Learning Takes Flight
Retro Summer, 2011

The vintage style of these photos doesn’t come from light leaks and expired film, but the Hipstamatic app on photographer Sol Kauffman’s iPhone: “The extremely hip trend of Lomography is all about spontaneity and the beauty of imperfection. The smartphone is the perfect camera for this generation, with the retro look and feel combined with one-button uploading to Facebook.” Kauffman, 21, and in his final year of the Creative Non-Fiction program, took these late summer shots of his friends around campus and at Cadboro-Gyro Park.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY SOL KAUFFMAN
I spend more time in my boat than in my car, living in Kamloops.

NRI Distribution is a third party logistics provider for premium branded companies looking to market goods in the USA or Canada. Entrepreneur Peter McKenna confirms that the contributing success of his business was moving to Kamloops. He also remarks that Kamloops is strategically located for business and its biggest perk is the amazing lifestyle.

For Peter’s live interview on the benefits of doing business in Kamloops visit: VENTUREKAMLOOPS.COM 1-888-526-5667

or follow us on facebook: www.facebook.com/venturekamloops
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The theory of evolution gets the rap treatment and finds an off-Broadway home.
**BY GRANT KERR**

14 Masters of Ales
These four alumni are groundbreakers and experts in producing handcrafted beer.
**BY ROBERT MOYES, BA ’82**

16 SPECIAL REPORT: International Education and Collaboration
Students and faculty are more mobile than ever. In our 15-page series on international education, let us take you to a field school in India and on a bullet-riddled flight over Afghanistan — with several stops in between. The tour starts here.

32 In His Own Words
George Bowering, Canadian poetry icon, recalls elusive beer parlours, on again off again romances, and struggling through French classes at Victoria College.
**INTERVIEW BY DANIEL ZOMPARELLI**

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On the cover: Gustavson School of Business student Edward Ko at the Great Wall of China, along the Mutianyu section. Photography by Kim Jihee Jun.
The Mobile Mind
Teaching and research through an international lens.

FLIP BACK TO THE COVER FOR A SECOND. SEE THAT GRAVITY-DEFYING LEAP, THAT leg kick, that fist raised in triumph? That’s Edward Ko at the Great Wall. The shot was taken when he was on a study exchange in Beijing. It’s not a stretch to say that those four months in China changed his life.

Born in Victoria, the business student/soon-to-be alumnus had yearned for the opportunity to go to Beijing. He got the bug after his older sister, an alumna, had come back from a similar posting. By being there he was able to get a clearer idea about the service-oriented work he wants to do in his career. Most of all it broadened his outlook on life.

This is not to say that everyone has the same profound experience, but it’s a distinct theme running through our 15-page package of stories about international education and collaboration.

Through the experiences related by students and researchers, teachers and alumni, the nature of mobility in modern learning often proves to be a defining moment. It also shows that while it’s called the University of Victoria it’s also a place that is of the world.

Thirty years ago UVic and the East China Normal School started a partnership that broke new ground in international education. Charlayne Thornton-Joe, a long-serving member of Victoria City Council and a community leader, was one of the first UVic students to participate in that exchange program. As your feature interview reveals, it marked the culmination of a deep change in her self-image and the acceptance of her Chinese descent.

Go forward to this past summer when a brand new field school, organized by the Department of Geography and India’s PRIA, introduced a group of students to the vastness and complexity of India. Student Victoria Francis, who had really never travelled far, offers her account of the tribulations and transformations of that journey.

These, and the others contained in our special report, are stories about being immersed in new cultures. They are stories that, at their very heart, are about how we relate with each other across boundaries and the wisdom that comes from a changed perspective. It’s hard to think of many more things that are so crucial to the planet’s health.

Meanwhile, Edward Ko graduates with his commerce degree at fall convocation. He’s been back home in Victoria for a while now. But talk to him and you get the impression that he’s still got one foot in China — possibly airborne — flying a direct course into the future.

MIKE MCNENY, EDITOR
mmcneney@uvic.ca
Make sure we have your current contact information. Update online at: alumni.uvic.ca/connect/update_address.php

An event 50 years in the making.

Alumni Homecoming Weekend and Community Festival
Friday, September 28 — Sunday, September 30, 2012

The University of Victoria is getting ready to celebrate its 50th anniversary and we want you to be part of the fun. Next September we’ll kick things off with a weekend series of events to commemorate this very special occasion.

Mark your calendar and watch for more details in the coming months!

www.uvic.ca/anniversary

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Natasha Benn | 250-721-6001 | nbenn@uvic.ca

What is your Great UVic Moment?
The University of Victoria is preparing for its 50th anniversary and wants you to be a part of the excitement. We would like to hear about your experience of a Great Moment at UVic. Perhaps it was an outstanding academic achievement, a cultural or athletic highlight, a memorable event or that moment in time that captures your personal experience of what it means to be part of the UVic community. Accompanying photos are welcome.

To learn how to submit your Great UVic Moment, please visit our website or contact the 50th Anniversary Office.

50th Anniversary Office: 250.853.3606
www.uvic.ca/anniversary
Interconnected Education

Global engagement benefits society as a whole.

BY DAVID H. TURPIN
PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR

As this edition of the TORCH is being printed, several of my University of Victoria colleagues and I are being hosted by the Canadian Ambassador to China, David Mulroney. Ambassador Mulroney is showcasing CanAssist, UVic’s unique and world-class program in developing assistive devices for disabled people. The potential impact of this program in China is enormous. This is but one of many examples where UVic is poised to improve the lives of people from around the world.

During our visit to China, the UVic delegation will also be visiting East China Normal University in Shanghai to celebrate ECNU’s 60th anniversary. As well, we will commemorate the 30th anniversary of our partnership with ECNU, which, appropriately in light of our own campus, is known as the “Garden University” for its beautiful environment.

UVic’s international engagement efforts are based on our long-held scholarly principles of excellence and on the recognition that our students must be introduced to other cultures if they are to have access to the broadest range of opportunities. By being exposed to life-changing experiences they can truly become citizens of the world, equipped to apply their knowledge in the most effective ways.

Post-secondary institutions around the world are embracing internationalization and working to encourage student mobility. When international students come to our campus to pursue their studies, the learning environment is enriched that much more by the experiences and perspectives that they share. Province-wide, according to the Ministry of Advanced Education, international students contribute an estimated $1.25 billion to the province’s GDP, making educational services the fourth largest export from BC, and creating approximately 22,000 jobs.

The many research and creative collaborations that bring our faculty members together with colleagues from other parts of the world provide a dynamic setting for developing new ideas and knowledge. The Canada-China Green Energy workshops are one example. UVic, through the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions and our Institute for Integrated Energy Systems (with support from partners like the National Science and Engineering Research Council) is building research and graduate training collaborations with Chinese universities to develop clean energy sources and systems.

More and more, the world is becoming the classroom and it can only enhance the benefits that post-secondary education provides to our communities. Alumni — with a broad awareness of global issues and the opportunities that exist — contribute immensely to economic and cultural growth. Their ideas contribute to scientific and technological innovation. In these ways, individual opportunities that come from higher education translate into broader benefits for society as a whole. The two go hand-in-hand.

As you’ll see illustrated by many of the feature stories in this issue of the magazine, mobility and technology are providing the platform for our growing engagement with the global community. The result is an even more vital and rewarding environment for carrying out our teaching and research mission.
AS A TEEN IN THE LATE 1940S, SARDUL SINGH GILL RECEIVED career advice at Victoria High School. The counsellor suggested a trade apprenticeship rather than university because of his Sikh “background.” But Gill’s parents — Bhan Singh Gill and Hardial Kaur Gill — wouldn’t let discrimination limit their son’s options.

“(My father’s) thinking was this: Get your education and if you can’t use it somewhere, you can always go back to (working in a sawmill),” Gill recalls.

Gill went to university and later became a successful real estate investor. To honour his parents’ support, Gill has donated $5 million to UVic’s Gustavson School of Business.

“The funds will provide much needed support for our graduate students in financial aid and scholarships, international projects and research and for faculty teaching and research,” says Ali Dastmalchian, dean of the Gustavson School of Business. The university is renaming its graduate business school to the Sardul S. Gill Graduate School of Business — the first time in Canada that such an institution has been named for a donor of Indian descent.

“This is my hometown,” Gill says of his donation. “I was born and raised here and father spent most of his life here. So why not UVic?”

BHAN SINGH GILL WAS BORN IN 1887 in Jagdeo-Kalan, a village in the Amritsar district of the Punjab. He first came to Canada in 1906 via Hong Kong and Shanghai, where he had been a British colonial policeman. On Vancouver Island, he settled for low-paying jobs in sawmills. Tragedy struck when his first wife died in the worldwide flu pandemic on the heels of World War I.

“My father couldn’t even get a job for nine, 10 cents an hour,” says Gill, who has lived on Mt. Tolmie for the last 15 years and until recently took a regular walk on the UVic campus.

His mother, Hardial Kaur Gill, had come to Canada in 1926. Sardul, born in 1931 at Royal Jubilee Hospital, and his sister, Perminder Kaur Gill, arrived in the midst of those “Hungry Thirties.” The family moved around the Island, to mill towns like Paldi and Hillcrest, near Lake Cowichan. In 1939, they returned to Victoria, where his father worked at many of the city’s 13 sawmills. The Gills lived in a predominantly Indian neighbourhood on Market Street, dubbed “Hindu Town” even though almost every Indian in Victoria at that time was Sikh.

“In those days, coloured people did not become professionals,” Gill says.

With only a fifth grade education himself, Bhan Singh Gill encouraged his son to attend Victoria College, which he did in the early 1950s en route to his commerce degree from UBC. He didn’t always follow the wishes of his father, a devout Sikh who insisted his son wear a full beard and turban. When Gill went to university, he doffed the turban and shaved the beard.

Gill would earn his certified general accountant designation and pursue a 30-year-career as an auditor with the federal government. He also steadily built a portfolio of residential and commercial estate. In financial matters, as in education, he deferred to his father’s wisdom. In 1954, they bought a four-plex in Esquimalt. “I was going to go out and buy a new car and dad says, ‘No, why don’t you put a couple of suites in there?’”

In 1955, the year before graduating from UBC, Gill married Amar Kaur Gill (who died in 2009 after a long battle with cancer). They raised sons Kevin Singh Gill, Robin Singh Gill, and Stephen Singh Gill, and daughter Amir Kaur Gill. Kevin, BA ‘82, and Amir, BA ‘85, earned their degrees in geography and psychology respectively, with Amir going on to complete a teaching degree at Okanagan College.

That he and his children pursued higher education is evidence of the changes his father could see starting in the ’40s. “Everything is moving forward,” says Gill. “I think there is subtle racism. It’s still there. I’m not going to deny the fact. But it’s changing for the better. Much better.”

– KEITH NORBURY, BA ’85
A student support network marks its 25th year.

LONG AFTER STUDENTS CEASE TO GET LOST AMONG THE BUILDINGS, they can still be lost on campus. For 25 years now, the Peer Helping program has provided the framework for students to help students through any number of jams — academic problems, emotional needs, medical issues — that can come along with university life.

Former peer helper Andrew Wade, BA ’11, remembers when a student came to the office because the university counselors were booked up. “We talked about depression and what she was going through. We found some grounding techniques. So whenever she’s feeling really depressed and really anxious, she has tools that she can bring back with her into the real world,” says Wade, who spent three years with Peer Helping, the last as a student coordinator.

Faculty of Engineering career educator, John Fagan, BA ’06, came to Peer Helping as a mature student looking for a place in the university experience. He wound up starting a support group for other mature students. “I think it still helps me today when people walk in my door and they’re having problems,” Fagan says. “I wouldn’t have (that) appreciation if I hadn’t done Peer Helping.”

As much as anything, it’s a visible support network. “It creates all kinds of opportunities for students and staff on campus to see that there are people who are really devoted to helping and supporting others, who want to make this campus a better place,” says Emma Mason, MEd ’05, a Peer Helping coordinator in the Counselling Services office. “I think it creates that ripple of hope and that ripple of optimism and that sense that we’re not just all people floating around in our little bubbles.”

The 400 to 500 students who contact Peer Helping each year are often unsure which of the myriad university services to access for a particular need.

“Where sometimes students might not be brave enough to go to a professional that works at the university initially, the peer helpers serve as a bridge to other services,” says coordinator June Saracuse, MEd ’03.

Peer Helpers commit at least six hours weekly through the school year, receive counselling training in a September retreat and attend a variety of workshops. This year saw a record number of applications from aspiring peer helpers.

“There’s quite a growing interest on campus in programs that support student development,” says Mason, “especially the development of leadership skills in students, and Peer Helping is a really good example of that,” she says.

Peer Helping encourages former students and helpers to get back in touch and share their memories during their 25th anniversary year.

— KAT ESCHNER

Heard on Campus

“All we did at Vancouver 2010 was to try to make all of you proud so that down the road when someone is faced with a challenge they might look at us and say, I remember what they did. I liked what I saw. This is the opportunity we have in our lives. Stand up for something important and go for it. You’ll be stunned at how great your life will be.”

— JOHN FURLONG

HONORARY DEGREE
SPRING CONVOCATION
JUNE 15

AUTUMN 2011 | UVIC TORCH | 9
The Board of Governors this summer approved funding for a $59.3-million Centre for Athletics, Recreation and Special Abilities and renovations for the McKinnon Building.

