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# Trek

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The Magazine of The University of British Columbia

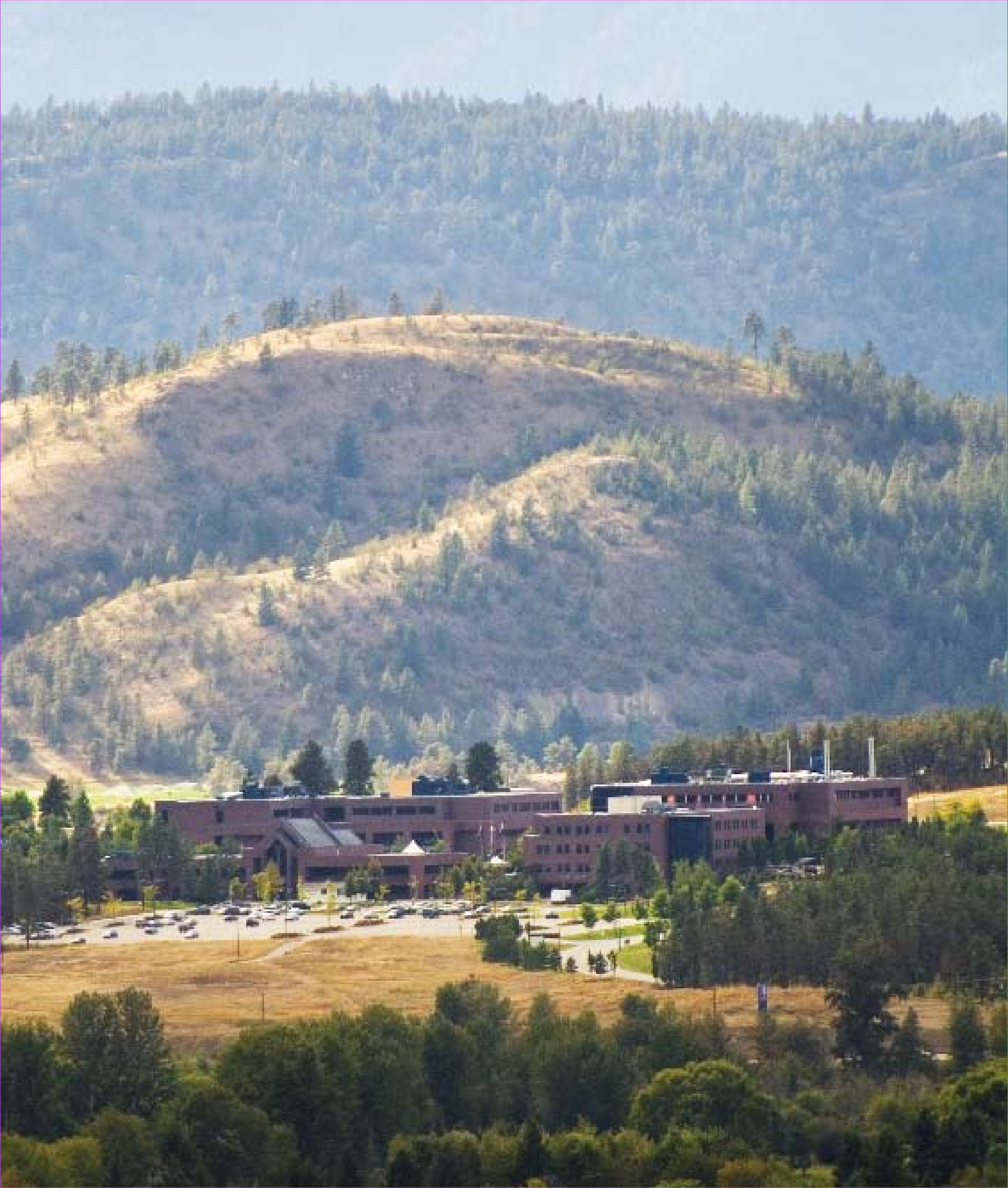
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**MY MOTHER** tried to train me in the art of genteel conversation — a skill I've never quite mastered — by giving me a few helpful hints for happy living: when you're talking with someone, never stare at a mole, lump or other hideous object on the person's face; never ask a person how much money he or she makes; and never, never bring up politics or religion. My mother was a smart woman and socially successful, so I guess her dicta worked for her.

I've been pretty religious about following her first hint, but I've given in to the temptation to ask about the second many times (suspecting that the subject makes far more than I), and I've been a wretched failure at the third. I've managed to get myself into more than one conversational tight spot with "You didn't vote for *that* idiot, did you?", but real hostilities only break out when god (or God) enters the conversation. In that, my mother was absolutely right.

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## GENTEEL CONVERSATION, GOD AND NOT STARING AT MOLES

The Spring, 2005, issue of *Trek Magazine* contained a piece called "The World as a Holy Place" by emeritus professor Dan Overmyer. In it, he posited the idea that we should look to the physical world for the sacred, not to the supernatural world of heaven or some other magical place. The article proved, at least, that people read the magazine. The deluge of responses resembled a biblical flood.

Interestingly, the split between agreement and disagreement was about equal (though letters quoting chapter and verse tended to be longer), and while some readers thought Dan was going to have some explaining to do when he appeared before St. Peter, others were all over his ideas. Excerpts from some of the letters appear on page 28, while the responses in full can be viewed on our website.

More interesting to me was the response of one reader who questioned entirely the idea of printing the piece at all. "The article is clearly opinion, not news," he wrote, "and has no place in an alumni news magazine. The fact that the author was a professor of supposed renown is not relevant. It was his opinion, nothing more."

He makes a point. Not one I agree with, but a point nonetheless. Our editorial policy at the magazine was nailed down before the first issue appeared in 2001. We want *Trek* to reflect the high level of research, thinking, teaching and study going on at UBC; we want readers to understand the depth and breadth of work being done in virtually every discipline; we want the magazine to be as good — as world-class — as the university. To do that we can't shrink from controversy and we can't be timid about the people and the ideas that flourish here. We don't have to agree with those people or their ideas, but you, the reader, may enjoy hearing about them.

Should a university magazine publish articles that upset readers' beliefs or challenge their assumptions? My mother would probably say, "yes, it should. Just don't talk about them at a cocktail party."

— CHRIS PETTY, *Editor*



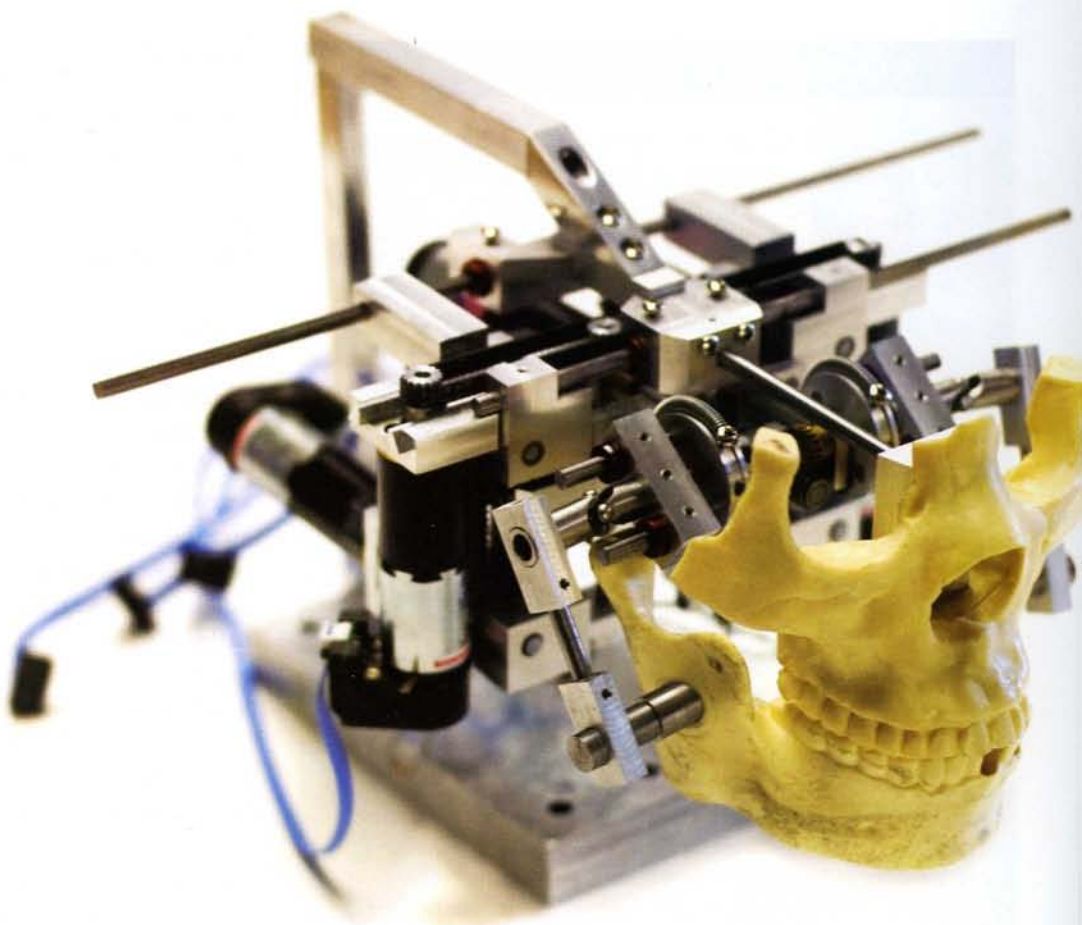


## TAKE NOTE

### Chinwaggers

■ Non-verbal communication can affect the way verbal communication is perceived. And the jawbone, with its complex array of movements, plays no small part in this. "If the jaw isn't moving naturally during speech, regardless of how subtle the inconsistency, at one point the listener begins to lose confidence in what the speaker is saying," says associate professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Sid Fels. Together with robot engineer Edgar Flores, he has developed a mechanical jaw that can simulate human jaw movements and exaggerate them up to three times their normal range. Flores designed and built the jaw, including the software that operates it.

The two researchers are discovering that as well as being a useful tool for speech therapy and research, the mechanical jaw has other potential applications (for example in orthodontics, linguistics and psychology) and is attracting interest from other research groups. One of them is a Japanese team that has built a robotic torso the size of a small



**Chew on this:** The mechanical jaw is designed to simulate natural human jaw movement. How our jaw works says nearly as much about us as our words.

child (the Infanoid) in a bid to understand better how young children communicate. "Without an animated jaw the Infanoid lacks some of the most important visual cues in non-verbal communication," says Flores. "This deficiency hampers the child-to-humanoid interaction."

### A Clear Improvement

■ Will paper books ever be replaced by electronic books? Current electronic displays using liquid crystal have shortcomings that make this scenario unlikely. But new technology under development at UBC is giving rise to a new generation of display that promises to be as clear as ink on paper.

Liquid crystal displays use fluorescent backlighting and layers of liquid crystals against a screen to produce images, but if

ambient light is very bright, the content becomes difficult to read. The new technology, based on an invention by VP Academic and Provost Lorne Whitehead and research associate Michele Mossman, relies on the physics phenomenon of Total Internal Reflection. They created a surface receptive to light-absorbing coloured pigment particles.

"We can use an electric field to cause the pigment to gather in desired regions to form images," says Mossman. "In a way, it is a bit like the children's toy, Etch-a-Sketch." The result is an exceptionally clear, high-resolution image that maintains its quality in a variety of different light conditions. The invention has received 15 patents and precipitated a spin-off company: CLEAR Display Inc. "One of the most exciting aspects of this technology is its positive en-

vironmental potential," says Whitehead. "In today's world of electronic information it is a shame that so much paper is wasted in order to display information in an easy-to-read, portable form. We hope this will bring 'electronic paper' one step closer to reality."

### Drawing on Expertise

■ It took three years and an army of artists to make Walt Disney's *Snow White*. Today's animators have state-of-the-art equipment that means many of the time-consuming components of traditional animation can now be completed at the press of a button. Behind this new technological arsenal are programmers like Robert Bridson of the Imager Laboratory for Graphics, Visualization and Human Computer Interaction in the department of Computer Science. He is





ON SEPTEMBER 8, 2005, UBC Okanagan opened its doors for the first time. When the official ceremony was over, 218 full-time faculty and 3,500 students – 1,000 new first-year and 2,500 transferring from Okanagan University College – began the exciting adventure of being pioneers in a new university.

UBC hasn't experienced such an event since the Point Grey campus opened 80 years ago. At the official opening ceremony

on September 22, 1925, President Leonard Klinck said, "Henceforth, there is no 'old' UBC, no 'new' UBC. We are just The University of British Columbia." We have maintained that sentiment with the opening of UBC Okanagan and the adoption of the motto, "Two great campuses, one great university."

UBC Okanagan is providing our students with a unique educational experience. UBCO shares the benefits of being part of a world-renowned research institution, and is thereby able to attract the very best faculty, staff and students to its campus. As well, research projects that relate specifically to the Okanagan – in agroecology, environmental sustainability, and indigenous studies, to name a few – will help train students for opportunities that will emerge from spin-off companies, new cultural endeavours and a growing local economy.

UBCO also provides a unique faculty structure. Alongside faculties of Applied Science, Education, Management, and Graduate Studies are new subject gatherings that respond to changing demands. The Irving K. Barber School of Arts and Sciences includes the humanities as well as the social and physical sciences; the Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies combines performing and creative arts with related academic fields; and the Faculty of Health and Social Development provides education, research, and practice within a community-based framework.

With an intimate atmosphere and the institutional strength of a world-class university, UBCO will provide students with an outstanding undergraduate, research-led educational experience.

At the same time, UBC's mission – in Vancouver and in Kelowna – is "to prepare students to become exceptional global citizens, promote the values of a civil and sustainable society, and conduct outstanding research to serve the people of British Columbia, Canada, and the world." As global citizens, UBC graduates are fully engaged in the world and understand, as future leaders, that the decisions they make will have a global impact. This global education is the centrepiece of UBC's mission, and the key to meeting the future needs of our society. The new campus in the South Okanagan is destined to make its own distinctive and exciting contribution to UBC's goal of being one of the premier universities in the world.

We are proud to welcome UBCO faculty, staff and students to the UBC family. Tuum Est!

**Martha Piper**, *President, The University of British Columbia*

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responsible for developing the software module used to make animated cloth appear to move exactly as it does in real life. For instance, it was used to make Harry Potter's cloak move naturally when the character rides on a broomstick in the film *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*. He is now working on code to mimic the movement of fluids.

Despite the fact that the movement of everyday materials is notoriously difficult to capture, Bridson, who developed the cloth module while working on his PhD at Stanford, is planning on making the fluid code available for anyone to take advantage of.

"Visual effects studios are not paid according to how well the movies do in the box office," says Bridson. "The truth is most of them are struggling just to stay in the black, so there isn't a huge amount of money to be made here. By making the code open source, animation software programmers can immediately make use of the modules to develop better tools, and other researchers in the field will be able to reference my work and create even better modules. I think it's a healthier approach for the industry as a whole."

## COPD Hits More Women

■ Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) is a debilitating disorder and the fourth leading cause of death in North America. Although the disease has historically affected greater numbers of men than women, the past two decades have seen the scales tipping the other way with scientists predicting that women will make up the majority of sufferers by 2010. But what accounts for this climb in female cases?

Trying to find out is an interdisciplinary Canadian research team that has recently embarked on a five-year study into contextual factors – biological, social and cultural – that might play a role. Known as ICEBERGS (Interdisciplinary Capacity Enhancement: Bridging Excellence in Respiratory Disease and Gender Studies) the team is funded to the tune of \$1.5 million by the Canadian Institutes of Health research, the Institute of Gender Health and the Institute of Circulatory and Respiratory Health.

"We will be looking at the disease from all angles to understand why women have an extraordinary vulnerability and to help develop better diagnosis, treatment and even prevention," says team co-leader Professor Susan Kennedy of UBC's school of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene. "Even at apparently equal exposures, the women are more likely than men to develop the disease at an early age and to experience more serious symptoms. Sex and gender differences must be part of the explanation."

Other factors that might have some bearing on death rate, or how severe symptoms are, include size of lung and working conditions. Smoking remains the most common cause of the condition, but pollutants found in some work settings are also being explored as a link. The team's second co-leader is Don Sin, Canada Research Chair in Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease. Other researchers include experts



in respiratory medicine, gender studies, exposure assessment, health promotion, and it was a respiratory physiotherapist, PHD student Pat Camp, who originated the study. It involves many different UBC departments and partners.

### Early Warning for Ovarian Cancer

■ Ovarian cancer has no early symptoms, and late diagnosis can lead to an early death. In the late 1990s, Professor Nelly Auersperg noticed that tissue samples from women with a family history of the disease were different from samples of women with no family history of the disease. She developed a test for ovarian cancer that could predict if a woman's chances for getting the disease were higher than average.

Auersperg wanted her new test to be adopted in clinical practice. She patented it but could find no company willing to help her develop it. Because the test was quite complex, invasive, and did not come in a kit form, it was deemed unmarketable. "Commercial offshoots are great because researchers get to see their work materialize into public use," says Barbara Campbell of the University-Industry Liaison Office. "But this technology is a simple reminder that even though UBC researchers come up with the most innovative of ideas, they do not always lend themselves to the marketplace."

Now, Auersperg is working with PHD student Michelle Woo on developing a simple blood test to replace the original tissue sample method. Woo discovered a protein secreted by ovarian cancer cells at an early stage in their growth that might also be present in blood serum. "The idea is that if we can develop this into a blood test that would be performed on high risk women, we might be able to save more lives," says Woo. "We're also beginning to find that this procedure could be useful in detecting cancer of the uterus." The prospects of investment to help develop this test are a lot more promising.

### Harnessing the Sun

■ When you're the last one to leave the office, do you remember to turn out the lights? Even late at night, many office towers are decorated with the fluorescent stripes of fully-lit floors. "Office lighting is one of the largest users of electrical power and a major cause of greenhouse gas emissions," says Alexander Rosemann, a post doctoral fellow from UBC's Structured Surface Physics Lab. He is leading a research group that has devised a Solar Canopy System as a means of redirecting sunlight into the interior of buildings and decreasing the need for artificial light during the day. The system uses an arrangement of adaptive mirrors preprogrammed to change angle as the sun moves, lenses, and a hybrid prism light guide (invented by Lorne Whitehead, vp Academic) to direct and disperse light inside. The system uses sensors that compensate for times of low light conditions by substituting high quality electrical lighting as required. As well as being environmentally sound, the system will reduce electricity bills.

"About half the time there is plenty of natural light available,

## ALUMNI PROVE UBC'S SUCCESS



AT ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND this year, I had the privilege of sharing the podium with President Martha Piper at Cecil Green Park House as we greeted alumni returning to campus for the weekend's events. Along with all-years reunions and young alumni from many faculties and schools, our featured group was the Class of 1945. Most of these men and women are in their 70s now,

finished with their working lives and enjoying active retirement.

Dr. Piper, as you may know, is a compelling speaker. She focused in on UBC's incredible record as a research university and explained how UBC's international reputation has grown remarkably in the past decade. But she saved her heartiest praise for her audience members. "Our alumni," she said, "are the real proof of UBC's success."

Looking around the room, I couldn't have agreed more. The men and women from the Class of 1945 represent the builders of our province. They were the engineers, teachers, administrators, managers, medical professionals, entrepreneurs and cultural movers of their time. And, with groups of young alumni from the past 10 years also in attendance, it was clear that UBC has produced tomorrow's leaders as well.

At the same time, UBC has taken its place among the world's top universities. A recent ranking of world universities – private and public – in *The Economist* put UBC in 37th position, one of only two Canadian universities to make the top 100. With that kind of recognition coming to UBC, the value of our degree increases in the marketplace and in the eyes of the world.

As alumni of UBC, we must ensure that this value accrues in the future. Each of us has a stake in UBC, and each of us has to take a share of the responsibility. Your faculty, school or department needs your input as curriculum advisors, as alumni network builders and as career counselors. The Alumni Association needs volunteers to help plan events, to establish annual goals and to run its affairs. The university needs your involvement to help choose and elect the chancellor and members of senate, and to help define the direction of UBC's growth into the future.

Over the next two years of my term as Chair of the Alumni Association, I will work with the Board of Directors and the staff of the Alumni Affairs office – and through this column – to keep you connected to your alma mater and to work together with you to build a stronger university.

It's in all our interests to succeed together.

**Martin Ertl, BSC'93, Chair, UBC Alumni Association**



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but unused, just outside the building,” says Rosemann. “By guiding it to the core, we can save energy and provide an interior environment that most people feel is more pleasant and healthy.”

The system can either be installed in the ceiling spaces of existing buildings, or built into the design of new ones. Of course, the Solar Canopy System won't work at night. But that's where we play a part – by remembering to turn the lights out when we don't need them.

### Hi-Tech Hub

■ UBC and its students are the beneficiaries of a provincial government plan to double the number of provincial spaces for student in hi-tech areas of study to just under 7,000 in a bid to boost the economy by producing more professionals in hi-tech fields. This “Doubling the Opportunity Initiative” was announced in 2002 and the government has since provided \$22 million to fund a new building on campus for the Faculty of Applied Science. The Kaiser Foundation for Higher Education also contributed \$4 million towards the 9,026 square metre, five-storey Fred Kaiser Building, which was officially opened in September by President Piper, Advanced Education Minister Murray Coell and namesake Fred Kaiser, chairman and CEO of Alpha Technologies Group and member of the faculty's Engineering Advisory Council.

“The new facility will house the teaching and research facilities that will provide enough space for double the number of new students in electrical and computer engineering, and produce graduates with the education to help us compete in the knowledge-based economy,” said Coell.

Since 2001, the number of undergraduates taking electrical and computing engineering and mechatronics has doubled at UBC.

Built over an existing laboratory, the new building also provides a central spot for related services, including Engineering Student Services and the Technical Communication Centre. As well as having many

environmentally responsible design features – in ventilation and lighting systems, for example – it offers students and faculty an enhanced research space equipped for work in new and evolving areas such as wireless communications, next generation internet, interactive multimedia, power electronics and power systems, nano- and bio-technology, biomedical application of control and signal processing, human-computer interaction, microsystems technology for the life sciences, medical imaging, haptic interfaces, and chip design.

### Babying the Bullies

■ Bullying in schools is an issue that interests Kimberly Schonert-Reichi, who has studied social, emotional and moral development in children for the past 20 years. She is particularly interested in the results of a program called Roots of Empathy, which brings children from eight to 14-years old in contact with young infants in an attempt to encourage the development of genuine empathy and a related decrease in violent or cruel behaviour.

