Tech in the Park
The vibe inside the Island’s innovation hub
14 THE AGING BOOM
Talk about timing. Erich and Shelley Mohr fund a new research program on adult development and aging, just as the baby boom has age 65 in its sights.

17 KIDS ONLINE
Relax parents—it’s not all bad.

22 GOULD’N YEAR

18 COVER STORY:
TECH IN THE PARK
Behind the brainpower, there’s a thriving and fun workplace culture that defines the university-owned Vancouver Island Technology Park.

27 FLICKR ON THE FLY
Digital photography would never be quite the same after Stewart Butterfield and Flickr.com.

30 ASSESSING GREAT BEAR
Massive region, massive plans: taking stock of the land and conservation deal.

33 ANTHROPOMETAL
Don’t get heavy metal? Sam Dunn can help you see and hear it his way.


digital photography would never be quite the same after Stewart Butterfield and Flickr.com.
A Little Bit Greener
How we turned the page on old paper.

If you look closely at this edition of the magazine and compare it to its recent predecessors you may notice something different. Sure, the stories about the life of the university are all here. There are lots of great pictures, too. All of the elements that we always strive for are present. The difference is in the actual paper.

Going back to the last issue, I noticed a bit of a trend developing. Among our readers a few—not a great wave but enough to notice—politely came forward and asked that they be removed from our mailing list. You see, they said, we’re trying to cut down on our paper consumption.

It was comments like those that underscored what we’ve all been thinking as so much public attention has shifted to the issues of global climate change, human contributions to greenhouse gases, and the general question of how we treat the environment.

We still believe in the power of the printed word: it’s portable, sharable, clip-able and it reproduces photos brilliantly. And it’s recyclable.

But even the publishers of the Victoria’s Secret catalogue are going green. It became pretty obvious that we had to do our part.

And so when we sought out our printing contract for the 2007 editions we asked our friends at Mitchell Press in Vancouver to help us find an appropriate paper stock that had a significant amount of recycled content and the strength to stand up to the process required for a print run of our size.

What we came up with is the paper stock that you’re reading from now.

It contains 30 per cent post-consumer recycled content and it holds Forest Stewardship Council certification.

The FSC is an international, independent, not-for-profit organization of social, environmental and business concerns. The FSC standards are widely endorsed and supported by environmental groups such as the Rainforest Alliance, WWF Canada and ForestEthics.

The FSC logo that we are entitled to print (in the masthead opposite this column) is our assurance that the paper comes from an environmentally and socially responsible source.

Each step of the process in creating the paper has been audited and approved—from the harvesting of the trees to mill production and processing. And the cost is essentially the same as our former (albeit higher quality) paper stock.

Using calculations based on research by the Environmental Defense Fund, the switch to our new paper stock means that we have saved the equivalent of 45 trees, 17,000 litres of water and 3,300 kg of greenhouse gas in producing this issue alone.

As always, we welcome your comments on this or anything else that strikes you about the magazine.

Mike McNeney
Editor
MYSTERY COUPLE REVEALED
I’m writing regarding the photograph accompanying the “Hand in Hand” article on page 36 of the autumn 2006 issue. I’m fairly certain my wife (Margaret Slade, BSc ’70) and I are the couple in the picture (right). We were dating while attending UVic in 1967. We were married the following year and have been together since then. I’m employed by UVic and currently on secondment to the Council of Prairie and Pacific University Libraries. Margaret works in the city as a manager at a computer integration company.

SANDY SLADE, BA ’68
VICTORIA

KEEP IT GREEN
As a Visual Arts graduate, I still get great pleasure in frequent visits even though the campus is much changed and not as beautiful as before—many green spaces have been lost to new buildings. One hopes ardently that the treed areas shown in the aerial photo (“The View from 2,000 Feet,” autumn 2006) incorporating the natural treasure of Mystic Vale in suburbia and an ancient orchard enjoyed by dogs and disc throwers alike will remain community areas. One hopes too that future buildings go up higher and not consume more ground so that we can still look at nature—man-made or natural—art, architecture, the younger generation and rabbits as we stroll.

ELIZABETH MAYNE, BFA ’87
VICTORIA

REMEMBERING PETER SMITH
I wanted to thank you for the lovely tribute to Peter in the Torch (“One of the Wise,” autumn 2006). He appreciated graceful writing and would certainly have been impressed by your acknowledgement—pleased that a younger UVic generation made use of his history. It makes me feel others besides his family feel Peter’s absence.

MARY JEAN SMITH
VICTORIA

THE HUMAN TOUCH
I have been in Vancouver recently visiting my father (former information director David Dunsmuir), who receives the Torch, and wanted to write to you and convey how impressed I was with the variety of subjects and the very real “humanitarian feel” I get from its pages. It was the autumn 2006 copy that was on hand. I commend you on what I see as a very accessible and positive publication, that keeps important things in view in order to make a positive impact in the lives of readers of every generation.

MEREDITH MACINNIS
HALIFAX

CORRECTION: Robert Dunsmuir ordered construction of Craigdarroch Castle but it was his son, James, who built the family residence at Hatley Park. Robert was the great-great grandfather and James the great-grandfather of Michael Audain. Incorrect information appeared in “Art Houses,” autumn 2006.
Finding our Niche

How its status as a “destination” campus helps to define the university.

BY DAVID H. TURPIN
PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

WHAT MAKES THE UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA UNIQUE? RECENTLY WE HAVE given serious thought to this question, allowing us to focus clearly on the key characteristics that make our institution unlike that of almost any other research university in Canada.

On the surface, one might assume our university is unique simply by virtue of our spectacular location, mild climate and the vibrant lifestyle of southern Vancouver Island. But beyond those attributes there is so much more that sets us apart. We are what may be termed a “destination” university.

By that I mean that most of our students—the heart and soul of our university—come here from areas that lie beyond our immediate region. They come from across the province, across the country, indeed from around the world to study at the University of Victoria. In so doing, they add a special dimension that is not found on many other campuses.

By choosing the University of Victoria to further their educational goals, our students create a unique sense of community. It begins with their first-year studies, when each new student coming to us directly from high school is guaranteed a place to live in our campus residences.

In fact, these students form a community unto themselves, with our accommodations able to provide living space for more than 2,100 students. Our Residence Life programs help students make the adjustment to the demands of their university studies. In those programs they not only find the support they need to succeed academically, but we also offer a variety of outlets for cultural and recreational activities and housing for students with families, that is close to the campus daycare and to local schools.

All of this contributes to a campus culture that is collegial and lively—and student-centred. And that makes a difference in the lives of our students. It forms the foundation for all their learning experiences, which can include co-operative education work terms, internships, international study exchanges or any number of other opportunities that are open to them as they expand their horizons engaging in the broader community and the issues affecting society today.

It’s going to take more work to build on our successes. For example, we need to pay particular attention to initiatives that enhance and support the remarkable diversity of our students and faculty, both inside and outside of the classroom. We also need to make sure that our broader learning environment accommodates the unique circumstances of each of our students.

“Most of our students—the heart and soul of our university—come here from areas that lie beyond our immediate region.”