The project includes a 2,100-seat gym, fieldhouse and fitness facilities. It will also house teaching and research for the Department of Exercise Science, Physical and Health Education. CanAssist will move into new space for its work on technologies and programs for people with special needs.

The plans include a six-storey parkade along the north side of the facility. The scale of the parking structure and its proximity to McKenzie Ave. drew criticism from nearby residents. The university says the parkade would limit the use of land allocated to vehicles while replacing parking spaces lost to construction.

In October, Saanich council postponed a decision on height variances for the project and the university announced a six-month delay in the project to launch a formal consultation process with neighbours and the municipality.

The facility is to be funded by a combination of university investments, sponsorship, partnerships, fundraising, and non-mandatory user fees. Once underway, it would take about three years to complete.

The Legacy Art Gallery, renovated with added space for teaching and research, has reopened at its downtown location at 630 Yates. While the interior has changed, the emphasis remains on Pacific Northwest art from the Michael Williams collection as well as university’s other holdings — some 27,000 pieces in all. Showing until Nov. 26 is “In Her Own Words: Works and Writings by Emily Carr, Katharine Maltwood and Myfanwy Pavelic.” Open Wed. to Sat., 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission.
The 2011 UVic Legacy Awards will be presented on the evening of Nov. 22 at the Victoria Conference Centre. The annual celebration of excellence includes awards in four categories: alumni, teaching, research and sports.

This year’s recipients are (alumni) BC Chief Justice Lance Finch, Victoria College, ’55; (teaching) Mathematics Prof. Gary MacGillivray, MSc ’86; (research) Electrical Engineering Prof. Emeritus Andreas Antoniou; and (sports) former Vikes men’s soccer manager and long-time supporter George Smith.

Ticket information: (250) 853-3226 or e-mail ceremony@uvic.ca.

BRIEFLY...

The university is getting set to celebrate its 50th anniversary. Planning is underway, with a special alumni homecoming celebration slated for the weekend of Sept. 28 – 30 next year. The homecoming will kick-off a series of special events leading up to UVic’s golden anniversary on July 1, 2013.

The leader of the NEPTUNE Canada ocean network is Kate Moran (below), an ocean engineer whose most recent stop was a two-year term as assistant director in the White House office of science and technology. She takes the reins from founding director Chris Barnes, who retired this summer. Her past research includes leading the first expedition to find the source of the earthquake that triggered the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami. Moran is a professor in the Faculty of Science with an adjunct appointment in the School of Earth and Ocean Sciences.

New restrictions mean smoking is only permitted outside Ring Road. Designated areas include benches and ashtrays within a three-minute walk of any building. The changes follow requests from faculty, staff and students to reduce second-hand smoke on campus.

University Librarian Marnie Swanson retires in December. Only the second university librarian in UVic history, she’s being succeeded by Jonathan Bengston, chief librarian at the University of St. Michael’s College in the University of Toronto.

New signs pointing the way around campus and identifying buildings have begun to spring up around campus. In all, 17 different types of signs are being phased in. They’ll help pedestrians, cyclists and drivers get to where they’re going.
Vikes Summary

Golf
Golf alumna Christina Proteau competed at the LPGA US Women’s Open, missing the cut by one stroke. She also won the BC Women’s Amateur and is now looking to join the pro circuit through qualifying school in the US. Meanwhile, men’s golfing alumnus Mitch Evanecz also seeking pro opportunities through qualifying school, barely missed the cut at the RBC Canadian Open PGA event in Vancouver.

Swimming
Open water swimmer Richard Weinberger is on track for the 2012 Summer Olympics in London after winning a 10-km test event in August at the Serpentine in Hyde Park. Other Vikes who should make a splash at the Olympics include Ryan Cochrane, the reigning CIS male swimmer and male rookie of the year. Cochrane will not compete at UVic this season in order to prepare for the Games.

Rowing
A number of Vikes rowing alumni qualified for the Olympics at the 2011 World Rowing Championships in Slovenia. Lindsay Jennerich (women’s lightweight double), Gabe Bergen (men’s eight), Rachelle Vinberg (Dejong) and Darcy Marquardt (women’s eight) and Tim Myers (men’s lightweight pair) qualified with their respective boats. Vikes assistant coach Barney Williams will be in London to do commentary for CTV.

Universiade
Vikes student-athletes were well represented at the 2011 FISU Summer Universiade in Shenzhen, China in August. Golfers Anne Balser, Megan Woodland and Alyssa Herkel, swimmers Hilary Caldwell, Craig Dagnall, Aimeson King, Nick Sinclair and MacKenzie Downing and women’s soccer player Shayla Behrens were joined by Vikes Manager of Athletics James Keogh as part of the mission staff. Downing was Canada’s flag-bearer.

Track
Distance runner and Vikes alumnus Geoff Martinson is also making a push for the 2012 Games after a stellar performance at the 2012 world track and field championships in Daegu, South Korea, in September, placing ninth overall in the men’s 1500-metre race.

Soccer Nationals
The 2011 Canadian Interuniversity Sport men’s soccer nationals will be at UVic from Nov. 10-13. The Vikes, as host, have an automatic berth in the eight-team tournament. The championships will feature one other team from Canada West, two teams from Atlantic Canada, two from Quebec, and two from Ontario. Bruce Wilson, in his 25th year as Vikes head coach, has a deep roster blended with a talented rookies and of fourth- and fifth-year seniors. The Vikes will also host the CIS women’s soccer nationals next November.

Basketball Schedule

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday November 4</td>
<td>UVic at Trinity Western</td>
<td>6 + 8 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday November 5</td>
<td>UVic at Trinity Western</td>
<td>5 + 7 p.m.</td>
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<td>Friday November 11</td>
<td>Regina at UVic</td>
<td>6 + 8 p.m.</td>
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<td>Saturday November 12</td>
<td>Brandon at UVic</td>
<td>5 + 7 p.m.</td>
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<td>Friday November 18</td>
<td>Thompson Rivers at UVic</td>
<td>6 + 8 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday November 19</td>
<td>Thompson Rivers at UVic</td>
<td>5 + 7 p.m.</td>
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<td>Friday November 25</td>
<td>UVic at Calgary</td>
<td>6 + 8 p.m.</td>
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<td>Saturday November 26</td>
<td>UVic at Lethbridge</td>
<td>6 + 8 p.m.</td>
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<td>Friday January 6</td>
<td>Saskatchewan at UVic</td>
<td>6 + 8 p.m.</td>
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<td>Saturday January 7</td>
<td>Alberta at UVic</td>
<td>5 + 7 p.m.</td>
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<td>Friday January 13</td>
<td>Fraser Valley at UVic</td>
<td>6 + 8 p.m.</td>
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<td>Saturday January 14</td>
<td>Fraser Valley at UVic</td>
<td>5 + 7 p.m.</td>
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<td>Friday January 20</td>
<td>UVic at Winnipeg</td>
<td>6 + 8 p.m.</td>
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<td>Saturday January 21</td>
<td>UVic at Manitoba</td>
<td>6 + 8 p.m.</td>
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<td>Friday February 3</td>
<td>UVic at UBC-Okanagan</td>
<td>6 + 8 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday February 4</td>
<td>UVic at UBC-Okanagan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday February 10</td>
<td>UVic at UBC</td>
<td>6 + 8 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday February 17</td>
<td>UBC at UVic</td>
<td>6 + 8 p.m.</td>
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Tickets: www.govikesgo.com. Women’s game first in all double-headers. (All times listed in Pacific Time.)

Vikes Online
Can’t get out to the games? Streaming of the CIS Soccer nationals will be available free via www.govikesgo.com. The Vikes will also be offering free online video and stats of a number of basketball and soccer home games through the 2011-12 season at http://canadawest.tv.
BABA BRINKMAN STALKS THE STAGE OF MANHATTAN'S SOHO

Playhouse, arms cutting air, eyes popping. Brinkman’s flurries of words can shock, confuse and cause consternation. “I’m a African, I’m a African and I know what’s happening,” Brinkman, MA ’03, raps. Most of the audience joins in on the chorus, though a few incredulous non-believers glare at the stage, arms folded.

So what’s a white Canadian doing in New York rapping about being African? He’s preaching Darwin, hip-hop style in his off-Broadway hit, “Rap Guide to Evolution.”

Borrowing the chorus from power hip-hop’s Dead Prez, Brinkman’s “I’m a African” traces humankind’s origins to the many-nationed continent. “We started as Africans, then became Eurasians, then one final migration, we became Canadians.” It’s the Origin of Species in three minutes, 10 seconds.

During the 90-minute show words and ideas come at blazing speed as Brinkman takes on creationists while rapping about natural selection, mitochondria, genetic code, sexual selection, evolutionary psychology, Richard Dawkins and the evolution of hip-hop. It’s dense stuff to be sure but the “Rap Guide” flows. Critics, theatre-goers, scientists and even actress Goldie Hawn are loving it.

At UVic, Brinkman studied Medieval literature, penning essays about “Live Performance in Hip-Hop” and “The History of Rhyme in English.” A big thinker who grew up in a house full of ideas and interest, Brinkman says: “People who came to our house for a family dinner always talked about how there was no small talk, it’s all big talk. My parents were philosophers.”

His mother is Vancouver Quadra MP Joyce Murray, a former BC Environment Minister. His father, Dirk Brinkman, owns a reforestation company. It was working for his dad’s business that Brinkman honed his rapping skills while tree planting.

“It’s a very rhythmic job, so I taught myself to rap while tree planting. My foreman used to yell at me, ‘Keep your mind on your work, I can hear you rapping over there.’” Brinkman laughs at the memory.

He turned his love of Medieval literature into his first hit, the “Rap Canterbury Tales.” During one of his successful runs at Edinburgh’s Fringe Festival, Brinkman was approached by a British scientist who wanted to know if the young rapper could write about evolution in celebration of Charles Darwin’s 200th birthday.

“I always gravitated toward trying to merge literature and science,” Brinkman says over the phone from his New York City apartment. The big questions he faced were: “How do I make it entertaining? How do I make it relevant.”

He says the “Rap Guide to Evolution” is the only peer-reviewed rap show (Birmingham University’s Mark Pallen, a microbial genomic specialist, vetted the content). It’s also his first professionally produced show after years on the Fringe circuit. The staging, lighting design, sets and marketing are handled for him. “It’s bliss,” he says.

When the show opened in June, the New York Times gave him double coverage with same-day raves in its science and theatre sections. “Brinkman mounts an argument against intelligent design that is both brainy and entertaining,” David Rooney, a Times theatre critic, wrote. An earlier version of the show was seen last year by Olivia Judson, the biologist and author. In her weekly column on NYTimes.com, she said the show was “one of the most astonishing, and brilliant, lectures on evolution I’ve ever seen.”

Rap, Brinkman insists, is continuing the traditions of some of the greatest works in literature. “Where does rhyme come from? We’re talking about Homer, Beowulf, Chaucer, Shakespeare, Alexander Pope, Eminem and Jay-Z, it’s all the same,” Brinkman raps in “Sexual Selection 2.0.”

While it may be a stretch equating Jay-Z with Homer and Brinkman’s own beloved Chaucer, he has a point. They were the hitmakers of their times. “This is recognition of the potential of hip-hop music of expressing a limitless range of ideas.”
Masters of Ales

These alumni have changed the way we drink and appreciate beer.

BY ROBERT MOYES, BA '82
PHOTOGRAPHY BY NIK WEST, BA '95

Publican Paul Hadfield of Spinnakers, the country's first brewpub.
THREE DECADES AGO, FRIDAY NIGHT MEANT HEADING "SUB-WARDS" for cold beer and loud music. The buzz was always better than the beer itself, which was mass-produced and nearly flavourless. These days, the party spirit is the same. But the beer offerings have gone from bottled blandness to an on-tap selection of great pints from the region’s many microbreweries. The shift from mediocrity to flavour-rich craft beers can be traced to an influential group of brewing professionals who are among the ranks of UVic alumni.

Anyone with even a passing interest knows the city’s passion for so-called "real ale" began at Spinnakers Gastro Brewpub, which opened in 1984 as Canada’s first brewpub. And the man in charge of Spinnakers, then and now, is Paul Hadfield, who graduated with his economics degree in 1972 before heading to UBC to study architecture.

“It was 1982 and I had my own design firm in Granville Market when virtually overnight there was no more work coming in,” recalls Hadfield. “I was approached by John Mitchell, who had recently opened a little brewery in Horseshoe Bay, and he suggested starting something similar in Victoria.”

Mitchell soon returned from England with a suitcase full of righteous British beers and Hadfield still remembers the night they tasted their way through all 14 of them. “Here was this fascinating range of flavours that we had no access to,” says Hadfield. “Mitchell was the brewer and my job was to be the entrepreneur — to put together a business plan and then ‘politic’ it.”

He found himself walking into a bureaucratic minefield. Liquor licensing is tricky at the best of times and Hadfield was daring to promote a whole new category of pub. “There were insane regulatory constraints, including a lot of concern because we wanted to have windows,” he recalls with a wry grin. “There were no models to look at so we had to get zoning bylaws created, then work our way through provincial liquor laws…even federal excise rules,” he says. What he calls his “pig-headed determination” blazed the trail for every Canadian brewpub and microbrewery that followed.