“A lot of social empathy instruction is contrived,” says Schonert-Reichi, “but when you bring a live human being into the classroom, it's really authentic. Children are invited to talk about the baby's feelings and that legitimizes their own feelings. The kids who are the loudest toughest or most vulnerable are the ones who connect most with the baby.” The program uses trained instructors and invites parents and young infants into the classroom setting. The baby is a focal point for learning about concepts like respect.

Schonert-Reichi a professor of Education and Counselling Psychology, has been testing the efficacy of the program (now in operation in 1,100 classrooms across eight provinces) and is very impressed with the findings. “In one of our studies, we found an 88 per cent decrease in aggression for children who participated in the program. For children who had not taken part in the program, aggression actually increased by 50 per cent.” The study used control classrooms to help verify results, which were based on

interviews with children to determine their level of social and moral understanding, and tests to rate their level of aggressive and positive behaviours. Interviews and tests were conducted both before and after program participation.

Mary Gordon initiated the Roots of Empathy program in the 1990s, and is very pleased to have Schonert-Reichi's study confirm its effectiveness. “When we incorporated in 2000, we set out as one of our goals that we'd be an evidence-based organization – that although we know our program works, we would also have the data to back it up,” she says. “Kim's studies completely complement and validate our goals. Kim has set the gold standard for research. We don't run any programs without her measurements.” Schonert-Reichi's co-workers include Clyde Hertzman, a professor of Health Care and Epidemiology and a group of postgraduate Education students.

Other countries, such as New Zealand and Australia are either running or showing interest in the program. In Canada, the next step for the program developers and researchers is to ascertain the longer-term and further-reaching effects of empathy training. “We want to measure the impact on children over a three-year period after they've had exposure to Roots of Empathy,” she says. “We'd love to show that it not only makes you a nicer person, it makes you do better in school.”

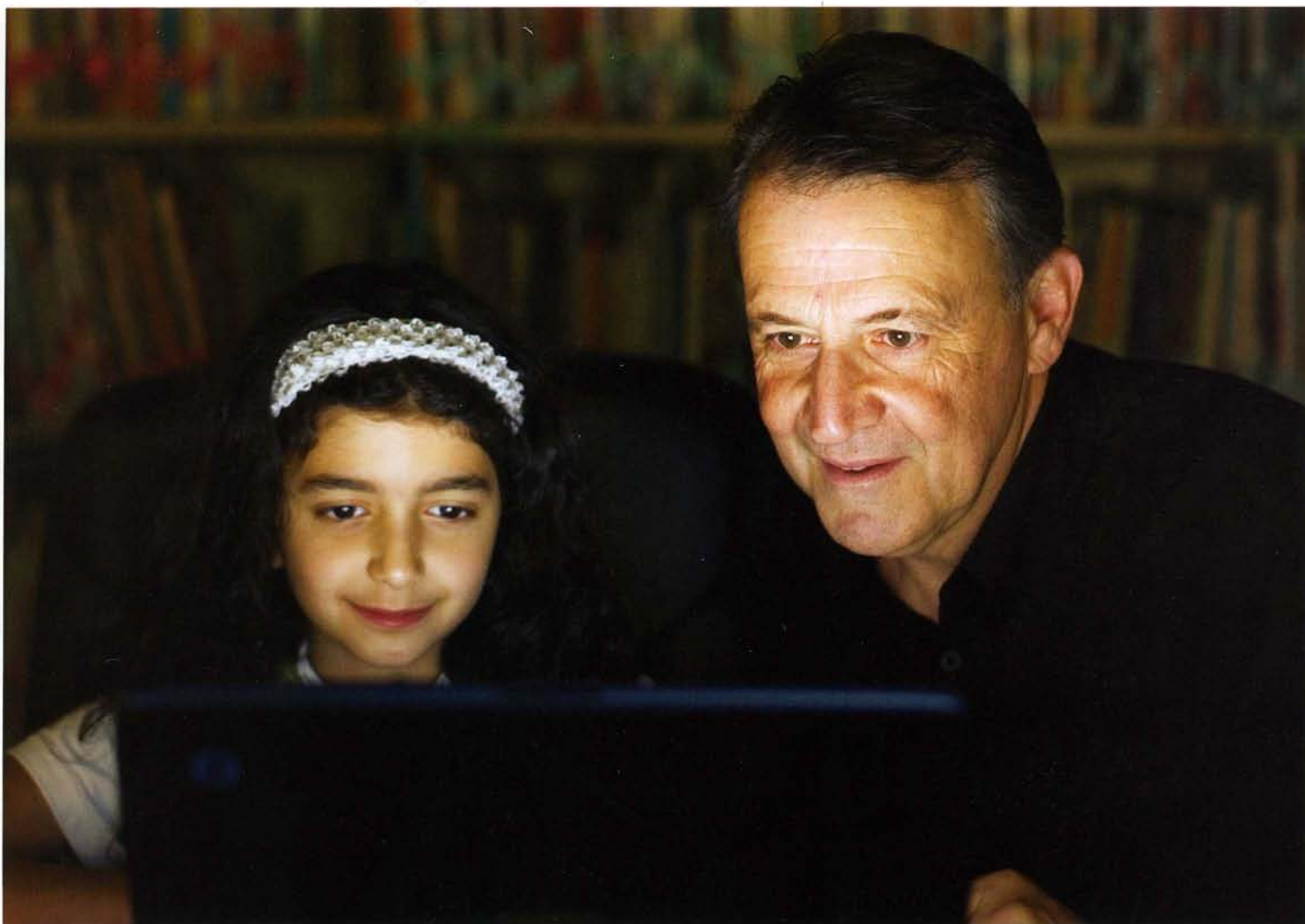
### Reading Tutor

■ A 2003 study carried out in BC involving 42,000 fourth graders disclosed that 32 per cent of students learning English as a second language and 19 per cent of non-ESL students had reading abilities below expectation. But if the test run of a new electronic literacy tutor is anything to go by, then those alarming statistics might soon be reduced.

Called *Reading Tutor*, the new literacy tool uses state-of-the-art voice recognition technology and artificial intelligence, and was developed by Jack Mostow at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh.

Collaborating with Mostow is UBC Education professor and applied linguist Ken Reeder, who is testing the software in schools





**A Magic Reading Box:** Linguist Ken Reeder uses the Reading Tutor with a grade 4 student.

in the Downtown Eastside. Feedback from teachers and pupils has been very good. Mostow's own previous trials were also promising: in the space of three months children could improve their reading by the equivalent of 12 months.

"This is pretty amazing stuff!" says Reeder. "This is simply the most advanced speech recognition available on the planet. The nice thing about this is that we've got it and Vancouver children are benefiting. Schools are clamouring to get on board."

Reeder became involved because Mostow's tests had so far been on subjects who spoke English as their first language, but Reeder was interested in finding out how the software would perform for children with different educational needs. Could *Reading*

*Tutor* meet the challenge of today's typically multicultural classrooms?

Reeder found the software well able to adjust itself to the reading level of any individual user. It is an interactive program where the child wears headphones and reads stories out loud. *Reading Tutor* will listen, pronounce words correctly, and can even read along with the child. *Reading Tutor* and the child take turns to pick which stories to read. Not only does this help maintain the child's interest and involvement, it allows *Reading Tutor* to monitor the level of difficulty to ensure that optimum progress is being made.

"That's the beauty of this tool," says Reeder. "It offers individualized and customized reading practice for young readers. It's one-on-one: the child has the exclusive atten-

tion of the *Reading Tutor*. I know teachers would love nothing more than to sit down and work 20 minutes intensively with a child, but it's not physically possible."

The results from the Downtown Eastside so far look promising with improvements made across four different first language groups. The most marked improvements were among those who had the lowest reading level at the start of the trials. Mostow is pleased that his invention works as well for ESL learners as it does for native English speakers. "In general when you're trying an education invention, it's not enough to test it in one place," he says. "If you get something that stubbornly works under different conditions and settings and different populations, then you've really got something."

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then you've really got something."

### Creating Room to Learn

■ Some spaces are more conducive to learning than others and the university is trying to make sure that new campus buildings are designed with this in mind. Experts like education professor Samia Khan can provide advice about some of the factors that should be taken into consideration when creating a space for learning.

She lent her services to the department of Computer Science recently when they were developing a new learning centre. "Current research shows that learning is a dynamic and collaborative process," says Khan. "The part I contributed to the discussion was how students can construct knowledge individually, in groups, and with digital technology, and how that learning can be



**Bladder Monitor:** Dr. Andrew Macnab shows off a new device that uses infrared light to monitor bladder function. Brad Wheeler (l), Ray Gagnon (r).

assessed."

The department of Computer Science wanted a space where students could explore theories in practice. Khan realized that the space would need to be adaptable enough to cater to both individual and group learning requirements. She recommended furniture on wheels that can be easily rearranged to accommodate collaborative or individual learning. Opened this July as part of a \$40 million building project to establish the Institute for Computing, Information and Cognitive Systems/Computer Science Cognitive Systems (ICICS/CS) addition, the learning centre also features ample electrical outlets and data ports. Opportunities for virtual learning are also advantageous. "For example, in science, where it's essential for students to test ideas and build models, a simulation or remote access to scientific instruments from hundreds of kilometres away can extend laboratory and classroom spaces," says Khan, who is now working with the faculty of Education to create a science education wing in the Scarfe

building.

### Lightening the Bladder

■ Tens of millions of North Americans suffer from urinary incontinence, and with an ageing population the numbers are expected to rise. But the statistics probably don't represent the true pervasiveness of the condition.

It is estimated that about 40 per cent of those with symptoms aren't diagnosed because of a reluctance to undergo conventional testing. Current methods are invasive, involving catheters inserted in the rectum and urethra to measure bladder pressure, which in turn informs the diagnosis of bladder function. Researchers at UBC have developed an alternative and painless method of testing that will very likely replace traditional techniques in a few years.

The new method uses infrared spectroscopy (NIRS) and an external monitor, smaller than the palm of a hand, which is placed on the abdomen to gauge bladder function. NIRS uses light energy diffused through tissue. The light is absorbed differently by different components of tissue and

it is the measurement of this difference that provides the basis for analysis and diagnosis. The method can be used to monitor blood flow to the bladder, a deficiency of which can cause complications for the organ.

Before its promise for diagnosing bladder functioning was discovered, Professor Andrew Macnab and research technician Roy Gagnon used NIRS to measure blood flow to the brain. They found that data relating to the bladder were obscuring those related to the brain and spinal chord. An encounter with urologist Lynn Stothers meant the three were soon working to develop the new diagnostic tool for the bladder.

The method is now undergoing commercialization via the University-Industry Liaison Office. "Licensing the use of NIRS in urology is a great example of commercialization being the most effective way to get new technology to physicians and their patients," says Brad Wheeler, technology transfer manager. Gagnon and Macnab's years of research involving NIRS has meant rapid and cheap adaptation.



## Getting the Signal

■ UBC PHD Grad Kim Dotto turned his garage into a laboratory to create the prototype of his new antenna design that is now being developed by electrical engineers at UBC. Resembling a fleur-de-lis (FDL), the antenna could greatly improve wireless data transmission in many applications. It covers a wider range of bandwidth and produces signals that are more stable and uniform than its predecessors.

"We've been able to confirm the FDL antenna's capacity to handle frequency transmissions from 2 to 26 gigahertz (GHZ)," says Professor Matt Yedlin, who supervised Dotto's PHD research in the department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. "To put that in perspective, cellular phones work at around 1.8 GHZ. Space communications come in at 2 GHZ. Other satellite transmissions range from 4 to 12 GHZ. In measurement application, the FDL antenna covers a bandwidth range that would normally require 30 calibrated antennas."

The antenna is a godsend for the communications industry as customer demand for wireless services continues to climb. It is cheap to make and the uniformity of signal means that it will likely have many more uses than conventional antennas.

These include medical imaging, pinpointing the location of embedded objects such as pipes or landmines and radio frequency imaging (which is used, for example, in forestry to produce an image of the interior of a tree to help guide cutting decisions and avoid pointless destruction).

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

The antenna has also undergone testing at the France Telecom Research and Development Laboratory, and the Laboratoire D'Electronique, Antenne et Télécommunications at the Université de Nice. It was granted a US patent in June. ■



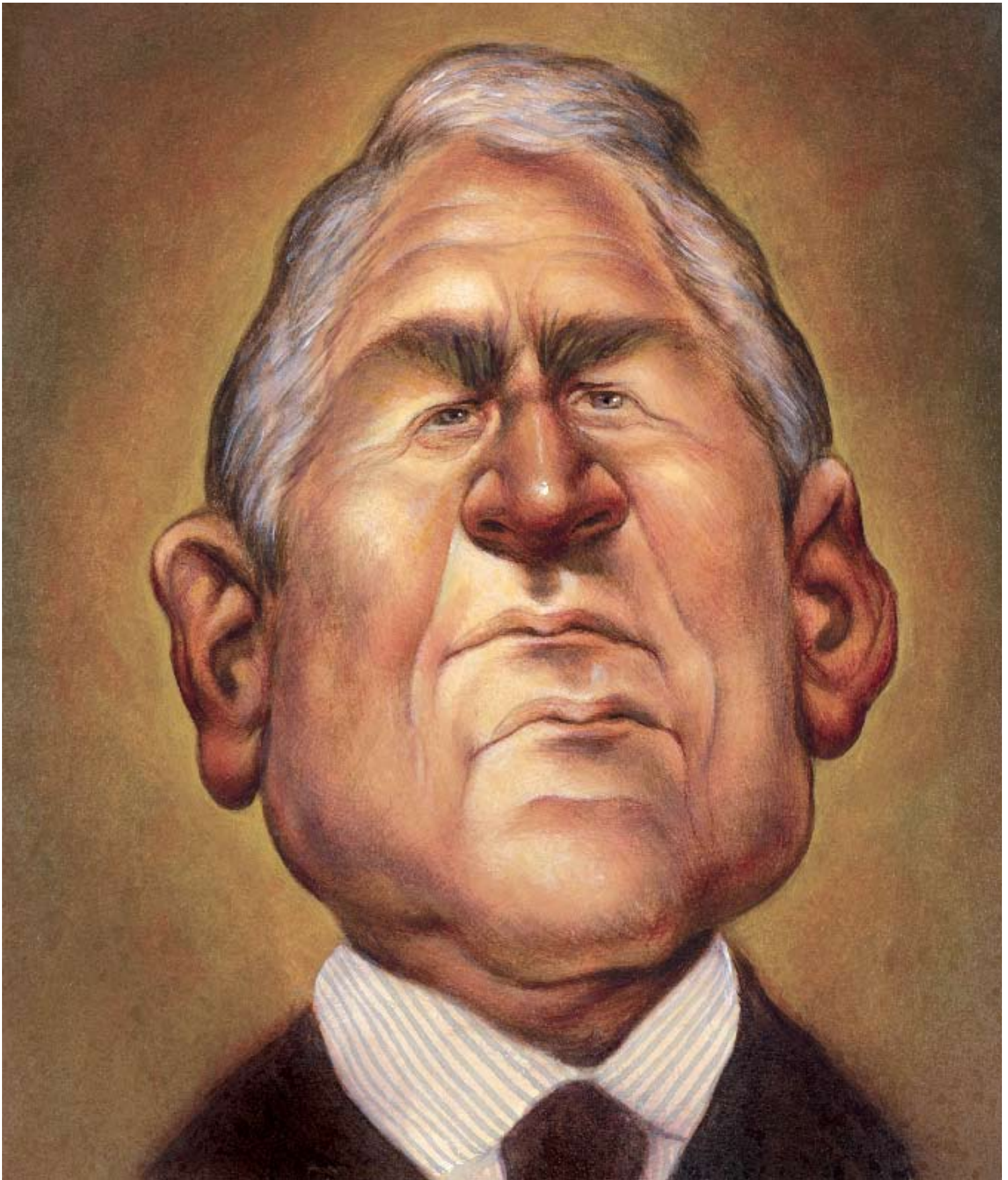
## THE IRVING K. BARBER LEARNING CENTRE

IN OCTOBER, THE IRVING K. BARBER Learning Centre officially opened its doors. The new space, which replaces the north annex of Main Library, built in 1947, is sleek, attractive and state-of-the-art. With comfortable furniture, open spaces and high-tech access, the centre is one of the best places on campus to study.

It also features an automated storage retrieval system for print and other materials, the first of its kind in Canada. The ASRS is climate controlled and has a capacity of 1.6 million volumes. Visit the Library on your trip to campus, and watch the robot retrievers in action. It may look like science fiction, but it's science fact, and very, very cool.









# Why Americans Supported George Bush And What Happens If They Stop. . .

MANY CANADIANS UNDOUBTEDLY HAVE WONDERED why voters in the 2004 United States presidential election made the judgments they did about George W. Bush, the war in Iraq, and the war on terrorism. How could a majority of them vote to reelect a president whose most important policy decision had appeared wrong-headed to most of the world when he made it, and had looked potentially catastrophic by the time of the election? When I visited Squamish this summer, a well-read river rafting guide with whom I was discussing politics asked my opinion about the election: “Did the voters think about the issues, or just make a knee-jerk decision?”

As of early September 2005, Bush’s approval ratings had sunk to 40 per cent, and seemed likely to sink further in the aftermath of the federal government’s slow and ineffective response to the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina. So we may also ask: “Is the US public now approaching political issues and the presidency more thoughtfully than they did a year earlier? And what policies toward Iraq and terrorism will they support, or perhaps demand, in the near future?”

To state my conclusion simply, the same limitations of public opinion that arguably rewarded Bush for the failure in Iraq in his first term by giving him a second term may have equally perverse consequences if the public continues to turn against Bush and his policies during his remaining years as president. As I told the rafting guide, I believe that a good deal of the support for Bush in 2004 reflected an uninformed, somewhat thoughtless reaction to fear of terrorism. Yet I also believe that a similarly thoughtless reaction – this time against Bush and the war – may now lead to further serious mistakes in policy toward Iraq.

## **A Breakdown in Accountability**

ACCORDING TO POLITICAL SCIENTISTS, US presidential elections, especially with an incumbent running for reelection, are largely referenda on the president’s performance in his first term. Most Democratic and Republican voters line up to support their respective parties’ candidates. And the swing voters, who determine the outcome, make a judgment on what the incumbent has accomplished. They hold the president accountable. The 2004 election was a strange one, however, from that standpoint.

At least with respect to terrorism and the war in Iraq, Bush in 2004 was in some ways highly vulnerable. The principle public rationale for the war, Iraq’s alleged possession of weapons of mass destruction (WMD), had exploded, as no WMDs or evidence of their recent presence were ever found. The administration’s pre-war claim that Iraq had assisted in the 9/11 terrorist attacks had found no supporting evidence and had been abandoned, except for occasional innuendo, mainly by Vice President Dick Cheney. Further, the administration, espe-

*UBC political scientist Paul J. Quirk provides a primer on American presidential politics*

# Supporting George Bush

cially Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, had mismanaged the occupation and reconstruction of Iraq, deploying too few troops to provide security, restore order quickly, and prevent the development of an effective insurgency.

As a result, US troops were suffering heavy casualties at the hands of insurgents, and Iraqi police and citizens even heavier ones. By the time of the election, the prospect of Iraq making a successful transition to democratic self-government – the result that the administration had confidently promised before the war – had become at best uncertain. At the same time, the war had become the leading recruiting tool for radical Islamic terrorists in the Middle East and around the world.

Bush and most Republicans defended the decision to go to war, called for patience, and held out hope for a successful outcome. But apart from reliable advocates of Republican causes, few commentators still argued that going to war in Iraq had been a good idea, and most counted it a major mistake.

In the meantime, Bush had assembled a weak record on other fronts in the war on terrorism. He had resisted establishing a Department of Homeland Security, and then essentially had been forced by Congress to reverse himself. He had also resisted reorganizing the intelligence services, which had failed to recognize multiple warnings of the 9/11 attacks, and was forced to reverse that stand by the report of a prestigious national commission released three months before the election.

Partly because Bush had spent so much money on the war in Iraq, and because he had sacrificed so much revenue through his tax cuts, he had funded key elements of the war on terrorism stingily. Commentators were critical of the administration's limited efforts to secure the borders against entry by potential terrorists; to establish effective inspection of cargo coming through American ports; to protect vulnerable domestic targets; to prepare for adequate emergency responses to future attacks; and, above all, to better secure the world's often sloppily managed nuclear weapons and materials from falling into terrorists' hands. On the diplomatic front, Bush had done little to deal with the apparently genuine threats of WMDs posed by Iran and Korea.

In November, 2004, US voters saw these matters quite differently. Public opinion about the war in Iraq was almost evenly divided, with a slight majority approving the war. A solid majority approved of Bush's leadership in the war on terrorism. Despite heavy criticism by Democratic candidate John Kerry, these issues helped Bush, rather than hurting him, in the election.

## Public Evaluations of Presidents

The reasons for the generous treatment of Bush are not ultimately mysterious. The election reflected two tendencies in voting and public opinion that we take for granted in relation to other issues. It was, in a sense, nothing new in the behavior of the US electorate – and nothing unique to the US.

One of the tendencies is obvious, although by itself is not enough

to explain the result. Partisans see the world in Republican or Democratic terms – through red or blue lenses – as the case may be. Their biased perceptions and interpretations can be quite impervious to new information about the real world.

When President Bill Clinton got caught up in the Monica Lewinsky sex-and-perjury scandal, the division of public opinion about the impeachment perfectly mirrored the partisan division. Democrats believed his offenses did not warrant impeachment and removal from office; Republicans believed they did. In this case, independent voters lined up with the Democrats, resulting in a large majority opposed to impeachment.

Even when the relevant information about the nature of his offense changed significantly, the division of opinion did not budge. At the outset Clinton was accused only of committing perjury in testimony about a peripheral issue in a civil lawsuit. Paula Jones was suing him for sexual harassment, which she alleged had occurred while Clinton was governor of Arkansas. The trial judge allowed Jones' attorneys to ask Clinton whether he had had sex – no harassment was at issue – with staff members in the White House. Clinton falsely denied having done so. Later, the judge changed her mind and ruled that the question should not even have been permitted, because it was not relevant to the alleged harassment. When evidence of Clinton's perjury in the matter became public, neither Democrats nor many independents were impressed by the alleged offense.

Clinton, however, upped the ante by going on to commit essentially the same perjury again, but this time in a grand jury investigation in which his relationship with Lewinsky and thus the earlier perjury were central to a possible criminal charge. The grand-jury perjury was, on its face, a very different and more serious matter. It was something an ordinary citizen might conceivably go to jail for. Perjury in a criminal investigation was also, without too great a stretch, arguably an impeachable offense. The public, however, had made up its mind about the case. The escalation of Clinton's violations of the laws had no impact at all on public opinion about the case.

