



a place of mind  
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

# UBC REPORTS

March 2012

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Martin Dee Photograph

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# A new window on patients' personal struggles

By Brian Kladko



Andrew Trites Photograph

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### UBC REPORTS

VOLUME FIFTY EIGHT: NUMBER THREE  
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TELDON PRINT MEDIA

#### Publisher

UBC Reports is published monthly by:  
The University of British Columbia  
Public Affairs Office  
310 - 6251 Cecil Green Park Road  
Vancouver BC Canada V6T 1Z1

#### Next issue: 5 April 2012

#### Submissions

UBC Reports welcomes submissions.  
For upcoming UBC Reports submission guidelines:  
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Website: www.ubc.ca/news  
Tel: 604.822.NEWS (6397)  
E-mail: publicaffairs@ubc.ca  
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Publication mail agreement no. 40775044.  
Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to circulation department.  
310 - 6251 Cecil Green Park Road, Vancouver, BC Canada V6T 1Z1

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Public Affairs

## Highlights of UBC media coverage in February 2012

### Heather Amos

#### NEWS FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE (AAAS)

##### Marine mammal research

The *BBC* reported on UBC professor **Andrew Trites** and his colleagues who are using trained sea lions for research on eating habits. The researchers strap cameras and tracking equipment on to the sea lions as they dive for food.

“We’re simulating depths the animals encounter in Alaska. Our ultimate goal is to figure out whether the sea lions in Alaska are getting enough to eat,” said Trites.

*Agence France Presse* and the *Vancouver Sun* wrote about the work of marine mammal experts including UBC’s Trites and **Stephen Raverty** who told the annual meeting of the AAAS that around the world seals, otters, and other species are increasingly infected by parasites and other diseases from the land.

##### Device turns gestures into song

Researchers have created a system that converts hand gestures into speech, and into song as well. Its name is Digital Ventriloquized Actor, or DiVA, reported *MSNBC*, the *New Scientist*, *Discovery News*, *CTV*, *CBC* and many others.

With the gestures of the right hand, DiVA’s operator controls the pitch and the character of the sounds. Closed-hand gestures produce consonants. Open-hand gestures produce vowels.

“We designed a gestural space that mimics the vocal tract,” said **Sidney Fels**, director of UBC’s Media and Graphics Interdisciplinary Center, or MAGIC, who presented at the annual meeting of the AAAS.

##### Window into world’s future oceans

Professor **Villy Christensen** and other UBC fisheries experts are coordinating an international group of researchers who are using a sophisticated oceanic simulator to predict future ocean conditions. The work, which was presented at the annual meeting of the AAAS, incorporates existing climate change models and then accounts for fishing pressure, ocean acidification and decreasing dissolved oxygen, reported *National Public Radio* and the *Vancouver Sun*.

The initial simulations show that globally we are seeing a decline in big fish

species, and an increase in smaller fish, which are of no commercial interest.

In an article highlighting the contributions Canadian researchers made to the 2012 AAAS conference, the *Globe and Mail* listed UBC’s Christensen and **Julio Montaner**, the director of the B.C. Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS and the Head of Division of AIDS in the Faculty of Medicine, among the bright stars of Canadian research.

##### Norovirus vaccine showing promise

*USA Today*, *MSNBC*, *Fox News* and the *Vancouver Sun* reported that scientists are getting closer to producing a vaccine against norovirus. There are about 5.5 million cases of norovirus in the United States each year, making it the number one cause of foodborne illness.

Currently, the best way to prevent norovirus infection is to wash your hands with soap and water before eating or preparing food. Hand sanitizers can also be used if soap and water are not available, but these may not be as affective, said UBC’s **Natalie Prystajeky**, one of four experts presenting at the AAAS symposium ‘Norovirus: The Modern Scourge of Food and Family.

##### Rising sea levels pose flood risk

Hundreds of millions of people who are living in low-lying coastal areas around the globe will have to protect themselves from rising sea levels.

**David Flanders**, a research scientist at UBC, presented his work with the Metro Vancouver community of Delta, B.C., at the annual meeting of the AAAS.

Flanders, professor **Stephen Sheppard**, and their colleagues at UBC’s Collaborative for Advanced Landscape Planning have developed visualization of several strategies Delta residents can implement to protect against rising sea levels, reported *Canadian Press*, *CTV*, *CBC*, the *Vancouver Sun* and others.



Don Ehardt Photograph

Health mentor **Hilary Brown** (left to right) meets with students from his discussion group: **Rosie Higgins** (occupational therapy), **Anita Rashidi** (medical education) and **Kevin Shen** (Dentistry).

**Patients are supposed to be the centre of attention for students preparing to work in one of the health professions. But somehow, in the rush to learn all there is to know about treating, curing and healing, students rarely get a chance to know patients in any meaningful way—the choices they have to make, the barriers they confront, the frustrations they encounter.**

A new program spanning several UBC faculties is now injecting greater humanity into the learning process.

The Interprofessional Health Mentors Program has matched 90 students with 23 people grappling with chronic conditions, such as spinal cord injury, multiple sclerosis, arthritis, epilepsy, HIV/AIDS and mental health problems.

Four students are assigned to each mentor, making for intimate,

full-participation discussions. Their meetings take place during a 16-month period—a virtual epoch in the frenzied, “if it’s Tuesday it must be anatomy” whirlwind of becoming nurses, occupational therapists, dentists, physicians and pharmacists.

“We want the students to develop relationships with the patients over time, in contrast to most of their one-off, transitory encounters,” says Associate Professor of Medicine Angela Towle, who is leading the project. “At the same time, they are also building relationships with students from other health fields, gaining insights that could help them collaborate as professionals.”

Towle, who promotes interprofessional education through the Division of Health Care Communication in UBC’s College of Health Disciplines, borrowed the idea

from Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia and Dalhousie University, but reworked it to give students and mentors more control. “We obviously set some objectives, but we didn’t want to constrain the learning,” Towle says. “We wanted to see what would happen.”

So students and mentors—all of whom have volunteered to participate—meet on their own, without an instructor, every couple of months. They are given themes to discuss, and students write about their insights in online journals that are read by Towle and an instructor from their particular program.

“Usually, we don’t have the opportunity to spend more than 30 minutes with a client,” said Heather Lyons, a first-year occupational therapy student, whose mentor has multiple sclerosis. “Here,

we’re delving into the human aspect. Being able to learn so much about someone—their family, the barriers in their environment, how certain words carry different meanings for them—is allowing us to learn on a deeper level.”