THE RESTLESSLY CREATIVE HADFIELD is a far cry from the brewer-in-embryo stereotype of the science student concocting beer in his dorm closet. Leave that to Iain Hill, a biochemistry alumnus who went from basement brewing to national fame as an ale-master.

Hill admits to knowing "very little about good beer" while he was attending UVic, and the potions he cooked up in his apartment were all about having something cheap to guzzle on the weekend. “At university we just drank the same old crap, because that was what was available," he shrugs. “The first time I can remember having something really interesting was when I discovered stout at (the now UVic-owned) Swans brewpub.”

Upon graduation in 1994, Hill wasn’t sure what his career path should be. His dad, an amateur brewer, pointed out that whenever the economy wasn’t doing well people were inclined to drink. So Hill promptly landed a job with Vancouver’s Shaftebury Brewing Company. A year later he joined the Mark James Group as brewer for the Yaletown Brewing Company and is now MJG’s head brewer, overseeing five brewpubs. Hill has a countrywide reputation for creating interesting, small-batch beers, often using rare and historical yeast strains.

Plainspoken but clearly passionate, Hill credits his biochem expertise with a lot of his success. “I can experiment knowledgeably with yeast and bacteria,” he says. “Plus I’ve built my own yeast propagator and have an extensive yeast ‘library’ to draw on.” Just a few sips of his India Pale Ale and it’s clear he really knows what he’s doing. Although Hill doesn’t enter a lot of competitions, he put in a remarkable showing at the 2010 BC Beer Awards, taking home three golds and a Best in Show for the IPA.

A NEWER GENERATION of graduate beer-preneurs, Neil Cooke-Dallin and Becky Julseth, are married and run Gulf Islands Brewing. Although they didn’t meet at UVic — Cooke-Dallin graduated in Visual Arts in 1999 and Julseth got a History in Art degree in 2003 — the two share a similar background insofar as they both developed an appreciation of porters and ales within the context of the local food movement. “So it wasn’t just because it was beer,” smiles Julseth. “It was part of a larger culture of quality, sustainable agricultural products.”

They became involved in a cottage brewery on Saltspring Island that at the time was owned by Cooke-Dallin’s uncle. Even though the tiny brewery was producing award-winning ales it just wasn’t thriving and the uncle wanted to sell. Soon they were both thinking, “Hey, maybe we should buy it.”

Three years later, they’ve nearly tripled production and have eight varieties on the go. Made from on-site artesian water and locally- or regionally-sourced hops and barley, and based on organic concepts, their Saltspring Island Ales are the very definition of those specialty products popular with discerning beer lovers. “Up till now we’ve been expanding fiercely to get beyond the costs of our fixed assets,” says Cooke-Dallin. “But we intend to stay small, so we can continue to source locally and control all the variables.”

When Julseth was at UVic, the only local beer available on campus was from Vancouver Island Brewery. She finds it a pleasing irony that the grad lounge has been chasing after them to get some yummy Island Ales behind their bar.

Thirsty yet? There are probably a dozen or more UVic alumni who have gone on to rewarding careers in the brewing industry. If it weren’t for them, you might be slurping bland, chemical-laden swill. Instead you can sip a crisp IPA, a complex porter, a hefeweizen flavoured with locally-sourced raspberries, a dessert-like espresso stout, a…
In August, 20 female students took part in the first India Field School, offered by the Department of Geography and PRIA (the Society for Participatory Research in Asia). Our correspondent is nearing completion of her undergraduate degree and this was the first overseas trip for the Ladner, BC native.

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY VICTORIA FRANCIS

Our ascent into the foothills of the Himalayas, in the northern state of Uttarakhand, offered a breathtaking view with each bend of the winding road — the perfect distraction to the precarious road conditions before us.

Dark green foliage, thriving from the monsoon rains, blanketed the steep valley sides as a distant river meandered below. Terraces supported giant steps of vibrant green rice paddies while clouds brought short episodes of intense rain.

When we finally reached our destination at the Himalayan Action Research Centre’s field station, cool, clean air greeted us. It was a welcome change from the smothering heat, humidity and pollution of cities like Haridwar and New Delhi. The mountain air and pine trees provided a comfort reminiscent of British Columbia.

The farming villages in this area were surrounded by beautiful scenery and distanced from the crowded and chaotic cities. However, it soon became apparent that this was an incredibly difficult environment for agriculture. The farmers were warm and inviting and shared with us the various struggles they face, including maintaining soil fertility as the heavy rains leach the soil’s nutrients.

One of the most pressing issues was the difficulty they had transporting their goods to the market due to frequent landslides causing road washouts — a challenge confronting them every rainy season.

We were soon made aware of how difficult road maintenance was when we became stranded by three road closures on the only road leading out of the field station. A stream our buses had easily crossed three days prior had developed into an impassable torrent after one night of monsoon rains. We had to remain in the foothills for three extra days before we were able to leave.

During our extended stay, we gained a greater sense of the challenges the villages faced in such an unpredictable landscape. On a hike, we came across numerous crates of rotting, fly-ridden tomatoes abandoned by market-bound farmers, stymied by roads rendered impassable by landslides.

One morning, we ventured down to a nearby village and walked around visiting various shops. The dark and muddy streets contrasted with the smiling faces and numerous carts of fresh, brightly coloured produce. On our way back to the field station, we came across a tall temple nestled in a small settlement. Prayer flags and bells dangled from its flared roof and while we admired the structure, we were instantly swarmed by small children. They were full of
excitement and repeatedly asked for their photo to be taken, eager to see themselves afterwards on the digital camera screen. They then followed us the rest of the way, asking our names and where we were from.

In the evening, Prof. Phil Dearden played guitar and we sang on a rooftop. Before long, women, children, and several men joined us. We sang for them and then they shared some of their songs with us. They encouraged us to dance and we demonstrated a line dance for them. It was an amazing experience to simply spend time and converse with them outside a formal meeting setting.

**Being stranded left one of my most indelible memories.** We could not leave, contact our families, and had intermittent power and limited running water — a situation which evolved into a powerful learning experience, giving us a more complete perspective of life in the hills and forcing us to explore our surroundings.

Field schools, in general, offer an extremely beneficial learning experience as students are provided with an opportunity to go beyond the traditional, theory-based classroom environment and actually apply the skills they learn through a hands-on approach in a practical setting. In the India Field School we were completely immersed in a different culture and environment.

In the field, we were able to meet with villagers and learn about difficult issues, such as female foeticide, gender inequality, human-wildlife conflict, conservation challenges, and the relocation of tribal communities who had formerly lived amidst national parks. These experiences were much more powerful than just reading about such topics in journal articles. Travelling with 19 other students was also enlightening because we were constantly discussing the experiences we had, debating different opinions, and bouncing ideas off of one another.

I feel I have gained a completely different perspective of India through the field school than if I had travelled there alone as a tourist. We saw beautiful non-tourist sites in remote areas, travelled with members from a local NGO who were always willing to answer any questions we had, and witnessed first-hand the struggles different communities are facing. We also had the opportunity to talk with villagers, through the aid of a translator, and ask them questions, learning from them as well as dancing and singing with them. If I had travelled alone, I probably would have never seen this side of India away from the crowded shopping hubs and popular tourist destinations.

Now that I am back on campus and have reflected more on the India Field School, there are many aspects of India I miss, including the food, culture, colours, adventure, close-knit communities, and the people I met along the way.

In truth, perhaps one of the most influential lessons I learned from the inherent unpredictability of India was that sometimes events are out of your control and that you just have to sit back and enjoy the moment and the company of the people you are with. When travelling, and in life in general, you will get delayed, cheated, sickened, scared, and lost, but you just have to relax, find the humour in the situation and trust that things will work out. Often, these moments turn out to be the most memorable.

A stream our buses had easily crossed three days prior had developed into an impassable torrent.
Cultures in Contrast

Victoria and campus life from the perspective of international students.

INTERVIEWED BY GRANT KERR | PHOTOGRAPHY BY NIK WEST, BA ’95

China’s ZONGXIN (ELAINE) LI, 22, is an undergraduate student in the Gustavson School of Business. BARMAK HESHMAT, is 27 and working toward his PhD in Electrical and Computer Engineering, from Isfahan, Iran. Together they sat down with the Torch to talk about their impressions of their university and adopted country.

Elaine Li I am from Guangzhou, near Hong Kong. It’s a really, really old city, something like 2,200 years old. I spent my first two years at university in China majoring in finance, then moved to UVic to study business management. So in four years, I get two degrees from two universities.

Barmak Heshmat I was looking abroad and I found this professor here (Thomas Darcie) who had this really nice background with AT&T Bell labs. He was the vice-president there and has over 20 patents and a hundred publications. That’s what really hooked me into UVic. I wanted to talk to a professor who understands my ideas and backs me up. Professors here expect more and expect you to work more individually and they can connect you with different people with different facilities.

Grant Kerr What were your first impressions here?

EL In China I was surrounded by people, by crowds, horrible crowds. When I came here I was just surrounded by trees and houses and cars. I was living with a homestay family. She taught me a lot about Canadian culture and how people do things here which was totally different to me. In my city we didn’t say ‘hello’ to strangers on the street or say thank you to the bus driver. The sense of community is tighter and the people are friendlier.

BH Exactly.

GK Is the nature of study different here?

EL Definitely. Here I am amazed by how small the class was. In China there are 80 in a classroom and we didn’t have a chance to interact with the professor or our peers. Here we have lots of time to participate in group projects and a chance to step up and talk, or give speeches. That was a bit of culture shock. People here are more open-minded and willing to listen.

BH At UVic, professors from different disciplines collaborate really well. That really keeps the projects going. That’s not really easy to do in other places.

GK Is there a different attitude toward learning here?

EL I feel here the hierarchy between students and professors is very flat. In China we just learn from the professor, they deliver knowledge to us and we don’t get a chance to challenge the authority. But here, the professor learns something from us students as well, especially from our group discussions and presentations.

BH Yeah, yeah. Essentially, there is this hierarchy (in Iran) and the professor is at the top.

GK Was the academic culture hard to get used to here?

Katie Young I had come up as a child on vacations with my parents. And when I was looking around for a university, my parents said look at Victoria because it’s a nice place. And they have a very good Medieval Literature program.

GK What sort of cultural and academic differences have you noticed?

KY I was a teaching assistant on an introductory English course last year. I graded them inaccurately because the American system is completely different than the Canadian grading system and they all got really high marks. The students must have thought, ‘Wow, I’m going to do really well in this course.’ My supervisor had to make some alterations. (Laughs)

GK And you recently returned from a trip to Europe with other international students?

KY I don’t know if it was the friendly Canadian environment where everyone bonded but we all met up and did our Euro trip. We were in Italy for one weekend with one girl (and her grandmother) who was making fresh lasagna for 10 international students. We also went to France and England. We were talking about UVic and what a fabulous place it is.

One of the coolest things for me was the Canadian Thanksgiving, which is about a month earlier than ours. It was interesting being with this group of international students who had no idea what Thanksgiving was and some of them haven’t even had turkey before.

An American in Victoria

KATIE YOUNG, 23, hails from Petaluma, California. After earning her undergraduate degree at the University of Portland, she came to UVic for her master’s in Medieval Literature.

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**EL** At first I would say, ‘Professor’ and their last name. But they would say, ‘Oh, just call me Mark.’

**BH** You can never get that friendly with a professor in Iran. There are too many people and they have this protected position. That’s what makes collaboration even more difficult because they have this shell around them. Here, you can connect them together more easily, which is important.

**GK** Where did you stay when you arrived, Barmak?

**BH** I lived in a dorm which was great because I met a lot of friends. I had a friend from Norway and a friend from Japan and a friend from France. You tend to learn from each other and broaden your horizons.

**GK** Did you learn about yourself?

**BH** In Iran I lived with my family. They do everything. They cook, take care of the house and you were just supposed to study. When I came here I had to do my groceries and had to do my cooking. I burned a lot of pots. You tend to become more independent.

**EL** In our program, it’s recommended you stay with a homestay family for the couple of months. My home mom, she became my mama in Canada. She lives with her lovely dog, so I was immediately the new family member. I got a chance to talk to her a lot and she gave me advice in my academics and in my co-op positions.

**GK** Did you have any pre-conceived notions before arriving here?

**EL** I was thinking natural resources, full of trees and natural gas and I knew Canada was north of America. That’s one of the reasons I chose Canada.

**BH** I knew it was very cold but that’s totally different on the west coast. UVic has all these jungles and trails around it. I’m sitting at the computer in my office trying to do some simulations and I get tired. So I take a walk in the woods and the gardens and, ‘Oh, there’s a deer.’ In Iran, you would have to drive for eight hours to get this.

**EL** Something I have found out about Canada is the stereotype is true: Canadians are really friendly. If you’re here and you go to the bank or the Safeway, people will say, ‘How’s it going?’ For someone who doesn’t know a lot of people, it’s a nice feeling.

When I went home in July, a day or two went by and my dad just laughed and he said, ‘You have a Canadian accent.’ Canadians turn everything into a question. ‘Eh?’ It’s nice. I think it invites conversation.

**GK** Anything else?

**BH** Another huge cultural difference is hockey. Being from the Bay area I watch baseball and I’m a huge Giants fan. They won the World Series last year and nobody had any idea. It was, ‘Baseball, who watches baseball?’ But I was around for the whole Stanley Cup. That was exciting. That’s this year’s goal: go to a big hockey game.
I had looked forward to going to China for a study exchange ever since my sister came back from hers six years ago. It has definitely been the best experience of my life so far. Beijing took me out of my comfort zone. I now understand Chinese culture better and my eyes have opened to new career goals and global opportunities. Here’s why I had such a blast:

Beijing: More than 19 million people are in Beijing! The centre of China is the best place to learn Chinese culture and history.

