tsien). This all-day event is intended for life sciences researchers and interested members of the public. Tickets to this FREE event are available to the public and must be picked up in advance from the Chan Centre Ticket Office (Mon-Sat, 12-5:00 p.m.) The morning and afternoon sessions are ticketed separately. For more information: (604)875-3535.

The Chan Centre, 6265 Crescent Road

2009 Michael Smith Memorial Nobel Forum
PERSONAL GENOMICS: HOPE OR HYPE?
7:30PM – 9:00PM

A free public forum discussing the science and issues of personal genetic testing. Panel of renowned medical geneticists (Cynthia Kenyon, Muin Khoury & Harold Varmus) will be moderated by award-winning former NBC correspondent, Charles Sabine. Hosted by Dr. Michael Hayden. Visit www.celebrateresearch.ubc.ca for up-to-date details. Contact: Seeltha Kumaran, skumaran@cmmt.ubc.ca. Tickets are free and must be picked up in advance from The Chan Centre Ticket Office (www.chancentre.ubc.ca).
The Chan Centre, 6265 Crescent Road

12 MARCH THURSDAY

UBC School of Audiology & Speech Sciences
CELEBRATE SPEECH AND HEARING RESEARCH:
Talk to Me, Listen to Me

9:00AM – 12:00PM (also Monday March 9)
Learn about our current research, explore possible careers, and experience the energy in our new facility – where insights into the nature of human communication are being translated into therapeutic action. Contact: ssmall@audiospeech.ubc.ca.
3rd Floor, 2177 Wesbrook Mall

13 MARCH FRIDAY

College For Interdisciplinary Studies
BEYOND BINARIES & BORDERS
9:00AM – 5:00PM (see also March 14)

We will be looking at the ways in which intercultural and interdisciplinary approaches intersect using the case study of food with an emphasis on fish. Please rsvp to Lindsay to reserve seating at lindsay.funk@ubc.ca.
Liu Institute, Multipurpose Room, 6476 NW Marine Dr

14 MARCH SATURDAY

The Vancouver Institute Presents
SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION: How B.C. Can Be a Showcase For the New "Electricity Economy"

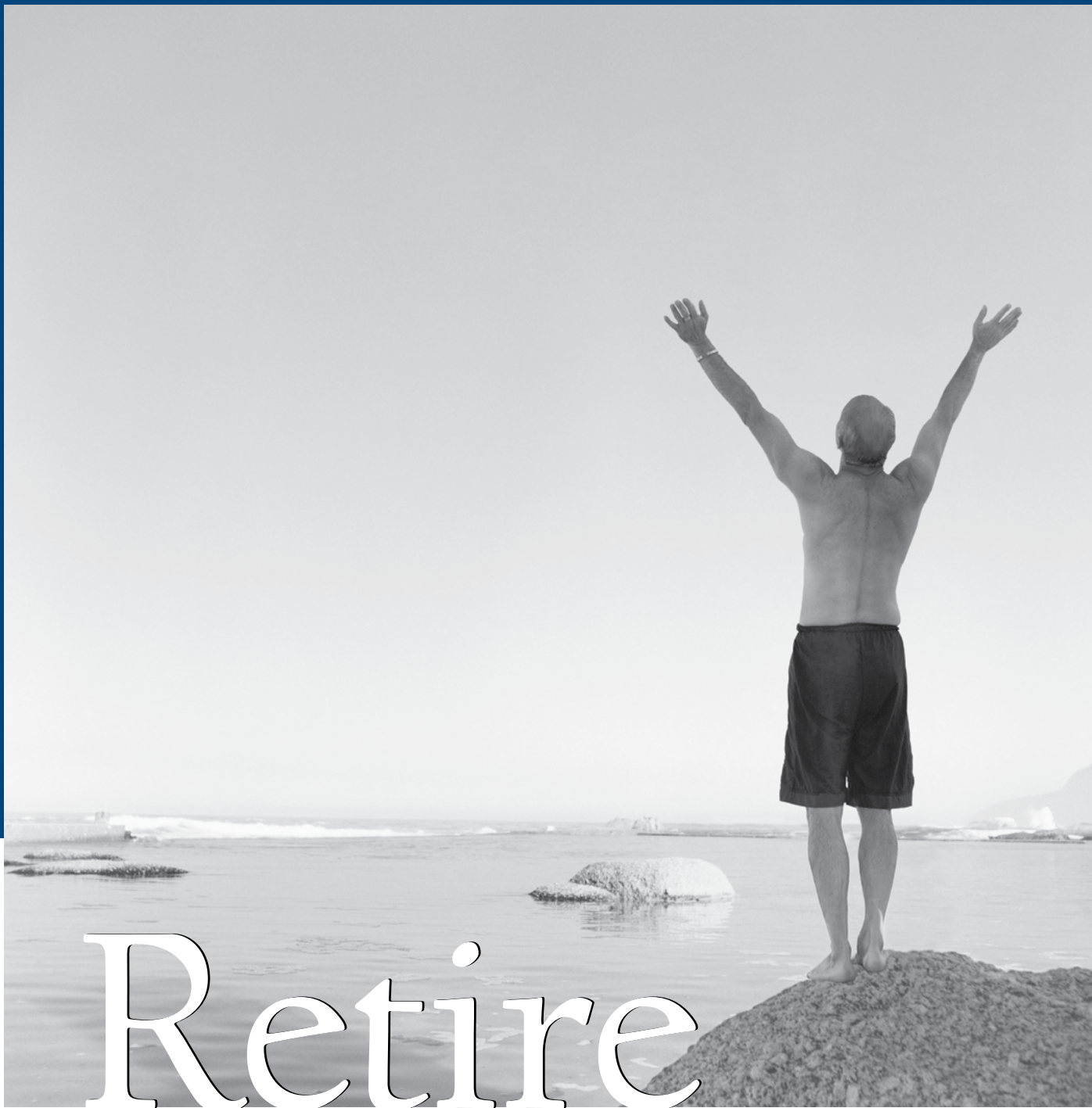
8:15PM – Guest speaker Professor Robert Evans is also the author of *Fueling Our Future: An Introduction to Sustainable Energy*.
Lecture Hall No. 20, Woodward Instructional Resources Centre

High School students welcome
Public welcome

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