Mentors were selected in part based on previous experience as educators or facilitators. Hilary Brown, who teaches laboratory science at Vancouver Community College, thought the program might help raise awareness about his condition—he lost use of his legs due to a motor vehicle accident 23 year ago—among a broader range of health professionals.

“When I’m in an office or examining room, there’s an uneasiness that doesn’t have to be there,” he says. “Maybe if I can get in at the ground level of the training of these health professionals, I

can break down some of the barriers that I sense.”

One of Brown’s students, Anita Rashidi, sees those barriers coming down already. “It’s an open environment, so you feel comfortable asking questions that might be awkward in the ‘real world’ of a doctor’s office, and that awkwardness could end up affecting how you treat your patients,” says Rashidi, a first-year medical student. “It’s good to clear up those uncertainties now, in a safe environment.”

The program, which receives financial support from the College of Health Disciplines and UBC’s Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund, will double in size with a second wave of students in September, and perhaps include even more health training programs. ●



# Atop Everest for health research

UBC expedition seeks high altitude answers to chronic diseases

Paul Marck

**“People who live their lives at high altitude seem more resistant and less vulnerable to the respiratory and cardiovascular problems.”**



A view of the majestic **Himalayas**.

## Talk about a steep learning curve.

A pioneering research project designed to investigate the effects of chronic oxygen deprivation and distribution of blood flow at high altitudes through the heart, lungs and brain will put a UBC research expedition on top of the world at Everest Base Camp next month.

The School of Health and Exercise Sciences at UBC's Okanagan campus is sending a 25-member team of international scientists on a six-week research expedition in April to Everest's Pyramid laboratory. The fully equipped scientific facility—at 5,050 metres—is three miles above sea level and more than half-way up the world's tallest mountain, which tops out at 8,848 metres. Compare that to Vancouver at sea level, or Kelowna's elevation of 344 metres.

Principal investigator Philip Ainslie, Canada Research Chair in Cerebrovascular Function in Health and Disease and associate professor in the School of Health and Exercise Sciences, leads the expedition.

“Research at high altitude provides an excellent means to examine physiological adaptation to chronic reductions in the pressure of oxygen,” says Ainslie. “Results of the studies have the potential to substantially improve our understanding of biological adaptation to chronic hypoxia.”

Hypoxia—which can severely decrease oxygen delivery to the brain—and reduced blood flow to vital organs are characteristic of many chronic conditions, including heart attack, stroke and respiratory failure. Researchers hope to adapt experiment

results for further clinical studies with the goal of devising new methods of prevention and treatment.

The study, titled *Integrative physiological adaptation to high-altitude: a scientific expedition to explore mechanisms of human adaptation*, encompasses eight separate experiments ranging from cerebrovascular, cardiopulmonary, and neurocognitive health to measuring the effects of acute mountain sickness and sleep apnea.

The international contingent includes members from UBC's Okanagan and Vancouver campuses, Duke University, University of Oregon, University of Sydney, Mount Royal University (Calgary), University of Cardiff, Okanagan College, University of Otago (New Zealand) and University

of the Netherlands.

Members of the team include researchers, sleep technicians, physicians, a bioengineer, and a hardware/software specialist.

Researchers will be their own test subjects as healthy human volunteers, undergoing procedures in Kelowna to collect extensive baseline data for their mountain experiments, which will be repeated at altitude on Everest.

Expedition members will undergo extensive acclimatization for six weeks prior to arriving at the Everest lab, where conditions are harsh due to the thin atmosphere, austere surroundings, unpredictable weather and mountain sickness that affects many newcomers to high-altitude areas.

The scientific team assembled in Kelowna for three weeks in late

February for lab and equipment training and physical screening testing. They leave for Vancouver and the Himalayas in April for the six-week expedition.

The Ev-K2-CNR Pyramid Laboratory at Everest base camp in Khumbu Valley in Nepal is one of the only facilities in the world where all eight experiments can be conducted on members of the expedition, including invasive procedures and the study of sleep apnea, a common occurrence at high altitudes.

The expedition also plans to test a number of permanent high-altitude residents of mountainous Nepal, recruited from the Periche region, which is at 4,200 metres. Some of them have already volunteered for earlier experiments through collaborations with local physicians and scientists.

“People who live their lives at high altitude seem more resistant and less vulnerable to the respiratory and cardiovascular problems that we experience living at sea level,” says Ainslie. “We want to explore this phenomenon further to gain insight into those differences.”

Ainslie—an accomplished mountaineer who has been to Everest seven times—says the conditions in the Himalayas offer the best and most cost-effective opportunity to conduct research.

“The Himalayas present the best opportunity for success for UBC's expedition without a doubt,” says Ainslie.

Preparations for the expedition have been under way for two years. Part of the funds to cover the estimated \$50,000 expenses of seven participating students and post-doctoral fellows

will be raised by selling a limited-edition expedition patch through UBC's Okanagan campus bookstore. Minimum donation: \$10.

Organizers also hope to raise funds for the Himalaya Trust, the foundation set up by Sir Edmund Hillary, the New Zealander who first summited Everest, in order to aid the region's peoples build schools, health-care and other facilities. ●

Contact the team at: [info@himalyantrust.com](mailto:info@himalyantrust.com)



## Vice Provost and Associate Vice President

### ENROLMENT AND ACADEMIC FACILITIES

The University of British Columbia, one of Canada's leading research and educational institutions, is seeking a Vice Provost and Associate Vice President Enrolment and Academic Facilities.

The Vice Provost and Associate Vice President Enrolment and Academic Facilities will be responsible for all aspects of enrolment management, domestic and international; space and facilities planning, and capital projects; and will participate in the University budgeting process.

This person will also play a key leadership role on a variety of academic committees, both locally at UBC Vancouver and inter-campus with UBC Okanagan and Great Northern Way Campus, serving to further the academic mission of the University, consistent with the Commitments, Goals, and Actions of Place and Promise, the University's strategic plan.

The ideal candidate will have outstanding academic credentials; proven leadership ability and administrative experience; a strong commitment to excellence in learning, research, and service; the ability to support and motivate research and learning activities; and excellent interpersonal skills. The successful candidate will be appointed to a five-year term, renewable once. The position is internal to the University.

The Vice Provost and Associate Vice President Enrolment and Academic Facilities will report directly to the Provost and Vice President Academic, and will work collaboratively with a variety of people across the University. All qualified persons are encouraged to apply.

**UBC is an equal opportunity employer.**

**DEADLINE Monday, March 12, 2012**

To learn more about this unique leadership opportunity, please contact:  
Mary Hayden, Director, Office of the Provost and Vice President Academic, (604) 822-0078.