Friends: I couldn’t even imagine how many friends from around the world I would make and keep in touch with. Most importantly, I met a number of friends from Beijing who helped me learn and understand the culture.

People: My experience was made exceptionally interesting and educational through my encounters with a variety of Chinese people, from migrant workers and children, to students and teachers.

Travel: The options for travelling beyond Beijing are endless. I went to Tibet and Shanghai, and I knew a number of students who travelled to Xi’An, Tianjin, Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Mongolia.

Food and Entertainment: The local Chinese food is much different from the westernized Chinese cuisine. Every day I ate at new and often unusual restaurants. My friends and I would also frequently sing at Karaoke clubs, a major activity in China.

Shopping: Bargaining with store clerks is very entertaining and a useful life skill. My friends and I miss bartering for goods and services back home.

Biking: Biking in Beijing is as common as walking. I loved biking around the city. Everywhere is flat and there were big bike lanes. There are literally thousands of bikes everywhere you go.

School: Had some great professors and got involved with various student clubs.

Language: During my exchange I definitely improved on my Mandarin language skills. Chinese Mandarin is becoming a major language around the world.

Volunteering: Being at a migrant children’s school was a life changing experience of its own.

Go to YouTube to see Edward Ko’s video “UVic Exchange.”
Songhees Chief Chee-ah-thluk, whose leadership extended throughout Victoria during the 1800s, was nicknamed “Freezy” for his curly hair, which was a trait inherited from his Hawaiian father.

The cultural and academic exchange initiated in 2006 between the faculty and students of the Indigenous Governance Program and the Indigenous Politics Program at the University of Hawai’i-Mānoa is a contemporary renewal of our historically international Indigenous relationships. From this perspective, this relationship entails much more than a standard university course offering: it is Indigenous diplomacy in action, grounded in principles of reciprocity and responsibility. The IGOV/UHM exchange has also been an invaluable way to deepen students’ experiential and place-based learning by inviting an international cohort of graduate level students to engage in a dialogue on community resurgence strategies as they impact Indigenous communities in Coast and Strait Salish territories, Hawai’i and abroad.

In July, the IGOV program hosted a two-week intensive course for 20 students in collaboration with local Indigenous communities. “Reclaiming Čelápen: Land, Water & Governance” focused on Indigenous land and water based practices, particularly as lived by local Coast Salish and Strait Salish Peoples. This highly experiential course enabled students to have a more hands-on, community-based learning experience while developing a deeper understanding of major social and economic forces that have impacted Indigenous peoples since colonial invasion. By participating in the efforts of Coast Salish and Strait Salish people to reclaim, develop, and practice their Čelápen (Sencoten word for ancestry or birthright), UHM and UVic students gained a broader perspective on topics related to Indigenous political thought and action, and brought international awareness to the contemporary struggles of Indigenous peoples and communities in Canada.

The course included teachings from Lekwungen, Pilalt and Wsáneč community members and Elders, as well as classroom-
Participants became more aware of local cultures and practices while engaging with broader strategies of Indigenous resistance and resurgence. At the conclusion of the course, the Hawaiian kumu (teachers, faculty) and students presented kahili or two feathered staffs (male named Kūmāu and female named Keʻeʻelikolani) to the Indigenous Governance Program. Hawaiians traditionally used kahili to show status, lineage, and family ties. Additionally, kahili were brought to villages in order to alert folks that the aliʻi (leaders) were approaching. From an Indigenous perspective, this diplomatic exchange was akin to a sacred compact between the teachers and students of these two different Indigenous territories. It also signified a deeper renewal of the relationships between the Coast and Strait Salish Peoples and the Kanaka Maoli people.

It is this place-based existence and resulting web of relationships that fundamentally distinguish Indigenous nations from other peoples (and state entities) of the world. After all, states and nations are two entirely different things. There are approximately 200 “legally recognized” states within the world system today and yet there are more than 5,000 Indigenous nations trapped within 70 state borders. In contrast to the political/legal origins of states in 1648, Indigenous nations are ancestral community people who have longstanding relationships with their homelands and the natural world that have been in existence centuries before the state system began and were disrupted by subsequent colonial invasion and encroachment.

INDIGENOUS RELATIONSHIPS are commemorated through diplomatic and cultural practices as expressions of self-determination. Unfortunately, internationalization has been taken to signify the state-centered system and the borders drawn by states. From Indigenous eyes, internationalization is expressed through a web of relationships that transcend state boundaries and emanate from their experiences as well as land-based and water-based cultural practices and relationships. The exchange of kahili signifies a deeper reciprocity and responsibility to our Hawaiian colleagues — one that is governed by lived relationships and not state borders.

JEFF CORNTASSEL (CHEROKEE NATION) IS AN ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF INDIGENOUS GOVERNANCE.

Early childhood care and development providers in Africa take an innovative approach to professional training.

BY BRYNA HALLAM, BA ’05

PHOTOGRAPHY BY NIK WEST, BA ’95

ALAN PENCE’S OFFICE ON CAMPUS IS A CRAMPED BUT neat space filled with well-ordered bookshelves and filing cabinets, decorated with First Nations prints and pictures of children. A UNICEF name tag is pinned to a bulletin board. And there’s a poster, given to him by his wife when their daughter was an infant, that says: “I wanted to go out and change the world, but I couldn’t find a babysitter.”

Soon after the birth of his daughter in 1979 — he also has a younger son — Pence’s wife started a new job while he balanced finishing his dissertation with caring for their infant. The poster came from that time. “It was a whole other facet of child care. I had been doing early childhood work since ’71, so taking care of a little one wasn’t new for me, but it’s your daughter and that’s new.”

It’s an idea that captures the School of Child and Youth Care professor’s interests — especially his earlier work on the interaction of family, labour force participation, child care and child development issues.

These days, he’s focussed on the care and development of other people’s children through the Early Childhood Development Virtual University, the accredited distance education program he created for sub-Saharan Africa. Students meet face-to-face and online over a one-year period — without having to take time away from home or work.

Graduates become early childhood leaders in their countries. They develop programs, policies and training options that span social welfare, health, local government and education ministries.

In Malawi, ECDVU alumni developed the country’s first early childhood development policy, paving the way for new ECD programs and training throughout the country. One program, a place for young children to
Alan Pence: His distance-learning program for childcare workers has more than 100 alumni in Africa.

Care in the World

Alan Pence: His distance-learning program for child care workers has more than 100 alumni in Africa.

Childcare in Africa

Alan Pence: His distance-learning program for child care workers has more than 100 alumni in Africa.

Childcare in Africa

Care in the World

learn, play and get healthy meals was tested in a village that wanted to build a safe, caring environment for its children. The result was a new early childhood centre that was so successful it became a model for other villages.

Since starting in 2001, 108 students (out of 113) from 16 African countries have graduated. All but one — who left for political reasons — remain to work on the continent, generating a “brain gain” that is a key aspect of the program.

The ECDVU incorporates African knowledge and perspectives. Instead of defining a particular outcome or way to do things, Pence sees his role as one that creates space for sharing knowledge and encouraging the generation of new approaches and programs.

“Promoting child development...seems to define what matters most to me.”

IT’S WHAT HE CALLS THE “generative approach” and it was actually developed years earlier while he was working with First Nations groups in Canada.

That work began when Saskatchewan’s Meadow Lake Tribal Council contacted Pence in 1989 with a request for child care training for community members. It was to be delivered in their own communities and they wanted to incorporate their own cultural practices and language in the program.

What resulted was Pence’s generative approach. Because no community-specific texts or curriculum existed, the community drew on its members, as well as on Euro-western sources, to create its own. “I wasn’t sure the generative approach would work,” Pence says. “But it was clear to me and to the community that what had been tried (before) wasn’t working well. There was really nothing to lose.”

Following successful work with a number of First Nations communities, Pence was invited by UNICEF in the mid-‘90s to support their efforts in early childhood development internationally. That’s when the ECDVU emerged.

The program is well known in early childhood development circles and Pence received UVic’s Craigdarroch Research Award for Societal Contributions and the Canadian Bureau of International Education’s International Education Leadership Award. The ECDVU was recently shortlisted for the World Innovation Summit Education award. Pence also holds the UNESCO Chair in Early Childhood Education, Care, and Development.

But despite ECDVU’s success in Africa, Pence looks forward to the program “disappearing” and being taken up by African universities. In June Pence met with leaders of the University of Ibadan — Nigeria’s oldest university and one of the oldest in Africa — who embraced the opportunity to take the lead in further establishing the program in Nigeria and beyond. “This is what happened with the First Nations work,” Pence says. “Even though UVic no longer offers the program, it continues through indigenous and other institutions in western Canada. Its approach and philosophy have been sustained.”

Pence sees his career arc — starting with a love of cross-cultural experiences rooted in semesters spent studying in Iran and Italy in the late ‘60s, then working in early childhood development in the early ‘70s — in a way that makes it seem he couldn’t have ended up doing, or wanting to do, anything else.

“The work that I’m engaged with, that I continue to enjoy, really started with cross-cultural and indigenous work,” he says, adding that it was a nice fit moving from First Nations work into the international work with ECDVU. “Both opportunities have brought together things I think are critical. Promoting child development within international development seems to define what matters most to me.”
Marine scientists from around the world are experimenting with UVic’s Ocean Networks Canada Observatory.

BY MAUREEN LICATA

FROM A COMPUTER IN GERMANY, GEOSCIENTIST
Laurenz Thomsen monitors gas hydrates on the sea floor off of Vancouver Island. He can also measure the temperature, pressure, water currents, salinity, methane and turbidity in the 871-m depths.

At the other end of this long-distance connection is Wally II, a mobile deep-sea crawler designed by Thomsen and his team at Jacobs University in Bremen. Thomsen’s among a contingent of international researchers who’ve joined their Canadian counterparts to innovatively probe the Pacific via the NEPTUNE Canada ocean network, the world’s first regional-scale underwater observatory. NEPTUNE hosts an 800-km loop of power and communication cable on the Juan de Fuca tectonic plate, supporting an array of scientific instruments and gear.

“Each time I log in to Wally and switch on the camera, I’m amazed that NEPTUNE enables me to study the deep sea floor 8,500 km away,” says Thomsen. “It’s not all about Wally. (It’s) the infrastructure provided, the colleagues sitting in Victoria to make sure that the systems works, the data analysts who control the data each day. It is truly fantastic.”

Although Wally II sports a European provenance, it’s ideally suited to the rigours of deep-sea deployment along BC’s continental margin. The crawler’s rugged tractor treads and titanium frame are geared to withstand the terrain and the considerable subsea pressure. In addition to its sensors and HD camera, it’s equipped with drive motors, sealed electronic compartments and lights.

Wally II nimbly roams regions of Barkley Canyon where solid

Artisanal Gold

Artisanal and small-scale gold miners often use poisonous mercury to extract gold by hand amalgamation, conducted in the background by a young Nigerian miner.

Lethal Stakes

DISCOVERING GOLD SOUNDS GLAMOROUS BUT the reality for small-scale gold miners around the globe can be anything but. The pay-off can be small and the use of mercury in the mining process can cause headaches and tremors, muscle atrophy, extreme shyness, kidney problems and even death.

The risks associated with mercury in large part led Kevin Telmer, an associate professor in the School of Earth and Ocean Sciences, to create the Artisanal Gold Council.

A geochemist who views his science as a way to help build communities and solve problems, Telmer formed the non-profit council with some lofty goals. It aims to improve the health, working environment and livelihoods of the 10 million miners involved in the artisanal and small-scale
methane has been extruded through the ocean floor. This main component of natural gas oozes from cold seeps, generating interest and concern.

Like carbon dioxide, methane is a potent greenhouse gas. One cubic centimetre of the carbon compound in the deep ocean expands to 160 cubic centimetres when air-borne.

“If this methane is released and rises to the surface, it will intensify climate change,” says Thomsen. So long-term stability monitoring is warranted. As well, gas hydrates represent an enormous potential reservoir of this clean-burning hydrocarbon. “If other sources of energy diminish, people will try to extract methane from these deep-sea sources.”

**WHILE THOMSEN FOCUSES ON CARBON** stores and the benthic biota of the continental margin, French electrical and software engineer Yves Auffret collects real-time pressure-related data. He and his colleagues from the oceanographic institute IFREMER crafted a purpose-built piezometer. Stationed at a depth of nearly three km, the device’s four-metre probe carries temperature and pore pressure sensors into the dense sediment.

“It’s designed to measure the difference between the pressure in the mud and the pressure in the water column,” he says. “We’ll also look for pressure variations when there is seismic activity. We’ll be comparing the piezometer’s data with those from very deep bore holes a few hundred metres below the sea floor.”

Even the cacophony of the deep ocean merits attention. Though sea sounds may seem eerie to the uninitiated, hydrophones are helping to decode the clamour. Michel André of Spain’s Technical University of Catalonia listens to the ever-increasing din in the depths. Unnatural noise may bewilder large marine mammals that rely on acoustic information to function. To discover the full implications of the sound spectrum, André analyzes the live audio data accessed through the NEPTUNE Canada network.