I am very pleased that our community has recognized these and other objectives that we have set for ourselves in our renewed strategic plan, A Vision for the Future—Building on Strength. The plan confirms the goals we set for ourselves in our strategic plan of five years ago and sets new aspirations for the years ahead.

Each of our alumni community members has a stake in the future of the University of Victoria and I am most grateful for your continuing interest in your university and for your support of our mission to strengthen our position among the best Canadian universities.
Chip Shot

Mystic Vale offers any number of sights and sounds on a late winter morning. Like the tap, tap, tap of a pileated woodpecker. The year-round resident of the vale, conspicuous by his red crown and moustache, chipped through the bark of a dead tree, probably in search of his next meal of carpenter ants or other bugs.

The forested campus ravine is sacred in the Coast Salish tradition because of its life-giving plants and trees and spring-fed waters. Recent work by grounds staff saw invasive ivy and holly removed in favour of indigenous plants, a trail was realigned, and ponds were added for improved water flow in the creek.

PHOTOGRAPH BY HÉLÈNE CYR
Self-portrait of the Artist as the Little Tramp

Among the many treasures held by the Special Collections section of the McPherson Library is this 1931 self-portrait by cinematic genius Charlie Chaplin whose silent and “talkie” masterpieces included City Lights, Modern Times, and The Great Dictator. “Chaplin’s science is humour and his laboratory the world,” the caricaturist Al Hirschfeld observed in The New York Times Magazine in July of 1942.

In 1916 Chaplin was earning an astounding $10,000 a week. He would control every aspect of his filmmaking and formed United Artists studios with Douglas Fairbanks, D.W. Griffith and Canada’s Mary Pickford.

During the Cold War witch hunts of the 1950s the London-born Chaplin’s US entry visa was revoked even though the FBI had found no evidence of treasonous activities. By 1972 he had begun working again in the States and that year, at the Academy Awards, he received a special Oscar—and the longest, loudest ovation in the ceremony’s history.

Sir Charles Chaplin died in Switzerland on Christmas Day, 1977. His self-portrait was donated to the university several years ago—along with a raft of historic documents and artifacts—by local collectors Bruce and Dorothy Brown.
An Organic Magnet

Imagine a lightweight magnet that, unlike a dense bar of iron, could bend like plastic. It’s a strong possibility after a major advance in the lab of Chemistry Prof. Robin Hicks. When he and former post-doctoral student Raj Jain mixed three carbon-based (organic) nickel compounds into a muddy blend they, quite accidentally, discovered that the synthetic molecules become magnetic at room temperature.

It’s a rare find, something that has eluded science for two decades. The exact reason why the molecular structure becomes magnetized is unclear, as is the question of how to control the process. That’s for another day. For now, the new class of molecular magnets has generated worldwide attention since the breakthrough was published in the journal *Nature*. Light, pliable magnets could improve efficiency wherever they’re used, from telecommunications and computer memory to aeronautics and space flight.

Debut in Winter

After a horrendous winter, we offer a moment to observe and to be rekindled by the first blooms in Finnerty Gardens. Starting in October, relentless thereafter, the Pacific wind and rain and the Arctic chills tested our endurance and patience. The gardens seem for the most part to have made it through it all relatively well, and the first rhodo blooms had appeared by mid-season.

The gardens are named for the pioneer farming family whose 80-ha Gordon Head spread now forms part of campus. Finnerty descendant David Pollock, BEd ’79, is a supporter of the gardens and the Faculty of Education. Last fall he and other family members were on hand when a plaque was unveiled in the gardens to honour the Finnettys who “once tilled this soil.”

Research “Broker” Opens Shop

“Our job is to match the research interests coming from a variety of places in the community with research capacities within the university. We’re a broker,” says Budd Hall, director of the new Office of Community-based Research. The office is the first in Canada to focus on faculty, students and community members working together on solutions to critical issues. “I’m thrilled because it’s something I worked in years ago and now to be able to come back to this at a university-wide level is just so much fun.”

For the former dean of the Faculty of Education, the concept of community members having a more meaningful role in research projects goes back 30 years, to his days in Tanzania when he was working as a university research officer. “There was a contradiction in the way we did research and the way that the country was hoping to develop itself. So a number of us got thinking, well, maybe the idea for the research could actually come from the community.”

It was at a weekend workshop hosted by the office of the vice-president research two years ago that the possibility of a community-based research effort at UVic really got rolling. A good crowd of 120 people came out—“we did have a free lunch, but it was very unusual to have that many people”—which led to a task force, which led to the CBR office opening its doors in January.

The United Way of Greater Victoria is co-chairing the CBR steering committee and will be involved in leading a program of research on issues related to shelter and housing.

While Hall has big plans—he hopes to see hundreds of students involved with 25 or 30 community groups within three to five years, along with big increases in external funding support—he also knows there is work to be done to develop the trust of community partners and Aboriginal communities who are cautiously optimistic about CBR.

“There’s some cynicism, especially when you use the word research. So we also have a role within the university of helping faculty and students, who would like to do this kind of work, to be more effective.”

Community-based Research Director Budd Hall can be reached at bhall@uvic.ca.
Grassland Keys

Northern BC grasslands are rich, diverse systems about which very little is understood except that they can have an important role in restoring the environment, especially after oil and gas exploration.

Valerie Huff, Dipl ’05, and Carla Burton, MSc ’03—graduates of the Continuing Studies Division’s Restoration of Natural Systems program—along with Royal BC Museum botanist Richard Hebda are cataloguing northern grasses and developing a template for using them to restore the ecosystems near pipelines, well sites and test sites. “They bind the soil,” says Hebda. “Their root systems tend to reduce erosion and of course they provide food and forage for various animals.”

“The grasses up there have not been particularly well studied,” says Huff, the first master’s student for whom the Division of Continuing Studies has helped to secure research funding (from the BC Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources).

At oil and gas well sites “the soil gets scalped off and stored while the well is active, then replaced and reclaimed,” says Huff. She has been studying all the varying disturbances in order to understand natural recovery processes and how they can be used in restoration projects.

Her master’s work builds on her final RNS project: an online interactive key to the grasses of the Columbia Basin. It’s comprehensive, accessible and, according to Hebda, far ahead of anything of its kind.

>livinglandscapes.bc.ca/grasses

Virtual Learning Lodge

A web-based version of the well-established Indigenous Child and Youth Care Diploma will combine technology and Aboriginal learning traditions. Prof. Jessica Ball and Senior Instructor Shanne McCaffrey are building the new program around a “virtual learning lodge.”

“What we’re trying to do is not only develop virtual communities among classmates and instructors,” says McCaffrey, “but we’re trying to help students (feel) that they’re standing on the shoulders of their ancestors.”

The learning lodge—the concept is based on age-old indigenous approaches to learning—will offer the usual online course material along with recognition of people, events, times and places in indigenous culture and lore.

The classroom-based diploma has been around for 18 years, but Ball and McCaffrey recognized that a large group of potential students can’t leave their communities to spend two to four years at UVic. “It’s capacity depleting,” says Ball. McCaffrey also notes the advantages of the “support students can receive at home while still working in their own communities and practicing cultural activities.”