Considering how partisan feelings bias judgments and how early judgments bias later ones, it is not surprising that Republicans mostly approved the war in Iraq, and that most of them have continued to do so even as the principal rationale for the war has evaporated and its costs have grown. They have blocked out disturbing new information, found excuses for Bush's misjudgments, or reinterpreted the rationale for war.

This does not explain, however, why so many swing voters approved the war, and why large numbers have continued to do so, despite considerable slippage over the past few months. To understand why that occurred, we need to consider a second tendency in public opinion.

On the few matters of greatest national concern, voters – especially the generally inattentive swing voters who decide elections – respond almost exclusively to the most obvious apparent outcomes of leaders' decisions. They notice, in a gross, indiscriminating way, whether things are going well for the country or going poorly.

Most important, they give hardly any attention to the specifics of what the president has actually done about any issue or problem. In fact, swing voters are generally clueless about all but the most dramatic actions of political leaders and the government. If they



followed the activities of political leaders, most of them would have developed partisan leanings.

This tendency to focus on apparent outcomes and ignore almost everything else is completely familiar and widely taken for granted in one area: voters' reactions to the economy. Everyone knows that the president's public approval will rise when the economy is doing well, and fall when it is doing poorly. It does not matter what the president has done about the budget deficit, whether he has pushed for higher or lower interest rates, or whether his policies, in anyone's opinion, have been economically sound. All that matters is the numbers – inflation, economic growth, and especially unemployment – in the several months before the election.

President Clinton benefited from this tendency too. He rode the economic boom of the mid-1990s to an easy reelection in 1996. Although his politically courageous, deficit-reducing 1993 budget probably helped the economy, the boom was mainly the effect of developments in the economy itself, especially technology-driven gains in productivity.

Twelve years earlier President Ronald Reagan had enjoyed a big boost from outcomes-only voter evaluations in an even more dramatic way. His first-term tax and budget policies led to an enormous expansion of the federal budget deficit. On most accounts, they were economically unsound and posed a serious danger to long-term economic growth. But Reagan was rewarded for the strong 1983-1984 recovery with an effortless reelection just the same.

### **The Bush Advantage**

What do these tendencies in public opinion and elections have to do with President Bush, terrorism, and the war in Iraq? The story of the 2004 election is much the same as that of Reagan's reelection in 1984 – a president rewarded for near-term results, regardless of the long-term merits of his policies – except that the central issue was terrorism, rather than the economy.

The deficiencies of the Bush administration's efforts on terrorism and homeland security did not matter to relatively uninformed swing voters. Bush's willingness to take drastic action – wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, a sweeping expansion of the federal government's police powers, and prolonged detentions of thousands of suspects on the basis of minimal evidence – gave such voters a feeling of being protected. Whatever the wisdom of his decisions, Bush was undeniably a bold and courageous leader.

In my view, however, one fact was crucial to the swing voters' positive response: there had not been a terrorist attack on US soil – not a single car-bombing, hijacking, hostage taking, or suicide-attack – in the three years since the 9/11 attacks. Not a single citizen had been harmed by terrorists at home. (No one had ever claimed credit for the handful of anthrax-laced letters that were sent shortly after 9/11.) For the most part, people had felt free to resume normal life. Comedians poked fun at the color-coded threat ratings that were issued by the Department of Homeland Security.

One might be tempted to credit the administration and its homeland security programs with having prevented even a single attack. But the government had not even claimed specific accomplishments that could have produced such prevention. There had been few, if any, clear-cut instances of an Al Qaeda cell in the US being identified

and put out of action; of a known, active terrorist being apprehended attempting to enter the country; or of a planned attack on a specific target being discovered and blocked. No terrorist, for example, had been captured in a house full of bomb-making materials. Rather, it appears that beyond the 9/11 attacks, Al Qaeda and other terrorist networks had few, if any, projects underway for directly attacking the US. Efforts by the US and other governments to disrupt those networks, cut off their funding, and capture key personnel probably had degraded their ability to develop new ones. But their lack of capacity to wreak further havoc was a blessing for Bush as well as the country.

In any case, from the perspective of swing voters attentive only to short-term results, the results of Bush's efforts were indeed satisfactory. Notwithstanding the emerging standstill in the war in Iraq, Bush's claim to be the leader needed to fight terrorism appeared validated by the evidence.

### **Rising Discontent**

Throughout 2005, public opinion has slid slowly downhill from Bush's standpoint. As various polls showed in August, a clear majority (53-43 per cent) believed that the US made a mistake in going to war in Iraq. An even larger majority (58-37 per cent) disapproved of the way the Bush administration has conducted the war. Bush's overall approval had slipped to about 40-45 per cent, according to various polls, before the political crisis of Hurricane Katrina.

Gradually, US citizens, as many observers predicted, have gotten tired of the war. Many were alarmed by the July bombings in the London Underground, an event that was widely linked to Britain's participation in the war in Iraq and that highlighted the potential for similar attacks in the US. The percentage of the public who believed the war was helping prevent terrorist attacks fell from a high of 47 per cent in Fall 2004 to 38 per cent in August 2005.

By this fall, an entirely different manifestation of citizens' propensity for relatively thoughtless responses has become important. Asked whether they favor "keeping a large number of US troops in Iraq until there is a stable government there or bringing most of our troops home in the next year" a 61 per cent majority favored setting a deadline for withdrawal. The reasoning for this position is not hard to figure out: if the war in Iraq was a mistake, ending it immediately must be good. If Bush deceived the country to gain support for the war, opposing his current position on it must be right.

Some serious politicians and commentators do advocate a rapid withdrawal. Most seem to think that the US, having toppled Saddam's government, must now stay the course and assist a new government to become stable and contain the insurgency, even if it takes several years. Otherwise, in addition to the suffering of its citizens, Iraq will remain a breeding ground for international terrorism and a source of instability in the Middle East for many years to come. The danger is that a public disaffected from the war and distrustful of the president will too overlook these dangers. ■

*Paul J. Quirk joined the UBC faculty in 2004 as Phil Lind Chair in US Politics and Representation. He teaches in the department of Political Science and the recently-established United States Studies Program.*



The question facing parents of school-aged kids a couple of generations ago was “Why can’t Johnny read?” Today’s parents have a different question: “Johnny can read just fine. Why can’t he get into university?”

# the truth about admissions

BY CHRIS PETTY

THOSE OF US WHO GRADUATED more than a decade ago can be forgiven if we feel some shock when we hear about the grades students need these days to get into UBC Vancouver. General Arts students need high school averages of 82 per cent range to get in, while Sauder School of Business students range in the mid-80s. Those entering a science program need 89 per cent. CEOs, physicians, teachers and even university presidents will shake their heads in disbelief, saying, “I’d never get into university today with my high school marks!”

It’s understandable, then, when parents look with dismay at their progeny’s perfectly respectable high school marks and wonder if their alma mater has become too elitist or too selective. “If I was successful at university with my marks from high school, my kids can be too. It’s not fair.” And everyone has a story about someone – a friend, a relative or even themselves – who got through high school with a

“C” average or worse and transformed magically into an academic wiz at university.

The problem isn’t quite that simple. British Columbia has been short of post secondary seats for most of its history preferring, in the early years at least, to count on other jurisdictions to supply educated workers. After World War One, some BC politicians felt residents should travel east for an education, and save the province the expense of a university. It took until 1922 (and the Great Trek) for the province to get on with building a real university.

It is true that most resource-based economies tend to have lower post secondary participation by high school graduates. In BC, less than 25 per cent of high school grads take further



UBC Okanagan campus,  
September, 2005



training, one of the lowest in Canada. Still, the province has experienced a chronic shortfall in available post secondary spaces, even though BC has built an extensive college system in the past 40 years and opened new universities in the Interior. If UBC were to decrease entrance requirements by even a few percentage points, thousands of new spaces would have to be created. At 40,000 students, UBC is about as big as it's ever going to get.

But UBC, rightly or wrongly, is considered to be the premier university in the province, especially by its alumni, and they expect that their children should be able to study here, just as they did. Many feel UBC lets in too many foreign students. Further, they feel that UBC has artificially raised its academic standards in order to include only the very smartest high school students, and in so doing, refuses entry to students who would otherwise be successful.

The creation of UBC Okanagan is a partial response to these points. Now, students can get an education that only a top research university can provide, but in a smaller institution. And, generally speaking, students from either campus will be able to transfer to the campus that best suits their needs, depending on the program and its requirements. Current admission requirements at UBC Okanagan are lower than those at UBC Vancouver for most programs, at about 79 per cent.

But is it true that high school grads with less than top marks can't get into UBC? Yes and no.

UBC Vancouver's entrance requirements are higher than those of many other schools in the province. It's a case of supply and demand. For the 2005 academic year, UBC had almost 25,000 applications for 4,500 seats. With those numbers, the institution can pick and choose the very best from among them. More faculties such as Science and the Sauder School of Business are using broad-based criteria for selecting new students – taking into account non-academic performance measures – but there is no doubt that UBC's admission standards are skewed toward better academic performers. It also seems that those students who excel at sports, the arts or other extra-curricular activities are often the same students who excel in academics. Whether marks are the best yardstick is a question educators worldwide are asking. For now, it seems to be the only reliable standard.

Which doesn't mean the high school graduate with less-than-stellar marks can't get in to UBC. This university is part of a large post secondary system, with schools in every community in the province. Each of those institutions offers courses that transfer for equal credit to other universities. After a year of hard work at another institution, a student can apply to transfer to UBC, and all his or her credits will come along for the ride. As well, high school students can repeat courses they haven't done well in in order to achieve higher marks.

And speaking of marks, there is a consistent myth that high school grades today are inflated. The "C+" of 30 years ago is an "A" today. Not so, say high school counsellors. That "C+" you got in Canadian History 12 would still be a "C+." High schoolers know how hard it is to get into university, and those with their eye on that prize work very hard to get it. Parents know, too. Veteran high school teach-

ers report that parental pressure on kids and teachers has increased dramatically over the last 15 years.

Another constant complaint is that UBC is letting in far too many foreign students. Former UBC president David Strangway used to tell a story about an angry parent who confronted him, saying, "I came up to campus and looked into a number of classrooms and all I saw were foreign students. Why don't you take in more Canadian students?"

The answer, of course, was that they *were* Canadian students, in the main. That many were children of second and third generation Asian families didn't occur to the parent. The fact is that UBC has a lower-than-average percentage of foreign students for a university of this size and reputation. Less than 10 per cent of UBC's 40,000-plus registered students come from outside Canada; at UBC Okanagan the percentage of first year international students is even smaller – just over three per cent – but the percentage of first year out-of-province students is closer to UBC Vancouver's at 10 percent. UBCV's out-of-province student population is just over 13 per cent.

International students pay full tuition – nearly triple what Canadian students pay – and do not fill spaces that are supported by government funding.

Another complaint is that UBC only takes students who can afford the tuition. Official UBC policy (Policy 72: University Access) states that no student who qualifies for entrance to UBC and who shows genuine financial need will be denied admission. Student loans, bursaries and scholarships – some awards are as high as \$40,000 – ensure that financial need will not bar admission to those students.

Most of the complaints about the state of UBC's admission policies don't take into account that UBC has become one of the world's top universities. UBC is one of a few Canadian universities to rank highly in most international surveys, and in terms of grants, research produced, patents registered and spin-off economic activity, UBC is a powerhouse. Other BC universities rank highly in other categories and form a large, provincial post secondary system in which each institution plays a vital role in the development of the province.

Universities such as the University of Northern British Columbia and Thompson Rivers University serve their communities, and the province by producing home-grown professionals in teaching, medicine, law and the arts and sciences when previously these regions had to depend on people educated elsewhere to fill the void. And since the vast majority of university graduates tend to stay in the place in which they were educated (85 per cent of UBC's 200,000 grads live in BC), these institutions are doing what one single institution cannot do: serving the educational needs of the entire province.

And parents should consider one other thing: maybe Johnny would just as soon go to a university not quite so close to home.

*Thanks to BC teachers Celine Kaufman, BED'85 and Cindy Gauthier, BPE'78, MED'85 for their insight into current student expectations in our high schools, and to Brian Silzer and staff at Enrolment Services for their facts, figures and knowledge.*



## The Benefits of Membership

### The benefits begin with graduation

UBC grads organized this Alumni Association in 1917 as a way to stay in touch with friends and with the university. We've developed many programs and services over the years to help the process, and because we have nearly 200,000 members, we can offer group discounts on services and save you money. At the same time, you'll be supporting programs like these:

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[www.clearsight.ca/ubc](http://www.clearsight.ca/ubc)



**Manulife:** Term Life, Extended Health and Dental, and the new Critical Illness Plan. Manulife has served alumni for more than 20 years.



**MBNA:** More than 12,000 alumni and students are supporting alumni activities by using their UBC Alumni Mastercard. The card gives you low introductory rates, 24-hour customer support and no annual fees.



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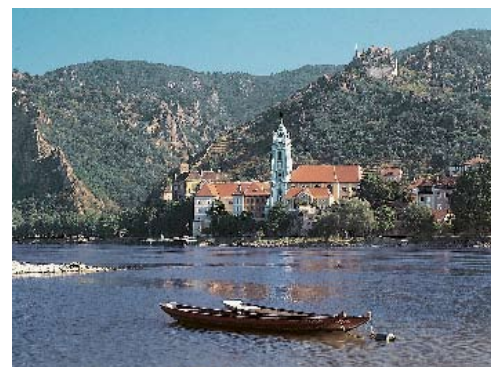
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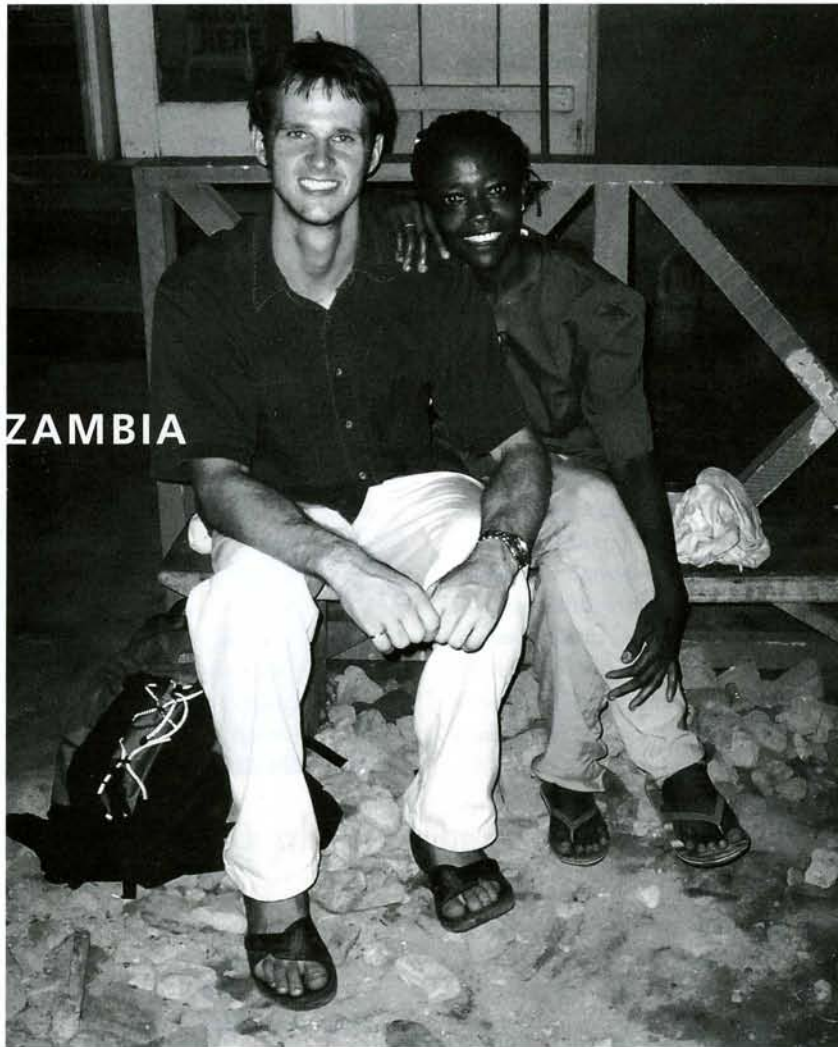
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# SORGHUM, SARAH MCLACHLAN AND THE DROUGHT IN ZAMBIA



*A UBC grad joins Engineers Without Borders and learns that politics and economics are as big a part of poverty as drought.*

The author with his friend, Christy Yaa, in Accra, Ghana. Christy was featured in Sarah McLachlan's music video, *World on Fire*.

**I**t WAS A HOT AND STICKY JULY EVENING in Accra, Ghana. I sat in a small internet café in the urban slum of Alajo next to my mosquito-infested one-room apartment. My ten month volunteer placement with Engineers Without Borders (EWB) was over, and I was just checking my email to see what time my plane left for Canada the next day. I felt devastated to leave so many close friends behind, but as with the end of any experience my sadness was accompanied with a bittersweet feeling. I was excited to go home and see my friends and family in Canada, and even caught myself dreaming of the joys of a hot shower and a toilet with an actual seat.

That's when MSN Messenger signalled that a new message had come in. A good friend who was working at the EWB head office in Toronto asked if I was sitting down because she had some really big news for me. Apparently, Sarah McLachlan's producer had just phoned, and inspired from reading one of my "Letters from the Field" on the EWB website, wanted to use it in crafting the music video for her new hit song "World on Fire." I had written about a close friend in Alajo named Christy Yaa, a single mother who worked

16 hours a day as a house cleaner and orange seller to put her son through school, yet refused to ever let me pay for the oranges I bought from her. The bewildering message on the screen flashed, "Sarah thinks your words speak for the song."

When I returned to Canada, I found the reverse culture shock to be intense. Everything was so quiet, clean, and comparatively dull next to the hustle and bustle of Ghana. I had trouble dealing with the level of comfort and consumption that our society has become so accustomed to. I was able to get a manufacturing engineer job shortly after my return through one of my UBC co-op connections, but it felt extremely empty. I was making nearly seven times the salary but the struggle to force myself out of bed every morning affected my entire outlook on life.

A few months later, I saw Christy Yaa's beaming smile displayed in the video of Sarah McLachlan's song and could not help from breaking down into tears. An assortment of international charities (including EWB) were \$150,000 richer, thanks to the generosity of the Vancouver artist. Christy also received

BY MIKE QUINN



# DROUGHT IN ZAMBIA

\$1,000 of that money for a scholarship to put her son through school and a grant to expand her business.

Now, as I am writing this in Zambia, in the heart of southern Africa, I realize that moment when I first saw the video was the second turning point in my life. For the first time, I learned that it is possible to change the world and knew inside that I could only be happy if I yielded to my passion for helping the poor.

And looking even farther back, I cannot even picture what my life would be like right now if I didn't join the UBC chapter of EWB in 2001 and turn my attention to Africa. That was the first turning point in my life, where I changed from a disgruntled engineering student to an inspired and aspiring global citizen. Through my involvement and connection with that group of amazing people, I found an avenue to apply the engineering problem solving skills I was learning in lecture halls towards solving the problems faced by small scale farmers in rural Zambia on my second volunteer placement in Africa with EWB.

This time, I am based in Livingstone, situated in the Southern Province of Zambia and adjacent to troubled Zimbabwe. It is the tourist capital of the country and home to Victoria Falls, the world's seventh wonder. People from all over the world flock here to see the falls, visit the majestic five-star Royal Livingstone Hotel, and conquer the world's best white water rapids. In fact it's incredibly easy to come here as a tourist and be completely oblivious to the crisis that exists just beyond the smokescreen of adrenaline and luxury that is put up to attract visitors and shield them from Zambia's often depressing reality.

Life expectancy dropped from the mid 1950s to 32.7 years since 1991 and the HIV infection rate has only

In the villages immediately outside Livingstone and throughout the entire Southern Province of Zambia, there was a severe drought this past season resulting in an acute food shortage for nearly every rural household. Only this wasn't a one-off occurrence, as the rains have become less dependable and the soils less fertile over the past few decades. Food insecurity has become a chronic problem and I can see it in the hungry eyes of malnourished, underdeveloped children in the villages I work in. Children are the last to eat in rural Africa, and thus the first to suffer in times of hardship.

My home province, Alberta, experiences droughts that last a few years, crippling many farmers. Droughts there and in Zambia can be equally severe, but the consequences are much more dire in Zambia. In Canada, our diets are well balanced with a variety of food from all over the world. Our government is able to buy food from other regions and other countries to make up for any shortfall caused by drought, and farmers are often insured with some level of compensation and a social safety net. I read about the recent drought in Alberta in papers from home, and while the livelihoods of those farmers are seriously compromised, none of them are starving as a result.

Compare that situation to Zambia, where the majority of the rural population relies on maize (corn) as their staple food for every meal of the day, often only one already. The region has virtually no irrigation, and nearly all rural dwellers are farmers who rely on one harvest of rain-fed maize per year to feed their families and save enough money to

last them until the next one. Harvest time is normally a time of excitement and happiness, a time of feasting and replenishing hungry bellies, a time of repairing rain-damaged houses with farm income. But when I arrived in Zambia this year in March, all I could see were fields of stunted, dried up crops which have now progressed to empty household grain silos and the start of the long hungry season.

I have come to understand that the food insecurity experienced here is different and much more complex than it is in many other parts of Africa. The cause of these frequent droughts in Zambia has to do with a changing climate, but their negative effects seem to be from an ill conceived government policy dating back to the 1960s. The Tongan and Lozi people of this area traditionally relied on a nutritious cereal crop called sorghum for their subsistence. It is well suited to the sandy soil and can withstand long periods without water. However, the government of Kenneth Kaunda introduced a one-crop policy in Zambia as part of a campaign to bring unity to the newly independent country. A massive government system was set up to promote maize, which included handing out free inputs (seeds, fertilizers, and pesticides) to farmers, offering a guaranteed price of purchase, and building huge state-owned maize storage and processing infrastructure.

But in the Southern Province the soil and climate are not well suited to maize, which is why sorghum was grown for centuries previously. Over the following decades the already less-than-ideal soil became less and less fertile from the nutrient thirsty maize crops, increasing the susceptibility to drought damage. Then, in 1991, under increasing pressure from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and a newly elected government, Zambia's economy underwent massive change with market liberalization policies

that ended government subsidies and resulted in nearly all state-owned companies being privatized.

This policy shift had major consequences for small-scale farmers in the Southern Province. Most notably, they are pastoralists (cattle farmers), and when the previously subsidized livestock vaccinations suddenly cost money, people simply stopped vaccinating their cattle. The result was the rapid spread of tick-borne disease (called East Corridor Disease), and just this past year, foot and mouth disease. Ninety per cent of livestock has perished in this region. Not only do people not have cattle to eat anymore (a primary source of protein), but they do not have any to use to plough their fields, a key factor in agricultural productivity which enables farmers to plant earlier to fight drought-shortened growing seasons.