Or forward your **CV, letter of introduction,** and the names of **three references** in confidence to:  
Mary Hayden, Director, Office of the Provost and VP Academic, Walter C. Koerner Library, 6th Floor, 1958 Main Mall, Vancouver, BC, V6T 1Z2



Reilly Lievers Photograph

Journalism Prof. **Alfred Hermida** is the winner of this year's President's Award for Public Education through media.

## Shining stars

Spotlight on UBC research luminaries

Brian Lin

**Twenty-two UBC researchers in fields as diverse as volcanology, health policy, computer science, HIV/AIDS and cognitive linguistics are being honoured for their accomplishments during this year's Celebrate Research Week, March 2-9.**

Among the winners of the 2011 Faculty Research Awards is Dr. Randy Gascoyne in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, who also carries the distinction of being the first clinical faculty member to receive the Killam Research Prize.

Gascoyne is a hematopathologist at the BC Cancer Agency and the sole Canadian member of the International Lymphoma Study Group. An expert in the diagnosis and classification of lymphoma, his research focuses on the use of biomarkers as an outcome predictor in non-Hodgkin's lymphomas.

Dr. Julio Montaner, chair of the division of AIDS in the Faculty of Medicine and director of the BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS, has focused his recent research on the effectiveness of highly active anti-retroviral therapy as a prevention tool for the spread of HIV, especially in hard-to-reach populations. A former president of the

International AIDS Society, Montaner is recipient of this year's Jacob Biely Research Prize, the University's premier research honour.

The President's Award for Public Education through Media goes to Prof. Alfred Hermida of the School of Journalism—the second year in the row a journalism professor has received this distinction.

Hermida, one of the founding editors of the BBC News web site, is recognized for his research in the digital dissemination of journalism and for his efforts in sharing research beyond academic circles through a combination of scholarly publications, applied projects and media activities. He coined the term "ambient journalism" to describe the new breed of journalism that exists through social media. He has given more than 130 interviews to local, national and international print and broadcast media outlets since joining UBC in 2006.

"I have tried to further our understanding of how traditional functions of journalism—informing citizens, ensuring public accountability, providing analysis and mobilizing public opinion—are being transformed

by the disruption of established concepts of communication, prevailing notions of space and time and the distinction between public and private spheres," says Hermida.

In addition to studying social media, Hermida has been actively engaging with the public through his award-winning blog, *Reportr.net*, where he has shared comments, interpretations and analyses on trends in digital journalism.

A blog post Hermida wrote in September 2009 based on his research paper, *Twittering the News: The Emergence of Ambient Journalism*, was retweeted by more than 130 users, resulting in more than 1,000 views of the post. Hermida will share his insights on March 7 as part of the Celebrate Research lunchtime lecture series.

Winners of the 2011 Faculty Research Awards will be recognized at the Celebrate Research Awards Gala on March 8, 6:30-9 p.m. at the Museum of Anthropology. ●

**For more information on this and other CRW events, visit:**  
[www.celebrateresearch.ubc.ca](http://www.celebrateresearch.ubc.ca).

**For events in the Okanagan, visit:**  
[www.ubc.ca/okanagan/celebrateresearch](http://www.ubc.ca/okanagan/celebrateresearch).

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# Only 3 minutes to save the world

UBC grad students get to the crux of the matter

Carolynne Ciceri

**Can graduate students really distill years of complex thesis research into three short minutes of easily understood presentation for a general audience? Yes they can.**

Proof positive can be witnessed as the 2nd annual Three Minute Thesis (3MT) Competition returns to UBC's Vancouver campus this year. More than 100 grad students from across the academic spectrum have registered to participate in departmental heats, with top finishers advancing to campus-wide semi-final and final rounds.

Forestry's Carolina Chanis, a semi-finalist in last year's competition, says the "3MT is a way to teach graduate students how to stop living in their heads and start talking to people about why their research matters. After all, we are all doing something to save the world, right?"

The Three Minute Thesis Competition's final event will be held on the first day of Celebrate Research Week: Friday, March 2 at noon in the Graduate Student Centre's Ballroom. ●

**For more information, visit:**  
<http://3mt.grad.ubc.ca>

## Celebrate Research Lunchtime Lecture Series

### March 2

**12:30 PM – 2 PM**

**Prof. Mark MacLachlan**, Department of Chemistry From Hydrogen Storage to Prosthetic Beetle Wings: New Materials for a Better World  
**Victoria Theatre Room #182**  
Irving K. Barber Learning Centre **Vancouver** Campus

### March 7

**12:30 PM – 1:30 PM**

**Prof. Alfred Hermida**, School of Journalism News Beyond Journalism: Social Media and the Recurring Rythms of Storytelling  
**Victoria Theatre Room #182**  
Irving K. Barber Learning Centre **Vancouver** Campus

### March 8

**12 PM – 2 PM**

**Panel led by Prof. Bob Sparkes**, Centre for Sport & Sustainability Advancing Social Development through Sport  
**Multipurpose Room**  
Liu Institute for Global Issues **Vancouver** Campus

### March 9

**12:30 PM – 1:30 PM**

**Prof. Barbara Dancygier**, Department of English Language, Creativity, and the Embodied Mind  
**Victoria Theatre Room #182**  
Irving K. Barber Learning Centre **Vancouver** Campus

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# Righting a 70-year wrong

UBC honours Japanese Canadian students sent to internment camps

Heather Amos

**The treatment of Japanese Canadians and Japanese nationals during the Second World War is a dark period of Canadian history—a period few Canadians fully understand or want to discuss. Now, 70 years later, the University of British Columbia will recognize its own involvement in this lamentable story.**

During May congregation, UBC will grant honorary degrees to the estimated 58 students who were unable to complete their university studies. An additional 16 students will have their original degrees re-conferred; they missed their graduation ceremony when they were sent to internment camps in 1942.

“If these students had been allowed to continue living in their communities, then they would have finished their initial plans for education,” said Mary Kitagawa, a retired B.C. high school teacher who has led the campaign for UBC honorary degrees. “These people’s lives haven’t been completed in the way they had planned and that is the great injustice.”

In 1942, when Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King invoked the War Measures Act following the attack on Pearl Harbor, 21,000 Japanese Canadians were forced to leave their homes and the west coast for internment camps, prisoner of war camps, sugar beet farms and work-prison camps. Most had their property confiscated by the Canadian government. Many lost everything except what they could carry with them.

## Lives changed forever

This disruption changed the course of UBC students’ lives. Few were able to complete their studies after the war because their family or financial

## A three-year journey

From the time Kitagawa’s letter was received, UBC was eager to take action. But as often happens, this simple concept turned out to be a complex undertaking. For members of the Japanese Canadian community, the months of inquiry, meetings and deliberations felt like an eternity.