“People are realizing that the Child and Youth Care diploma, degree and career ladder prepares people for a wide range of professions that are high priorities in Aboriginal communities,” says Ball, citing examples such as youth care workers, elementary school teachers, and social workers.

The target date for delivery of the pilot program is September and follows the success of other UVic distance education programs, including the School of Social Work’s course on indigenous approaches to healing and helping which earned an international award from the Commonwealth of Learning last year.

—Matt J. Simmons
Ken and Kathy Shields can see a tangible expression of their legendhood every time they go to Vikes basketball games. The floor at McKinnon Gym is now known as Ken and Kathy Shields Court following the official naming ceremony earlier this year to honour the 15 CIS national championships—seven by Ken’s UVic men’s teams and eight by Kathy’s UVic women’s squads—won by the iconic husband and wife.

“It’s the greatest honour I have received because McKinnon Gym was my workplace where every single one of my players sweated on those pieces of wood,” says Kathy, who coached for 23 seasons before health problems forced her into retirement in 2001. “This represents every player who has ever played at UVic for Ken and me.”

As remarkable a record of success as the Shields achieved, one word was never mentioned during their halcyon days at Ring Road.

“We never talked to our teams about winning,” says Ken, whose steely and unrelenting sense of purpose guided the Vikes to an unmatched seven consecutive national titles from 1980 to 1986. “We were performance oriented, not outcome oriented. We taught improvement. The issue was never about winning, but demanding maximum mental and physical effort on a regular basis. It was the sustained, relentless pursuit of excellence.”

When you get that nailed, the winning takes care of itself. And did it ever.

Practices under the Shields were renowned for their uncompromising, almost brutal, intensity. Mistakes were allowed and corrected, because that’s the only way a player learns. The only thing not tolerated was lack of effort. “If you have that attitude, you’re going to be pretty good,” notes Ken, who is most proud that of the players who completed their careers as Vikes under him and Kathy, only one did so without earning a degree.

“If our student-athletes didn’t do what they did—committing to basketball without ever compromising academics because academics came first—we wouldn’t have had success as coaches.”

Many of their players returned to McKinnon Gym and ringed the floor to form the honour guard on the night of the dedication ceremony.

“Whenever I get together with my former players, we never talk about big wins or championship games, but about how we feel about each other,” says Kathy. “It’s always been about relationships.”

And the Vikes of the Shields’ era were always about more than just UVic. It was a rare time in Canadian sport where university teams truly connected with the community at large. Going to Vikes games became the thing to do around Greater Victoria, creating a pulsating atmosphere in a McKinnon Gym that was usually jammed on game nights. In many ways, the Vikes were UVic’s face to the community and the communal meeting point between town and gown.

“We made a real effort to integrate and connect with the community and become Victoria’s teams and not just UVic’s teams,” says Ken, who went on to coach Team Canada for five years in Olympic qualifying and world championships, and has been consultant to the Milwaukee Bucks and Chicago Bulls of the NBA the past two years.

“Victorians were proud to identify with the Vikes teams and their successes and we welcomed that because our players became role models. That helped in what we tried to instill into the players—being responsible for their behaviour and becoming good citizens.”

One young local fan who was captivated by watching UVic basketball was Steve Nash who, of course, came out of Victoria to become the current two-time defending NBA MVP with the Phoenix Suns. Nash recorded a video tribute to the Shields, his early mentors, for a luncheon in their honour that preceded the court naming ceremonies in January.

Ken and Kathy Shields were mentors for a whole generation that came through McKinnon’s doors. The two coaching legends have thoroughly earned—after hundreds of thousands of balls bounced on that floor by players they taught and taught well—the right to call the home hardwood theirs by name.
The Malahat at 40

*The Malahat Review*—that child of the ’60s—hits 40 this year and plans are afoot to mark the occasion in a fashion suitable to such an icon of Canadian literature. Editor John Barton, BA ’81, has assembled a series of events culminating in October with a fall edition (#160) dedicated to co-founder Robin Skelton.

The first edition of the magazine appeared in 1967, under the guidance of Skelton and John Peter, the novelist and English professor. Skelton would serve as the editor of the quarterly until 1983. He was also the first chair of the Department of Writing and instrumental in establishing the library’s Special Collections. Skelton donated a large portion of his art collection to the Maltwood Art Museum and Gallery, an exhibit of which will be shown from Aug. 31 through Nov. 15.

Talking climate: No other Canadian scientist was as prominent—or patient with—the news media than UVic climate modelling specialist, Prof. Andrew Weaver. In their coverage of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report released in February, more than 100 reporters from around the world looked to Weaver for his insight on the report and climate change. Weaver, BSc ’83, is a lead author of the IPCC report on climate prediction. He is a 2006 recipient of the UVic Alumni Association’s Distinguished Alumni Award and he holds the Canada Research Chair in Climate Modelling and Analysis.

Killam Fellowship: Environmental Studies Prof. Nancy Turner is one of 10 Canadian researchers among this year’s recipients of the Killam research fellowship from the Canadian Council of the Arts. Turner, BSc ’69, will be able to focus two years of full-time research on eco-cultural diversity in First Nations and the defining patterns of knowledge, particularly in the Aboriginal cultures of the western provinces.

Business makes the grade: UVic Business has earned an international accreditation shared by the top business schools around the world. The European Quality Improvement System designation follows an independent, top-to-bottom audit of the faculty. Only five other Canadian schools hold the distinction and worldwide, only 105 business programs have met the EQUIS standard. Among its strengths, the faculty has partnership agreements with 45 universities in 20 countries and 70 per cent of undergrads (and all MBA students) gain international experience at some point in their studies.

Williams art goes to town: The vast collection of contemporary art left to the university by Michael Williams after his death in 2000 will form the heart of a new UVic gallery opening in downtown Victoria this summer. The Williams collection amounts to more than a thousand paintings, sculptures, drawings and collectibles and has been valued at $3.5 million. The new gallery, at 630 Yates St., is in the old TD Bank building and was also part of the Williams estate donated to the university.

New tree-tments: Forest biologist Brett Poulis, PhD ’04, and his collaborators have launched a venture to market antibiotics, topical antibacterial and antifungal creams that are based on research into how Douglas fir trees defend themselves from pathogens during pollination. The discoveries (enabled by advances in proteomics research and the UVic Genome BC Proteomics Centre) were made during Poulis’ doctoral work in the UVic Centre for Forest Biology. Poulis is the chief scientific officer of FloraPure BioSciences and the recipient of the Young Innovator Award from the Networks of Centres of Excellence.
The Aging Boom

The baby boom generation hits retirement age in four years and the university—with key support from alumni Erich and Shelley Mohr—is ready to embark on a new program of long-term research and education surrounding the changing nature of aging in Canada.

BY MIKE MCNENEY

From their home, perched at the southern entrance of Cadboro Bay, Drs. Erich and Shelley Mohr are a matter of minutes from Ring Road. Which is appropriate. The University of Victoria is where the couple met in the early ’80s when he was working toward his PhD in neuropsychology and she was completing her psychology degree. It’s the place where their lives together began and it’s the place from where they launched their careers. And now the university, and the community, are about to benefit from their gratitude.