At the same time as market liberalization, the much publicized HIV/AIDS pandemic exploded and a multiyear drought marked a period of tremendous hardship. Newly privatized companies and mines (70 per cent of the economy relies on copper mining) that were sold at rock bottom prices were gutted and closed, creating massive unemployment. Life expectancy dropped from the mid 1950s to 32.7 years since 1991 and the HIV infection rate has only stabilized at just under 20 per cent because death is starting to catch up with the spread of the virus. And of course the pandemic also undermines food security through decreased farmer productivity since people living with AIDS are often sick and find it difficult to work their fields by hand. In short, the timing and pace of market liberalization couldn't have been worse.





Drought's harvest: This grain bin should be overflowing with maize.

stabilized at just under 20 per cent because death is starting to catch up with the spread of the virus.

Now Zambia is in trouble and there is a general feeling among the people here of dependency and helplessness. But even with all of these real and very serious problems, the biggest obstacle to food security in the Southern Province is a socio-cultural one dating back to the one-crop maize policy of the 1960s. People are now so accustomed to maize as their staple food that they refuse to eat anything else. They will plant it year after year even knowing that if the rains are insufficient it will fail. They will refuse to grow or buy sorghum or cassava (both drought-resistant crops) even if they are a fraction of the price of maize, and even though taste tests have shown that people cannot tell the difference if sorghum or cassava is properly blended into their staple meal, *nshima*. A lot of this has to do with stigma, as traditional, drought-resistant crops are commonly known as "poor man's crops."

My job is to work directly with small-scale farmers such as Alfred Mulele to attack this stigma. Alfred is the chairman of a small agricultural cooperative near Livingstone, and is very well respected in the area for his generosity, work ethic and leadership. Through EWB, and CARE (an international non-governmental organization), I am involved in the pilot phase of a market-driven project to commercialize sorghum as a cash crop and enable farmers like Alfred to move from farming for subsistence to farming as a business. This past year, Alfred planted 1.5 hectares of maize without harvesting a single cob because of the drought. Through this project, he will be given free early-maturing and drought resistant sorghum seeds to plant and an assurance of a market to sell his harvest

at a good price. We have established a demand for sorghum in nearby Botswana (where it is the staple food) and for use as livestock and chicken feed. There is also a strong demand for sorghum use in a new brand of beer being introduced by Zambian Breweries. By targeting respected leaders like Alfred, it is hoped that his example will be closely watched and copied by all his neighbours and sorghum will eventually make up to 60 per cent of the aggregate food crop in all drought prone areas. But this will only be achieved by creating a sustainable and profitable advantage over maize throughout all levels of the supply chain. And if Alfred decides that he still doesn't want to eat sorghum, at least he will be able to sell it and buy maize without depending on food aid to make it through the dry season.

These socio-cultural barriers need to be addressed head on. And they are not easily solvable. In an area where most people are accustomed to relying on the annual delivery of free food aid, my first objective will be to earn the trust of Alfred Mulele, who probably sees me as a rich *Mzungu* (foreigner) and expects me to either give him something for free or simply disappear after meeting him once. My approach is to spend as much time in the field with Alfred as I can, learning the local language, eating the local food and breaking down as many of the cultural barriers that separate us as possible. Living with Christy Yaa in a slum in Ghana is what enabled me to make a connection that helped her, and being side by side with Alfred on his farm and in his village is what will help him.

Working closely with Alfred, I am already in the villages nearly every day identifying farmers who are leaders, and who are serious about fighting drought and sharing their knowledge with others. In this first phase, I will introduce newer, productive farming techniques to these local leaders

so they can achieve a good harvest even in years of low rainfall, and help them become trainers themselves. Even before the first rains come in December, I will be with them in their fields emphasizing that they must prepare to plant early, because the biggest cause of crop failure is that farmers wait too long and miss out on the crucial first few rains. By February, I will be teaching these lead farmers proper harvesting and grading techniques to supply a good quality sorghum to the market so that they can command a fair price. And in the final phase, I will be helping to analyze the successes and failures of the past year to lay the groundwork for a scaled up, three year project involving many more farmers.

Tackling systematic barriers that the poor face in their everyday lives is where I want to focus my career, to create sustainable opportunities rather than perpetuating hand-outs. I don't believe that poverty in Africa can be made history through charitable aid or even debt relief (although both can be tremendously positive if targeted effectively). Rather, a long term, sustained commitment with a humble approach and firm grasp of the micro and macro causes of poverty will be much more effective and is why I feel I need to make this a career choice to make a significant contribution.

Joining the UBC chapter of EWB was the first step for me along this path, and I hope the next one will be a Master's in Development Management at the London School of Economics in 2006-2007 followed by a Master's in Business Administration in Social Entrepreneurship. But for now, I am quite happy working with farmers like Alfred Mulele to enable him to have more control over nature, and ultimately more control over his life. ■





Above: Robert Louie, Chief of the Westbank First Nation welcomes students.

*Opposite:* The rich Okanagan farmland depends on irrigation to flourish. Students enjoy the magnificent views as they head for class.

*Below (l-r):* Nancy Hermiston starts opening ceremonies with *O, Canada*; Deputy Vice-Chancellor Barry McBride delivers the welcome address; UBC Board of Governors chair Brad Bennett and Chancellor Alan McEachern look on.

# welcome to UBC Okanagan

TO SAY THE ATMOSPHERE on the campus of UBC Okanagan was electric on official opening day, September 8, 2005, would be an understatement. The music, the tents, the swirling crowds of people – young, old and in the middle – made the place look more like a carnival than a university, even though the younger ones all had their arms full of books.

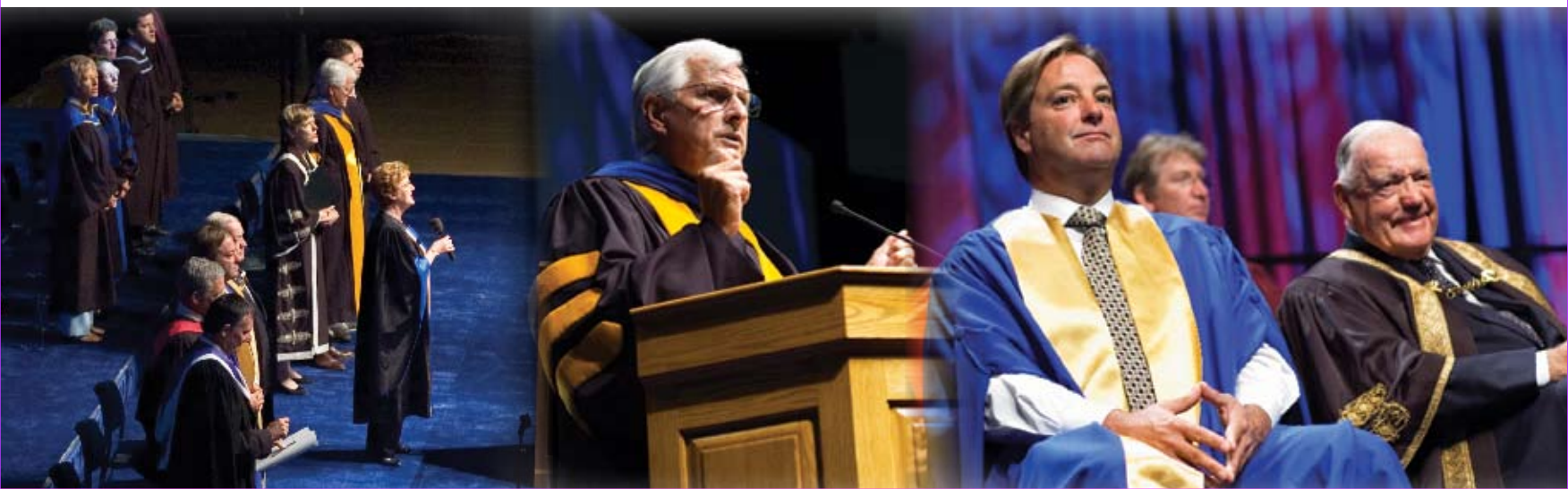
Some of us from the Alumni Affairs office in Vancouver came up for this significant day. The clever tag, “One great university, two great campuses,” finally made sense. Looking out over the Okanagan Valley with its tan hills contrasting with miles of vineyards and agricultural lands, it’s easy to see why the site was chosen.

UBC Okanagan is situated on the north campus of the former Okanagan University College. The changeover began with the announcement of UBC Okanagan in March, 2004, and work has proceeded at a blinding speed since then to convert the campus to a university’s needs.

UBC Okanagan took in 3,500 students for the Fall, 2005 term, 2,000 of whom transferred from OUC. By 2009, the campus will accommodate 7,500 students.

To begin, the campus will have seven faculties: The Irving K. Barber School of Arts and Sciences; the Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies; the Faculty of Health and Social Development, and faculties of Management, Education and Graduate Studies. Initially, UBC Okanagan has a full-time faculty contingent of 218.

In order to accommodate the expected growth of the student population, the campus will triple in size in the next five years. New research, residential, recreational and cultural facilities will be built on existing cleared land, all with great views of the Okanagan hillsides. The emphasis for new building construction will be on sustainability. Geothermal heating and cooling will be a feature of new construction,



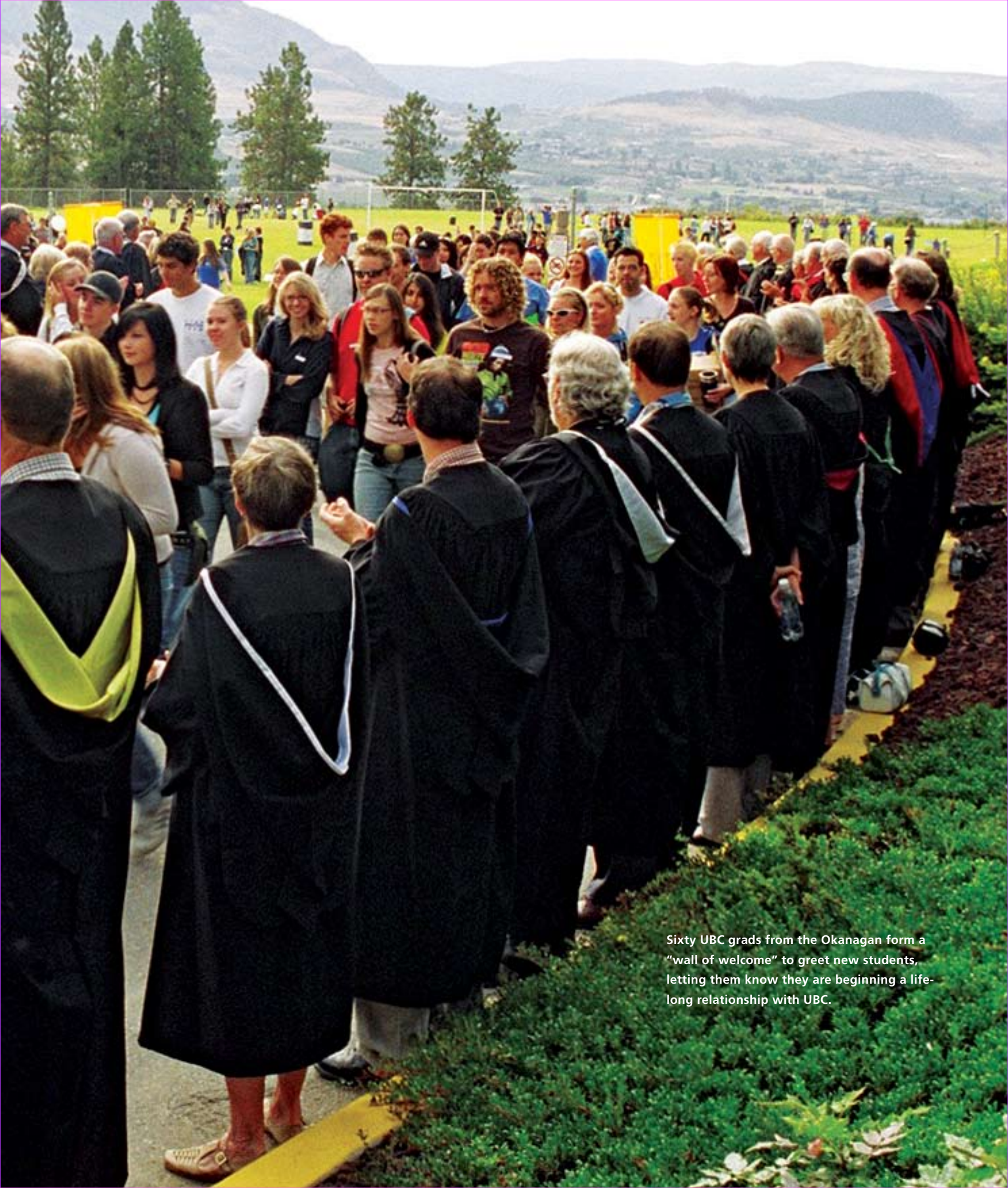












Sixty UBC grads from the Okanagan form a "wall of welcome" to greet new students, letting them know they are beginning a life-long relationship with UBC.









On opening day, the UBCO campus was crowded with students (the female-to-male split is 70-30), processions of university officials in academic robes, and a group of 60 UBC alumni living in the Kelowna region.

all of which will be LEED certified, which means that each building will be designed to minimize its environmental impact, and use, as much as possible, elements of its surroundings in everyday operation. UBC Okanagan, being part of a world-ranking university, will reflect those values that make for good global institutional citizenship.

But back to opening day. The campus was crowded with students (the female-to-male split is 70-30), processions of university officials in academic robes, and a group of 60 UBC alumni living in the Kelowna region.

These 60 grads were invited to the opening by the Alumni Affairs office to show incoming students that they were joining an institution with a history, and that a social and business network awaited them on the other side of graduation.

We gownned our alumni in their academic robes, hoods and all, and positioned them on either side of the walkway to the entrance of the auditorium, where official ceremonies would take place. New students in their faculty groupings then proceeded up the walkway through the lines of alumni who applauded and welcomed them to their first university experience. It was surprisingly moving, and even the old hands among us were touched. Later, more than one of our alumni told us it was one of the best university experiences they'd had since their own graduation. "Let's do it again," they said. "And when they graduate, too!"

Not a bad idea. ■



*Opposite:* Two members of the Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies head for the auditorium.

*Above:* Students at UBC Okanagan prepare for the year ahead.

*Below (left to right):* Students mix, mingle and get to work; University Librarian Catherine Quinlan and Irving K. Barber in the procession to the official opening ceremonies.



# Letters

*In our last issue, Dan Overmyer's piece, "The World as a Holy Place," moved many of our readers to comment, and we have provided excerpts of some of them here. We will reprint all the letters we received in their entirety on our website as soon as we can contact the writers for permission and load the files.*

**Editor:**

Dr. Overmyer comments on the "terrible self-righteousness that justifies attacks on other traditions and people" while at the same time proclaiming that scientific evidence has demonstrated that all interpretations of virtually all religious teachings are invalid.

This conclusion is reasonable if one believes that science presents a complete picture of our universe. However, growing numbers of thinkers . . . are raising significant questions (about) our understanding of the nature of reality and the hard problem of consciousness . . . and the role it plays in our understanding of reality. Since all the world's religions are based on individuals who claim to gain knowledge through deep introspection of their consciousness and since consciousness itself is utterly mysterious (at least, to many), it might be a bit premature to pronounce the resulting knowledge invalid.

**D. Hogg**

**Editor:**

I did my degree in religious studies . . . with classes held all over campus. I was inspired by then-department head Dr. Charles Anderson, whose longtime work with the international Interfaith movement led him to introduce us to ideas and beliefs outside those we were raised with, allowing us to open our minds to the truth at their core. It seemed to me then – and I am still learning now – that belief is at the root of all suffering and of all joy. What a person believes – about himself, the nature of the universe,

the events that befall him and the choices he has in the face of those events – creates his reality, and impacts that of every life he touches.

If we truly believed the world was a holy place, and heaven ours to create, right here, we would treat our divine waters and skies, all sentient creatures, our fellow angels, whatever colour their robes, only with grace.

**D. Haynes**

**Editor:**

As a spiritual being, I find that through the pursuit of all kinds of knowledge and experience, I am able to catch glimpses of an order that does exist beneath all of the chaos and change. Dr. Overmyer is correct to state that science has shown many things once thought to be permanent to in fact be in the process of change.

But science has also revealed to us new insight into laws that govern the universe, laws which are unchanging. The beauty of existence lies in the discovery that, beneath all the chaos and change, there are some things which remain the same. It is through the discovery of this order that we are able to touch what is truly divine. And it is in the yet undiscovered, and perhaps undiscoverable, truths that we find hope in both life and death.

**W. Pedersen**

**Editor:**

"The World as a Holy Place" is probably the most mature, well-reasoned, persuasive, enlightened and enlightening piece of humanistic writing I have had the pleasure of reading in years. Overmyer's message offers us a solid, empirically verifiable foundation, a common ground that tolerates, accepts and even celebrates all varieties of religion as works in progress rather than sources of absolute truth.

It would judge them all not by the relative power of any one god or group of gods, but by the positive contributions each religion

has made to the epic human struggle to make sense of an infinitely complex universe, which is itself a work in progress. Congratulations for having published such a thought-provoking article.

**J. Walls**

**Editor:**

As a humanist, I found the article a refreshing read. Several years ago I recall contemplating the nature of God and came to essentially the same conclusion as Dr. Overmyer: the universe is the source of all power and all knowledge and is therefore "God." Thanks for publishing this inspiring piece.

**P. Vogt**

**Editor:**

The article caught my attention as a convinced Christian who attends a Traditional Anglican Communion church. It speaks in direct opposition to the Christian truths which my church teaches and which I fully believe. I was, therefore, offended by his article, which I consider to be blatantly anti-Christian.

**B. Dunell**

**Editor:**

As a lapsed Roman Catholic who just turned 65, I have (not unnaturally) become rather concerned with mortality, specifically my own.

The Roman Catholic church did not exactly encourage close examination or questioning of its tenets, and when I felt a lot of its arbitrary rules were laid down by men who had their own issues (largely not dealt with), I slipped away. Yet I felt that many people, much more intelligent than I, believed in organized religion. Was I missing the proverbial boat?

I have always suspected that humans have a need to explain, to find a reason for everything and we insist on doing that in our own terms. Hence, God, or the President, the



BY DAN OVERMYER

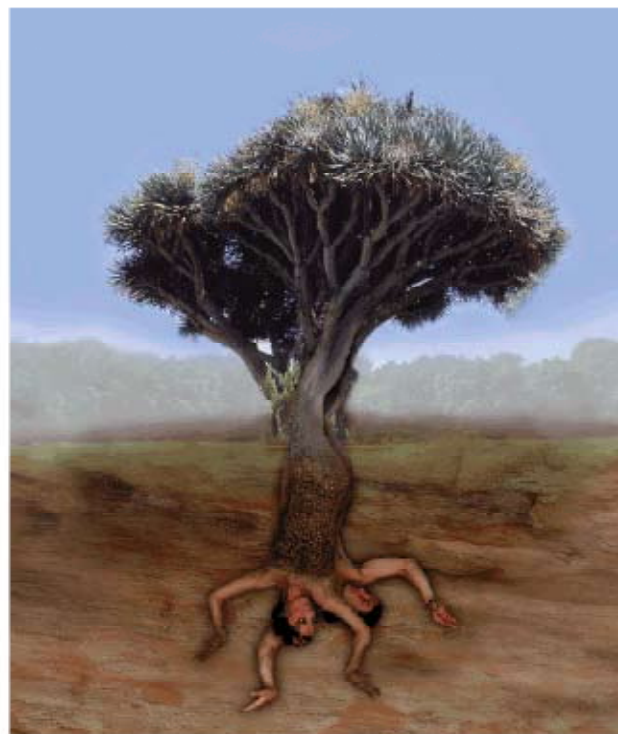
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## THE WORLD AS A HOLY PLACE

The natural world has long provided humanity with metaphors for social structure and sacred capacities. Native North American myths, for instance, point to the sacredness of the south as the basis for social life forms. Chinese traditions maintain that social order is derived from nature: the pattern of the universal life form, yin and yang, the four seasons, the structure of the landscape and the order of the stars and planets. The common insight of these old views is that humans are connected to all other forms of life; that we are a part of the whole of things. Modern writers such as Thoreau, Whitman, Muir and Abbey, among others, tell us that our relationship with nature is our most basic reality.

Contemporary science—biology, paleontology, physics, astronomy—provides this idea with a factual foundation. What may once have been seen as vague nature mysticism defines, in fact, the way things really are, and provides an in-depth understanding of the truth about our own existence. It makes it possible to find the sacred and a sense of transcendence within the physical universe, to see this world as a holy place.

14 **TREK** SUMMER 2005



Photograph: Getty Images

Summer Trek 2005 15

Prime Minister, the Boss, the Dad or the Man must exist. Right? How else could our world have come about?

**C. Rowlette**

**Editor:**

Dan Overmyer says that “the one absolute truth we should all be able to agree on is that everything we know or can know depends on this world for its existence,” and “We can find a sacred dimension in this world itself.”

If everything is changing, how can we have anything even approximating an “absolute truth”? If the world is impermanent, how can it be sacred? In his view, it seems the only way to have truth and sacredness is to define them ourselves. But why should we trust ourselves, changing, imperfect beings that we are? If nothing is permanent and absolute, then truth is, as Richard Rorty has put it, what my peers will let me get away with saying. A more fundamental question to ask is: if there does not exist one unchanging, absolute reality, how can I even know

that something is changing? The way we know something changes is if we have an unchanging and absolute standard with which to compare it. The theist will answer that this unchanging, absolute standard is God.

Prof. Overmyer is to be commended for raising some very interesting and provocative points.

**D. Kim**

**Editor:**

The world was designed and created by God in order to teach us of social structure, for sure, but also to bear witness to its Creator who is glorified in it and uses it to teach us more than just social structure. He uses it to testify to His infinite intelligence and His omnipotent power to create, as well as His sovereignty in upholding order in His creation.

I do not agree that the world itself is sacred. Again it bears witness to the one who is sacred. Scripture declares that we

are misguided when we worship the creation rather than the creator. Scripture declares that we all have an inner knowledge of God and that we suppress that knowledge because we are sinful creatures, preferring a lie over the truth of God.

**J. Hardy**

**Editor:**

Dr. Overmyer appears to deny that experiential knowledge exists, or is at least vastly inferior to factual knowledge. The fundamental beliefs of religions deal primarily with this experiential knowledge, your relationship with the creator, or with the universe. Science attempts to explain how something comes about, while theology attempts to explain why something is so.