Since phenomena like tides and currents also impact marine fauna, scientists based in Rome and Barcelona are examining the biorhythms of crustaceans in the Saanich Inlet. As participants in the VENUS coastal network, they initially honed in on shrimp and squat lobsters. Researchers photographed the creatures as they reacted to natural cycles and habitat variability.

“For the first time we can measure animals’ behavioural reaction to environmental change in a continuous, remote and long-lasting fashion,” says Jacopo Aguzzi of the Instituto de Ciencias del Mar in Barcelona. “Video imaging tools from cabled observatories are revealing very complex changes over a short time period.”

Climate change, whales, crustaceans and oxygen content are among the subjects that will engage deep-sea researchers for at least 25 years. “The oceans are a shared environment,” says Martin Taylor, president and CEO, of the non-profit Ocean Networks Canada, which manages NEPTUNE Canada and VENUS for UVic and its partner agencies. “We’re looking at natural and anthropogenic processes that are critical for the common well-being.”

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**A global effort for safer small-scale gold mining.**

**BY GREG PRATT**

Gold sector in 70 developing countries. Overall production is 330 tonnes per year.

“It’s a subsistence existence for almost all of them,” he says, “and it’s a huge development opportunity, just as it was for Canadians during our gold rushes.”

While mercury has always been used in the gold-mining process, it’s now recognized as a global pollutant. Two years ago, work began on a global treaty to place legally binding restrictions on the use and trade of mercury by 2013.

“At that point a financial mechanism kicks in and we go to work on improving small-scale mining communities through the treaty,” says Telmer. “Treaty negotiations and treaty implementations — that’s an exciting aspect for us.”

The state of Zamfara, in northern Nigeria has the world’s worst lead poisoning epidemic. The ores the miners are processing are naturally rich in lead which, when processed, contaminate soils and get ingested by young children. Around 500 have died.

Telmer is helping the Nigerian government and Medicins Sans Frontieres introduce safer mining practices to eliminate the dangers without limiting the opportunity that gold mining offers the economically poor region.

“It brings a lot of vibrancy to my teaching,” he says of his two roles. “I’ve had a graduate student work in Brazil. I’ve had a grad student work in Indonesia. There’s direct involvement through my research program and then training of graduate students. It’s really wonderful to bring that into the classroom.”

For Telmer, small-scale gold miners are people trying to eke out a living and who often don’t have the resources to fight against the unhealthy conditions they are working in.

“They’re viable and vibrant communities with sophisticated socioeconomic systems,” he says. “Just helping these people earn a better living and have a shot at escaping poverty is what motivates me to do this work.”

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"I'm amazed that NEPTUNE enables me to study the deep sea floor 8,500 km away."
A Cultural Awakening
How Charlayne Thornton-Joe went from rejecting to embracing her ancestry.

BY TOM HAWTHORN | PHOTOGRAPHY BY HÉLÈNE CYR

THE KNOTTY BEAN CAFÉ HAS A HOMEY FEEL. A DISPLAY CASE offers a selection of cookies and baked goods. Boxes of tea are displayed on tidy shelves. A chalkboard on the far wall lists the day’s specials. It even has a fireplace.

Soon after it opened, Charlayne Thornton-Joe, the city councillor, dropped by the café at 1921 Quadra St., a wee house located on an alleyway across the street from the curling rink. She brought along an older sister and her parents. She also had with her some old photographs.

The café’s tables are placed in what had once been the Joe family’s living room. A half-century ago, aunts squeezed into a cramped kitchen to claim one of four spots at a formica table for spirited games of mahjong.

This was the home in which Thornton-Joe spent her first four years, a safe place in which she has only happy memories. Her family left the neighbourhood for a larger home on a more prosperous suburban crescent. The change brought misery to the youngest of four children.

Thornton-Joe, BA ’83, told the story about her family’s move earlier this year at a ceremony at the University Club. The Distinguished Alumni Award was presented to 11 graduates, among them a doctor, a nurse, a lawyer, an engineer, a tuba player, scientists, and a young entrepreneur. The politician was the Humanities honoree. A sister and her father were in the audience. Her ailing mother could not attend. As she told her story, Thornton-Joe wiped tears from the corner of her eye.

In offering a brief outline of her life story, she acknowledged the role the university played in her struggle to find an identity as the second generation of her family to be born in Canada. Early in her academic career, a friend suggested she take a Chinese history class as an elective. “Being Chinese,” Thornton-Joe recounted, “I thought it’d be an easy course.” Instead, it changed her life.

She had gone to UVic to get an education. The great lesson she learned was to accept the culture that was her birthright. She found herself.

It was not a smooth journey.

ONE OF HER EARLIEST MEMORIES is of peering out the front window of the tiny house on Quadra Street from which she could see the bright lights of a Ferris wheel from a traveling carnival. The surrounding streets included families who traced their ancestries around the globe.

Her paternal grandfather, Chow Shon Wing, a merchant, paid the hated Head Tax to enter this country. Her father, Jon Joe, grew up in a city in which he was barred from enjoying the waters of the Crystal Gardens pool. He enlisted in the Canadian Army during the Second World War, training to defend a country that refused him the full rights of citizenship because of his race. By the time Thornton-Joe was born in 1960, only 13 years had passed since Chinese-Canadians had been granted the right to vote.

Life for the Joe family centered around Chinatown, where the family shoe store, the euphonious Toy Sing, at 1710 Government St., outfitted generations of millworkers and loggers who worked the woods of Sooke and Metchosin. (Today, the store houses a tattoo parlour.)

Her family moved to Gordon Head in the mid-’60s, a time when few non-white families lived in the neighbourhood. Young Thornton-Joe had a difficult time.

“I hated going to school,” she said. “I used to come home crying. That is why I rebelled against my culture at a young age.

A school chum invited her for supper. While the girls played in the bedroom, she overheard the parents talking: “I remember the mother saying to the father to wash my dish twice.” Thornton-Joe ran home in tears.

In high school, the typical teenage difficulties were magnified by being one of the few ethnic Chinese in her school.

All three of her siblings learned Cantonese, but Thornton-Joe, four years younger than her next oldest sibling, didn’t learn the language. She wasn’t interested in the culture, other than enjoying the red envelopes filled with cash on Chinese New Year’s.

“I was called names. I can’t say the word, even now. The C-word. The rhyme that people used. That’s what people would call out, or sing the song. I hated that word. It’s to the point that it upsets me so much that in common language if someone says ‘a chink in the armour,’ it brings tears to my eyes.”

A school chum invited her for supper. While the girls played in the bedroom, she overheard the parents talking: “I remember the mother saying to the father to wash my dish twice.” Thornton-Joe ran home in tears.

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By the end of his seventh tour of duty in Afghanistan, Royal Canadian Air Force Capt. Kurt Schweitzer knew well enough to expect the unexpected. So on a spring day in 2009, as he brought his C-130 Hercules turbo-prop transport to rest on a rough airstrip in eastern Afghanistan, Schweitzer, BSc ’98, planned to get the plane back in the air as quickly as possible. As it turned out, “nothing was routine that day.”

“The way I looked, the way I dressed, I just wanted to assimilate,” she said. “I wanted to blend in.”

That attitude changed during her time on campus. The elective on Chinese history led her to ask her father to share his extensive knowledge of China. Daughter and father found a rapport in her newfound intellectual pursuit.

She immersed in Asian studies by her second year on campus. She took a language course. Her father was proud his youngest daughter was learning Chinese, even if it was Mandarin. In 1982, she went overseas for two months as part of an exchange program with East China Normal University in Shanghai. She was the first in her family to return to the ancestral homeland, a journey all the more poignant when her last surviving grandparent, Annie Chow, died shortly before her departure. On her arrival, a professor escorted her to a lake on which she placed a flower in memory of her grandmother.

Many Chinese still wore green Red Army jackets. Yet again, she stuck out. “The way I dressed, my jewelry, the way I wore my hair” made her an obvious Westerner at a glance.

One memory she has is of writing a letter to her parents entirely in Chinese, a painstaking task that took her hours.

AFTER GRADUATING WITH A DEGREE in Pacific and Asian studies, she became active with the Victoria Chinatown Lioness Club, for which she created and conducted tours of Chinatown. She became president of the Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria, developing a reputation as a tireless opponent of discrimination in any of its many forms. For the past two decades, she has promoted Chinese and Chinese-Canadian culture by bringing to the city such speakers as the author Lisa See, the actress Nancy Kwan, and the journalists Jan Wong and Denise Chong. In 2002, Thornton-Joe was elected to city council, gaining re-election in 2005 and 2008, when she topped the polls among all candidates contesting the eight seats on council. She is up for re-election in November.

Today, the home she shares with her husband Phil displays Chinese art. She makes an effort to stay current on Chinese literature and cinema. She is at peace with her identity as a Canadian of Chinese ancestry.

Her mother, the former Verna Wong, died in February, just days after Thornton-Joe received the Distinguished Alumni Award. While going through family papers, her father handed her an envelope she had not seen in many years. Her parents had carefully saved the letter their youngest daughter had so laboriously written in Chinese characters while studying overseas.
It took courage and “exceptional airmanship” to prevent disaster during a transport mission in Afghanistan.

BY KEITH NORBURY, BA ’85

May 7, 2009
Schweitzer pilots a mission to the Afghan village of Farah to pick up passengers and return them to Kabul.

5:00 p.m. (all times approximate) – Schweitzer lands the Hercules on an “austere” airfield of crushed gravel. He has flown here before and knows how to negotiate the banana-shaped runway. “It’s not difficult. But it’s not something they teach you in pilot school.”

5:10 p.m. – “Our normal procedure is to land, leave the engines running and get whatever we are picking up on board as fast as possible. It’s usually under 10 minutes.” As the plane taxies to the runway, one of the main left tires blows out.

5:20 p.m. – Two technicians are on board, in addition to the six-person flight crew. Normally it would take the technicians about an hour to change the tire but “they had to dig down into the gravel because of just the way the airplane was sitting.”

5:30 p.m. – Schweitzer sends the first of several text messages to NATO’s International Security Assistance Force in Kandahar to request permission to depart “because we don’t takeoff from unlit airfields in the middle of the night.” Most of the texts are returned with failure messages.

6:00 p.m. – Schweitzer finally receives permission to takeoff but the tire still hasn’t been changed. Around this time, according to a document released as part of the Wikileaks Afghan War Diaries, the crew “observe people outside the fence talking on cell phones, staring at the aircraft.”

7:00 p.m. – Schweitzer meets with his copilot and combat systems operator at the back of the plane. “We just pulled out the map, we looked at it, and we decided how we were going to get out of there.”

7:30 p.m. – During the takeoff roll, or shortly after, the loadmasters hear banging in the back of the plane. They think the noise “might have been rocks being kicked out of the tires.”
7:35 p.m. – As the plane reaches about 21,000 feet, the loadmasters hear more banging but still don’t know the cause. “So we diverted and we went to Kandahar, which is our base.” Also factoring into the decision were large thunderstorms rolling around Kabul.

8:00 p.m. – The Hercules prepares to land. “Fortunately, we didn’t have any steering problems but what we did have was a brake problem,” Schweitzer asks the co-pilot for emergency brakes, which enable him to stop the plane and pull off the runway. “I sent my engineer out with a flashlight to go take a look and see what the problem is with the airplane and he reported back to me and said, we had another flat tire.” Schweitzer asks air traffic control to halt traffic for about 20 minutes so he can taxi slowly to his base, about three km away.

8:30 p.m. – The Hercules reaches the base. “By the time I taxied two miles on it, there was nothing left of the tire.” On closer inspection, the engineer, who had once been a helicopter pilot, determined that a puncture in the landing gear door was a bullet hole.

8:45 p.m. – “And then we looked at the rest of the airplane because there was a lot of damage at the back.” The main landing gear actuator strut is missing. So is the refuelling manifold. “All the gauges for the tanks, on the refuelling panel, were hanging out of their sockets.”

9:00 p.m. – A US battle damage expert inspects the plane and blames the damage on a Russian-made triple A round, “a big bullet really,” Schweitzer says. The Wikileaks report says it was a 14.5 mm round.

May 30, 2011
Schweitzer is honoured with a Governor General’s Mention in Dispatches citation: “Working without the aid of night-vision technology, his exceptional airmanship and tactical acumen mitigated effective insurgent ground fire during the takeoff and climb out. (His) professionalism and outstanding composure prevented the potential destruction of the aircraft and enhanced the reputation of the Canadian Forces with our allies.”

July 2, 2011
Schweitzer and his wife, Thandie Ryan, BA/BSc ’03, a family physician, attend a reception for the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall at the War Museum. Schweitzer won’t be going back to Afghanistan. His work now includes co-piloting the federal government’s Challenger VIP transport jet.

Mission Review

In a 2007 report the Canadian Defence and Foreign Affairs Institute, Gordon Smith wrote that the Taliban in Afghanistan could not be defeated by conventional western military methods and put forward the controversial notion that the endgame would involve negotiating peace with the Taliban. “And even then, I said it might not work,” says Smith, executive director of the UVic Centre for Global Studies.

Now that Canada has removed its combat troops from the impoverished Middle Eastern nation, Afghanistan’s future looks even dimmer. “One thing is for very sure, if the Taliban know that the US and the countries that are there are going to leave, what incentive does that give to negotiate?” Smith says. “It’s their country and they’re staying.”