The Mohrs have donated $2.25 million to start a research program concentrating on adult development and aging, bridging the university’s strengths in gerontology and adult health research. The gift means the university can hire a top-calibre scholar to spearhead discoveries about the aging process and the factors that contribute to health or illness in later years.

The program will fund graduate and post-doctoral students and is expected to draw additional resources from public and non-profit agencies. The university is contributing the equivalent of a junior faculty position.

“The gift is intended to create a nucleus, to really leverage this to further not only research but to further education and opportunities for young people,” says Erich Mohr, chairman and CEO of Victoria-based MedGenesis Therapeutics. “The plans that I’ve seen are focused on this, so that’s something we really want to support.”

The endowment is named for his parents, Harald and Wilhelma Mohr, who were both medical doctors specializing in, respectively, obstetrics and learning and development disabilities in young people. “Education was just so important to them,” says Shelley Mohr. “All of their children excelled academically and their careers were just amazing. We really wanted to honour that.”

The new research chair will lead the university’s participation in national and international research initiatives, including the CLSA (Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging)—the first national study on the process of aging. Late next year, the CLSA will begin monitoring a cohort of 50,000 Canadians starting from their 40s and following them through to retirement. Information will be collected on life changes (biological, medical, social, psychological and economic) to gain insight into their impacts on healthy living or the development of disease and disability.

The findings will inform new public policies on aging, particularly as baby boomers put their unique stamp on what it means to be retired (there will be a near doubling of the number of Canadians between the ages of 65 and 74—to a total of 4.5 million—over the next two decades).

UVic already has several key players involved in the CLSA, including Sociology Prof. Neena Chappell, a senior scientific advisor to the study. And, with strengths in gerontology and health, the university anticipates a greater role in collaborative research on the dynamics of aging.

“The Mohrs’ funding means we will always have a senior chair to assure the continuity of (our role in) longitudinal studies,” says Peter Keller, Dean of the
Faculty of Social Sciences. “So we can replace a very senior (retiring) scholar with another advanced researcher with an international reputation. It’s ingenious. It’s exactly what UVic needed.”

What UVic needed, and how the Mohrs could best help, were front and centre from the beginning. “We felt strongly that we wanted to give back to the community,” says Erich. “Both of us are very committed to excellence in education and research. So, when I first approached President Turpin I didn’t say, I want to give X amount of money for a research chair in X. Plans were developed and the one that was most appealing to us was in this area of aging.”

“We also felt we wanted to give back in terms of people who had given their time to participate in clinical studies and research,” adds Shelley, a clinical child psychologist at Queen Alexandra Centre for Children’s Health.

She has a more personal motivation for advancing research on aging, too: “I have a grandmother in a nursing home and issues of mobility and learning about exercise and nutrition are important to get established at a young age. Better care for older people and a better quality of life are important because nursing homes can be very sad places.”

Ten years ago, Erich Mohr, a specialist in the treatment of central nervous system disorders, had become a successful biotech entrepreneur. Based in Ottawa, he was thinking about moving the headquarters of CroMedica Inc. (it would later merge with PRA International in 2002). Victoria’s location—between Tokyo and London, and its proximity to the West Coast’s biotech corridor—seemed like a natural choice.

But there was one other important factor behind the move. “I love Victoria. I grew up here,” says Shelley. “I guess throughout our marriage I might have mentioned once or twice I would like to go home to Victoria. And I remember saying, you know it’s so beautiful that people are going to want to come here.”

“That’s exactly what happened,” adds Erich, who was born in Tuebingen, Germany. “At every Christmas party somebody would come up to Shelley and say, thank you for bringing us here to Victoria.”

Since coming back, they’ve raised three daughters and Erich, a past recipient of the alumni association’s Distinguished Alumni Award, has been at the centre of Victoria’s burgeoning biotech sector. He’s co-founded several companies and last year created MedGenesis, which is developing treatments for Alzheimer’s and dementia. “UVic really launched my career. It allowed me to be successful as a biotechnology entrepreneur and to really initiate a number of areas of research.”

And now, just like getting around the Ring, things have come back to where they began.
“I felt that I was missing something in my day to day life, with the people I interacted with,” says Naomi Bergen. The 15-year-old considers her words carefully and talks about her experience at a Victoria middle school and how she went from feeling ostracized by schoolmates to being accepted by people she’s met online. “I was looking for a connection, but wasn’t sure how to find that connection. And then I started searching and found what I feel that I need in my life. It’s difficult to express yourself in the mainstream and still be accepted.”

Internet communication tools, like social networking sites, have raised concern about their potential impact on young people. But such concern typically doesn't consider the perspectives of the youth actually using the technology, according to Mechthild Maczewski, PhD ’07, whose interdisciplinary research (in Computer Science and Child and Youth Care) addresses the Internet and its everyday role in young lives.

Maczewski, a former social worker, says the Internet is an important part of the interaction and communication that are vital to adolescent self-identity. “You have to understand how it matters to young people, their experience, what it means to them,” she says. “So then you can gauge where they are coming from and what they are getting out of it.”

Maczewski has two young children, both of whom were born during her PhD work. Being at home with her first baby dramatically altered the shape of the new mom’s social networks; electronic communication took on new meaning as it offered alternative avenues for interaction. And her second maternity leave coincided with the explosion of blogs and networking Web sites. When she returned to her research she found that the whole terrain had shifted and it no longer made sense to separate technology and youths’ online experiences.

On the face of it, Maczewski’s two homes on campus—the new Engineering/Computer Science building and the School of Child and Youth Care—may seem like academic worlds apart. But she says the more interesting and compelling insights arose from connections she found between the two disciplines. “Youth are positioned within their family, community, peers, their school—they have relations there, a whole network of relations and technology affords connections and relations, so it has an impact on their sense of self.”

Since self-identity comes from dynamic relationships whether they’re Web-based or not, she argues, parents and academics need to regard the Internet as an integral part of adolescent life. “Technology is completely embedded in their daily lives.”

Among most of the young people she encountered in her research, Maczewski found that online relationships are not alternatives to, but extensions of already-established high school friendships. Maczewski says the key is in how the Internet’s influence changes from one person to the next.

Prof. Marie Hoskins, Maczewski’s supervisor in Child and Youth Care says Maczewski’s research has helped other academics—and parents—approach the Internet in a more holistic way. “The question,” Hoskins says, “is how does this particular technology extend the health and well-being of a child, and how does it restrict or inhibit well-being?”

For young Naomi Bergen, dusting doughnut crumbs off the table, the answer is clear. “I met a lot of people (online) who have become good friends in my life. I’d be unable to express my opinions on a lot of things that are very real to me. If I didn’t have that group of people then I’d probably be a lot less happy than I am.”
Tech in the Park

The Island’s high tech hub is a place where brainpower blends with workplace fun, heart and soul.