It is true that historically, theological principles were used to explain physical phenomena. Our present science has replaced these theories. However, we as a society tend to make the same mistake at the other extreme.

**P. Lusina**

# letters

## Editor:

It appears that Dr. Overmyer's own brand of terrible self-righteousness justifies attacks on other traditions and people. He also seems to justify cashing in real science, reasonable argument and academic humility – those foundational aspects of a university education – for unapologetic religious proselytism.

A. Wickett

## Editor:

It has been a long time since I have read anything so inspirational, so elegant and beautifully written, that I feel compelled to respond. I have often felt similar musings of wonder and awe toward this

Earth which has given life in such abundance, but it took Professor Overmyer's article to put it all into perspective. I want to thank him for that and say that it gave me a sense of community and hope for the future.

H. Lewis

## Editor:

Dr. Overmyer correctly concludes that humans should focus on this world instead of on mythical other places, but he does not provide sound foundations for guiding human life on earth.

Throughout the article he mentions pantheistic notions from a Heraclitian perspective. But whether the source of supernatural causation is among us or in the heaven of Western religions does not change the fact that pantheism's epistemology is faith not reason.

Fortunately there is a life-fostering non-mystical philosophy, one based on the rationality that Overmyer rejects. Kant and Hume's failure to find a basis for ethics in it resulted from Plato's erroneous conclusion about the mind, a conclusion used to justify all manner of oppression from religion to North Korean starvation. I recommend Tara Smith's book *Viable Values* and Craig Biddle's book *Loving Life* to learn about using the mind to foster human life. They recognize the human spirit in the general sense but ground it in reality.

The world is not a holy place: it is what it is. Realizing that is essential to finding answers to the question of how each human should deal with it to live – and preferably live happily – in this world.

K. Sketchley

## Editor:

The article is thought provoking and smoothly presented. Much of our society is moving to this type of postmodern thinking combined with scientific logic. His thesis asserts that in a naturalistic world there is still room to find meaning and holiness without resorting to a super natural view that is unsupported by scientific fact. His thesis takes the naturalistic world, gives it "spirituality" and then proposes to "build a modern structure of ethics" based upon what is good or bad for life and the earth while also drawing the best from the ethical traditions of the past. To me there are some major difficulties with what he proposes since he presents scientific theories as fact and does not provide a means to develop the new order.

People can quickly take a cold and random universe and give it personality and meaning using terms such as life force, universal intellect and a cosmic presence. Actually they are recognizing the universe is open and there are realms and forces we cannot test. Religions recognize this and give people purpose to life with morals and ethics to live by in daily life.

Will postmodern thinking be able to provide anything better? We are asked to have blind faith in scientific facts while accepting selections of what thoughtful minds have given us over the course of human history. Perhaps there is more to the universe than "one world and one reality." It is just that man is not able to comprehend it all.

B. Spinney, D vDieren ■

## The News

You're not getting the Grad Gazette? Send us your e-mail address (just e-mail [alumni.association@ubc.ca](mailto:alumni.association@ubc.ca) and ask to be added), and don't miss another issue.



### Grad Gazette

E-News for Graduates of the University of British Columbia

August, 2005

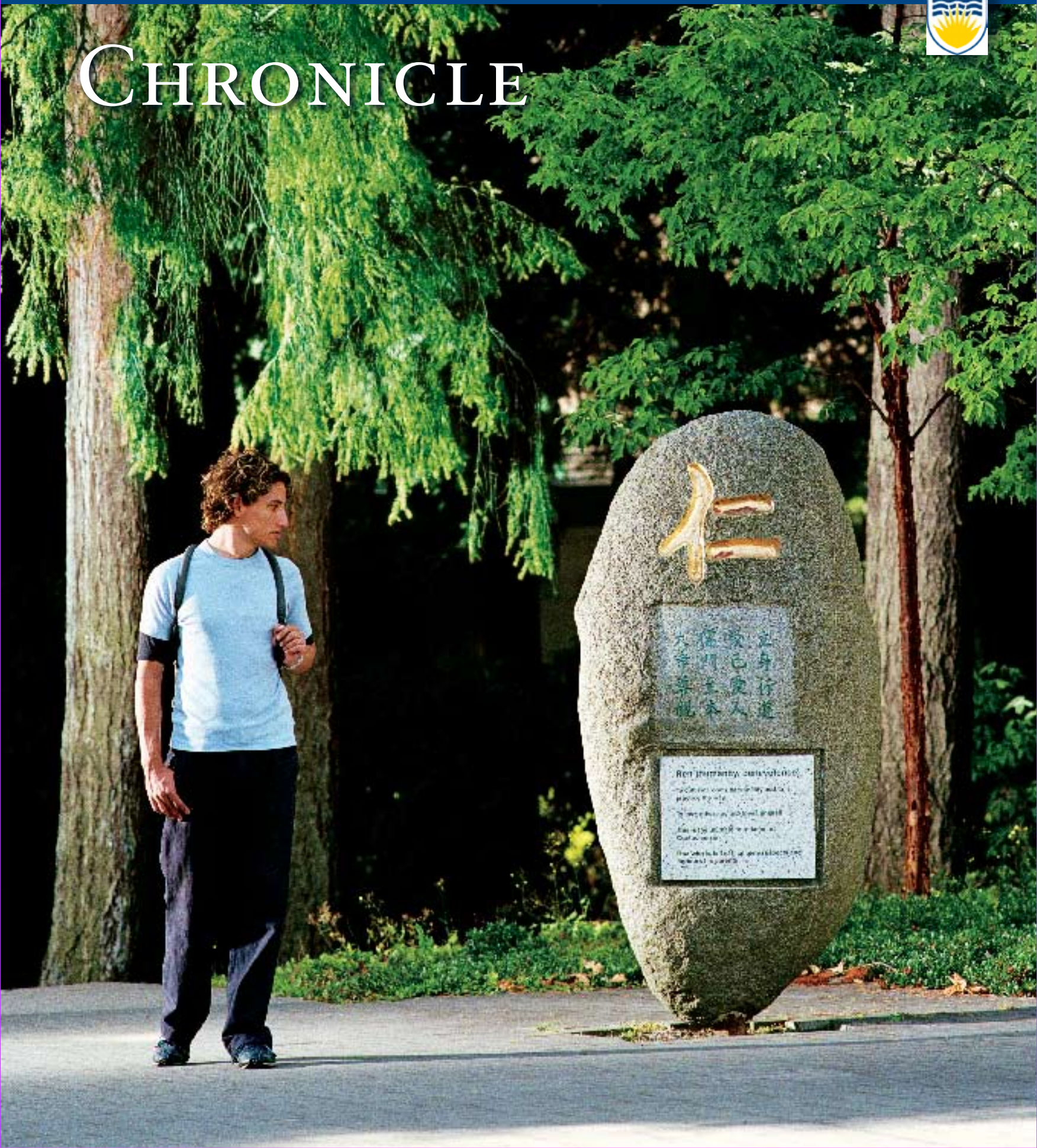
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# CHRONICLE





# arts

## THE CHAN CENTRE

Tickets are available at the Chan Centre Ticket Office in person (Monday-Saturday noon – 5:00 pm and show days from noon – intermission), or through Ticketmaster ([www.ticketmaster.ca](http://www.ticketmaster.ca) or 604-280-3311).

For more information on upcoming events, please call 604-822-2697 or see [www.chan-centre.com](http://www.chan-centre.com)

### October

October 28, 8:00 pm

*Blaze of Berlioz*, Concert 4. UBC Opera Ensemble, University Singers, UBC Symphony Orchestra

October 30, 3:00 pm

Paul Lewis, piano

### November

November 3 (noon) & 4 (8:00 pm)

University Singers

November 13, 3:00 pm

*Mozart by Request*

Presented by the CBC Radio Orchestra

November 30, 8:00 pm

*Gala Asian Tour concert*

Jesse Read (bassoon), Sara David Buechner (piano), & UBC Symphonic Wind Ensemble

### December

December 3, 8:00 pm

UBC Choral Union Choir (8:00 pm)

*Nickel: Requiem for Peace*, Adams: *On the Transmigration of Souls*

December 5, 8:00 pm

The Tallis Scholars Celebrate Thomas Tallis Presented by Early Music Vancouver

December 15-17, 8:00 pm, 18, 3:00 pm

*Mozart: The Magic Flute*.

UBC Opera Ensemble. Sung in German with English subtitles

December 20, 8:00 pm

*Festive Bach Cantatas for Christmas*

December 22 & 23, 8:00 pm

Vancouver Symphony Orchestra

*Bach & Beyond Series*, Mark Fewer (leader/ violin)

### January

January 21, 8:00 pm

UBC Symphony Orchestra

Bo Peng (cello), Daniel Pain (tuba), Joshua Belvedere (viola). Guest Conductor: John Van Deursen

January 26, noon, 27, 8:00 pm

University Singers

January 29, 8:00 pm

Radu Lupu, piano

## THE BELKIN ART GALLERY

For information on exhibits, please contact the Belkin at 604-822-2759 / [www.belkin-gallery.ubc.ca](http://www.belkin-gallery.ubc.ca) or the Belkin Satellite at 604-687-3174 / <http://www.belkin-gallery.ubc.ca/>

### October 14 – December 4

Piotr Nathan: *How Far Do You Dare To Go* Works from the past ten years that include painting and three forty foot murals.

Piotr Nathan,

*How far do you dare to go*, 1996

oil on canvas

Photo: Christine Fenzl







## BELKIN SATELLITE

October 29 – November 27

### *Beyond Redemption: Gay Erotic Art*

Gay erotic art addressing theoretical and political concerns relevant to gay erotic art today. Well-known artists Stephen Andrews, AA Bronson, Brice Canyon, Evergon, Robert Gober, Felix Gonzalez-Torres, Attila Richard Lukacs and Donald Moffett will present work in a variety of media.

## MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY

For details on the following exhibits, and on permanent collections and on-line exhibits, please visit the website at [www.moa.ubc.ca](http://www.moa.ubc.ca) or call 604-822-5087.

February 15 – December 31, 2005, Gallery 8  
New Acquisitions

Recent acquisitions include a shield and carved fish from the Solomon Islands, Nunavut sculptures three painted house screens and a Chilkat robe.

## SCHOOL OF MUSIC

For tickets and event details, please contact 604-822-5574 / [concerts@interchange.ubc.ca](mailto:concerts@interchange.ubc.ca) or visit [www.music.ubc.ca](http://www.music.ubc.ca).

Free Events in the Recital Hall, Music Building  
(Noon unless otherwise stated):

October 28  
UBC Guitar Division

**Actors pataking in a workshop** for *Studies in Motion: the Hauntings of Eadweard Muybridge*, a play by UBC alumnus Kevin Kerr. The play will incorporate the latest in stagecraft technology courtesy of designer Robert Gardiner. Actors: Patti Allan, Allan Morgan, Dawn Petten, Juno Ruddell, Andrew Wheeler, Jonathon Young.

November 10  
String Chamber Ensemble  
Student composers  
November 13 (2:00 pm)  
Oscar Pizzo (piano). Works by Scelsi, Berio, Sciarrino  
November 17  
Jazz Ensemble II

# arts

## SCHOOL OF MUSIC (CONT'D)

November 18

UBC Chamber Strings

November 18 (8:00 pm)

UBC Vocal Chamber Ensembles

November 21

UBC Percussion Ensemble

November 23

Canada Music Week Concert

Featuring Canadian works performed by

UBC Music Students

November 24

Collegium Musicum

Contemporary Players (8:00 pm)

November 25 UBC Jazz Ensemble I

Collegium Musicum (8:00 pm)

December 1 (7:00 pm)

Floralda Sacchi, harp & Claudio Ferrarini, flute

December 2

Christmas concert

Wednesday Noon Hours

Recital Hall, Music Building

\$4 at the door:

November 2

Andrew Dawes (violin), Antonio Lysy (cello),

Jane Coop (piano)

November 9

Van Django: Cameron Wilson (violin),

Budge Schachte (guitar), Fin Manniche

(guitar/cello), Dave Brown (bass). Django

Rienhardt and Stephane Grappelli's gypsy jazz arrangements and original compositions.

November 16

Michael Strutt (guitar). Gilardino, Hovhan-

ess, Rautavaara, Samandari, and Eyre

November 30

Eric Wilson (cello) with Patricia Hoy (piano).

Sonatas by Dohnanyi and Schnittke

January 11, 2006

Julia Nolan (saxophone) with Sandra Joy

(piano). Around the world in the 20th

Century Denisov, Lemay, Dorothy Chang,

Schulhoff & Berio

January 18

Gene Ramsbottom (clarinet), David Harding (viola), Kenneth Broadway (piano). Works by Mozart, Uhl and Schumann

January 25

Mike Allen Quartet: Mike Allen (saxophone),

George McFetridge (piano), Sean Cronin

(bass), Julian MacDonough (drums).

## OTHER

### November

November 13, 2:00 pm

Opera Tea- UBC Opera Ensemble

UBC @ Robson Square, \$20/\$15

### December

December 3, 10:00 am

Masterclass: Harp, with Floralda Sacchi

Flute with Claudio Ferrarini

Gessler Hall (room 116), Music Building

December 11, 2:00 pm

Opera Tea - UBC Opera Ensemble

UBC @ Robson Square, \$20/\$15

### January, 2006

January 28

Jerome Lowenthal (Piano)

Recital Hall, Music Building, \$20/\$10

January 29, 3:00 pm

Scholarships Winners Concert

Recital Hall, Music Building, \$20/\$10

The latest thing in the art world is Artist Trading Cards. The size of traditional hockey and baseball cards, they advertise the artists talents and have become art themselves.

UBC Okanagan held a show of the cards October 3-7 at the Fina Gallery.

## THEATRE

For more information about performances and venues, please visit the website at [www.theatre.ubc.ca](http://www.theatre.ubc.ca). The Box Office is open in the Frederic Wood Theatre Lobby from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm. Reserve tickets by calling 604-822-2678.

All shows start at 7:30pm

### La Ronde

By Arthur Schnitzler

Adapted by John Barton from a translation by

Sue Davies

November 16 - 26, 2005 telus Studio Theatre

### Soulless

By Aaron Bushkowsky

A presentation with Rumble Productions

November 23 - December 3, 2005

Frederic Wood Theatre

### Studies in Motion: the Hauntings of Eadweard Muybridge

By Kevin Kerr

A co-production with the Electric Company & the PuSh International Performing Arts Festival

January 18 - 29, 2006 Frederic Wood Theatre (matinee performance on Sunday, November 27 at 4:00 pm) ■

## Artist Trading Cards!

CURATED BY MARGO YACHESIYN


### OCTOBER 3 - 7

CURATOR IN ATTENDANCE ALL DAY MONDAY  
DROP BY FOR A VISIT, OR ATTEND THE

### TRADING SESSION

FRIDAY 4 - 5:30 P.M.

FINA GALLERY, UBC OKANAGAN  
FINE ARTS/HEALTH BUILDING  
GALLERY HOURS MON-FRI 9 A.M.-4 P.M.




ARTIST: CHRISTINE MACDONALD

The concept of Artist Trading Cards was initiated by Anne Aron in 1980. For more information, visit [www.artist-trading-cards.ca](http://www.artist-trading-cards.ca)

1. MAKE your own original cards - using any materials imaginable (stop by the gallery for inspiration)

2. SIGN, date, edition number (if necessary) on the back

3. TRADE at the Trading Session on Friday, October 7 at the FINA Art Gallery at UBCO Okanagan, or attend the monthly Trading Sessions at the Alternator Gallery. Visit [www.alternatorgallery.com](http://www.alternatorgallery.com) for more info.





# ALUMNI news

## REGIONAL NETWORKS

NO MATTER HOW FAR AWAY life has taken you from Point Grey campus, with alumni living and working in 130 nations around the world, there are bound to be a few fellow grads to reminisce with in your area. Visit the Regions section of the Alumni Affairs website for a list of area contacts at [www.alumni.ubc.ca/regions/index.html](http://www.alumni.ubc.ca/regions/index.html). If you're relocating, traveling or would like to participate at upcoming social and business networking events, your area contact would love to hear from you.

The number of alumni networks around the globe and the activities they organize continue to grow. If you have time and talent to share, and would like to get involved on a regional team or start a network closer to home, let us know! [tanya.walker@ubc.ca](mailto:tanya.walker@ubc.ca) or 604-822-8643/800-883-3088.

We're pleased to welcome new alumni volunteer contacts in Philadelphia, Portland and Moscow:

### *Philadelphia*

Liz Bong, BCOM'01  
Email: [elizabeth.bong@olc.ubc.ca](mailto:elizabeth.bong@olc.ubc.ca)

### *Portland*

Nicki Pozos, BASC'96  
Email: [nicki@morelifeworks.com](mailto:nicki@morelifeworks.com)

### *Moscow*

Vladimir Kravtchenko, MSC'99  
Email: [Vladimir.kravtchenko@gmail.com](mailto:Vladimir.kravtchenko@gmail.com)

As a freshman, did you ever wish you'd had someone to tell you about the ins and outs of university life? This summer, alumni made sure that new students had the chance to ask questions and pick up some useful tips before heading off for UBC. Student send-offs organized by alumni networks in Hong Kong, Singapore, Beijing, Shanghai, Jakarta, Seattle, San Francisco, Calgary, Toronto, Kelowna and Nanaimo



**Young Alumni** joined in a special project with residents at St. James Community Services Society Santiago Lodge in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. They created beautiful mosaic tile stepping-stones for the Lodge's outdoor space.



# ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND

SEPTEMBER 30 TO OCTOBER 1 saw more than 1,000 alumni returning to campus for Alumni Reunion Weekend. Grads celebrated milestone graduation anniversaries, including Arts and Science 1955, Applied Science 1955, Home Economics 1955, Law 1975, Medicine 1980, and Rehab Medicine 1980. The School of Social Work celebrated its 75th Anniversary, as did Alpha Gamma Delta.

The weekend kicked off with a BBQ at Cecil Green Park for all alumni working on campus as UBC employees, followed by a chance to hear world renowned researcher Dr. Brett Finlay speak about his work, *Fighting the Microbial Menace*.

On Saturday morning, alumni converged at Cecil Green Park House for a pancake breakfast and words of welcome from Dr. Martha Piper and Alumni Association chair Martin Ertl.

Reunion groups enjoyed class functions for the rest of the day and were invited back on Sunday for a tour of the campus and Museum of Anthropology.

If you would like to help organize a class reunion for next year's reunion weekend, please contact our event coordinator, Marguerite Collins at 604-827-3294 or email [marguerite.collins@ubc.ca](mailto:marguerite.collins@ubc.ca)

## They got their buns back on campus:

Amanda Murdoch, BA'03, Natasha Norbjerg, BA'04 and Forestry student Madeline Corveth showed up for the Amazing Race. Groups of young alumni – one of which contained the women here displayed – raced around campus hunting for various items essential to the UBC experience. One of the challenges was to find and eat cinnamon buns. Tough life.

N. Vujevic photo.



**Home Ec 1955 had a great time:** Graduates from the Home Economics program took their party to the UBC Garden Pavilion where they ate, drank and were merry. Three profs from those years at UBC joined the group. Much laughter was heard. C. Petty photo.





## ALUMNI news

were a chance for grads to share UBC stories, pass on words of wisdom and welcome the new crop of students to the UBC community.

Here's a taste of what's coming up this fall:

- Sports outings (Canucks matchups with your home team)
- Festive celebrations
- Speaker events
- Social gatherings (pub nights, cooking classes)
- Networking opportunities

Check the web calendar for events taking place in your home town.  
[www.alumni.ubc.ca/events/index.html](http://www.alumni.ubc.ca/events/index.html)

### UPCOMING REUNIONS

Planning for the following reunions is underway. Unless otherwise stated, please contact Marguerite at 604-827-3294 or email [marguerite.collins@ubc.ca](mailto:marguerite.collins@ubc.ca) for more information.

#### Commerce

Class of 2000: December 27 – 28, 2005 (Tues: PORTS in the Basement, Wed: Luncheon, Seminars, Dinner) For more information, please visit: <http://www.sauder.ubc.ca/alumni.reunions/Bcom2000.cfm>

Class of 1976: 30th Anniversary Reunion. Fall 2006. Contact Don Nilson at 604-925-3041

#### Forestry

Class of 1968: May 2006. Contact Gerry Kramer, BSF'68, email [gkramer@shaw.ca](mailto:gkramer@shaw.ca).

#### Medicine

Class of 1967 – Spring 2007 (TBC)

#### Nursing

Class of 1966: June 24-25, 2006, Contact Lynn Sutherland for more information at [sumac@telus.net](mailto:sumac@telus.net) / 604-936-4041



**Dr. William Gibson, BA'33**, in a portrait by renowned Austrian portraitist George Kayser, painted in honour of Dr. Gibson's 92nd birthday. The portrait now hangs in the Woodward Biomedical Library.

#### Pharmacy

Class of 1986: 20th anniversary reunion, Fall 2006. Contact Juliette Hum at 604-351-7364, email [juliette.hum@novartis.com](mailto:juliette.hum@novartis.com)

#### Swimming

Thunderbird Swimming Alumni: Reunion, November 4 at the UBC Aquatic Centre from 4:30 onwards. Feel free to bring family and some photos of your days as a T-Bird. Watch the UBC Thunderbird Cup action, after which current UBC swimmers will mix with alumni (around 7:30pm).

Please visit <http://www.alumni.ubc.ca/rsvp> to RSVP online. For more information please contact Derrick Schoof at 604-822-8903 or email [ubcpdsa@interchange.ubc.ca](mailto:ubcpdsa@interchange.ubc.ca)

### OTHER EVENTS

#### Commerce

Sauder School of Business Gala Event: December 6, 2005, at the Four Seasons Hotel in Vancouver. Special speaker: Sir John Bond, Group Chairman of HSBC Holdings PLC. Reconnect with UBC and other Commerce alumni, network with the business community and enjoy a fun-filled celebration of one of the world's leading business schools. To purchase tickets and for more information, please visit [www.sauder.ubc.ca/alumni](http://www.sauder.ubc.ca/alumni).

### YOUNG ALUMNI

It has been a great summer for the UBC Young Alumni Network. We gained 5,000 new members with June graduation, and took part in a couple of new initiatives.