“One of UBC’s mistakes was that we didn’t bring the wider community into our planning and discussions right away,” said Henry Yu, a UBC history professor. “The convocation is about honouring these students, acknowledging what was lost and formally welcoming them to the UBC Alumni family.”

“I’m very pleased with the outcome, especially for the students,” said Kitagawa. “When I told them the news, they were so happy. Some students said they never expected this to happen in their lifetime.”

For many of the 74 students who will receive degrees in May, the good news came too late; family members have been invited to receive the degrees on their behalf. The 21 living students range in age between 89 and 96 and are scattered from Nanaimo to Ontario and beyond. One man lives as far away as Japan and yet, he is planning to make the trip in May with his two daughters.

## And then, there was the list

To complicate matters, the university did not have an official record of the UBC students affected by the internment.

Fortunately for UBC, Kitagawa, her husband Tosh and other members of the Japanese Canadian community took on the task of finding and identifying

students about this shameful period in history, and the Library will preserve and bring to life the historical record of that time.

“These students earned the right to study at UBC and purely by virtue of their ancestry, that right was taken away,” said Shirley Nakata, UBC’s Ombudsperson for Students and the Co-Chair along with Habacon of the university committee charged with implementing the Senate’s three measures.

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## Going beyond honorary degrees

Part of UBC’s acknowledgement of what happened in 1942 is the UBC Library project to collect and archive stories from individual students, to document how their lives were forever altered because of what happened. The Library will also digitize a national Japanese Canadian newspaper from the time.

In addition, UBC’s Faculty of Arts will soon be launching an Asian Canadian Studies program. Courses will explore the importance of Japanese Canadians and other Asian Canadians in the country’s history, including the role played by anti-Asian racism in producing events such as the Japanese Canadian internment.

“I am proud that UBC is making broader commitments to rethink our curriculum and academic programs, and to archive a part of this history; we are going a step further than simply awarding degrees,” said UBC President Prof. Stephen Toope.

“As a university, we aim to create a more compassionate and thoughtful environment where students, faculty and staff can act as global citizens and we do this by recognizing injustice and taking steps to learn from it,” he said. ●

## Recognizing the students

In November 2011, the UBC Senate approved three measures to recognize what happened to the UBC students: the students will be awarded honorary degrees in May, the university will develop initiatives to educate future



● **DISCHARGED** — Typical of the Japanese men who have been comrades-in-arms to other trainees in the C.O.T.C. is Michiyo Szymia, first year arts student, shown above taking his uniform into the orderly room.

He along with many other Japanese has worn the Canadian army

uniform for the last time. For a year and a half they have drilled with their friends of the white race. Now it has ended.

Leut. Col. Shrum said that a “lickish situation” had been averted. The University could not go on training the Japanese.

“It is for their own protection as well as ours,” added Dr. L. S. Klunk. “Fevling has run high in

the downtown sections and the sight of a Japanese in uniform would be unfortunate and might have serious consequences for them.”

From the Japanese come regrets that action such as this has been taken. “We are loyal,” they say, “we want to take our place by the side of our Canadian friends in the defense of Canada.”

## Red Cross Dance Set For Jan. 23

● **“SAY SADIE, have you heard that there’s going to be another Red Cross Ball this year?”** That’s the word that will be going around the campus from now on.

## Wood Won’t Talk; BAC’s Undisclosed

● **Interrupted exam time-tables, due to blackouts, cut down on the number of B.A.C. degrees conferred at U.B.C. this year.**

As usual second and third year Applied Science students received the worst beating as they were the only ones to complete their exams. One first year Science class received generous war and Christmas bonuses to tide them over.

The Registrar’s Office has refused to give any information on whether any bouncing will be done after the rest of the exams are written off, and interested students must worry it out for themselves.

The date is January 23 at the Commodore. The price is \$2.25 per person and it’s Dutch treat. Lavish arrangements are being made for the ball which will be a trans-Canada affair.

Other universities that will have a ball the same evening are McGill, Dalhousie, Saskatchewan, Queens, New Brunswick, and Manitoba.

Anyone on the campus may sell tickets and so be eligible for the prize of a free ticket going to the boy and the girl selling the most tickets.

Tickets to sell may be procured from Shirley Wisner, Graham McGill, or Bob Rose. Raffle tickets are now out on the campus and there are more than 35 returns with a grand prize of a \$300 quilted coat donated by R. J. Pop. Last year the ball netted \$2,000 for the Red Cross.

## Dancer



—Vancouver Sun Photo

**DANCER**— “Madame Bonnevue” (Princess Arfa) the well known ballerina will be the guest of the Cosmopolitan Club Sunday, 2:30 p.m., at the home of Gwen Teller, 453 W. 6th Ave.

Princess Arfa was in Afghanistan at the time of the French Collapse and will tell of her experiences. Guest pianist will be Jennie Chu, and a vocal soloist will give selections.

## Pubsters Surprised, Shaken By Visits Of Apparition

● **GOOKER** came scampering around the corner and into

## IVF Plans Camp For Week-end At “Plantation”

● **THE INTER-VARSITY** Christian fellowship, which has members in the universities of

**“I’m very pleased with the outcome, especially for the students,” said Kitagawa. “When I told them the news, they were so happy. Some students said they never expected this to happen in their lifetime.”**

## Mummers to Revive 1941’s ‘Candida’ Hit

● **G. B. SHAW’S “CANDIDA”** produced by the Players’ Club last spring, will be revived on Monday, in a performance in aid of the university Red Cross war effort.

Shirley Macdonald, president, stresses the fact that the play is a University function and should be supported by the entire student body. It is being produced in conjunction with the newly-formed War Aid Council.

Members of the club in the performance are: Mary McLorg, who takes the leading role of Candida;

John Glen, graduate of the University and now playing with a Seattle company, as the young poet, Eugene Marchbanks; John Powell in the part of the young theological student; Arthur Hill as the clergyman husband of Candida; Nancy Bruce as his secretary; and Lester Sinclair as Candida’s reprobate father.

As far as possible costumes and set are the same as last year. Tickets for the performance may be procured from any member of the Players’ Club, by phoning AL.0054, or at the door on the night of the performance.

Artisans who feel capable of handling themselves with sufficient polish may gain admission and should wear the clothes in which they are usually seen on the Campus. Science men will appear in their survey clothes and Aggies in their milking ensembles.