BY VAL LITWIN, BA ’01
PHOTOGRAPHY BY HÉLÈNE CYR
Great save! A lunchtime foosball game heats up at the UVic-owned Vancouver Island Technology Park.
The words “tech park” might conjure images of lab coats and pocket protectors, but forget all of that. When tenants of the Vancouver Island Technology Park aren’t searching for a cure for a disease or developing a hyper-efficient fuel cell, they might be busy racing soapbox cars to raise funds for cancer research. The University of Victoria-owned park is a high octane cluster of knowledge and innovation, but it’s also a home to vibrant workplaces and community-minded bosses who really know how to pamper their employees.

“THis one soapbox car got going so fast it crashed through the hay bales at the bottom of the hill and just blew apart,” says a laughing Troy Griffiths, CEO of Vigil Health Solutions, remembering a highlight-reel wipeout that occurred during the tech park’s first annual Canary Derby last June. The competition drew a dozen companies who raised $47,000 for the BC Cancer Agency.

As a provider of sophisticated healthcare systems for seniors, Griffiths, BComm ’95, knows a culture of care when he sees one. “The caring element is obviously a part of what we do here at Vigil but you see it all over the park.” In January, park tenants rallied to give blood to Canadian Blood Services.

You’ll still find people who “like to play video games and eat too much pizza,” says John Chabun, a marketing coordinator at Etraffic Solutions, but the stereotype of the techie can’t be crammed into a test tube any longer. “In our office alone, 20 of the 45 employees play musical instruments and when we have staff parties they turn into big jam sessions.”

As Chabun shares his thoughts, a roaring game of foosball is going on just a few feet away. The tech park’s games room is abuzz with activity at lunch and legions of workers come in to challenge each other at the leisure sport-de-jour. Rivalries can last a year, “I come here to get to know my co-workers and cream them at the same time,” says consultant Adil Chagani. “There’s no pecking order here,” he adds as he checks his Blackberry, “and it adds a layer of congeniality to the business relationship.”

DOUG TOLSON, PhD ’92, vice-president of the university’s Innovation and Development Corporation, is passionate about the synergies between UVic and the park. “Professors aren’t typically trained to transfer technologies to market,” says Tolson, “but with IDC’s help we can evaluate the technology and help pave a pathway to commercialization.” The park is a natural receptor site for new technologies, says Tolson, and in turn companies at the park have access to bright graduates and co-op students.

It so happens one of the poster children for tech on Vancouver Island, park tenant Advanced Economic Research Systems, was founded by UVic undergrads Andrew and Anthony Sukow. With IDC’s help, the Sukow brothers were able to obtain a data licence from eBay and, with input from their professors, developed industry leading statistical software called Terapeak. It’s considered the leading analytic software of eBay data, providing custom analysis and reports for Fortune 500 companies and eBay power sellers. “IDC helped guide and structure our business for future expansion,” says Anthony Sukow, CEO and president of AERS. “Their advisers gave us the right advice at the right time.”

“More than 2.4 billion transactions occur on eBay every year which amounts to $52 billion worth of goods. If you can help people make sense of those transactions, explains the 31-year-old whiz, you are a power player indeed. “The data we mine is like a piece of real estate—it’s basically ours to develop.”

**Tech Park Numbers**

1,300 direct jobs.

28 tenant companies and organizations.

17,774 m² of fully leased space, zoned to expand to 38,500 m².

14 ha natural, campus-like setting in Saanich.

8 km from UVic.

2005—year that UVic purchases VITP. The former Glendale Institution was converted by the BC Buildings Corporation and holds a “Gold” certification for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design.

$280-million annual economic impact on the BC economy by VITP tenants (2005).
ONE OF THE MORE SEASONED ENTREPRENEURS AT THE TECH PARK, AT 51, Robert Beecroft, CEO and founder of ImmunoPrecise Antibodies, represents the heart of the workplace environment that can be found there.

Beecroft, BSc ’84, speaks fondly of the UVic co-op students he has hired—17 in the past decade. “Students are fighting to come here,” he says, drawing attention to the fact that working for a premier biomedical company like Immuno-Precise is a hot career opportunity for young scientists.

But Beecroft also knows how to treat his staff. A massage therapist comes twice a month and all employees get 20 minutes each (all that hunching over microscopes takes its toll after all). The image of scientists in lab coats getting shiatsu treatments before inventing industry-defining technologies couldn’t be more apropos.

“...In our office alone, 20 of the 45 employees play musical instruments and when we have staff parties they turn into big jam sessions...”

Park Passions

Volunteer Search and Rescue. Be nice to techies: they may save your life one day.

Geocaching. A tech version of the old scavenger hunt. Participants use a GPS to hide and seek containers.

Jam Sessions. Music soothes the savage programmer.

Playing Rugby. An excellent cure for lab-fever.

Trial Riding. Using a motorbike or mountain bike to slowly negotiate man-made and natural obstacles.

Co-op in the Park

Each year students complete about two dozen work placement terms with VITP tenant companies, gaining on-the-job experience in their chosen fields plus a regular pay cheque. Overall, the university provides Western Canada’s largest co-operative education program with placements in 31 countries. Meet three of the VITP co-op crew:

Amanda Campbell
Lab Technician, Immuno-Precise Antibodies
Biochemistry/Microbiology co-op program

A beaming bright light, Campbell symbolizes the hip work-play balance of the tech park. A microbiology lab technician during work hours, Campbell likes to unwind by training with the UVic women’s rugby squad. “I took a few hard hits to the head the other day,” says Campbell laughing and quick to add that doesn’t affect her work in the lab. Her immediate plans are to finish her degree, but she sees herself traveling with her work eventually: “I would love to help people in other countries.”

Av Hundle, BComm ’06
Marketing contractor, VITP
Business co-op graduate

Hundle is such an easy-going guy it isn’t surprising that in addition to all the marketing work he does for the park he also organizes VITP community-building events like the annual friends-and-family hockey game."This year’s game wasn’t that physical at the start,” says Hundle with a mischievous smile, “but by the end my boss and I were bodychecking each other pretty hard.” Hundle essentially leveraged his co-op position and created a marketing placement for himself at the end of his final term. Now he works full-time helping VITP grow.

Candice Madalena
Lab Technician, UVic-Genome BC Proteomics Centre
Biochemistry/Microbiology co-op program

Two years into her biology and microbiology double major, Madalena is all smiles about her co-op placement. “Everyone is just really nice here,” effuses the young student. Working for the Proteomics Centre, Madalena spends most of her time preparing protein samples that sit in frosty buckets of ice before being used for disease research. “I will be sad to leave when [my work term] is over.” With two more co-op terms to go, she favours keeping her options open rather than narrowing the focus too much. “School is so different from the lab experience. And it’s nice not having to study!”
Gould’n Year

In 2007 Glenn Gould would have turned 75 years old and it has been a quarter-century since his passing. With those milestones in mind, we pay tribute to the great Canadian classical pianist with the guidance of noted Gould biographer Kevin Bazzana, BMus ‘88.