A career federal civil servant who was the deputy minister of foreign affairs in the Jean Chretien government and Canada’s ambassador to NATO during the Mulroney years, Smith has held his UVic post since 1997. He has watched Canada’s role in Afghanistan evolve from a small mission in 2001 to help US forces search for Osama bin Laden, to taking on a leading combat role in the middle of the decade, to today’s mission to provide training to Afghan police and military personnel.

While covert US forces eventually killed bin Laden in Pakistan in May, the US failed to put enough resources into his capture initially, Smith says. Then, the US diverted its attention to the invasion of Iraq, to oust Saddam Hussein. Meanwhile, Taliban forces established themselves in the mountainous region on the Pakistan border and mounted an insurgency. That transformed Canada’s role into a counter-insurgency.

“There were never enough resources, in my judgment, devoted to this to be able to really win a counter-insurgency” against the Taliban, says Smith, who makes it clear that he is not being critical of Canada’s soldiers. “I think they were asked in many respects to do the impossible.”

Canada sent more than 41,000 troops to Afghanistan, with 157 military personnel lost. As the Afghan mission went on longer than the Second World War, the pressure mounted for the government to recall the troops.

“They couldn’t have taken any other (decision), in my view,” Smith says. “And I think staying on with the training mission, which is supposed to be not dangerous and shouldn’t be, makes a lot of sense.” Canada is providing up to 950 personnel to continue training the Afghan National Army and the Afghan National Security Forces until 2014.

“The objective of the mission was always to be able to transfer the military responsibilities, the police responsibilities to the Afghans, and to build democratic governance and respect for human rights. But that was a tremendous reach.”

Smith lists three lessons Canada should take away from the Afghanistan mission: Have clear goals, be realistic about the means required to achieve these goals, and understand that even if an intervention has UN support and reflects very high ideals, it doesn’t necessarily make it achievable.
I want to thank donors for their wonderful support – it creates so many opportunities.

The impact of student financial awards often reaches beyond the students they were meant to help. Just ask Steve Lonergan. A graduate student in computer science, Steve commits his spare time to bringing science education and outreach programs like "Let's Talk Science" and Science Venture to young and old alike.

In recognition of his enthusiasm and commitment to science education, Steve received the Engineering Student’s Society Award for Community Involvement and the Alix Cowie Travel Award.

Thanks to the generosity of Alix Cowie, Steve was able to learn how to be an effective teacher and leader of science outreach programs for students of all ages. The Alix Cowie travel award allowed Steve to travel to specialized conferences designed to hone his teaching skills.

Steve sees a clear link between student awards and the importance of science education: "I want to thank donors for their wonderful support — it creates so many opportunities. Thanks to donors like Mrs. Cowie, my science education work with children in our community has been strengthened."

Many UVic students depend on scholarships to pursue their educational dreams. Find out how your gift of a scholarship will create bright futures for deserving students. Please call us at 1-877-721-7624, visit our website www.uvic.ca/givingtouvic. Or speak with the UVic student caller who contacts you.
In His Own Words

George Bowering, one of Canada’s most celebrated poets and the country’s first poet laureate, has published more than 26 collections of poetry with several more forthcoming this year. He left his hometown of Oliver in 1953, bound for Victoria College.

INTERVIEW BY DANIEL ZOMPARELLI | PHOTOGRAPHY BY CANDICE ALBACH

I was a C-plus student all the way through high school, and I thought that’s what I should be, because my dad taught at that school and I thought I couldn’t get more than a C-plus, so I figured a C-plus was all I should get. I was too busy reading and doing work, except for English, so I just cruised by. And for the most part, I did that in Victoria.

What I really wanted to do was take journalism; there were no schools in all of Canada. I was going to go to the University of Washington or Bellingham, but then the girl I fell in love with was going to school next to Victoria College, and that’s why I went to Victoria College.

I think I was doomed to be an English person.

In my first year I had to take a science, so I took geography. Because I had taken chemistry in high school, and I thought geography would be a hell of a lot more interesting than cutting up frogs. It was probably one of the most interesting courses I took.

All of my life decisions were based on what my girlfriend did. And I was madly in love…she broke up with me, then we started again so I followed her to Victoria College. Then she broke up with me so I quit and I joined the air force, and then she got back together with me so I left the air force. And then she broke up with me again.

I played basketball for Victoria College. I wasn’t a superstar. I played forward although I was only 6’2”. And there was this guy who played against me, from the (Provincial) Normal School. That guy had been a boyfriend of my future wife.

I wanted to be a visual artist. I wanted to do all of the things that kids from small towns wanted to do because you didn’t get any of that in small towns.

Downtown they had a four-team football league. And we used to just go down there and watch them thumping each other, and it was just fascinating. I used to do that instead of doing my homework. That’s also when I was first introduced to beer parlours.

You had to go out of town to go to a beer parlour, at the time Victoria didn’t have any beer parlours. There were three places I could go to drink, one was the Cold Stream Inn on the Malahat Highway I believe, and the other ones were the Halfway House and Six Mile House, which were in Esquimalt. Later, they voted on if they should allow beer parlours in Victoria, and on the day that the vote passed I was on the midnight ferry leaving Victoria.

Victoria was very foreign to me, and kind of exciting to me to be on an island, and a place that is so different from a desert. But I didn’t go back to Victoria, because I joined the air force, then ended up at UBC. After that I visited Victoria maybe once every seven years for about 30 years.

I went to rugby practice once, and I didn’t know anything about rugby, didn’t know the rules, I picked up the ball and threw it forward, and they said you didn’t do that, and it was one of the two things that let me know I’m an outsider in the situation. The other thing being French.

French class, I quit after partway. I didn’t have a clue what was going on. I didn’t know at the time, but the teacher was a published poet, and she had published a book or two.

I had written poems and prose around that time. I never kept any of them. I didn’t keep anything I wrote until 1958. I remember the very first poems I kept in a binder, they were crap. But at least they were a result of my commitment to writing.

Victoria College didn’t do the traditional half-past classes. I had an 8 a.m. geography class, with a full lab, so thankfully I got to take a nap.

I never sat in the middle; I would either sit in the front of the class or the back. If it was Shakespeare I’d be in the back. Just like poetry readings, if I like them I sit up front, if I don’t I sit at the back.

If you look back, historically, the poets I’m interested in, have descended — if we’re talking about American poets — from Ezra Pound, William Carlos Williams and [Hilda Dolittle] to take the modernist approach. And the post modernist angle would be people like Charles Olsen, Robert Creeley and Robert Duncan.

Poets I’m interested in tend to see the poet as somebody who is trying to catch up to the poem. See video from the Bowering interview on YouTube: “George Bowering – Memories of Victoria College.”
With autumn comes a season of personal and collective remembrance. Throughout the British Commonwealth, Nov. 11 is the day to honour those killed in armed conflict around the world. “The eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month” was selected by King George V in 1919 to commemorate the end of the First World War.

This fall, the community members are invited to discover more about the conflict and its stories through The World of Mary’s Wedding: Reminiscences of World War I from UVic Archives and Special Collections, a series of events and exhibits in partnership with Pacific Opera Victoria, featuring archival and print collections.

Mary’s Wedding, a World War I-era opera commissioned and developed by the POV, will have its international première in Victoria on Nov. 10. Materials from UVic Archives and Special Collections complement the opera’s narrative with diaries, letters, photographs, publications and audio histories.

Mary’s Wedding tells a story of love and remembrance set in the Prairies, the trenches of France and the battle of Moreuil Wood in March 1918. The opera is based on Stephen Massicotte’s 2002 award winning play of the same name, with music by Andrew P. MacDonald and libretto by Massicotte. The cast includes UVic alumna Betty Wayne Allison in the role of Mary Chalmers.

World War I, also known as the “Great War” and the “War to End All Wars,” resulted in millions of deaths on both sides of the conflict. The conflict shaped world events in the decades that followed and some historians see it as a significant influence on the formation of Canadian national identity. Yet as the 100th anniversary of World War I draws near, so the experience of this era fades from Canadians’ living memory. The history of the First World War can be kept alive through UVic Libraries’ World of Mary’s Wedding exhibits online, at the McPherson Playhouse and the Maltwood...
Prints and Drawings Gallery at the McPherson Library/Mearns Centre for Learning.
UVic Archives and Special Collections has been acquiring First World War material for decades. Special Collections houses many rare military history collections, including the Canadian Military Oral History Collection, composed of hundreds of taped and transcribed interviews of veterans, including personnel who served in World War 1. The largest portion of this collection is the recordings made by long-time Victoria College and UVic History Prof. Reg Roy and his students. Interviews include the reminiscences of Alfred George Jacobs, a member of Lord Strathcona’s Horse Royal Canadians who saw action at the battle of Moreuil Wood.

Special Collection’s military papers also include the World War 1 sketchbooks by an artist known only as J.M.—the two sketchbooks contain about 130 watercolour and pen and ink images in France and Belgium between 1917 and 1918.

Archives’ holdings of personal papers from the Victoria community include those of journalist Archie Wills and the scrapbooks of UVic Chancellor Joseph B. Clearihue. Wills was born in the Fernwood neighbourhood in 1892, worked at the Victoria Daily Times and joined the 58th Battery, Canadian Forces Artillery during the First World War. He saw 16 months of action in France, before returning to Canada and resuming his career at the Times and later the Colonist. His fonds contain extensive war diaries, photographs and autobiographical works.

Clearihue served in the 5th Canadian Field Artillery Unit in World War 1 before a distinguished career as an MLA, Victoria alderman, lawyer and judge. Clearihue was the first chancellor of the University of Victoria, and chair of the board of governors (1963-66). His archives include scrapbooks documenting student life at Oxford University immediately preceding the war’s outbreak in the summer of 1914, and documents relating to his military service.

The World of Mary’s Wedding exhibits are dedicated to the memory of Danielle Forster, BA ’00, Rare Books Librarian, who passed away August 28, 2011.

BY LARA WILSON, MA ‘99, UNIVERSITY ARCHIVIST

University Archives and Special Collections is open to the public Monday to Friday, 8:30 to 4:30, Sept. to April and 10:30 to 4:30, May to August.

1 Victoria-born Archie Wills, journalist turned soldier. (AR939)
2 Wills was a member of the 58th Battery, Canadian Forces Artillery. (AR939)
3 Joseph Clearihue’s commission scroll for his appointment to lieutenant in 1915. (AR932)
4 Work of the war artist known simply as “J.M.” (SC932)
5 An Easter postcard to Major T.B. Monk from his daughter Faith. (SC981)
6 Farewell scene, Gaspé, Quebec, 1914. (Special Collections)
I am honoured to serve as the new president of the UVic Alumni Association. Today, when I think back to my time as a student at UVic, I realize it was one of the most enjoyable and interesting experiences of my life. I like to think that most UVic and Victoria College alumni, now numbering over 100,000 worldwide, remember their time here with similar fondness. That connection to the university continues, and can be rekindled, through engagement with the alumni association.

Commitment to the alumni association is certainly evident in Glenda Wyatt, BSc ’98, my predecessor as president. Glenda’s excellent advice, poise and leadership over the past two years helped the board of directors tremendously, and will continue as Glenda serves the next two years as past president.

Helping organize that board and manage all things alumni will be the responsibility of our new director of alumni relations, Terry Cockerline, who joined UVic from Brock University this summer. We wish Terry the best in his new position and look forward to working with him.

I initially became re-acquainted with the university and the alumni association six or seven years ago when I was approached to volunteer on the board of directors. At the time, I hesitated to join since my wife and I have three children, other commitments and fairly demanding jobs. (My wife, Carlene, works in communications and I work in commercial real estate leasing and management). However, I was assured that the alumni relations staff and director handled the heavy lifting, and that there was a large board with 21 volunteer members to share the efforts. And, as it turned out, that was exactly right.

What I had not thought about at that time were all the rewarding aspects of getting involved. Volunteering to help with on-campus events such as Alumni Week (every February), meeting with old classmates and professors at alumni chapter events, or even keeping in touch in the Torch with a note about what’s happening in your life: all of these things can re-connect you to UVic and your years here. Attending the Legacy Awards in November, attending Vikes athletics events or purchasing an Alumni Card are other ways to keep an active connection.

I have only scratched the surface here in the number of ways every alumni can connect with the association and UVic — there are many more, not the least of which will be in preparing for UVic’s 50th Anniversary celebrations which commence in September, 2012. We hope to see you there!

e-mail: alumni@uvic.ca

English Prof. Ray Siemens gave an engaging presentation on the digital humanities, his research specialty, at the UVic Alumni Association’s Annual General Meeting in June. As well, Honorary Alumni status was bestowed on Don and Lois Jones for their longstanding commitment to alumni programming. And Jennifer Kroeker-Hall, MPA ’00, received the Volunteer of the Year Award for her leadership of School of Public Administration alumni.

Associated Benefits
Our new alumni president, and the bonus of being involved.