## Japanese Students Evacuated

● **AT LEAST two Japanese students, both unnaturalized, have had to leave the university under the Dominion Governments regulations providing for evacuation of B.C. Nipponese.**

These two, both males, are leaving through the natural course of events and, contrary to the belief felt in some quarters, have not received any special consideration as university students.

Registrar C. B. Wood reveals that only such Japanese undergraduates would be allowed on their request to write their final examinations at any other Canadian university centre. This is a customary procedure for students unable to write their exams during the regular U.B.C. schedule.



Mary Kitagawa has led the campaign for UBC to award honorary degrees to the Japanese Canadian students affected by internment.

## Reopening a sensitive case

Although the Canadian government implemented internment, the role and responsibility of UBC regarding its Japanese Canadian students remains an uncomfortable question. Many U.S. universities protested the inclusion of Japanese American students in the forced removal, tried to place their students at other universities or supported the completion of their degrees during the internment.

This was not the case at UBC. Even before internment, Japanese Canadian students in the university’s Canadian Officers Training Corps (C.O.T.C.) had their commissions stripped by the university’s Senate Committee on Military Education. Two UBC faculty members, Henry Angus and E.H. Morrow, were among the few who spoke out against the injustice.

## Learning from our mistakes

On March 21, UBC will hold a symposium that will seek to answer questions about what happened 70 years ago and raise questions about UBC’s responsibility. Participants will also examine related ethical issues that still resonate today.

A committee chaired by Tom Patch, Associate Vice President of Equity, is organizing the symposium to connect issues of justice and responsibility in what happened 70 years ago to today.

**Fortunately for UBC, Kitagawa, her husband Tosh and other members of the Japanese Canadian community took on the task of finding and identifying those students.**

circumstances no longer made this possible; others ended up at universities in eastern Canada.

In the United States, where similar events occurred, state governments and universities in California, Oregon and Washington have granted honorary degrees to their former students. Kitagawa followed closely developments in the U.S., and seeing the powerful impacts of these symbolic gestures on students and families, she first suggested in a 2008 letter that UBC follow suit.

“My parents instilled in us that if you see something wrong happening, we should voice our discontent,” said Kitagawa, who has spent her adult life in the Lower Mainland and is an active member of the Japanese Canadian community. “Someone had to speak out for these students.”

those students. Through news media and word of mouth, the couple almost single-handedly reached out to the community, asking former students or relatives to contact them.

“They produced this remarkable list that identified the students who had been forced to leave,” said Alden E. Habacon, director of Intercultural Understanding Strategy Development at UBC. “We were able to check that list with our enrolment records but we would never have been able to produce that list without the community.”

## Recognizing the students

In November 2011, the UBC Senate approved three measures to recognize what happened to the UBC students: the students will be awarded honorary degrees in May, the university will develop initiatives to educate future



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Albert Normandin Photograph

From green streets to smart energy, UBC is building a model sustainable community for campus residents.

## Five ways UTown@UBC is innovating sustainability

Scott Steedman

**How do theoretical concepts of sustainability translate into real-world changes? One way is to use UTown@UBC, UBC's on-campus residential community, as a "Living Lab" for testing sustainable practices.**

Throughout the planning and construction of UTown@UBC, the University has developed a number of innovative sustainable practices. Here are five examples of sustainability in action.

### Green Streets

"Green streets are similar to conventional streets, but instead of cars, they are designed for pedestrians or people on bicycles or other non-motorized vehicles," explains Joe Stott, director of planning at Campus and Community Planning (C+CP).

In Wesbrook Place, South Campus' latest development, green streets alternate with car streets to create a network that encourages walking, cycling and alternative modes of transportation, as well as increasing green space. The green streets are lined with sidewalks, while bicycle paths run along the central area. Treed boulevards on either side separate the pathways.

"Residents who live in the buildings along these green streets get to their front doors by walking through the streets, which helps animate the area," says Stott. "They will become centres for all sorts of activities, including relaxation."

### Storm water - waste not, want not

"Wesbrook Place takes a very different and more sustainable approach to stormwater management," explains Siu Tse, associate director, infrastructure and services planning at C+CP. "The green streets include a waterway and a greenway through the village, which is fed by storm water."

Streets are designed to harness storm water as a resource instead of draining it away. The water flows on the surface through the green streets and creates a small lake, which can then be used for irrigation or for water features. This cuts down the neighbourhood's demand for high-quality, potable water and minimizes the amount that gets discharged into the Fraser River.

### REAP: a sustainable building code

Good water management is also a feature of the Residential Environmental Assessment Program or REAP, the university's homegrown green building standard. All developers who

build residences at UTown@UBC must apply REAP standards to their projects. Since Version 2.0 of REAP was launched in 2006, 926 family housing units have been developed to REAP Gold standards in eight buildings.

REAP was developed in consultation with academic and operational staff because the LEED system, the benchmark for environmental building design, was not appropriate for four-storey wood frame residential construction.

"We're working to improve REAP all the time," says Kyle Reese, community energy manager in UBC's campus sustainability office. "We're working on Version 3.0 now. It was time to raise the bar. That was our aim when we created REAP - to be a leader."

REAP standards aim for reductions in total building water usage, providing high efficiency fixture requirements inside each home and high performance irrigation for each building.

### Yu: Innovative design for saving energy

Yu, a residential development planned for Wesbrook Place, is a partnership between Chinese property developer Modern Green and UBC. "UBC is doing something rarely seen in Vancouver," explains Reese. "The development has a courtyard but no internal corridors—all the walkways to get to the individual apartments are outdoor. This can lead to significant energy savings. And all the apartments are day-lit, with natural ventilation."

Yu is also adapting its heating system for the future use of waste energy from another source—waste heat produced by TRIUMF, Canada's National Laboratory for Particle and Nuclear Physics. This concept is already at work for residents living atop the Save-On-Foods in Wesbrook Place; the store's refrigeration units' waste heat generates hot water for the apartments above.

### Compost: From kitchen scraps to garden beds

UTown@UBC is home to Greater Vancouver's first residential compost program for multi-family homes. "The program is a partnership between UBC and the University Neighbourhoods Association (UNA)," explains Ralph Wells, sustainability manager at the UNA. "It has now been expanded to reach more than 1,200 homes in 19 multi-family buildings. In 2010, more than 60,000 kg of home organics were diverted from the waste stream and turned into compost."

Organic waste is then processed in UBC's "in-vessel" composter, which only takes 14 days. The highly nutritive soil created from the composting process is used for UBC landscaping, as well as at the local community gardens. ●

UBC will participate in the GLOBE 2012 conference on business and the environment. To learn more about sustainability at UBC visit [sustain.ubc.ca](http://sustain.ubc.ca) and [planning.ubc.ca](http://planning.ubc.ca).