BY ROBERT MOYES, BA ’82
PHOTOGRAPHY BY PAUL ROCKETT

Not only justly famed in his own country—he was ranked by Maclean’s magazine as the most influential Canadian artist in history—pianist Glenn Gould has acquired a global profile more in keeping with a renowned composer than a musician. Even though it has been nearly 25 years since he died of a stroke in a Toronto hospital, he continues to captivate people all over the world. Gould easily surpasses piano icons such as Rubenstein and Horowitz in terms of Google hits (1.4 million), and still outsells most living classical musicians. It’s no exaggeration to say he remains an object of fascination—even adoration—to a large and disparate group of music fans, scholars and ordinary people attracted by Gould’s spirituality and total commitment to his art as much as his almost superhuman virtuosity. >>
Gould was born 75 years ago this year and imminent anniversary celebrations are sure to ramp up interest in the pianist even higher than usual. Events are planned as far away as Berlin, but the big one happens in September at the Museum of Civilization in Gatineau, Quebec, a year-long exhibit beginning with a week of lectures and performances. One of the consultants is Victoria’s Kevin Bazzana, BMus ’88, a music historian who has published two books on the extraordinary pianist. His later tome, *Wondrous Strange: The Life and Art of Glenn Gould*, is an elegantly written, meticulous biography that received plaudits from *The New Yorker* and the *Times Literary Supplement* and has been translated into several languages.

“There is no other pianist who attracts the attention that Gould does,” states Bazzana, who holds a PhD from the University of California, Berkeley. “I updated an encyclopedia entry on him and when I did the bibliography I discovered that there were both translations and original books on Gould written in Danish, Dutch, Russian, Finnish, Hungarian, Portuguese, and Polish. They’re just crazy for him all over the world.” According to Bazzana, many fans are drawn to Gould as a person. “He had a purity and didn’t care about worldly things,” he says. “And there was a spiritual quality that many people sensed in his playing. Non-classical types can warm to him, because he wasn’t forbidding to people who didn’t know classical music.”

Bazzana also points to the range of Gould’s writings and radio and TV documentaries as other reasons for his posthumous fame. “Before he died, only one slim book on Gould existed. So if you were a guy in Paris, all you knew were the recordings. After his death all this stuff was disseminated all over the world and it created an explosion in the literature about him.”

**Aside from enormous critical interest, Gould has spawned something akin to the cults that surround Elvis. Some people have insisted on seeing Gould’s collection of motel keys that is enshrined at the Canadian Archives so that they can stay in the same rooms and thereby presumably commune with his spirit. Signed photographs and other memorabilia sell for thousands of dollars. (Bazzana became the whistleblower in an unusual case where a woman was auctioning off a stolen sheet of Gould signatures and doodles.) There is even an Italian Web site that, for 990 Euros, sells handmade replicas of the battered old chair that Gould always used when he hunched over the keyboard.

“It does get kind of weird sometimes,” says Bazzana, who is a central figure in the Gould underground and thus a target for unusual phone calls and unsolicited gifts. A recent brush with what he jokingly calls the “dark side” came from an English music student who had traveled to Toronto on a Gould pilgrimage and sent Bazzana a photograph of the tattoo she had impulsively acquired: four bars from Gould’s String Quartet immortalized on her lower back, along with a rendering of the man’s initials. It’s hard to imagine someone as private as Gould enjoying being the inspiration for behaviour that has more in common with Britney than Beethoven.

Mind you, Gould himself could be undeniably eccentric, including his notorious habit of humming and singing to himself and wearing gloves while playing the piano. His meandering middle-of-the-night phone calls to long-suffering friends were common and so uni-directional that the person on the other end of the line would sometimes just fall mercifully to sleep as Gould rambled on. And this quintessential hypochondriac hated to tour, and when on the road traveled with a briefcase of pills and a personal chiropractor or physiotherapist in tow. (There is a wonderful anecdote,
The Philosophy of Gould
Glenn Gould displayed boundless enthusiasm for humour. In his CBC specials he inserted fake promos where he interacted with himself in various satiric guises. Following are 10 quotable quips, selected with the help of biographer Kevin Bazzana:

- “I suppose it can be said that I’m an absent-minded driver. It’s true that I’ve driven through a number of red lights on occasion, but on the other hand, I’ve stopped at a lot of green ones but never gotten credit for it.”
- “On Beethoven: “He is one composer whose reputation is based entirely on gossip.”
- “The thing that is absolute anathema to me is Italian opera. I squirm with Verdi and wriggle with Puccini.”
- “I happen to believe that competition rather than money is the root of all evil.”
- “I don’t approve of people who watch television, but I am one of them. You see, television is one of the greatest sedatives in the world.”
- “Morality, it seems to me, has never been on the side of the carnivore.”
- “I don’t think I’m at all eccentric.”
- “I don’t approve of people who watch television, but I am one of them. You see, television is one of the greatest sedatives in the world.”
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- “I don’t think I’m at all eccentric.”

possibly apocryphal, about how he was once on the phone with a friend who sneezed so loudly that Gould hung up in alarm.) Although Bazzana, in his book, lists page after page of odd behaviour he is quick to claim that the common image of the man as the Howard Hughes of music is a gross exaggeration. Bazzana is one of many sympathetic Gould scholars who believe that his neurotic behaviour was necessary for the nurturing of his creativity.

Gould always loathed performing live, and created a stir when he ended his concert career in 1964 at the age of 31. For the next two decades he retreated to the studio to labour over his recordings. An extraordinary perfectionist, he would edit together bits from dozens of different versions of the same piece until he was satisfied. Gould was also influenced by Marshall McLuhan and did some of his best creative work as a “radio artist,” advancing the art and science of radio broadcasting. Throughout the ’60s and ’70s he made numerous radio and TV shows about classical music. But there were many remarkable radio documentaries on other subjects, especially The Idea of North, a uniquely Canadian celebration of the far north.

After spending more than 20 years researching and writing about Gould, Bazzana wasn’t sad about moving on. “I did a huge amount of primary research for my biography and the book almost killed me,” laughs Bazzana. “I put my doctor in the acknowledgements.” But even with a new, acclaimed biography (Lost Genius: The Story of a Forgotten Musical Maverick, about Hungarian-American piano prodigy Ervin Nyiregyházi), Bazzana knows he will never completely stray from the compelling, maddening and almost magical legacy embodied in the recordings and the life of an artist so wondrous strange. “Gould will always be somewhere on my hard-drive. Even if I press ‘delete,’ some trace of him will still survive, ready for retrieval.”

Notes on photography: The feature images appearing on the first two pages of this story were taken by Paul Rockett in 1956 at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto. Mr. Rockett resides in Vancouver. The photos are reproduced with his permission and that of the Estate of Glenn Gould.
Flickr on the Fly

Stewart Butterfield and the explosion of online photo sharing.

BY DANIEL SIEBERG, BFA ’98

By the time I reach Flickr.com’s Stewart Butterfield, BA ’96, he’s well into multi-task mode. First he tells me he’ll need to call back since he and his wife (Flickr co-founder Caterina Fake) have just finished a doctor’s appointment—Caterina is about 20 weeks pregnant. When he rings me back 30 minutes later our conversation takes place while he orders a coffee, navigates traffic in his Toyota Prius en route to his office in San Francisco and recounts his rise as a Web 2.0 pioneer. To be fair, he doesn’t consider himself a pioneer, but that’s undoubtedly what his legacy will be in an age of upstart start-ups.