BY PETER TANNER, BA ’91
PRESIDENT, UVIC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Alumni AGM
June 28

Upcoming Alumni events:
alumni.uvic.ca

UVic Alumni Association 2011-12 Board Members

Peter Tanner, BA ’91
Dale Henley, BA ’71
Dale Bouayadi, Cert ’05
Marie McKee, MEd ’81
Anne McLaughlin, VC ’48
Glenda Wyatt, BSc ’98
Terry Cockerline
Tracie Sibbald, BA ’83
Valerie Gonzales, PhD ’97
Robyn Cater
Joy Barrett, VC ’45

President
Vice-President
Secretary
Treasurer
Honorary President
Past-President
Ex-officio
Vikes rep
Faculty rep
Student Ambassador
Victoria College rep
Members of Victoria College’s 1961 graduating class got together for their 50th anniversary reunion at the University Club. Nearly half of the members of the original graduating class of 37 were on hand. The 1961 class had the distinction of being the first to complete UBC-Victoria College degrees without having to move to Vancouver. The University of Victoria mace, used at convocation ceremonies, was a gift from the 1961 class.

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**Gearing up: Golden Anniversary**

**BY IBRAHIM INAYATALI**

ASSOCIATE VICE-PRESIDENT ALUMNI AND DEVELOPMENT

THE UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA IS ON THE VERGE of reaching an exciting milestone in its history. In less than a year, we will be in the midst of a year-long celebration of our university’s 50th anniversary.

It will be a special time for all members of the UVic community — especially alumni — to look back at what we’ve done and to set the stage for what’s to come. Fifty years is a relatively short period but in that time UVic has come of age, growing to become one of the world’s top-ranked universities.

As we begin planning anniversary events, be sure to visit www.uvic.ca/anniversary. You’ll find a video greeting from President David Turpin and you can find out how to create an anniversary event in your region.

In addition, we would welcome and appreciate your stories and photos about your UVic days. Send your contributions to the “50 Great Moments” web site (www.uvic.ca/anniversary/moments).

Please save Sept. 28 – 30, 2012 on your calendar. On that weekend, we’ll be hosting an Alumni Homecoming and Community Festival. All alumni — including former Victoria College and Provincial Normal School students — will be warmly welcomed back on campus for a great party. We’re planning open houses, campus tours, interactive learning opportunities and social events. Importantly, you will be able to reconnect with your classmates and meet your professors.

If you can’t make it to Victoria, we will be working with our alumni networks in other cities and on the web to make the 50th anniversary a global (and golden) experience.

UVic’s 50th anniversary will be a truly memorable occasion. Be a part of it!

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**New Alumni Director**

UVic welcomed a new director of alumni relations in August. Terry Cockerline takes over from Don Jones, who retired after 19 years with the university.

For the past six years, Cockerline was at Brock University where he was responsible for managing alumni relations and working with the Brock alumni association’s board of directors.

“I’m looking forward to working with alumni to build on the success of the alumni relations at UVic, expand and improving programs where we need to, and to harmonize our campus-wide alumni activities,” Cockerline says.

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Avis Rasmussen, MEd ’82
Ciel Watt, BFA ’93
Dorothy Mathews-Dana, MEd ’94
Ivan Watson, BA ’03
Lesley Patten, BCom ’96
Nicole Boulet, BCom ’03
Pete Rose, MPA ’05
Peter Jong, BSc ’03
Robert Lapper, LLB ’81
Vanessa Quiroga, BA ’10
Keeping in Touch

Let everyone from UVic know what’s up. Send news and photos to torch@uvic.ca or use our online reply and change of address forms at uvic.ca/torch.

VICTORIA COLLEGE

Barry Gough, VC ’56, writes: “The second, enlarged edition of my Historical Dictionary of Canada (first edition 1999) has been published by the noted reference house Scarecrow Press of Lanham, Md. In completing this work I was made aware of how much Canada has changed in the last decade — for the better in many instances but not without difficulties, notably in Aboriginal affairs and the national political landscape.”

1970

Diane Petersen (née Grutschnig), BEd (Secondary), writes from White Rock: “I am working with alumni from my high school on organizing a reunion. Along with two other students (!) I was from the last graduating class in 1966. Needles High School was affected by the flooding of the Arrow Lakes and senior students had to complete their education in larger community schools like Nakusp or Vernon. Anyone who attended Needles High School pre-1966 can reach me at dpeterse2@gmail.com.”

1971

Mike Percy, BA (Economics), stepped down in June as dean of the University of Alberta’s school of business. He’s planning a year’s sabatical while chairing the United Way appeal in Edmonton.

1974

Peter Grossgardt, BSc (Biology), writes: “Just an update on me and my family: We moved last year to the western part of Nanaimo and just love it here. Our three eldest kids are 37, 35 and 33 and, from them, we have six grandkids. As well, we have three younger kids: Rachel is 18 and will be graduating this year, Josh is 16 and in Grade 10 and, finally, Matt, the youngest, is 13 and in Grade 7. As well, my wife and I have celebrated our 15th wedding anniversary in February. Hard to believe that all that time’s gone by! We’d sure like to hear from anyone from 1970-74; our e-mail is mpmkids@shaw.ca.”

Douglas J. Martin, BSc (Biology), and Dale Martin (née Foreman), Post-degree Teaching Certificate, ’73, are retired and operate St. Marys River Bed and Breakfast, between Kimberley and Cranbrook.

1975

Kirk Patterson, BA (Geography), returned to Victoria in 2008, after living in Japan for 25 years, “to pursue my long-postponed sailing dreams. I bought a 40’-sailboat (Silk Purse) and have spent most of my time (and money!) sailing and working on it. I had planned to sail to Japan in 2011 and to then do a full circumnavigation of the Japanese archipelago (which would make me the first foreigner to do so). The earthquake/tsunami disaster, however, has forced me to postpone the voyage to 2012. When I do go, I plan to make my voyage a Japan-Canada Friendship Mission, especially to provide encouragement and moral support to those affected by the disaster.”

Paul J. Vieille, PhD (Education) is retired, in Spokane, WA, with wife Karen, following a 30-year career as a school psychologist. Main activities now are gardening and raising chickens.

1977

Michael Hill, BSc (Psychology), has been named to the board of the Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario for a three-year term. He’s had a 30-year career in Canadian college administration and was the interim inaugural president of Royal Roads University in 1995.

1980

Robert Giles, BA (Political Science), administers the conservation education program in Alberta. There are seven certification programs (most of them required by law) along with wildlife strand programming through the ministry of education in Grades 9 through 12.

1981

Susan Huggett, BA (Child Care), has been in Hong Kong for the past two years, and heads up sales and services in greater China for a Canadian technology company. “Life in Hong Kong is exciting and non-stop busy! I would love to keep in touch with former classmates and fellow UVic alumni so do look me up if you are out this way!”

1982

Luanne Armstrong, BFA (Writing), co-edits and contributes to Slice Me Some Truth (Wolsak and Wynn), an anthology of Canadian creative non-fiction — the first of its kind in the country. Armstrong has a doctorate and specializes in the ethics of memoir. She’s an adjunct professor in the creative writing department at UBC.

1983

Alice Cassidy, BSc (Biology), is a science educator and educational developer, facilitating seminars for people who teach, leading bird-watching tours for groups in the community, and teaching science courses at the University of British Columbia. Contact her through her company, In View Education and Professional Development.

Eduardo Monteagudo, BA (Anthropology), lives in Argentina: “Took a TESOL course and got involved in education. I’ve been teaching ESL ever since. I’ve taught Koreans and Taiwanese for quite some time. I also teach adults. I’m still in touch with two other alumni: Doug Strable who lives in Japan and Sharon Danard who lives in California. I always keep fond memories of the wonderful University of Victoria, of Vancouver Island and of BC.”

1985

Douglas W. Courteix, Med (Education Administration), has written a book about the life and experiences of his family, entitled Yukon Bound. He was a senior administrator in the education system of Yukon.

Jim Williams, BEd (Physical Education), published his first novel, CHIPS in China.
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Stephen Malins, BA (History), commenced his IT career in a government as technical support specialist roles to my therapeutic expertise. I have decided to slow down, return to teaching someday. “

TEACHING, though, and hope to return to teaching someday. I’ve been back in Victoria for lifestyle reasons and opened Sage Clinic Victoria. I have no doubt that my psychology base has helped me become a better physician. We are happy to be back!”

Mary-Ethel Audley, LLB, writes: “Very proud to say that my daughter, Megan, who was 2 years old when I started law school, is in 4th-year Mechanical Engineering at UVic! I am still working for the province, with Ministry of Transportation, and teach part-time at Royal Roads University. I travel whenever I can, and have a list of countries that I hope to visit in the coming years.”

Bruce Clarke, BSc (Computer Science), writes: “I worked for the BC government as technical support for several years. I then took a complete break from IT work and taught English at a university in Mexico for four years. I’ve been back in Victoria doing various software work for the last four years. I really enjoyed teaching, though, and hope to return to teaching someday.”

Stephen Malins, BA (History), completed his MA at Royal Roads University with the environment and management program, with an emphasis on integrating cultural and natural resource management. “It was a good time to shake the grey matter.” He continues his 23-year career with Parks Canada and manages two national historic sites in Banff.

Catherine Roome, BEng (Electrical), is now president and CEO of the BC Safety Authority, overseeing public safety in the province’s technical and trades industries. She received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Faculty of Engineering in 2009. Catherine Roome, BEng (Electrical), is now president and CEO of the BC Safety Authority, overseeing public safety in the province’s technical and trades industries. She received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Faculty of Engineering in 2009.

Doreen Marion Gee (née Jubb), BSc (Psychology), writes: “Everything is fabulous and blooming in my life. All of my career dreams have come true and I am really using all that education I received at UVic. I am happy to be a paid writer for the Seaside Times Magazine in Sidney, a high quality, beautiful magazine. And I am very excited to be using my psychology training as a paid peer support worker at the Victoria Branch of the BC Schizophrenia Society. And I am still a volunteer reporter and journalist at the James Bay Beacon newspaper, where I learned the grass roots of doing a good story. Life is good. At the tender age of 60, I am blossoming like a flower!”

Eden Robinson, BFA (Writing), has released The Sasquatch at Home (University of Alberta Press), a collection of stories and part of the Henry Kreisel Memorial Lecture Series.

Darcy Mann (née Grieshuber), BA (Sociology), is a senior project management officer with the BC ministry of social development. She took a six-month sabbatical. “Got to stop and smell the roses from time to time! Enjoying the festivals, time with family and friends, and panning for gold on my placer claim.”

Derek Marcoux, BSc (Biology), is the new chair of the school of environment and geomatics at Selkirk College in Castlegar: “This is an exciting and challenging role. Selkirk offers applied diploma training in environmental planning, recreation, fish and wildlife, forestry, renewable energy, and geographic information systems.

Vic Goodman, MBA, is the new CEO of Rivercorp, the Campbell River Economic Development Corporation. He previously led a large regional economic development organization, the marketing

1988
Lisa Polinsky, BA (Psychology), writes: “I recently relocated back to fair Victoria with husband and two young children. Following my psychology undergrad I continued on to obtain a science base and then ultimately a naturopathic medical degree (four-year graduate degree). My education took me to Portland, Oregon where I practiced for three years. I returned to Canada with my husband and practiced at Sage Clinic in Vancouver for nine years. Recently we decided to move back to Victoria for lifestyle reasons and opened Sage Clinic Victoria. I have no doubt that my psychology base has helped me become a better physician. We are happy to be back!”

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1995
Brenna Baye, BSc (Health Information Science), recently completed law school and commenced work in September as a trainee solicitor at Edwin Coe LLP in London, UK.

1996
Jayne Embree, MA (Clinical Psychology), reports: “In 2010 (and after 12 years working for Child and Youth Mental Health), I left my job to renew my private practice. I have also added divorce coach and child specialist roles to my therapeutic repertoire.”

J-J-J-J-Jive Dancin’

Dance instructor Ron Taylor keeps a close watch on the technique of student jive dancers. The class was part of the official opening of the McKinnon building on February 15, 1975.
Painting Change

Coming to Victoria in 1979, little did Franke James realize she was prepping her canvas for 21st century issues. "Back then, UVic just seemed like the right place and in hindsight it really was — it’s such a great combination of environmentalism and fine arts," says James, MFA ‘81, one of the first two students in the Master of Fine Arts program.

Whether fighting Toronto city hall for the right to build a green driveway or facing down a blacklisting by the federal government, the spunky artist never hesitates to follow her green conscience — credit for which she happily gives to her UVic experience. “Creative thinking, learning to speak your mind using visual language, and being able to judge the impact of your creative effort — that’s what came with my MFA. It makes you very resilient.”

She points to her 2007 visual essay A Green Winter as a good example of opportunity knocking. "I was finally able to tell stories that used my skills in drawing and writing and personal actions. That was a huge turning point for me.”

That was also the point when the feds began paying attention, after her 2008 visual essay Dear Mr. Prime Minister challenged Conservative environmental policies. It all came to a head his summer, when a planned European/Asian art tour criticizing Canadian tar sands development came off the rails after, she says, the Canadian embassy warned the host NGO to shut down her show.

Following her personal motto of “doing the hardest thing first,” the artist then took the story to the media, threw a high-profile “blacklisting party” and put up billboards and bus shelter ads denouncing the government’s action. “Andy Warhol said to paint what you love, but I say paint what you want to change.”

—JOHN THRELFA FALL, BA ‘96

Heather Siddon, MA (Geography), lives near Seattle and is working on a contract basis at Microsoft on the Windows Phone iCon Team.