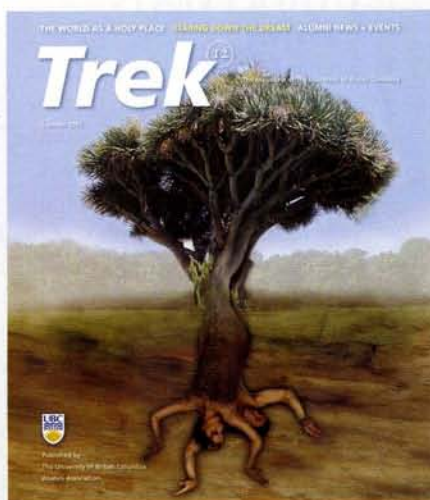
First, a dedicated group of young alumni formed a running team for this year's HSBC ChildRun, a 5km run to raise money for the oncology department at BC's Children's Hospital. To help reach the fundraising goal, the team held an event at The Roxy in the spring which raised more than \$1800. To make a contribution, please visit [www.bcchf.ca/getinvolved/give](http://www.bcchf.ca/getinvolved/give).

Second, several Young Alumni joined forces with the UBC Learning Exchange Trek Program to spend time with residents at St. James Community Services Society Santiago Lodge in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside for a day of building community.

Alumni and residents spent the day cleaning up gardens and courtyards, socializing, and creating beautiful mosaic tile stepping-stones for the outdoor space at Santiago Lodge.

Both Santiago Lodge residents and UBC participants thoroughly enjoyed the experience of getting to know one another, and look forward to their next opportunity to work on a project together. For more information on how to get involved with the UBC Trek Program and upcoming community service projects, please email: [trek.program@ubc.ca](mailto:trek.program@ubc.ca).





### SUBSCRIBE TO TREK MAGAZINE AND NEVER MISS AN ISSUE!

*Trek Magazine* comes out three times annually, but we can't afford to send it to every grad every time. We send smaller mailings (75,000 vs 160,000) to grads who have shown some interest in UBC through volunteer work, attending a reunion, class or lecture, donating money, or even by just phoning and telling us they want all three issues. Volunteer subscribers, of course, go to the top of the list.

If you would like to subscribe (\$50 would be swell, but you be the judge), call our offices, visit our website or send in the little form below.

**Don't miss an issue!**

**Yes! Send me every issue!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Degree (s) and Year \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
telephone \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Cheque ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard  
Card #/Exp date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please send cheques to: UBC Alumni Association  
6251 Cecil Green Park Road  
Vancouver, BC, V6T 1Z1

## ALUMNI news

### Young Alumni Reunion Weekend

We spent the rest of the summer planning Young Alumni Reunion Weekend. All graduates of the last 10 years were invited to get their (cinnamon) buns back on campus and partake in three days of events ranging from a lecture with renowned microbiologist Dr. Brett Finlay to a good old-fashioned Pit Night. The weekend was part of Alumni Reunion Weekend, which welcomed back the classes of 1955, 1975, 1980 and 1995 from various faculties to mark key graduation anniversaries.

The organizers of Young Alumni Weekend would like to take this opportunity to thank our generous sponsors who provided prizes for these events:

Apex Tent and Rentals  
Beauty Boutique, Shoppers Drug Mart  
Canadian Outback Adventures  
Deep Cove Canoe and Kayak  
Harbour Towers Hotel, Victoria  
Helijet  
Sugarlime Jewelry

To find out about upcoming events, visit  
[www.alumni.ubc.ca/youngalumni](http://www.alumni.ubc.ca/youngalumni)

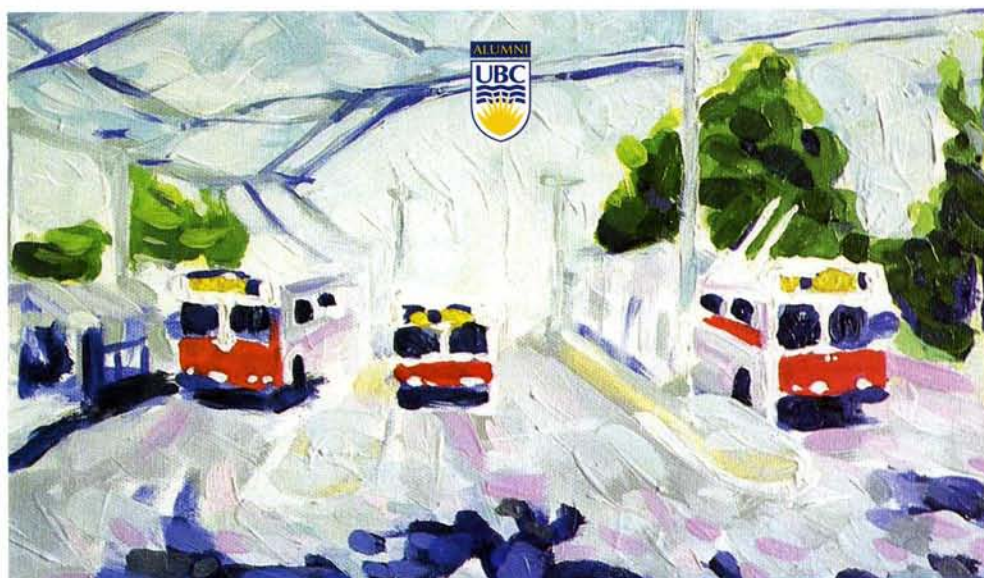
### Career Mentoring

After a quiet summer our mentoring programs are ramping up again for the fall. The ever popular Science Career Expo will take place on November 9 with 600 students expected to be in attendance. Twenty UBC Science alumni will talk about their career paths and provide useful insights and tips. Arts Career Expo is also in the planning stages. As always we are eager to hear from Arts alumni interested in speaking to students about where their degrees have taken them. If you would like to participate, please contact Dianna at [dianna.deblaere@ubc.ca](mailto:dianna.deblaere@ubc.ca) or 604-822-8917.

### COMING SOON: VISION AND SUBSTANCE

President Martha Piper will be visiting alumni in the cities listed below. Watch for the **Vision and Substance** card in the mail.

Calgary, Nov. 28; Singapore, Jan. 11; Seoul, Jan. 14; Seattle, Feb. 15; San Francisco, Feb. 16; Ottawa, March 13; Toronto, March 15; London, UK, April 24; Vancouver, June 1; Okanagan, June 9. For more information, contact tanya.walker@ubc.ca. ■



**VISION & SUBSTANCE: WE'RE COMING TO YOU.**



# class ACTS

## 30s

**Constance C. Glanville** BA'37 remembers celebrating the 60-year anniversary of graduation from UBC in 1997. After earning her undergraduate degree, Constance went on to gain a diploma in Social Work. Her late aunt, **Isobel Harvey**, BA'18, MA'19, was involved in UBC's original magazine and later taught English.

## 40s

**Phil Henderson** BCOM'47 is one of the many veterans who attended UBC in the 40s. During his career, he worked at BCIT for 17 years. He was recently honoured with the BCIT Distinguished Service Award, and gave the keynote speech to students at their graduation ceremony. He was also Burnaby's Citizen of the Year in 2000 ... **Ken Jessiman** BCOM'49 and wife Christine recently celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary. Attending the social event were son **Kenn Jessiman** BCOM'79, of North Vancouver, and daughter **Laurie MacAdams** BSC'77 of Calgary.

## 50s

**Sholto Heberton** BA'57 is this year's recipient of the Canadian Bar Association's Louis St-Laurent Award of Excellence. "Sholto Heberton's dedication to legal research, scholarship and education for all lawyers shows a true understanding of what it means to be a CBA member," said CBA President Susan McGrath. "His leadership abilities and lifelong commitment to CBA put him in a class of his own."



**Jagdish Ahuja**, PHD'63 has been featured in the latest edition of *Leading Intellectuals of the World*

### Alumni Week at the UBC Botanical Garden November 21 – 25, 2005.

Free Admission all week with your alumni A<sup>card</sup>

- Sign up for an invitation to our Spring Grand Opening
- Learn about campus services for UBC Alumni
- Check out the Holiday Wreaths and great gardening gifts at the Shop in the Garden.
- 10% off all shop purchases that week!
- Buy a garden membership. Discounts in the shop, on garden courses, and free access to the garden year-round!

Check out our website for more details  
[www.ubcbotanicalgarden.org](http://www.ubcbotanicalgarden.org)



ubcbotanicalgarden  
& centre for plant research  
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

#### Garden and Plant Centre

- Botanical books, gifts and dried flower arrangements.
- Seasonal choice selections of perennials, shrubs and vines.
- Unusual plants and rare seeds from plants in the Garden.
- Shop proceeds support research, education and garden improvements.



## class ACTS

### 60s

**Jagdish Ahuja** PHD'63 has been featured in the latest edition of *Leading Intellectuals of the World*, published by the American Biographical Institute in February. The institute uses strict selection procedures and seeks recommendations from educational, business and governmental bodies for worthy biographies to feature. Dr. Ahuja has always performed exceptionally well academically and completed his PHD in Statistics at UBC, having been educated to Masters level in India. He specializes in Statistical Distribution Theory and is internationally renowned for his work. He lives in Oregon with his wife Saraswati with whom he has two daughters ... Vancouver's co-directors of Planning, **Ann McAfee** BA'62, MA'67, PHD'75 and **Larry Beasley** MA'76 recently received two awards recognizing their contributions to city planning. The 2005 Appreciation Award from the Downtown Vancouver Business Improvement Association was in recognition of the role the Vancouver Planning Department has played in contributing to Vancouver's liv-

ability. In July, Larry and Ann were elected as Fellows of the Canadian Institute of Planners in recognition of their contributions to Canadian planning. McAfee is a past president of the UBC Alumni Association and was recently elected to the UBC Senate. Beasley continues his association with UBC as an adjunct professor in the School of Community and Regional Planning ... **Robert Miller** BSC'67 has been elected to the board of the Sunshine Coast Credit Union for a three-year term ...

**Dr. Douglas C. Stewart** BED'61 has been reflecting on what his youth in Vancouver and time at UBC has meant to him. "In one way or another, education has been inspiration and sustenance for me," he says. While continuing his own education, he helped others in theirs, teaching classes from grade four to university level. After working in administration for 20 years in Cowichan, he left for South East Asia. Douglas spent four years in Brunei, five in Kuching, four in Chiang Mai and one and a half in Jakarta. He is presently Vice Principal, Academic, for Inti College in Jakarta. "The voyage of discovery launched by my significant experience at UBC has been exciting, challenging, revitalizing, rewarding – in short, a worth-while life," he says. "I believe I am in the reflective part of the learning cycle and as I come more into the synthesis I will once again turn to educational institutions for solace

and renewal. I will once again look more closely at my alma mater – UBC" ... **Raymond G. Vickson** BSC'65 retired in September 2004 after 31 years on the faculty of the University of Waterloo. He and wife **Lynne Vickson** BA'65 are enjoying their retirement home in Victoria.

### 70s

**Brian McParland** BASC'79, MSC'81, PHD'85 and wife Sharon have swapped villages from Chesham to Amersham. Brian has recently been appointed director of Medical Physics with GE Healthcare Biosciences in Amersham and been elected a Governor of Our Lady's Roman Catholic School in Chesham Bois, where the McParland's two daughters, Siobhan and Aine, attend ... In June, **Craig Pinder** BA'70, PHD, CHR, was designated a University of Victoria Distinguished Professor (Organizational Behavior) in the faculty of Business. Before moving to Victoria in 1999 with wife **Pat Pinder** BA'70, he was based in UBC's Sauder School of Business for 24-and-a-half years. He was UVic's vice president pro tem, External Relations, 2002-2003, and will return to the faculty of Business as associate dean in August ... **Jim Thorsell** PHD'71 was presented with the International Parks Merit Award by the World Commission on Protected Areas for his service in 90 countries in support of nature conservation. Jim received the award at the third World Conservation Congress held in Bangkok, Thailand, in December, 2004.

### 80s

**Dan Effa** BCOM'86 has opened Liquid Capital Pacific Corp. in the Lower Main-

**U-Pass, 1930: The more things change, the more they stay the same:**

This student bus pass – given for free – entitled students in 1930 to a reduced fare.





land, a company specialising in providing working capital to small and medium sized businesses. He has also joined the Board of Directors of the Surrey Foundation, a community foundation that seeks to enhance the quality of life by creating and managing permanent endowment funds that provide financial support to charitable organizations ... **Adam Con BED**(Music Education)'86, **MED**'92 earned a PhD in Choral Music Education from Florida State University in 2002. He is currently in his fourth year of a tenure-track position at Georgia Southern University as the associate director of Choral Activities and assistant professor of Music Education. He has just been promoted to the position of chair of the Music Education department. Adam wishes to express his condolences to the family and friends of Dr. Allen Clingman (see In Memoriam). "He was an influential mentor who taught me to value people before work. I remember him with great fondness." ... **Suzanne Maranda MLS**'82 became the Director of the Bracken Health Sciences Library at Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario ... **Albert Sze Wei Tan BCOM**'89 wonders if any other Commerce grads went on to become doctors. His interest is in energy healing, meditation, and hypnosis.

## 90s

**Toby Barazzuol BCOM**'92 was recently named by *Business in Vancouver* as one of the top 40 business people under the age of 40 ... **Alice Ifeoma Eni BA**'94, **BED**'95 has a new baby. Magnus Uzoma Jungclaus was born on Friday September 9, 2005 at 2:00 am. Little Magnus was a healthy 8 lbs 5 oz. and went home the same day ... **June Harrison BED**'71 is proud of daughter Megan Gilgan **BA(HONS)**'96 (Political Science) who has been deployed in Afghanistan since 2003. Her first assignment was working out of Mazar-e-Sharif for the United Nations Assistance Mission of Afghan-

istan (UNAMA) preparing the six northern provinces for the presidential elections in October, 2004. She is presently in Kabul, and after working for the Minister of Finance for a number of months has returned to UNAMA to work on provincial governance and the reintegration components of the disarmament and demobilization programs ... **Solomon Wong BA**'96 was recently appointed by Deputy Prime Minister McLellan, Justice Minister Cotler and Multiculturalism Minister Chan to the Cross-Cultural Roundtable on Security. He joins 14 others from across Canada to advise

the Government of Canada on security issues.

## OOS

**Liz-Ann Munro Lamarre BSC**'03 recently graduated from Dalhousie University in Dental Hygiene. She's looking online for transcripts to go and complete a Masters in Education at Mount St. Vincent University, also in Halifax ... This summer, **Siobhan Smith BA**'03 completed her Masters degree (MA) in Art History & Curatorial Studies at York University. ■

## Can UBC Create Your Legacy?



**Anna Cavouras thinks so.** While studying for her degree in social work, Anna received the Beatrice Wellington Gonzalez Memorial Scholarship, which is awarded to students concerned with the plight of individuals. Anna recently spent time in Cape Dorset, Nunavut, raising awareness of housing shortages in this northern community. She hopes to continue to focus on basic needs, social planning and communities where people support one another. Of her award, she says, "To give money to education and to a specific individual so that they can follow their dreams – that is priceless, and will pay dividends in society forever."

To create a legacy that will make a difference for students like Anna, contact UBC Gift & Estate Planning and ask for a free information kit. Tel: 604.822.5373 Email: [heritage.circle@ubc.ca](mailto:heritage.circle@ubc.ca)

THE UNIVERSITY OF  BRITISH COLUMBIA  
[www.supporting.ubc.ca](http://www.supporting.ubc.ca)



# 11 ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS 2005

On November 3, 2005, 12 members of the UBC community were honoured for exceptional achievement in their respective fields and for exemplary behaviour as contributing members of society. As usual, we received many worthy nominees deserving of recognition and this year's recipients reflect the high standard. ¶ The Alumni Achievement Dinner features videos of the award recipients, presentation of awards, a silent auction and great food in the elegant surroundings of Vancouver's Fairmont Waterfront Hotel. More information about this year's awards (and how to nominate for next year) can be found on our website at [www.alumni.ubc.ca/awards](http://www.alumni.ubc.ca/awards).

## George Curtis

### *Lifetime Achievement Award*

*Note: Just before press time, we learned of the death of George Curtis. We wish to express our sincere condolences to his family. This award will be presented posthumously.*

As the founding Dean of Law, George Curtis has been on campus since 1945, and although retired as of 1971, he is still has an office in the law building (which is named after him). Dean Curtis celebrated his 99th birthday this year and also the 60th anniversary of the school he was instrumental in establishing. His contributions to the school and the legal profession are significant. With the Dean Emeritus George F. Curtis Student Endowment, his positive influence on students will be felt for years to come. It seems a fitting tribute for a man who relied on his talent to win scholarships to help him during his own student years. His academic credentials are impeccable. He gained two graduate degrees from Oxford University, both with 1st class honours, and was a Rhodes Scholar and a Viscount Bennett Professor.

He continues to act as a bridge between the faculty and its alumni and is an advocate for its alumni association, encouraging current students to become active members.

Dean Emeritus George Curtis is a living vessel of UBC history, with crystal clear recollections from some of the institution's landmark years. He remembers the return of the WWII veterans, for example, when the campus was littered with army huts in an innovative effort to house their large numbers. Especially, though, he is an oracle of legal history – a wonderful source of information for both students and faculty, who continues to give inspiring speeches about the legal profession to those just entering it. And the history of his own career is an inspiring one.

Dean Curtis was appointed Queen's Counsel in

1957 and was the Canadian government's delegate for the Commonwealth Education Conference in 1959, '61, '64, and '71 and for the UN conference in Geneva on the law of the sea (1958 & '60). He has also acted as Royal Commissioner and was chairman of Canadian Section of International Commission of Jurists from 1972 to '74. He became a member of the Order of British Columbia and of the Order of Canada in 1995 and 2003 respectively. In 1995, the Canadian Bar Association awarded him its Gold medal. In the community, he has been involved with the YMCA for many years, sitting on the association's board from 1932 until 1969, and founding its Alma branch.

## Michael Ames BA'56, PHD

### *Alumni Award of Distinction*

In a world that often seems filled with conflict, Dr. Ames is a

counterbalancing force whose life has been dedicated to the understanding and communication of the world's peoples and diverse cultures. Dr. Ames' early research interests during his undergraduate years at UBC in the department of Anthropology and Sociology set the scene for what would be a career characterized by community service, a belief in inclusion and access to education for all, and a desire to educate the world about the peoples of the northwest coast and South Asia and their rich cultures. Early in his career, he participated in a now famous 1956 social political and economic study of BC First Nations, concentrating his own research in communities on the Pacific coast. It was at this point in his career that Dr. Ames first became involved as a student assistant with the world renowned Museum of Anthropology (MOA), which at this time was located in the basement of Main Library.

GEORGE CURTIS





After completing his doctorate at Harvard, Dr. Ames returned to his alma mater in the mid-'60s, reaching full professor status in 1970 and being named new director of the MOA in 1974. It was under his watch that the museum was moved, lock, stock and totem pole, to its present location in the striking Arthur Erickson-designed building overlooking Howe Sound. He believes that museums should serve communities and be especially answerable to those peoples whose work and history feature in collections. He feels a keen sense of duty to communicate the history and display the artifacts in the most effective way possible. He believes the museum represents what civil society should strive for and the MOA is a venue for many public performances and presentations that reinforce that ideal.

As well as his keen interest in First Nations communities, Dr. Ames has retained a lasting interest in religion and society in South Asia – the subject of his Harvard research – and has returned to the area many times, serving for a while as president of the India-financed Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute that promotes Indian studies in Canada. Numerous UBC undergraduate and graduate students have benefited from this program by traveling to the area as part of their studies. He was also key in creating a course that examined the Downtown Eastside, studying the troubled urban area as a phenomenon and exploring the underlying socio-political causes. He is a big fan of the current 101 series of courses run in the Downtown Eastside and at Musqueam because they give access to resources and education for people who otherwise wouldn't have.

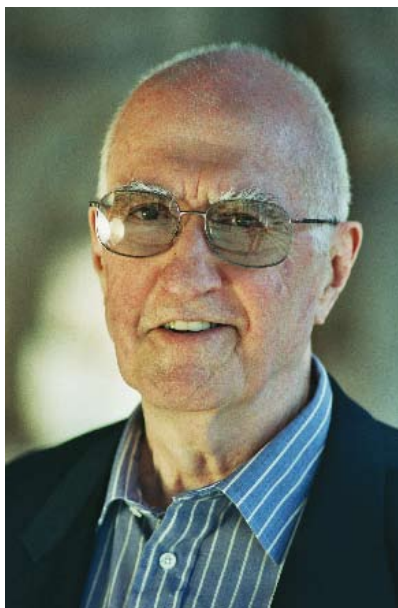
Dr. Ames' professional interests are wide and he has served on numerous boards and committees for First Nations, arts, museums, and federal granting organizations. His insight is sought from many quarters and on several occasions he has enjoyed the hospitality and respect of indigenous peoples who have invited his presence and input in their countries.

Dr. Ames' achievements have not gone unnoticed. Among other accolades, he is a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and a member of the Order of Canada. Part of UBC's vision expressed in Trek 2010 is internationalization and the desire to produce students who are truly global citizens. Dr. Michael Ames has been practicing this vision for the past 40 years.

#### Henry (Syd) Skinner

##### *Honorary Alumnus Award*

Mr. Skinner has a strong personal attachment to



MICHAEL AMES

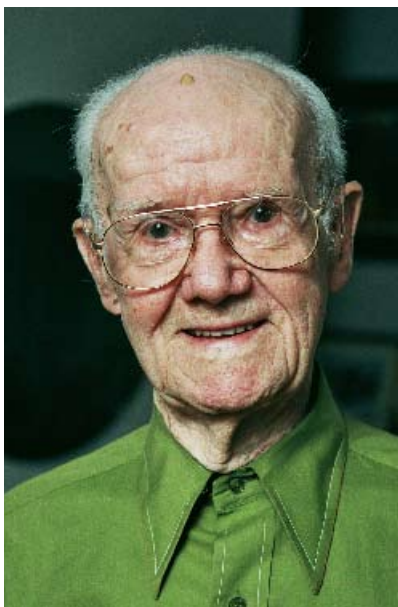
UBC and genuine concern for the well being of its students. In 1989 he established an endowment fund to support students studying Landscape Architecture. Today that endowment fund is worth \$300,000 and supports four students every year. But it's not only his financial support that singles Mr. Skinner out as an exceptional friend of UBC. He makes regular trips to the Point Grey campus to meet the beneficiaries of his generosity and share in the excitement of their challenges and achievements. The students also benefit from his 96 years worth of wisdom, and he is an inspirational role model for them in both their professional and personal lives. He has earned the respect and affection of many whose lives he has helped improve, and was made an honorary member of the BC Society of Landscape Architects in 2001.