“I really can’t complain about my life right now,” he says. And for good reason.

The father-to-be and dot-com millionaire has followed a path from toiling in the computer labs in the basement of the University of Victoria’s Clearihue Building to managing one of the premiere online photo sharing sites. Three years since its launch Flickr now touts more than seven million registered members, and Butterfield says they get as many as a million photos uploaded per day from all over the world with 80 per cent viewable by the public. “We get people from Botswana, from India, you name it.”

Butterfield says part of Flickr’s success was the perfect storm of cheaper consumer digital cameras, and a desire for people to connect through photos and not just print them off to be tucked away in albums. “We’re good at what we do. But Flickr was really a coming together of existing ideas and technologies. We were lucky, too.”

In a sense Flickr has a direct connection to the Clearihue Building, since Butterfield says he spent hours there when the Web first took off in the ’90s, exploring and networking with others in the genesis of the wired world. You could even say he was plugged into sharing music online before it became the massive market it is today. He would meet fans of the band Phish on Usenet and mail (yes, snail mail) them tapes (as in audio cassettes).

After graduation Butterfield got excited about the idea of reaching others through the Internet. As a philosophy major Butterfield says he gained some insight into what brings people together, especially the desire to connect with like-minded folk. Flickr initially started as a component to an online role-playing game, Butterfield says, but the photo-sharing aspect of it quickly became the most popular. “I was a, well, ‘heavy’ might be the wrong connotation—I was a regular user of online games.”

In an age of curious-sounding Web site names, Flickr came largely by accident. The domain owner of “flicker.com” wouldn’t sell, so Caterina suggested “Flickr,” which Butterfield says made the service standout. “We always had to spell it out for people, which helped make it stick.”

There are more than 300,000 photo groups within Flickr, each with its own niche focus. One of Butterfield’s favourites is the “What’s in your bag?” group, which asks people to empty the contents of their purse or backpack for the camera. But as if that’s not specific enough, a splinter faction created, “What’s REALLY in your bag?”—claiming that people were filtering or censoring some of the embarrassing stuff.
Of course the contributors vary from all over the globe, from those who wish to stay in touch with family to those who seek fame and fortune. On the other hand, “We get letters from women in their 50s all the time who say they’re getting into art, they love sharing their photos,” says Butterfield. He adds that there’s interest in expanding Flickr’s role from photo clearing-house/hub to full-fledged photo agency by helping shutterbugs and publishers connect. He says many casual Flickr users want to sell their pictures but aren’t sure how to proceed with copyright or payment. On the flipside, media companies would love to tap into the wealth of material but can’t always find it or the photographer.

Butterfield says Flickr is also serving as an outlet for news photographers, both amateur and professional, and offers a massive and immediate audience. When the Australian embassy in Jakarta was attacked in 2004, he says, “There were photos of the bombing up on Flickr before CNN showed it.” It’s an intrepid and dynamic group that subscribes to the Flickr model. It’s growing all the time, and while he wouldn’t discuss specifics, Butterfield said potential mobile phone partnerships only make sense.

Butterfield, for all his accomplishments—he and Caterina were among Time magazine’s list of 100 influential people of 2006—comes across as border-line shy on the phone. Perhaps a combination of humble and pensive. He clearly loves what he does and he appreciates his good fortune. At one point he did admit to having a collection of about 11 convex wall mirrors. I asked him why the interest in such reflective décor but he had to cut the conversation short as he settled into his desk at Flickr and was inundated with requests from colleagues. I can only imagine there’s the occasional moment when Butterfield passes by those mirrors, without the possibility of the image being captured by a prying camera, when he must reflect on how far he’s come.

Contributor Daniel Sieberg is the CBS News science and technology correspondent in New York, joining the network after several years with CNN. He contributed to CNN’s Emmy Award-winning documentary, “Enemy Within” and received the Peabody Award for Significant and Meritorious Achievement in Broadcasting and Cable for his role in CNN’s coverage of Hurricane Katrina.
Assessing Great Bear

Looking back—and ahead—at ambitious plans for conservation, new approaches to logging, more First Nations land management, and broader economic development in the Great Bear Rainforest.

BY MIRANDA POST, BA ’02
PHOTOGRAPH BY MARNI GROSSMAN

Along the central and northern BC coastline and archipelago stretch eight million hectares of coastal temperate rainforest. The Great Bear Rainforest (named for its resident grizzly, black and the rare white spirit or kermode bears) is also home to more than 30 First Nations and cultural traditions that span millennia. Ancient stands of Sitka spruce, red cedar and western hemlock tower above one of earth’s most diverse ecosystems. It is also a forest with a future cast in fanfare and criticism.

“What we’re doing is shifting the paradigm of how the economy and how forests are managed on the coast. And we’re doing it on a large scale, landscape level,” says Merran Smith, BSc ’95, a campaign director with the environmental protection group, ForestEthics.

In February 2006 First Nations chiefs, community leaders, environmentalists and a logging executive jointly announced protection agreements for the Great Bear Rainforest. It capped 10 years of environmental campaigns, First Nations negotiations and consensus agreements at government-led resource planning tables. The news spread to nearly 400 news outlets around the world.

“We can’t lose sight of the fact that the Great Bear Rainforest Agreement is monumental. But these agreements on paper must become a reality in the rainforest if we’re going to be successful in providing a conservation model to the world,” says Amanda Carr, of Greenpeace Canada. Greenpeace, ForestEthics and the Sierra Club of Canada, BC Chapter, were three environmental groups who pushed the Great Bear agreement forward and remain among its most vocal proponents. >>
Others within the environmental movement are more skeptical. “They are really just paper parks,” says Ian McAllister, MEd ’88, of the Raincoast Conservation Society. Raincoast commended the rainforest deal as a step forward, but the group also noted it was just one of many steps needed to protect the rainforest. McAllister doesn’t have a lot of faith in logging companies changing their practices.

But, what McAllister and Carr do agree on is that they want the protected areas to become a reality— and quickly. There are 107 protected areas that cover two million hectares (equal to 5,200 Stanley Parks) identified in the agreement. So far, the province has passed legislation for 24 of the areas, which were covered by a prior logging moratorium. Smith is confident the rest of the newly protected areas will follow, but is growing impatient with the pace of the process.

APART FROM THE GRADUAL PROCESS OF FINALIZING PROTECTED AREAS, the province, First Nations and logging companies— still establishing new working relationships—face the looming deadline for new, light-touch logging (or “ecosystem-based management”). Set to be implemented in two years, EBM is a system that focuses on what ecological attributes to leave behind before deciding what to harvest.

“The biggest frustration is how long it takes to move EBM objectives forward through so many diverse perspectives,” says Minister of Agriculture and Lands Pat Bell.

Dallas Smith of the Tlowitsis First Nation is on the EBM implementation committee and oversees an EBM pilot project in his territory. Smith also works closely with Art Sterritt of the Coastal First Nations, an alliance of First Nations located in the Great Bear. As a leader for nine central coast First Nations, Smith’s main focus will be the impact of EBM on cultural values, noting, “We practised EBM until colonization.”