## Part of the carbon storage solution

Eel-grass project gives engineering students hands-on learning

Lorraine Chan

In late January, five students from UBC's Vancouver campus worked through the night to gather 600 eel grass plants and more than 200 pounds of mud from the Comox Valley estuary on Vancouver Island.

Now they're growing the eel grass in four tanks located in the courtyard of the Chemical and Biological Engineering building on East Mall as part of a community service learning (CSL) partnership that Prof. Royann Petrell established with the Comox Valley Project Watershed Society.

"The aim is to measure the carbon capture and storage of these plants and sediment under different environmental conditions," explains Petrell, who formally introduced CSL components into her second- and fourth-year chemical and biological engineering courses last year.

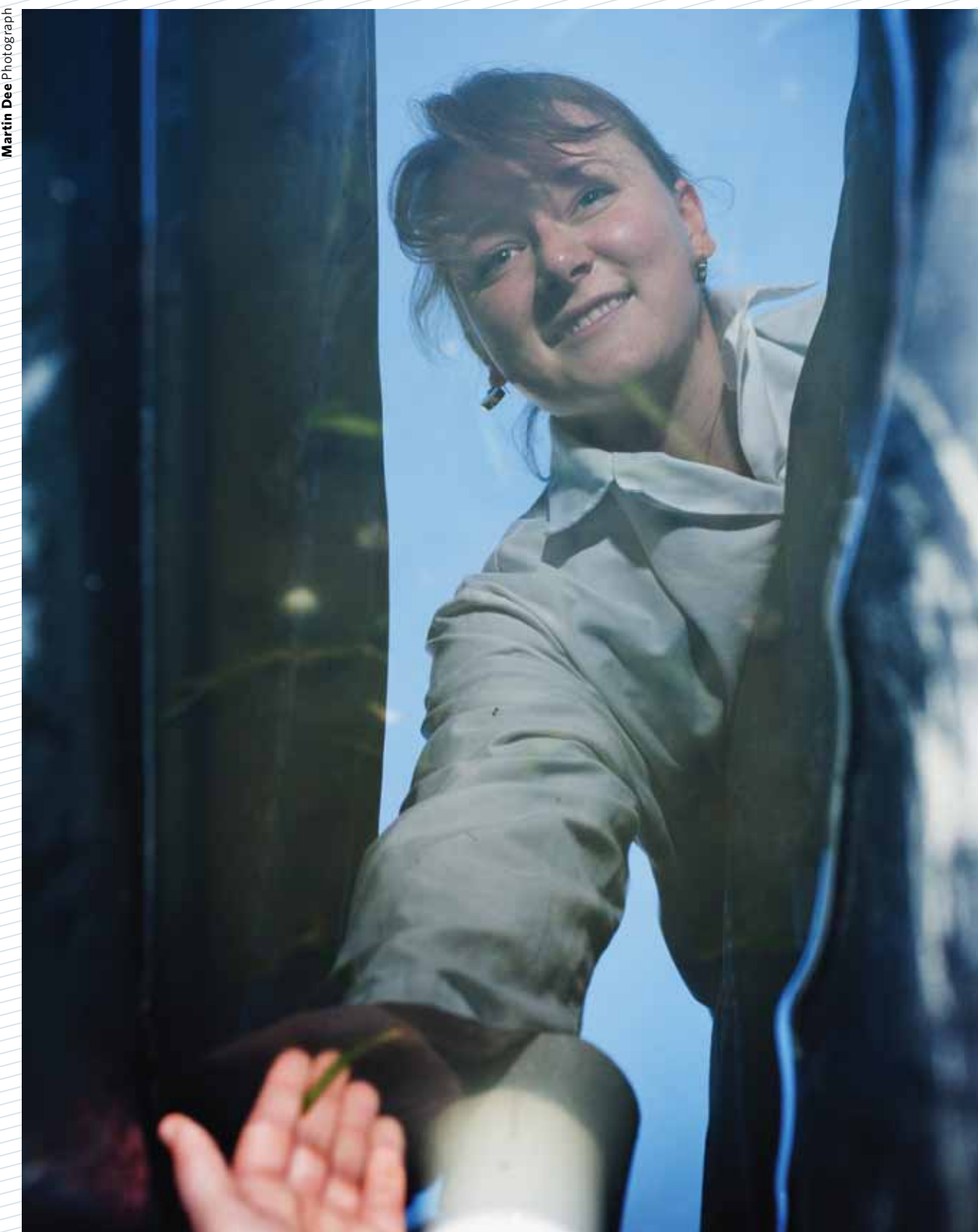
The UBC data will help the Comox Valley Project Watershed Society evaluate carbon storage by estuarine vegetation systems and to assess the effects of community based restoration efforts on eel grass meadows and how well these plants remove the greenhouse gas from the atmosphere.

Petrell says field work makes all the difference for students to understand the real-life application of theory—in this case how engineering know-how will help to protect aquatic and other biological systems. "The students had met with the community groups and were very inspired by their need, their respect and their desire to protect the estuary and take on the challenge of mitigating climate change."

The student response to problem-based learning has been phenomenal, says Petrell, who has been invited to speak on community service learning and environmental issues at the UN World Symposium on Sustainable Development at Universities in Rio de Janeiro in early June. "In my 20 years of teaching, I've never seen anything like it. Students are offering to stay on after they've finished the course so they can pass on their knowledge and mentor the next group."

Heather Kempthorne was one of the students who donned hip waders and head lamps, working to the sound of waves under a dark sky full of stars.

Martin Dee Photograph



Heather Kempthorne (pictured on the cover with Prof. Royann Petrell) works on the artificial estuary tank.

## "We're getting to apply fundamental engineering principles that mirror the complexities of an ecosystem."

"After seeing how the eel grass grows in the ocean, we're all pretty invested in this project and want to see it succeed."

Despite the increases to an already heavy seven-course work load, Kempthorne says she values the hands-on learning.

"We're getting to apply fundamental engineering principles that mirror the complexities of an ecosystem," says

In the meantime, she is tackling the "steep learning curve" of getting the right heater and pump, and understanding flow rate and storage volume for water recirculation. The task is to create an artificial estuary in each of the tanks, which measure about six feet long and two feet wide. The students must factor in the variables of temperature, pH, salinity, tidal action and nutrient concentration.

Kempthorne who will be looking at jobs in the sustainable energy sector when she graduates with a degree in chemical and biological engineering degree this May.