1997

Allan Boss, BFA (Writing), has published two books about the late Mavor Moore, the Canadian cultural icon and former adjunct professor. “I met Moore while a student in the Writing program. My path took me to Montreal where I read a fair bit about Canadian Theatre and realized Moore’s name was everywhere. (Although no one really said what he did or how he did it.) After Montreal I came to Calgary and did a PhD in Canadian theatre history with Moore as my topic. I’ve converted my research into two books. Playwrights Canada Press published the first, Identifying Mavor Moore, this spring. The second, Discovering Mavor Moore, comes out in spring 2012."

Connie Frey, PhD (Curriculum Studies), writes: “I recently relocated from Victoria to Peterborough. My practice of assisting doctoral candidates and other academic writers through the ups and downs of creative process continues by phone and Skype (www.dissertationlife-line.com).”

William Milburn, BFA (Visual Arts), recently resigned from the Canadian Forces and has returned to Alberta to work in the oil patch.

Richard Van Camp, BFA (Writing), has news: “I have a new short story collection out, The Moon of Letting Go (Enfield & Wizenty); a new baby book out: Noisy Night: A Bedtime Song for Babies (McKellar & Martin); as well as a new comic book, Kiss Me Deadly, with Haida artist Christopher Aucher through the Healthy Aboriginal Network, which is online for free. Just Google the title and you will be able to read it in a high-resolution PDF. I’ll also be writer in residence at the University of Alberta this year. Mahsi cho! Thank you, UVic, for helping me find my voice as a writer and storyteller.”

1998

Robert Noble, MSc (Biology), is a biology and physics teacher with the Toronto Catholic District School Board and was recently promoted to a vice-principal position at Neil McNeil Catholic Secondary School.

Tyrone Pile, MA (History), received the Governor General’s Meritorious Service Cross for his leadership of the Canadian Forces’ mission in support of the Vancouver Olympic and Paralympic Games, one of the most complex domestic military operations in Canadian history.

2000

Alison Hartley Seward, BSc (Earth and Ocean Sciences), writes: “I have been working for Teck Coal at open pit coal mines in southeastern BC for nine years now. I recently was promoted to senior geologist, which was a goal of mine since attending UVic. Things are going well, we have built a house and love working here.”

2001

Pat Skidmore, BA (Women’s Studies), will publish a book in Spring 2012 on British child migration. “Marjorie, Too Afraid To Cry is the story of my mother’s journey to Canada as a child migrant in 1937 — and includes in the book the experience of her return to England to be present at the former British Prime Minister, Gordon Brown’s February 2010 formal apology to all British child migrants sent away from 1619 to the 1970s — a shameful and often hidden 350-year piece of British history.”

2003

Brian Cant, BA (History), has joined the Tartan Group public relations team as senior communications coordinator after three years with Tourism British Columbia. He also holds a Certificate of Public Relations, ’08.

Deanna Hutchings, MN, received the 2011 School of Nursing Alumni Award of Excellence. She is a clinical...
nurse specialist in the end of life care program, Vancouver Island Health Authority.

2004

Brock Campbell, Certificate in Business Administration, has moved to Edmonton to start an accounting practice.

Daniel Last, BCom, wrote: “I relocated to Cleveland, Ohio where I am working as an asset manager for Key Community Development Corp, which builds quality affordable housing for low income families and individuals. In personal news I am now engaged to Megan Reichel of Erie, PA and we plan to marry in 2011.”

Kayla Wong, BMus (Piano Performance) made her Carnegie Hall debut in New York City this past spring. She also made her overseas debut in Asia at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre in 2009.

2005

Steve McLaughlin, BCom, is the founder of an advocacy organization called the Angel Association for the Drive-Ins of North America, established to help revive the tradition in areas lacking a drive-in theatre. He’s living in Edmonton and works for the Lung Association of Alberta and the NWT.

Cassandra Miller, BMus (Composition and Theory), received the 2011 Jules Léger Prize for New Chamber Music from the Canada Council for the Art. Her Bel Canto, an operatic love song inspired by a lazy afternoon in the Greek mountains, was created for a mezzo-soprano and two simultaneous ensembles. It premiered in 2010 at the Chapelle Historique du Bon-Pasteur in Montreal by Ensemble Kore.

Lorraine Pawlinsky-Love, MEd (Art Education/Curriculum and Instruction), writes: “I want to send out major congratulations to my daughter, Alexandra ‘Bo’ Love! The newest addition to our UVic Alumni family! She convocated in June with her BA (Psychology, minor in Philosophy) and she’s a Vikes Rowing alumna. Next is son, Adam who graduated from Mount Douglas Secondary and hopes to start rowing with the Vikes this summer!”

2006

Haidy Shenouda, BSW, has been selected to be a question writer for the Association of Social Work Boards licensing examinations. She works for Alberta Health Services, in Edmonton, where she specializes in smoking cessation assessment and delivering prevention and education initiatives for reducing tobacco use. Alberta and BC use ASWB examinations to certify clinical social workers.

2008

Tracey Adams, MN, and Leanne Hale, MN, received Nursing Preceptor (mentor, teacher and supervisor during practicum) of the Year Awards from the School of Nursing for their guidance of nursing students during practicum terms. Tracey is with the Pender Island Health Clinic and Saturna Island Medical Clinic. Leanne works for the Mayne Island Health Centre and Galiano Health Care Centre.

Megan Staniforth (née) Bozman, BA (Applied Linguistics), has been attending UBC to complete her MSc in Speech-Language Pathology. She was recently awarded a Student Excellence Award by the Canadian Association of Speech-Language Pathologists, judged to be the best all-round future professional by faculty, peers, and clinical supervisors. Megan is excited to begin practicing in Victoria after she completes her MSc this summer, and looks forward to reconnecting with the UVic community.

2009

Ashley Kereszti, BSc (Chemistry), is clinical data coordinator with PRA International: “My work is really interesting. We work with biopharmaceutical companies and run human clinical trials. There are offices all over the world and PRA is expanding a lot. Anyone who is graduating with a science degree this year or in the near future and wants to stay in Victoria should think of applying. Good luck!”

Yunwei (Edmund) Xie, LLB, is an intellectual property lawyer with Oyen Wiggs Green & Mutala LLP in Vancouver. He is a registered patent
Ila Willerton, MA (Anthropology), is a researcher with Vanden Berg & Associates. Canadian Zooarchaeology recently published an article she co-authored with Kathlyn Stewart (Canadian Museum of Nature) examining the prehistoric cultural record of Greater Victoria through the analysis of faunal remains from archaeological sites. This article was based in part upon Ila’s master’s research.

2010
William Duncan, PhD (Earth and Ocean Sciences), sends this update: “After a long stint with Teck Metals as the senior biologist in Trail, BC, I have now joined Golder Associates in the Saskatoon office as a senior aquatic scientist.”

Garth Martens, MFA (Writing), construction worker/poet, won the $5,000-RBC Bronwen Wallace Award for Emerging Writers. He won for Inheritance and Other Poems. “The curtain is raised on blue-collar work. Here’s a poet of sweat and ambition and all the sensory detail and wild character that builds a world,” the jury said in its citation. The prize, administered by the Writers’ Trust of Canada, is designated for young unpublished writers in either poetry or short fiction. Garth is the third UVic graduate to win the award in the past four years.

Tom Watson, BSc (Biology), a former Vikes rower, was in the stroke seat of the second University of Oxford boat, Isis, in the Oxford-Cambridge boat race in March. He’s studying ophthalmology.

2011
Carmen Casanova, BFA (Visual Arts), starred in the short film Woman Waiting. It premiered at the 2010 Toronto International Film Festival, had its international premiere at the Berlin International Film Festival in 2011, where it was nominated for best short film, and won a Timishort Special Award at the Timishort Film Festival in Romania in May. “I’ve also had three leading roles in three seasons of the TV series called Dark Waters of Crime. Dark Waters of Crime was also nominated for a Leo Award in 2011.”

Rachael Paul, BA (Political Science), "just started at Investors Group as a consultant at the Chatterton Way office in Victoria. If you would like to catch up, give me a call."

FAREWELL
Sister Kathleen Cyr, co-founder and former faculty member of the School of Nursing, died May 3 at St. Ann’s Residence in Victoria. Apart from her instrumental role in establishing the school in 1976, she also served more recently as the founding chair of Nursing’s advisory council. Contact Lynne Milnes at 250-472-5031 to add to the Sisters of St. Ann Scholarship and Bursary in Sister Kathleen’s memory.

Joyce Flett (née Applegate), VC ’32, PNS ’35, died May 31. After taking the required courses, she received her BEd from Victoria College, signed by officials at UBC. Her primary classes became models for student teachers. She taught at Monterey, Craigflower and Quadra primary. Joyce was an enthusiastic golfer, traveller and supporter of the Victoria College Craigdarroch Castle Alumni Association.

Thomas G. Heppell, MEd ‘76, died in Victoria on Jan. 13, 2011 at the age of 80. Tom returned to universi-
Robert “Bob” Young, VC ’48, died May 14. “Doc Bob” practiced general medicine in Victoria for 40 years, with an office on Oak Bay Ave. A long-serving member of the BC Medical Association’s board of directors, he chaired the committee that built support for mandatory seat belt, bicycle helmet, and infant car seat legislation. He wrote more than 1,100 weekly Info/Health newspaper articles. In February, he became the first recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Division of Medical Sciences. Donations in his memory may be made to the Dr. Robert N. and Mrs. Patricia Young Scholarship Fund at the Island Medical Program.

Gordon Raisbeck, VC ’45, passed away on May 7. Originally from East Coulee, AB, he retired as vice-president of Cooper Industries based out of Charlottesville, VA. He is survived by his wife Joyce and family.

Brian Wharf, VC ’49, child welfare scholar, founder of the School of Social Work and former dean of the Faculty of Human and Social Development, died after a year-long illness on Aug. 11. He’s remembered for his commitment to egalitarianism and civic engagement, for his passion for writing and teaching in style, clarity and length.

Due to provincial legislation, our auto insurance program is not offered in British Columbia, Manitoba or Saskatchewan.

Actual prize may differ from picture shown. MINI Cooper is a trade-mark, used under license, of BMW AG, which is not a partner of the contest.

For information about the TD Insurance program recommended by the University of Victoria, visit www.melochemonnex.com/uvic or call 1-866-352-6187 Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Daruma is a traditional Japanese doll made out of papier-mâché. These red and rotund figures are initially devoid of expression, their eyes empty, vacant spheres. The owner grants them vision, painting a single pupil as they set an intention or goal; a second pupil is added upon achieving it.

I purchased my daruma in Tokyo, 2008. It was the first time in a long time I knew exactly what I wanted: To live life on my own terms, to put my dreams and myself first. Armed with a Sharpie pen, I gave that dream a name: to live and work in another country.

Today I am living in Scotland, home of my ancestors and the city that captured my heart: Edinburgh, rich in history, beauty and character. The cobblestone streets of the Royal Mile, the imposing fortress of Edinburgh Castle, the medieval buildings of the Old Town and the stone precision of the Georgian New Town all conspire to hold me here for the duration of my two-year work visa.

I was fortunate to spend my first few weeks living with a Scottish family. They took me in and shared with me their perspectives on Scottish life and culture. They brought me to family gatherings, where I was humbled to participate in the simplest of things: an afternoon of kitchen table conversation. I am indebted to them for their hospitality and their friendship.

I’ve since struck out on my own, sharing an apartment with two Scots in the gritty but gentrified neighbourhood of Leith. My bedroom window overlooks a busy thoroughfare, alive with the sights and sounds of the city: the rumble of double-decker buses, the muddled din from the local pub, shopkeepers, grocers and fishmongers hocking their wares alongside glassed betting offices and charity shops. Overlooking the scene is a statue of Queen Victoria, commemorating her inaugural visit in 1842.

But the dream hasn’t turned out quite the way I thought it would. Instead of a career in my chosen field of communications and public relations, I work part-time at a pub for minimum wage. I count every pence and budget every pound, to make sure I have enough to pay my rent. And there are days — more than I would care to admit — when I’m overwhelmed by feelings of homesickness, depression and loneliness.

I saw this state of affairs as an indicator of failure. I would lie awake at night itemizing where I went wrong, then spend the day sulking about what couldn’t be changed. These thoughts consumed me, casting a shadow over what was supposed to be the experience of a lifetime.

Travel was the only escape; miles of road underneath my feet seemed to make this predicament easier to handle. I wandered the quiet corners of the rural countryside, explored the contours of Scotland’s biggest cities. I spoke to locals and foreigners, everyone and no one, trying to make sense of this journey.

In the end, it was Edinburgh that saved my sanity.

It was an unseasonably warm day in May when I went in search of the National Gallery of Modern Art, deep in the city’s West End. I missed the bus, forgot my map and got completely and utterly lost. By the time I finally got to the gallery, I was tired, grumpy and in no mood for fine art.

As the museum came into view, I stopped dead in my tracks. There, above the neoclassical stone façade, was the message I’d so desperately needed to hear — spelled out in bright blue, humming neon.

“Everything Is Going to Be Alright,” it declared.

For the first time since I’d arrived, I could see things clearly: The journey isn’t about measuring up to expectations, not even my own. It’s about putting one foot in front of the other — one day, one choice at a time — and knowing no matter what direction I set out in, I will arrive exactly where I need to be.

The daruma sits on my nightstand, its two knowing eyes watching over my small Scottish corner of the world. I keep it close as a reminder of what this journey is all about. I hope it will continue to grant me the vision to see my surroundings clearly, the courage to follow my dreams, and the confidence to grasp the opportunities that lie ahead.

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