Mr. Skinner well knows how lucky the students are to have this opportunity at a university education. He arrived in Vancouver from England in 1928, aged 18, with five pounds to his name. He worked in a sawmill for a small wage and, during the prairie harvests, as a thresher. It was the start of a long association with the land. With difficulty he weathered the Great Depression that began shortly after his arrival in Canada. After serving in WWII, he continued his working life in catering management at a number of up-scale Vancouver venues, such as the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club, retiring from the BC Hydro Executive Club in 1974. As he sees it, he went from producing food to serving it. But even then, Mr. Skinner's interest in the support of post-secondary education

was apparent: he was Educational VP of the BC Hydro Toastmasters Club in 1961 and 1962.

Perhaps because of his early life experiences, Mr. Skinner demonstrated a strong work ethic and was disciplined with his earnings, careful to save as much as possible. He started to teach himself about stocks and shares and an approach based on common sense, patience and research meant he soon evolved into a shrewd investor.

During the 1960s, he took a number of night classes at UBC, including one in financial investment. He formed a strong attachment to the university, even building a house for himself and late wife Elsie (a farmer's daughter) just a stone's throw away in Point Grey. He has personally known many of UBC's past presidents, is a member of the President's Circle and the UBC Heritage Circle and his name can be found engraved alongside those of other champions



HENRY SKINNER



of UBC on the Great Trek Cairn Plaza on the campus' Main Mall.

Mr. Skinner continues his connection to the land through his keen love of gardening. A producer of prize-winning azalea and camellias, he is a nurturer who likes to help others thrive. "The idea that all the hard work I've done over the years will be making a difference long after I've gone, that's a wonderful thought," he says. "I bought land in 1940 and have been buying stocks since 1951, but giving to UBC is the best investment I've ever made."

### **Robert Stewart**

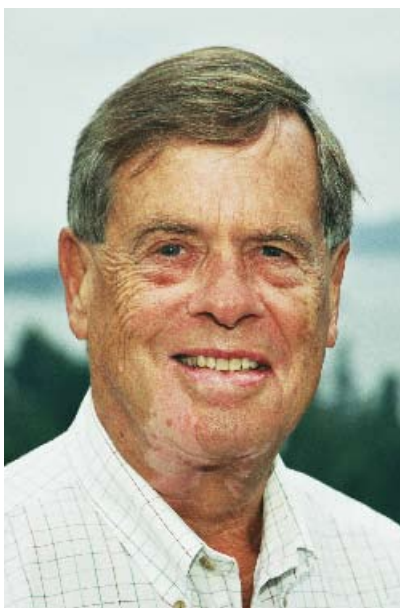
#### *Honorary Alumnus Award*

Mr. Stewart's long association with UBC began in the 1960s in his role as a marketing lecturer for the university's bachelor of Commerce program. His involvement is now in a volunteer capacity as a member of the Faculty Advisory Board for the Sauder School of Business. He has served this board since 1989, as its chair from 1995, and during this period his strong leadership has facilitated the promotion of links between the business community and the school, secured the services of key staff, and guided the school in its policies regarding, among other things, student admissions. From 1992 to 1994, he also served on the Faculty Advisory Committee for Forestry.

Mr. Stewart's own business background is impressive. Forty years ago he started out as a sales representative with Scott Paper Ltd., and worked his way up the company ranks, running for a while the company's operations in Manila. He retired in 1995 as the company's chairman and CEO, but is still very active, enjoying the energy of the people he works alongside and relishing the time to explore new challenges and interests.

His community service extends beyond the university into philanthropy. He was a director of the Vancouver Foundation, has been president and director of the United Way of the Lower Mainland (receiving the President's Award of distinction from the United Way for his contributions) and was director of Ronald MacDonald House. He is board chairman of the West Vancouver Arts Centre Trust (WVACT), which oversees the recently opened Kay Meek Centre (for performing arts) in West Vancouver. Although he doesn't have an arts background, he is well placed for setting organizational wheels in motion and turning visions into realities.

Mr. Stewart's collection of honours includes a Commemorative Medal for the 125th Anniver-



ROBERT STEWART

sary of Canadian Federation, presented by the Governor General in recognition of his service to his fellow citizens, the community and Canada. He also received the Corporate President's Award for outstanding contribution to amateur sports from the Sports Federation of Canada in 1987 and a trustee of the BC Sports Hall of Fame and Museum (1988-94). Under his watch, Scott papers Ltd. began sponsorship of the annual Canadian Women's Curling Championship and 2006 will mark 25 years of involvement. This is the longest national sponsorship of any amateur sport in Canada.

His influence in the business community is partly based on his level of participation and contribution. He served on the board of the Business Council of Canada from 1989 to 1994 and was a governor for the Vancouver Board of Trade between 1986 and 1993 (and chairman from 1991 to 1992).

Mr. Stewart has acted as director for numerous corporations, including Maple Leaf Foods Inc., Royal Bank of Canada, Terasen Inc., Shell Canada, industrial organizations, and community groups.

### **Cullen Jennings PHD'02**

#### *Outstanding Young Alumnus*

Dr. Cullen Jennings spent the early years of his life living on board a fishing boat, often staying at sea for days at a time without seeing anyone but his immediate family. It was perhaps this formative

experience that led him to a career in communications. Highly respected in the telecommunications industry with an established record across a number of technical fields, Dr. Jennings has emerged as a world leader in the field of Voice over Internet Protocol (VOIP). How we communicate with one another in the future may well be down to the revolutionary work of this software architect and his (very rare) ilk.

Based at Cisco Systems Inc, he is a Distinguished Engineer, one of no more than 41 out of close to 40,000 employees to hold the title, and the first Internet Protocol specialist. As well as his computer engineering expertise, Dr. Jennings' business acumen means he is a major influence on the company's corporate strategy, and as a proven predictor of industry trends is invaluable in this role.

His student supervisors at the University of Calgary remember his early brilliance. He once made his own modem using parts from outdated

CULLEN JENNINGS





computers because he couldn't afford to buy one. He then looked into marketing the version to similarly cash-strapped students. This episode typically foreshadows the style of Dr. Jennings' contributions to the industry. His impact on the field cannot be over estimated. He is a proponent of open source software and is a generous contributor to this ideal. He shared with the rest of the world a VOIP system he developed while working for Vovida Networks, a decision that affected the industry in a major way by allowing smaller players (and more of them) to participate in the telecommunications market and drive further innovation. He is currently co-chair of the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), helping to establish engineering standards. He is sought as a technical strategist by many companies and organizations.

His desire to lead and improve does not stop with the industry. Dr. Jennings would like to see advances made by him and colleagues have a direct improvement on the lives of people all over the world and for technical innovations to reach their full humanitarian potential and has been involved in work to this effect bringing communications to the people of Nepal. He hopes to remove barriers of distance and cost involved in communication and his work will likely have a profound affect on our future lifestyles.

On top of his technological and business skills, Dr. Jennings excels in interpersonal communication. He is a respected speaker – eager to share his knowledge with others and able to convey complex information to a wide variety of audiences. He is a cherished and admired mentor and colleague.

**Pieter Cullis** BSC'67, MSC'70, PHD'72  
*Alumni Award for Research in Science and Medicine*

Educated to doctorate level at UBC, Professor Pieter Cullis gained post-doctoral experience in Britain and Holland before returning to his alma mater to join the department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology in 1978. He is recognized as a world leader in the development of liposomal drug delivery systems used in tackling disease, most notably cancer and its complications.

His research group has developed new methods for both manufacturing liposomal systems and loading them with a very high concentration of medication. These liposomal systems can enhance a drug's beneficial effect by increasing delivery levels, and decreasing any toxicity (which in turn allows for greater quantities of a toxic drug to be



PIETER CULLIS

administered). Two of these liposomal systems have already been approved by regulatory agencies. One of the formulations is used to fight fungal infections, a common side-effect of the immunosuppressive effects of cancer chemotherapy. The other is used in treating metastatic breast cancer.

Dr. Cullis is also a successful entrepreneur. Driven by the desire to see his research move quickly from the laboratory to the clinical setting, and to maintain control over the process, he has been associated with a number of biotechnology companies, including Inex Pharmaceuticals which he and his research group established in 1992.

Since then, his group has been able to establish more facts about the beneficial characteristics of lipids for drug delivery and has developed a further three liposomal formulations for use in the treatment of relapsed non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, metastatic melanoma, and cancers of the

ovary, breast and lung, currently in clinical trial. Professor Cullis' more recent research centres on developing liposomal formulations of nucleic acids for gene therapy applications.

His many contributions also include his role as mentor to up-and-comers, and many of the 31 graduate students who benefited from his supervision have gone on to academic positions themselves, or now work in the biotechnology industry.

Professor Cullis' research is internationally recognized and respected, and since the late '70s he has secured a steady flow of competitive grant funding amounting to more than \$10 million. His

published papers and patents abound and he has been honoured with a number of awards, including his election as Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, and UBC's Killam Research prize.

STEVEN HEINE



**Steven Heine** MA'93, PhD'96  
*Alumni Award for Research in the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences*

A faculty member of UBC's Department of Psychology since 2000, Dr. Heine specializes in Cultural Psychology, a new and sometimes controversial branch of study that seeks to understand how cultural background shapes psychological processes. With three other faculty members researching in the same area, the university can arguably be considered a leader and Dr. Heine is happy to be at the forefront of this exciting new field. You can't yet say Dr. Heine wrote the text book on Cultural Psychology, but it's accurate to say that he's writing one. He's



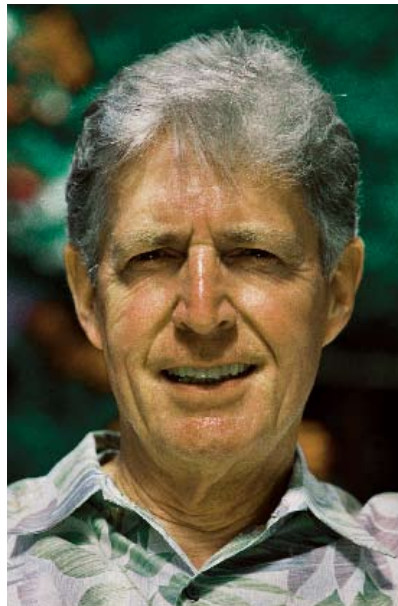
currently under contract with W. W. Norton to do just that.

Dr. Heine focuses his attention on North America and Japanese societies. His interest in cultural psychology was sparked a few years ago when he was an English Language teacher living in Japan. The community was a small, rural one and he was the first foreigner to have lived there. The experience led him to start questioning some of the things he had so far learned about Psychology. For example, his Japanese colleagues suggested to him that he praised students too readily. The Japanese teachers tended to be more sparing with their rewards believing this would better achieve the commonly desired outcome of accomplished students. The experience eventually led Dr. Heine into research that demonstrated that how people are motivated is heavily dependent on cultural background. More recent, groundbreaking research Dr. Heine has completed shows that certain fundamental psychological processes are shaped by cultural practices and are not as universal as once thought. These major discoveries have provoked interest and focused a great deal of positive attention on UBC.

His professional commitments include being an executive member of the International Society for Self and Identity (ISSI). The achievements he has already chalked up in a still-new career (he's not yet 40) have been duly noted. In 2002 ISSI gave him its Early Career Award followed by an Early Career Award for Social Psychology the year after from the American Psychological Association (only the second time someone at a Canadian University has been thus honoured), and last year UBC made him a Distinguished University Scholar. Was a Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies Early Career Scholar in 2001. Completing his post doctorate in 1997, he won the Morris Belkin Award for best Psychology dissertation.

He has already had many papers published in the profession's most prestigious academic journals and these are already heavily cited by other researchers, an indication of the influence his work is having on the field. He attracts a lot of research funding and is often sought as a speaker. Dr. Heine received his BA from the University of Alberta, his MA and PhD from UBC and post-doctored at Kyoto University. He worked at the University of Pennsylvania for a spell before joining UBC in 2000.

**Charles (Chuck) Slonecker**  
*Faculty Citation Community Service Award*



CHUCK SLONECKER

Professor Emeritus Chuck Slonecker has had a long association with UBC that began with his joining the department of Anatomy (now the Department of Cellular and Physiological Sciences) in 1968. During the eighties, he was head of Anatomy, but by the '90s had taken on a more central role in university affairs, becoming a well known and unfailingly friendly face about campus. He worked in Ceremonies until 2003 and was Director of University Relations between 1992 and his retirement in 2003.

In 2001, the UN's Year of the Volunteer, Dr. Slonecker's spirit of volunteerism (and that of wife Jan) was marked by UBC's introduction of the Chuck and Jan Slonecker Volunteer Leadership Award. It marks 30 years of volunteerism that began as his children grew and began evolving outside interests. Dr. Slonecker lent his time and skill to support programs in basketball, softball and volleyball, and summer camps through his membership on the board of the

YMCA. He was involved for five years during the eighties with the Dunbar Little League Baseball as a manager and coach and also volunteered his time and commitment to Boy Scouts of Canada. He has served the board of the Community Care Foundation for the past four years. It encourages community participation, leadership and volunteering among students, identifying and rewarding outstanding students.

On campus, he is very much associated with the annual United Way fundraising campaign. He started out as representative for the Anatomy department and by 1993 was campaign co-chair. In

1994 he was working with the United Way of the Lower Mainland's education Division in an effort to expand the campaign to more educational establishments in the district. He continued as chair until his retirement in 2003 and remains connected to them in an advisory capacity, helping them to plan future activities.

The 2002 campaign total far surpassed the original goal and the campaign was the most successful of UBC's to date

In the faculty of medicine he was valued as an insightful leader and a gifted teacher, receiving a Master Teachers Award in 1976 from UBC, a Killam Teaching Prize in Medicine in 1993, a Teaching Award from the Faculty of Dentistry in 2001, and a UBC President's Service Award for Excellence. He has already been made an Honorary Alumnus by the UBC Alumni Association. Dr. Slonecker was a founding member of the Medical Alumni Division in

FREDDY ABNOUSI





1984, and has served on its committee since then. This active alumni group has managed to raise enough funding to build the Medical Alumni and Student Centre located near Vancouver General Hospital.

Dr. Slonecker is busy off campus, too. He was external vp of the Vancouver Performing Arts Lodges of Canada (2002-04), an organization that provides social housing to support retired actors and visual artists living below the poverty line, served on the board for the Bard on the Beach Theatre Society boards, and was a member of the President's Advisory Committee for the Chan Shun Performing Arts Centre.

Dr. Slonecker may have retired, but apparently doesn't realize it. He and wife Jan are 2005 co-chairs for UBC's Wesbrook Society, which promotes financial support for UBC.

#### **Freddy Abnoui** BSC'01 *Global Citizenship Award*

Mr. Abnoui embodies what UBC is striving for in its vision to produce graduates who are truly global in outlook and action. His efforts and talents have not only secured him positive results at a personal level, but have also demonstrated his commitment for active contribution toward a better world. A 3rd year student in Stanford's MD program, he is the founder of several organizations with a mandate to improve the quality of, access to, and efficacy of health care for people in various regions of the world. He has a keen interest in health policy, holding an MSc in Health Policy, Planning, and Financing from the London School of Economics, as well as an MBA from Oxford University. Additionally, he holds a BSc from UBC.

His talent and expertise, together with his high level of personal drive, have helped him push through innovative ideas and act as a human catalyst for the adoption of humanitarian health and social policies. He is an effective link between business, government, non-profit agencies and health care practitioners and hopes to forge productive links for future health care delivery.

An example of his innovation involves the use of new technologies in medicine. After founding Medamorph Systems, a health IT start up that developed electronic medical records, Mr. Abnoui developed the Medamorph Curriculum to train medical students in using the records. With preventable medical errors in the US costing 100,000 lives annually, electronic records are seen to be the future of efficacious health care. The training provided by Medamorph Curricu-



CATHY EBBEHOJ

lum removes a major barrier to their widespread implementation. Another example is the Stanford International Health Access Institute that he has co-founded through which health care access is being increased from the grass roots level in rural parts of developing countries such as Guatemala. This institute, through public private partnerships, is developing clinics and supplying them, as well as working on public health initiatives in areas not often reached by many major international organizations.

His leadership potential was nurtured by an Action Canada fellowship and has led to his central involvement in a number of overseas projects. His first taste of international work was as an undergraduate with the Kenyan Agency for Rural Development to help develop an HIV/AIDS awareness curriculum for Kenyan youth. His other overseas projects have included health policy research and consultancy for the American Enterprise Institute (a public policy think tank) in Washington DC,

the British Medical Association in London, the NESST Venture Philanthropy Fund in Chile, and The World Bank in India.

Other projects Mr. Abnoui has been involved in are Dream Catcher Yukon, a program he co-founded to provide mentorship to northern youth, and Project Green Door, which has involved collecting old computers from the private sector and donating them to an education centre in Washington that teaches computer skills to mentally challenged individuals.

On top of his entrepreneurial, voluntary, academic and other activities, he also participates in marathons and triathlons. He has been published in prestigious medical journals including the Journal of the American College of Surgeons and Plastic Reconstructive Surgery.

#### **Cathy Ebbehoj** BSN'75, MSN'99

##### *Blythe Eagles Volunteer Leadership Award*

After gaining her bachelor's in Nursing at UBC, Ms Ebbehoj began her career as a staff nurse, before turning her attention towards teaching and her masters. She is currently a lecturer and advisor in the School of Nursing. In that role, she has seen many graduates pass through the classrooms, but is loathe to let them leave UBC for good. In 1996, Ms Ebbehoj became faculty alumni liaison and in 1999 assumed presidency of UBC's Nursing Alumni. The school offers the oldest university based degree-granting nursing program in the British Commonwealth. Under Ms Ebbehoj's leadership, the number of active alumnae has doubled.



CLAIRE SHELDON



She successfully connects with new and old graduates to keep connections strong across all generations and experiences of grads.

All told, Ms Ebbehoj has been involved in volunteer activities for the 30 years since she graduated, and for 15 years has been a tireless and effective bridge between the school and its alumni as well as between their different generations. She is a team member who provides humour, enthusiasm and momentum. An always positive response to events involving alumni is in large part due to Mrs. Ebbehoj's leadership, reputation, dedication to the profession, and commitment to keeping connections between fellow practitioners and UBC grads strong.

She focuses on activities that educate, as well as allowing plenty of opportunities for networking and socializing. She organizes a nursing team for the CIBC Run for the Cure each year; she singles out outstanding practitioners to make sure they're recognized for their efforts; she encourages pride in and celebration of the profession; and she supports an annual nursing alumni event, where alumni achievers with unusual or interesting jobs within the profession give presentations about their careers. Known as The Nursing Alumni Knowledge and Innovation Evening, this event is inspiring and has become one of the highlights of the year for alumni. She was also an instrumental player when the school celebrated its 80th and 85th birthdays in recent years. An 85th anniversary gala dinner was held in honour of the school's oldest graduates, and many who gained their degrees in the 1930s attended and mingled with current students. Ms Ebbehoj is also an active participant in Imagine, the university's initiative for welcoming first year students.

As a lecturer in the school, she also plays a part in shaping its vision and policies and, involved in many professionally related boards, is a dependable advocate for the profession. Her professional focus is on maternal, newborn and family health throughout the childbearing years. She has received excellent evaluations for her teaching skills from both student recipients and colleagues, receiving the Registered Nurses Association of British Columbia's Award of Excellence in teaching in 2000 and also the Nursing Undergraduate Society Teaching Award. She is perfectly placed to ensure the ongoing health of the nursing alumni community, keeping members in touch with the school, and keeping current students aware of the history of their profession, much of it embodied in the senior members of this very active UBC alumni community.



CLARA CHIA HUA TAN



**Claire Sheldon** MSc'99, PhD'04  
*Outstanding Student Award*

Ms Sheldon has excelled throughout her academic career, and is due to complete the MD part of a 7-year MD/PHD combined program in 2006. She is considered an excellent researcher, productive beyond her years with unlimited potential, and has nine published papers from her MSc and PhD work alone. Her main research interests lie in Neuroscience. She defended her PhD thesis (completed in the department of Cellular & Physiological Sciences) with a category one pass and attracted enthusiastic remarks from an impressed external examiner. She is sought as a speaker by national and international professional bodies. Her academic skills translate into the laboratory setting, where she has proved herself as deft of hand as mind, her commitment evidenced by the long hours she's chalked up.

She has been rewarded for her achievements with a UBC Graduate Fellowship in 1997, and in her current program is supported by awards from the

Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the Michael Smith Foundation.

Her enthusiasm for her work is infectious and she has channelled it to fellow students through teaching roles within the faculties of Medicine and Science, as well as in student-led initiatives in the community. Capable of adapting her teaching for different levels of expertise, she has acted as unofficial (and unpaid) supervisor to undergraduate honours students in the lab setting, as well as taking on responsibility for high school students participating in summer student research programs.

Students often seek her out for advice and as a natural and generous leader and mentor she always obliges them. She earned UBC's Teaching Assistant Teaching Award in 1998 and won for best presentation at UBC's Medical Research Student Research Forum in 2004. She was recently awarded the 2005 CAGS/UMI Distinguished Dissertation Award, which recognizes doctoral students whose dissertations make an original contribution to their academic field.

Notwithstanding a gruelling academic schedule, Claire manages to find the time to serve her community in numerous ways. She has volunteered in the Community Health Initiative by University Students, based in the underserved Downtown Eastside, and was also directly involved in Pacific Legal Education Association and Ailanthus Foundation programs working with underprivileged youth. She

**Peter Jackson**, BSc'80 is Master of Ceremonies for this year's dinner.



is a half-marathon runner and at one point was an instructor in the Intramural Sports Program.

#### **Clara Chia Hua Tan MSc'02**

##### *Outstanding Student Award*

Ms Tan is a dedicated researcher, a keen community participant unafraid of shouldering responsibility, and a peer leader whose actions have helped improve the educational and social experiences of her fellow students.

Currently an MD/PHD candidate, Ms Tan's area of research involves seeking methods for shutting off the vasculature supply to tumors, preventing them from getting larger and impinging on surrounding structures or migrating to other locations in the body.

Already she has had published seven peer-reviewed papers, three as first author. She is motivated by people and is quick to credit her family, friends and student peers for their inspiration and support. In her work she is driven by a desire to find better treatments for cancers, a disease that can take such a toll not only on patients, but also on their families. She also has a keen interest in preventive healthcare.

Ms Tan has made efforts beyond the formal requirements of her degree by helping to enrich the student experience. She was student representative for her MD/PHD degree program from 2003 to 2004, and represented the program at three Canadian Society for Clinical Investigation conferences. She also co-organized the 2004 Medical Undergraduate Society's Medical Research Forum, volunteered with the Wellness Retreat for Medical Students, and organized the Art Gallery at the Spring Gala. From 2002, she has been organizer and co-chair of two UBC Disaster Medicine conferences.