Paul Horgen, chair of the Comox Valley Project Watershed Society, says the UBC students' contributions are very welcome. He explains that past forestry and mining along with industrial and residential activities have eroded eel grass habitat which are vital for salmon, herring, water fowl, shell fish and other animals.

"This project represents a long-term effort and has a win-win outcome for both carbon sequestration and habitat improvement," says Horgen a former University of Toronto biology professor. "Recent reports show that eel grass can be as much as 90 times as effective as identical areas of coniferous forest in removal of CO2 from the atmosphere." ●



# Anniversary of Japan disaster: UBC Library exhibit supports reflection, healing

By Glenn Drexhage



Print illustrating the tsunami that followed the 7.2 magnitude **Meiji Sanriku** earthquake of 1896.



Print depicting a 19th-century tsunami hitting the coastal town of **Kamaishi**, in Iwate Prefecture.

**One year after a devastating triple disaster rocked Japan and shocked the world, UBC Library is commemorating the event with a multifaceted exhibition, providing context, reflection and healing.**

*Retell, Rethink, Recover*, which began on February 20 and runs through April, consists of three phases on display in different parts of the Library system. Each offers a unique take on the earthquake, tsunami and ensuing nuclear crisis that struck Japan last March.

One goal is to move beyond the headlines and provide a deeper consideration of the disaster and the people whose lives it affected.

"In North America, UBC Library is one of the best-equipped places to tell this story," says Shirin Eshghi, Japanese-language librarian and exhibition organizer. "Because we have such a rich Japanese collection, we can provide context for this tragedy, and I think we have a responsibility to bring this to light. What is the history of this place and its residents? How has Japan dealt with and overcome previous disasters? We have the opportunity in the Library to fill these gaps."

The *Retell* section highlights disaster prints and historical maps produced during the Edo (1600-1867) and Meiji (1868-1912) periods. All materials are from the Library's exceptional Tokugawa maps collection, housed at Rare Books and Special Collections (RBSC).

*Rethink* includes materials gathered from members of the UBC community who were in Japan during the disasters, or otherwise impacted. The Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant incident is discussed, and photos and social media archives figure prominently.

*Recover*, meanwhile, features items from UBC's Asian Library collection, as well as contributions from community members and alumni. This section highlights Japan's history of recovering from adversity, and includes information on the support between Canada and Japan during times of crisis.

"I hope to raise awareness about this incredible disaster and the damage it inflicted on Japan," says Asato Ikeda, who is curating the exhibition along with Eshghi and Katherine Kalsbeek, an RBSC librarian. "Also, I think the nuclear issue is relevant to everybody who consumes nuclear energy."

Ikeda, a PhD student in UBC's Department of Art History, Visual Art and Theory, came to Canada from Japan seven years ago. Her family was in her homeland during the 2011 earthquake and tsunami. Her father-in-law was rescued by a helicopter, and her mother-in-law escaped a mudslide that claimed several lives. Ikeda's brother-in-law, a firefighter, joined the rescue forces.

On March 10, a free one-day conference co-sponsored by UBC's

Department of Asian Studies will feature talks from scholars on Japan, and personal accounts from UBC students, faculty and alumni.

Kozue Matsumoto, a Vancouver-based UBC alum who completed her MA in the Department of Educational Studies, had family in Japan during the disaster (she wasn't able to contact them for a week), and her Twitter feed archives from that time will be featured in the exhibition.

Matsumoto hopes the show will help people reflect on nature and the way natural disasters are viewed by different cultures.

While the 2011 emergency is now past, many pressing concerns remain, such as the mental health of survivors.

"How can we as a global community support and cooperate to take care of these long-term issues?" she asks.

Matsumoto is involved with the BC Japan Earthquake Relief Fund <http://bc-jerf.ca>, and is helping plan an anniversary benefit concert to be held at Burnaby's Nikkei Centre on March 11.

*Retell* is at Rare Books and Special Collections, located on level one of the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre;

## While the disaster is in the past, many pressing concerns remain, such as the mental health of survivors.

*Rethink* is located in the main lobby of the Learning Centre; and *Recover* is at UBC's Asian Library. Ike's Café in the Learning Centre will also feature portraits of earthquake survivors, a project sponsored by the Japan Foundation and Shiseido, the cosmetics company. ●

**The one-day conference will be at the Dodson Room, located on level three of the Learning Centre.**

**To register, and for more information on the exhibition, please visit <http://asian.library.ubc.ca/2012/02/14/retell-rethink-recover>.**



UBC Geography Prof. **David Edgington** is investigating the lessons of Japan's 2011 earthquake.

## One year after

Lessons from Japan's earthquake

Nick Lewis

**Japan's citizens are still reeling from what UBC Geography Prof. David Edgington calls "the triple disaster" of March 11, 2011 – the earthquake, tsunami and meltdown at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant.**

*UBC Reports* asked the Japan expert about clean-up efforts and the likelihood of a similar event in B.C., topics Edgington and colleagues will explore at a public anniversary event.

### Clearing the debris

I went to some of the hard-hit coastal areas this past December, and I was astounded how clean many of the beachfront waterside suburbs are. We saw terrible photos in the days after the tsunami, with debris everywhere. About six months on, the local governments and local construction crews have done a wonderful job in clearing those areas.

In fact, the debris is now sitting in very compact mountains. Timber, car parts and plastics are all sorted, waiting for somewhere to go. Only the large cities – Tokyo, Osaka and maybe Nagoya, have the capacity to absorb that. The puzzle is whether these items can be recycled. The citizens of Tokyo are saying, 'Well hang on, we've heard about radiation.' The government has to do a PR job about massaging people's concerns.

### Fukushima radiation concerns

The radiation problem is one of low-level radiation over a large area. This is a new challenge for the Japanese government. My belief is there were many systems in place that helped the government respond to the earthquake and tsunami disaster, but the Fukushima problem is a new one.

The government is engaged in many testing systems for the food supply and for materials, including the debris in the tsunami zone. We'll just have to see how successful those systems are in the months to come.

### Similarities to the 1995 Kobe earthquake

Kobe happened 17 years ago, now. There have been stronger building codes, better warning systems taking into account information and media systems—that's quite new in Japan. I believe all these helped lessen the suffering and the number of deaths in the March tsunami and earthquake.

### Preparing for disaster

If any country can be prepared for an event of this magnitude, it's Japan. There are four pillar applications in the Japanese system for emergency preparedness, some of which have come out of the learning and mistakes of Kobe. One is the very high-tech early warning systems; second are the strongest building codes in the world; third would be the disaster drills that every community takes part in; and fourth, there is infrastructure spending—maybe five per cent of the country's budget every year goes to flood disaster prevention and putting storm water defenses along the coast.

Those systems are in place because Japan has a history of disasters, not only earthquakes and tsunamis, but landslides from too much rain, flooding, and volcanic explosions from time to time.

### Disaster prevention in British Columbia

Many people say that in Vancouver and the Lower Mainland, we're quite vulnerable to the Cascadia fault line, which lies just off the west coast of Vancouver Island. It's not clear how exactly that would affect our area in terms of damage and in terms of a likely tsunami to the west coast of Vancouver. We have a very strong emergency preparedness program in British Columbia.

One learning point from Japan was that 100,000 personnel from their army and other services came to the disaster area in the first 48 hours. I'd like to think that British Columbia could gain that amount of support from the Canadian armed forces. But the programs here tend to suggest that people might be on their own for the first 72 hours. That means we have to prepare ourselves in terms of where we live, for house insurance, for looking out for our neighbours and our friends, and preparing packs of food, sanitary items and battery operated radios to get us through the first 72 hours, until help can arrive from outside. ●

**Watch Edgington's full interview and RSVP for a March 14-16 workshop on the disaster and local lessons at [www.iar.ubc.ca](http://www.iar.ubc.ca).**



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## Sleepless children, exhausted parents

Researcher examines links between home and daycare patterns

Lorraine Chan

**UBC researcher Wendy Hall has advice for wrung out parents whose toddlers won't go to sleep.**

Give your child an opportunity to soothe and settle themselves, offers Hall, a professor at the School of Nursing who has been studying children's sleep patterns and behaviour problems for the past 10 years.

Unless they're sick or suffer from allergies, children from as early as six to seven months old benefit from learning how to deal with fear, frustration and other emotions.

"If the parent always steps in, a child never gets to develop abilities that are important building blocks for cognition and developing social relationships," says Hall, one of a handful of Canadian researchers specializing in this field.

Given that 25 per cent of families are kept awake by toddlers who won't go down and stay down, she says it's important for parents and daycare providers to look at the entire 24-hour cycle of a child who is having behavioural sleep problems.

In a recent study with 58 children aged one to three-years who attended daycare, Hall looked at the correlations between their sleep patterns and behaviour at home and at daycare.

Findings showed that children who were happier following naps had less reported night settling difficulties. But children with difficulty settling for naps at daycare had more home reports of behavioural problems.

"There were clear cross-over effects," notes Hall, whose findings will appear in a forthcoming issue of the Journal of Childcare and Development.

"There haven't been any previous studies on toddlers and sleep in both the home and daycare setting. Our results suggest that parents and daycare providers would benefit from opportunities to discuss sleep and settling requirements for children in this age group."

She adds that educational policies covering pre-school settings should also pay attention to toddlers' sleep.

Daytime sleep is vital for young children's health, explains Hall. "Most children until the ages of three to four still benefit from an afternoon nap."

For those children accustomed to being cuddled and rocked until they fall asleep at home, daycare presents challenges. "If you have three workers and 15 children, it's simply not possible to provide that individual attention."

What often happens in the home, says Hall, is that a child's sleep patterns—however disruptive—dictate the family's norms. Some parents tell her, for example, that they haven't gone out in two years since they're the only ones who can settle their child.

"When I get a call from a frantic mother and she's tired and depressed, that's when I can say, this is totally solvable." ●

### 7 tips for getting children to sleep

**UBC School of Nursing Prof. Wendy Hall provides these helpful guidelines:**

1. Have a regular bedtime.
2. Have a regular and familiar routine for settling the child before bedtime and naps.
3. Make stories a part of bedtime.
4. Have children fall asleep in their own beds rather than on the sofa or in their parents' bed. Hall explains, "When children fall asleep outside of their beds and then partially wake up during the night, they can get startled and wake up fully because they find themselves in a different place."
5. Don't give up naps too early. Although it varies from child to child, most two- to four-year-olds need an estimated 12-13 hours of sleep each day.
6. Avoid caffeine (chocolate bars, chocolate milk, soft drinks) before bedtime.
7. Avoid screen time since videos and computers tend to stimulate rather than calm.



Catherine Yeudef Photograph

# outtakes

Tennis madness sweeps UBC

Kavie Toor



Chris Borchert Photograph

Canadian tennis star **Milos Raonic** plays at UBC's Doug Mitchell Thunderbird Sports Centre during the Davis Cup.

**France and Canada's top tennis stars battled it out at the Doug Mitchell Thunderbird Sports Centre in February as UBC hosted the Davis Cup. This was the first time in 20 years that the Davis Cup was held in Vancouver. Before the tennis stars took Point Grey by storm, Kavie Toor—UBC's point man for hosting this international sporting event—shared his excitement with UBC Reports**

As our preparation of the Doug Mitchell Thunderbird Sports Centre reaches fever pitch, I realize that regardless of the outcome, this event is going to make history. The tickets sold out in record time, and at over 16,000 spectators, this Davis Cup is the biggest to date in Canada.

I've been a tennis fan my whole life. I remember watching the last Davis Cup in Vancouver 20 years ago and being beside myself when Canadian Daniel Nestor upset No. 1 ranked Stefan Edberg of Sweden. Now we have a new generation of tennis stars emerging from Canada to bring back the Davis Cup excitement. I was lucky enough to take Milos Raonic and Vasik Pospisil, Canada's top two players, on a tour; our campus and athletic facilities blew them away.

In early October, we began discussions with Tennis Canada to bring the Davis Cup to UBC. We were not only competing with other cities but also with other venues in Vancouver.


**"This is really an exciting part of the Olympic legacy and it reminds me of the 2010 Winter Games."**

The secret? We think our location, the intimate mid-size venue, our mix of students and local residents, the brand new tennis facility, and a strong working relationship with Tennis Canada were all part of it.

This is really an exciting part of the Olympic legacy and it reminds me of the 2010 Winter Games. Both have a big international profile, both can make an impact on sports at the grassroots level, and both require a massive effort to organize. It will take more than 500 people to pull off a great Davis Cup: event staff, local and international media, security, coaches, trainers, and many others.

As for the facility, we've had to construct two bleacher units to fit in 500 additional seats, remove the ice, install a tennis court, large video boards and hawk-eye cameras and build a broadcast compound and a media press room. That's what it takes to create the optimal environment for world-class tennis. ●



A photograph of an elderly couple standing on a balcony with a black wrought-iron railing, looking out over a vast blue ocean under a clear sky. The balcony is part of a building with a terracotta tiled roof. The scene is bright and sunny, suggesting a peaceful retirement lifestyle.

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