Proud of her student peers, she helps provide them with event opportunities for showcasing their work. She is very involved in the social aspect of student life, and having learned to play piano as a child she still loves to get together and create music with other students. This past year, she was a choirmaster for the UBC Medicine/Dentistry Choir and a cellist with a chamber music group consisting of medical students. She believes in learning a new skill every year, and recently that skill was skating. She's since joined a medical school hockey team as goalie. The team won the Golden Puck this year, and the Intramural Women's hockey team championships.

At the community level, she has been involved with the Community Health Initiative by University Students (CHIUS) since 2001 as both a Programming Committee leader and a Downtown Eastside clinic supervisor. She was a key Women's Night participant, where volunteer aestheticians and hair stylists work with health care students to provide services to disenfranchised women, promoting self-esteem, safety and good health. Where appropriate, the students encourage these women to seek further help.

Beyond the university, she has been a youth representative to the Canadian Cancer Society board since 2004, and a volunteer and team assistant with the society's Vancouver Lodge for five years.

Ms Tan's talents have not gone unnoticed. She is the recipient of many awards and grants, including a McGill University Entrance

Scholarship and the Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute Award for Outstanding Trainees that acknowledges her outstanding research and contribution to the scientific community. Ms Tan wants to be a clinician/surgeon/scientist involved in clinical practice, research and teaching.

#### **Master of Ceremonies**

##### **Peter Jackson, BSc'80**

Peter Jackson is an executive vice president of Ticketmaster Canada, currently focusing on business development in Asia. This follows a three-year term as executive VP of Ticketmaster Europe. During this time, in addition to other duties, he oversaw the company's ticket sales for the 2004 Olympics in Athens.

Peter began his ticketing career while still at UBC, and soon after graduation, managed ticket sales for the Vancouver Canucks. An avid rower, he coxed UBC's Varsity eight as a student and helped raise funds to keep the rowing program afloat. He is currently rowing rep on the UBC Thunderbird Council, and is a key fundraiser for the John M. S. Leckey UBC Boathouse project. ■



### **Illuminating Achievement** 11th Annual Alumni Achievement Awards Dinner

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# in MEMORIAM

**In Memoriam** notices are submitted by friends and family of the deceased. We try to print the notices in full, but we will edit for style and space. Please send *In Memoriam* notices to our offices by post or email. Photos can be originals or electronic, but e-photos must be scanned at 300 dpi. Low resolution photos cannot be used.

**June E. Anderson**, wife for 55 years of William Ian Anderson BA'48, on February 9, 2005. She attended Victoria High School in the 1940s ... **Dr. Harold Cardinal** on June 3, 2005. He was working on his Doctorate in Law at UBC as well as acting as an advisor and consultant for First Nations organizations. In 1999, he received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the University of Alberta. He was the author of the well known book "The Unjust Society." His fight for radical changes in policy on treaty rights, education, social programs and economic development has had a lasting and positive impact on Canadian society ... **Geoff Cushon** MSC'85, PHD'95 on August 10, 2005 ... **Kenneth Donaldson** BSC'66, PHD'71 ... **Sven Fredrickson** BSF'51 on Feb 14 '05 ... **Dr. Jack Allen Freeman** BSC(AGR)'49, MSC(AGR)'50 ... **Dr. Charles Walter Humphries**, associate professor emeritus of the UBC History department. Dr. Humphries, came to UBC in 1965. He won UBC's Excellence in Teaching Award in 1990. He was the associate head of the UBC History department in the late 1990s ... **Anna Kirk Jetter** MA'68 on July 6, 2004 ... **Yokio (York) Tamura** BSC(AGR)'41 was born on July 28, 1920, and passed away on Monday, April 25, 2005.

**Professor Emerita Sadie Boyles** BA'26, MA'36 Doctor Sadie Boyles, a long time member of the UBC community, died on June 11, 2005,



SADIE BOYLES

aged 99. Dr. Boyles graduated in 1926, just after the official inauguration of the university. As a frosh in 1922, she was an active petitioner for building a new campus at Point Grey. Taught by such renowned faculty members as Garnett Gladwin Sedge-wick and Henry Angus, and aspiring to be connected with all aspects of university life, Dr. Boyles assumed the role of senior editor for the *Ubyyssey* while pursuing her studies in English and French. After graduating, she taught at King Edward High School. She became a pivotal instructor in the Teacher Education program and taught French Methods for 30 years. In 1963 she earned the role of associate director, Secondary Education. Her dedication and passion for teaching, and her keen interest for work in university affairs, produced a long list of remarkable accomplishments. She was vice president of the Faculty Association, and after her retirement in 1971 assumed an

important role on the UBC Board of Governors. She also authored several French textbooks.

## Dr. Allen Clingman

Dr. Clingman passed away on March 27, 2005. He was a member of the Faculty of Education for 33 years until he retired in 1992 as head of the Music Education program in Visual and Performing Arts in Education (VPAE).

Dr. Clingman was born in Newton, Iowa on June 19, 1929, served during the Korean War, took his BA and MA at Drake University in Iowa, and received his doctorate from Columbia University in 1958. Dr. Clingman taught instrumental music at UBC and was an advocate for community music education. Over the years he presented many papers on community music education at the International Society for Music Education (ISME). He was also past president of CMEA, and BCMEA, and a long-time Canadian delegate to the ISME conferences.

## Diana Cooper BA'64, BLS'65

Diana Cooper died peacefully surrounded by her friends on September 17, 2004. Diana was a long time member of the UBC family, having graduated from UBC in 1964 with a Fine Arts degree, and commencing her career with the Library in June 1965 as the Fine Arts Librarian.

Diana always took an exceptional interest in the work of the Fine Arts Division. Early in her career, she was in charge of the exhibition catalogues and book selection, as well as providing reference service to many students in the areas of Fine Arts, Architecture, Dance, Fashion, Costume and Artistic Photography. She was frequently applauded by faculty, students and staff within the Fine Arts department for the extra efforts she



made to ensure students received a tour of the Fine Arts Division and were well versed in research methods. She thoroughly enjoyed her work and her interactions. Diana served on a number of Library committees over the years, making many valuable contributions to groups that included selection committees, task forces on systems and procedures, communications task groups, and the teaching liaison group. As well, she was active with many professional organizations and associations. Diana attended the inaugural meeting of the Pacific Northwest Chapter of ARLIS/NA in Seattle, was part of the organizing committee for their annual conference in Vancouver in 1999 and maintained an active role with this Chapter.

As an artist, Diana expressed her creativity in her personal life as well as in the workplace. The Fine Arts displays as well as exhibitions (eg: Theatrical Costumes, Edwardian Illustrated Books for Children, Art of Egypt, Hogarth's Analysis of Beauty) all benefited from Diana's artistic eye and creativity. She also provided art work for many Library websites, training programs and other tools developed over the last 10 years.

Diana felt a strong bond with those she worked with and went out of her way to ensure a pleasant work environment. She will always be remembered for her weekly flowers, baking and her love of afternoon tea. A memorial bench has been placed in the Rose Garden.

#### **Dr. Walter G. Hardwick**

BA'54, MA'58, LLD'00, OBC

Lauded by peers as a man of vision, leadership and commitment, and active at many levels of public life, Walter Hardwick died on June 9 after a lengthy illness, aged 73.

Dr. Hardwick first joined UBC's department of Geography in 1960, and taught courses in urban studies, urban geography, and political geography until his retirement in 1997. Known as an inspiring teacher, he was instrumental in writing the 1963 MacDonald Report on post-secondary education that laid the groundwork for Simon Fraser University and the province's network of community colleges.

Appointed Director of Continuing Education at UBC in 1975 and deputy minister of Education, Science and Technology in 1976, Walter Hardwick was also responsible for establishing the Open Learning Institute and the Knowledge Network.

As a co-founder of TEAM (The Electors' Action Movement) and member of Vancouver city council from 1969 to 1974, Dr. Hardwick initiated the transformation of the south shore of False Creek from industrial use to housing. He also played a key role in preventing proposals for a freeway system through the centre of Vancouver becoming a reality. Instead, he oversaw two survey projects between 1971 and 1974 that served as a basis for urban planning in the Greater Vancouver Regional District, and inspired the district's Livable Region strategy.

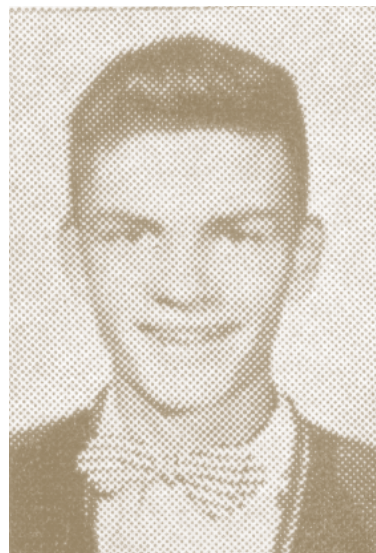
In 1977, Hardwick was awarded the Order of British Columbia for his contributions on civic, regional, provincial, national and international levels. He was also presented with an honorary degree from UBC in 1997. He is predeceased by wife Shirley Steeves and survived by his four children and five grandchildren. A memorial ceremony was held on June 28 at the Chan

Centre for the Performing Arts on campus, and included tributes from former BC Premier Mike Harcourt and former provincial Minister of Education Patrick McGeer, a UBC professor emeritus in Psychiatry.

#### **Elizabeth Killam Hutton, BA'29**

1909-2004

Betty had great drive and intelligence to take on any challenge. She chose to focus on her husband and four children, her extensive garden and her wide network of friends and community projects that often included her alma mater.



WALTER HARDWICK

She was a champion of UBC, attending at the young age of 16 and graduating at 19 with a major in economics. She was active with the *Kappa Kappa Gamma* sorority and is fondly remembered for her performances on the UBC auditorium stage. Her four children graduated from UBC and took their valued skills into careers around the world: daughter, Anne, a politician in the 70's when women were less commonly "at the table"; son, Alan, a CEO of a major IT company; son, David, a Canadian ambassador; and daughter, Jane, an Associate VP at UBC. Her husband Gordon, while Shaughnessy Hospital's chief psychiatrist, also taught part-time in four UBC faculties. Betty knew many deans and their wives personally, having close friendships with the Norman McKenzies, Walter Gage, the Lassares, Hebbs and Freddie Wood.

After graduation, she traveled by train to Toronto where she graduated from U of T in Social Work. This passion for helping others was a core value in her approach to life. She shared her limitless energy with a community that she defined broadly. This included support of schools, churches and organizations such as the YWCA, Junior League, Ostomy Society, University Women's Club, UBC

Hospital and the Community Arts Council. She raised money for many worthy causes and had a sense of kindness that was both deep and wide. While she would often take her children to some dispirited places in Downtown Eastside neighbourhoods, with boxes full of food. We left with a powerful understanding of why these caring relationships lasted for decades.

To our great benefit, she dedicated her talents and love to her family. She cooked wonderful meals, grew fresh fruits and vegetables in our garden, canning and pickling the best of the harvest. She made bread



## in MEMORIAM

the old fashion way, with large metal tubs sitting in the sun under damp towels. She made most of her own clothes and knitted her sweaters. These were some of the values and simple joys of living that we grew up to appreciate. Her pleasure in small things gave us a great sense of family roots and community stability. She added greatly to building the Garden of Remembrance at Canadian Memorial Church, contributing a bench, gates, her plants and much personal care. She could be seen for years walking to the church with her pail of earth, her gardening trowel, and pruning shears for the roses. On other days, she would walk with her tennis racket to the Lawn Tennis Club, actively playing until age 91.

Betty had a strong character that was well known throughout the neighbourhood. With unwavering commitment to her ideals of right and wrong, she stood up for what she believed, speaking with strength and resolve. With a positive "can do" attitude, firm values and clarity of action, she faced problems directly with tenacity and spirit. She lived life fully, with no regrets. She is remembered well.

### Don Nazzar BASC'41

Don Barkley Nazzar died suddenly at QEII in Halifax, following cardiac surgery.

He is survived by his constant companion and loving wife Sunny (Margaret), children Eric (Nancy), Craig (Dr. Carey), Laura Saunders (Capt. John), Carol Walsh (Robert), 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

He graduated in Mechanical Engineering and his curious and lively intellect led him into a challenging career, first with the engineering firm Armstrong Wood in Toronto designing sophisticated weaponry for the Armed Forces, then with the National Research Council in Ottawa.

In the 1940s, he was part of an international team (NZ, Russia, Germany, UK) that designed and constructed the first nuclear reactor (code-name ZEEP) to go crit-

ical outside the US. This was the beginning of the Chalk River Project and Canada's nuclear program. In the 1950s he managed the design and engineering of the supersonic high speed wind tunnel that was used in the Avro Arrow project.

In 1958 he joined Canadian General Electric in Peterborough, eventually becoming one of the pioneers in its Civilian Atomic Power department.

He was responsible for the site selection (Point Tupper), construction and operation of Canada's first successful heavy water plant. At the request of R. B. Cameron he came to Sydney in 1970 to determine what to do with the failed Glace Bay heavy water plant.

After overseeing the rehabilitation of that plant, the new government of Gerald Regan shut it down. In 1973, he was engaged to do an energy analysis of Sydney Steel Plant and until his retirement in 1980, his advice was sought on various technical matters by Sysco.

After retiring, he indulged in his passion for wine and travel (Opimian Society). He was an active life member of the YMCA, a working partner in his wife's interior design firm, an avid reader and a crossword fanatic. Don was a gentle man who enjoyed the challenges of life. Memorial donations may be made to the YMCA Building Fund.

### Isabelle Eleanor Nelson (Irwin) BASC'47

Isabelle passed away on August 15, 2005. She was 81 years old and is survived by her husband, Don, three daughters, one son, nine grandchildren, and sister Louise Irwin of Vancouver.

### Gerald Miller Newman BA'51

Gerald passed away at St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver, BC, at age 79 on May 5,

2005. After completing his degree, Gerald worked for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation from 1956-1968, where he produced and directed numerous drama and music programmes for radio and television. In 1967, he joined the department of English at Simon Fraser University and taught Shakespeare and literary criticism

until his retirement in 1991. Gerald also served as chairman of this department from 1968 to 1974. Throughout his life Gerald was equally passionate about music, drama, photography, and film – always offering distinctive viewpoints and maintaining the highest standard of intellectual discourse. His wife, Joyce; sons, Geoffrey and Timothy; daughter-in-law, Haya; and step-grandchildren, Talya and Hilah will lovingly remember him along with extended

family and his many friends. The family wishes to thank St. Paul's and Lions Gate Hospitals for their efforts and care.

### Joan Selby (Budd) BA'44

Joan died peacefully on February 12, 2005. She is survived by her daughter, Lyn Goytain, grandson Stefan Goytain (wife Angela). Joan traveled extensively and had a great collection of memorabilia. She is missed by her family and wide circle of friends.

### Dr. James N. M. Smith

With great sorrow we announce that James (Jamie) N. M. Smith died peacefully in his home on July 18, 2005, following an 11-year battle with cancer. Jamie was born in Rothesay, Scotland, in 1944, completed his BSc at Edinburgh University and DPhil at Oxford University. He taught in the Zoology department at UBC from 1973. Over the years Jamie has been referred to as the



ELIZABETH HUTTON



Birdman of UBC, a reflection of his lifelong career in the study of bird populations, particularly song sparrows; as The Gentle Giant because of his tall stature and mild and modest manner; and as the Island Man for his love of islands and his long-term work on Mandarte Island near Sidney, BC.

Jamie's research achievements have been recognized by awards from both the Canadian and American Ornithological Societies. Through his career in ecology, he had the opportunity to explore many of the world's ecosystems from the Galapagos Islands, and the Great Barrier Reef to boreal and arctic Canada. He shared his passion for field ecology with students and the public, and was a respected teacher and community naturalist. He worked to protect habitats and preserve endangered species and inspired generations of students to study ecology and pursue interests in conservation biology. In addition to his academic pursuits, Jamie enjoyed golf, telemark skiing, birding, hooting for owls at his family cabin on Saturna Island, and singing while playing his guitar, particularly for small children. Jamie is survived by his wife Judy Myers, and his children Isla and Iain Myers-Smith, his mother Margery Smith of Dollar, Scotland and his sister Elizabeth Smith of Bridge of Weir, Scotland. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to the Jamie Smith Memorial Fund at UBC, (Attn: Michelle Messinger, 6253 NW Marine Drive Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1) to establish a scholarship for students to attend field courses. Jamie and his family greatly appreciated the support of the Pacific Spirit Community Health Centre, the Canadian Red Cross and

his physician Dr. Steve Kurdyak that made it possible for him to stay at home throughout his illness.

A profile of Jamie was written shortly before his death. *Island Man: A Field Study about Research, Graduate Supervision and Jamie's Many Gifts to his Students* can be found in the fall edition of *Tapestry*, the newsletter of the Centre for Teaching and Academic Growth: [www.tag.ubc.ca/resources/tapestry/jamie.pdf](http://www.tag.ubc.ca/resources/tapestry/jamie.pdf)

**Lilian To MSW'79**

Lilian To, CEO of SUCCESS, passed away suddenly on July 2, 2005. She was a much

admired leader of the organization, which helps Canadian newcomers adjust to life in a new country.

She was born an only child on November 1, 1945, in Guangdong, China. She gained a degree in Psychology from the University of Hong Kong in 1967, followed by a qualification in Social Work. She arrived in Canada from Hong Kong in 1973 in order to be with her future husband, Chi-Tat To, who had left Hong Kong to study at UBC. She started working for SUCCESS (the United Chinese Community Enrichment Services Society) the following year and spent the best part of the next three decades

## Whose Life Can You Celebrate?



**A loved one.** Since 1973 until his recent passing, Dr. Jamie Smith taught in the UBC Zoology Department, sharing his passion for birds with up-and-coming scientists. An internationally renowned ecologist, Dr. Smith studied avian populations at sites in BC and around the globe. To honour his memory, family and friends have established the Jamie Smith Memorial Fund, which will make it possible for future generations of students to study ecology in the field. A former student shares the importance of field studies by writing, "Jamie placed a sparrow in my hand and I felt the pounding heart of a bird for the first time. I've never forgotten that moment."

For more information on establishing a commemorative gift, please contact the UBC Development Office. Tel: 604-822-8900 Email: [info.request@supporting.ubc.ca](mailto:info.request@supporting.ubc.ca)

### STUDY ON BIRTH CONTROL USE

Academic historian seeking interviews regarding female university students' sexual, contraceptive and reproductive decision-making experiences between 1960 and 1980, especially at U of T, UBC and McGill. Confidentiality respected. Contact Prof. C. Sethna, University of Ottawa, Institute of Women's Studies, 143 rue Séraphin-Marion, Ottawa, ON, K1N 6N5, (613) 265-9090 or [ccame083@uottawa.ca](mailto:ccame083@uottawa.ca)

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## in MEMORIAM

advocating on behalf of other immigrants making the transition to life in Canadian. Although she left her original position after two years to work in mental health, she maintained her involvement through her board membership. Under her leadership, the organization has grown in size and influence. Although she was never one to sing her own praises, Lilian received many accolades including the Vancouver Multicultural Service Award (1991) and the YWCA Women of Distinction Award (1999). Lilian and Chit Tat had two sons – Daniel and Nathan – and were active in the Christian community.

The provincial premier's office released the following statement: "Lilian To was an exceptional British Columbian who dedicated herself to ensuring that new citizens who came to our shores were welcomed, supported and empowered to share fully in the prosperity and opportunity of our province. She was someone who clearly understood and believed in the power of a strong, open and diverse community. Driving that vision was her dynamic spirit and her great passion for BC and its people. Without question, BC's future lies in our openness and in the ties we share with communities across the Pacific, and the strength of those ties is, in large part, a reflection of Lilian To's life and work. Our thoughts and prayers go out to her family, her many friends and her colleagues at SUCCESS during this sad time. Lilian was truly a bright light who will shine on in the hearts and lives of all those she touched during her remarkable life."

### Charles Young LLB'75, LLM'77

Charlie was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, on December 28, 1949, and was raised in the nearby hamlet of Paw Paw. In the family tradition, he attended the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and became an enthusiastic Wolverine, proudly playing his clarinet in the Michigan Marching Band.

He met his sweetheart and soul mate, Lucy Fox, and they crossed the continent on Amtrak, landing in Vancouver, BC, where they married on October 5, 1973. Charlie discovered his love of wild and rugged terrain while completing his law degree and masters.

In 1976, he and Lucy settled in New Mexico, and first child Justine was born in 1979. Sixteen months later the family took a 50-mile backpack trip in the San Juan Mountains with Justine covering the entire distance on Lucy's back.

Charlie served in the US Bureau of Land Management, the NM Legislative Council Service, and the Albuquerque City Attorney's Office and Risk Management Division. Ultimately, he enjoyed nearly 15 years as a successful lobbyist, making countless friends, serving as a role model for many, and never tiring of the challenges.



JOAN SELBY

But his true passions were running, especially on the nearby mountain trails, and bicycling. A three-time finisher of the Leadville Trail 100 Mile run, he also completed the La Luz Trail Run and the Pikes Peak Ascent and Marathon many times. Holidays meant bicycling in Ireland, Portugal, Nova Scotia, North Carolina, and the Azores Islands. Charlie and Lucy joined the Peloton Project to raise funds for the Lance Armstrong Foundation, which supports cancer survivors. This took them to Austin, Texas, for the Ride of the Roses.

Companionship and camaraderie were very important to Charlie and he made new friends wherever he went. He is remembered as witty, energetic, loyal, honest, compassionate, outgoing, and the ultimate father and husband. ■

### FACULTY OF ARTS UBC KILLAM TEACHING PRIZES

Once again the University is recognizing excellence in teaching through the awarding of prizes to faculty members. Five (5) prize winners will be selected in the Faculty of Arts for 2006.

**Eligibility:** Eligibility is open to faculty who have three or more years of teaching at UBC. The three years include 2005 - 2006.

**Criteria:** The awards will recognize distinguished teaching at all levels; introductory, advanced, graduate courses, graduate supervision, and any combination of levels.

**Nomination Process:** Members of faculty, students, or alumni may suggest candidates to the Head of the Department, the Director of the School, or Chair of the Program in which the nominee teaches. These suggestions should be in writing and signed by one or more students, alumni or faculty, and they should include a very brief statement of the basis for the nomination. You may write a letter of nomination or pick up a form from the Office of the Dean, Faculty of Arts in Buchanan B130.

**Deadline:** 4:00 p.m. on January 16, 2006. Submit nominations to the Department, School or Program Office in which the nominee teaches.

Winners will be announced in the Spring, and they will be identified during Spring convocation in May.

**For further information about these awards contact either your Department, School or Program office, or Dr. J. Evan Kreider, Associate Dean of Arts at (604) 822-6703.**



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