While Merran Smith compares the collaboration among First Nations, the province and logging companies to an “arranged marriage,” she also hails the partnership as a human rights win. “From a human rights perspective this government-government relationship is a huge step forward for BC and Canada. Five to 10 years ago this would have never happened.”

Some, however, are not satisfied with either EBM or the protection deal. “Legislated protected areas are good,” says Chris Darimont, a PhD candidate in conservation biology who has done extensive research on wolves in the central coast region. “But almost right away I became disillusioned with the deal, how it falls short of what this ecosystem needs or deserves.”

“A lot of people came up to me and said, ‘I never believed it would really happen.’”

Ethnoecologist Prof. Nancy Turner is more optimistic. “Changing logging practices requires a combination of different ways of thinking, new technologies, and societal values that place long-term health of communities and ecosystems ahead of short-term gain,” she notes in an e-mail message. “It’s possible for these elements to change quickly, but since it requires a multitude of steps, usually it takes quite awhile. I am optimistic that we are moving in the right direction, but unfortunately, we have lost a great deal in the mean time.”

TRADITIONALLY, THE ECONOMY OF THE CENTRAL AND NORTH COAST SAW A lot of capital flow south as forest resources were harvested and shipped away for processing. Now, with a $120-million conservation fund in place, investment will actually flow into the region instead of out. In January the last piece of the Great Bear deal was finalized when John Baird, the federal environment minister announced that his government would match a provincial contribution of $30 million for conservation funding for communities in the rainforest. The fund includes $60 million dollars in private funding for investments in economic development activities like shellfish aquaculture or eco-tourism from Prince Rupert to Bella Bella to Alert Bay.

“There were a lot of skeptics,” says Merran Smith, looking back at the agreement and the influx of conservation funding. ‘A lot of people came up to me and said, ‘I never believed it would really happen’. One of the most exciting parts of this agreement is the potential for community health and conservation.”

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Anthropometal
Sam Dunn looks at heavy metal through an anthropological lens.

BY GREG PRATT

Sam Dunn makes a living banging his head. And it’s exactly what he wants to be doing. Because not only is he immersed in the heavy metal music he loves, he’s taking his background in anthropology and using it to question why he—and countless others across the world—have such a love for this often-maligned aural assault.

THE 32-YEAR-OLD DUNN AND HIS PARTNER IN FILMMAKING, SCOT McFadyen were behind 2006’s breakthrough documentary, Metal: A Headbanger’s Journey. In an ambitious look at the history of heavy metal, and a study of its social and anthropological aspects, the duo filmed in locales world-wide, interviewing many of metal’s biggest names.

“We wanted to make a film that would bring in both the metal fan and the curious outsider, that person who had a friend growing up who liked metal but they couldn’t understand why the hell they loved this music,” Dunn, BA ‘98, explains over the din of a wildly loud coffee shop. “If you grew up in the ’80s, you had one of those friends. And, of course, we made the film for the curious, or furious, mothers out there who want to understand why their little Johnny listens to Slayer 24/7 in their bedroom.”

After it opened in 2005 at the Toronto International Film Festival, the good reviews started rolling in from metal fans (a notoriously tough crowd when it comes to people documenting their culture) and mainstream media outlets alike. The DVD has sold roughly 35,000 copies in Canada alone.

Combining what Dunn learned about anthropology at UVic and his passion for the music, the film guides viewers through the huge Wacken metal festival in Germany, explores the dark side of Norwegian metal, and features interviews with most of the metal’s key figures, including Alice Cooper and Iron Maiden’s Bruce Dickinson. Dunn and McFadyen explore the metal community’s unique sense of style, its language, and the fans who are attracted by a sense of rebellious unity.

Martin Popoff, BA ’84, a noted hard rock and heavy metal journalist and author, says Dunn’s movie “got an astonishing amount of mainstream press. It made metalheads proud on a number of levels, because, even if it likely didn’t convince tens of thousands of outsiders to take up the cause, it possibly intensified or reinforced the beliefs of those already on the inside.”

And why should the non-metal fan care about Dunn’s work? “I think people should care about music, period,” says Dunn. “Music is a hugely influential part of everyone’s life. I think music is not just music; it’s a very powerful medium for shaping who we are as people, for giving us certain emotions or feelings we can’t get through any other experiences. It can be a very transcendental experience. Especially metal.”

The movie was such a success that Dunn now finds himself in the role of a full-time filmmaker. He and McFadyen are working on a follow-up, Global Metal, which they hope to release this fall. So far they’ve taken their camera to Japan, Indonesia, China, and Poland and they hope to get to India, Iran, and Brazil. They’re looking at the common bonds shared by metal fans around the world and what it is they experience differently because of economic, social and political conditions, or religious upbringing.

It should come as no surprise that Dunn, the narrator and public face of the first movie, has become a spokesmen for the metal scene. He appreciates that, but the fame has taken him a bit by surprise and it’s something he’s not always comfortable with. “I don’t mind, but getting asked for autographs is a very bizarre experience. I have trouble dealing with it sometimes. “It certainly wasn’t a goal of mine to become a figurehead. But if getting noticed on the street means people are seeing the film and enjoying it, that’s great and I’m really pleased.”
Anyone entering Bill Gaston’s office in UVic’s Fine Arts Building would need a novelist’s eye for detail to discern how much the man loves hockey. Granted, the 54-year-old Writing professor displays the hockey cards of two Junior A teammates with the 1970s Vancouver Centennials. There’s also a small cardboard cut-out jersey with “Bonaduce” on the back. It was a gift from a women’s reading group who studied The Good Body, Gaston’s 2000 novel about a retired minor pro player named Bobby Bonaduce. But otherwise, that’s it.

So when Gaston’s students spot him biking to campus from his home near Mount Douglas, they likely don’t realize he’s “in training” for “the season.” Fellow academics see him as the former director of the University of New Brunswick’s creative writing program and ex-editor of The Fiddlehead. CanLit aficionados think of Gaston as the critically acclaimed author of the 2006 Governor General’s Award-nominated short story collection Gargoyles. Few would envision the 2003 Timothy Findley Award winner swigging beer and guffawing at sophomoric pranks in a stinky dressing room full of middle-aged men.

However, that’s precisely where Gaston locates himself in Midnight Hockey: All About Beer, the Boys, and the Real Canadian Game, and he makes no apologies about his fondness for old-timers hockey and everything that goes with it. “It’s about having a good time, and I think this is primarily a funny book,” says Gaston, who dashed off his first draft in two months. “It came almost effortlessly, like writing a letter to a friend.”

Midnight Hockey centres on Gaston’s debate over whether to play one last season before it’s time to “hangummup.” He puckishly bemoans the wonky knees and beer bellies that accompany male aging, and the toll they take on hockey skills. But he refuses to characterize his memoir as a meditation on mortality: “I hope it doesn’t come off as me whining about being old. I’d call it all gallows humour. Without the mortality, the lunacy isn’t as funny.”

In addition to tall tales about fellow old-timers who beat up Zamboni drivers or get spanked by Nanaimo waitresses, the married, mild-mannered father of four intersperses colourful episodes from his early hockey career. For instance, Denis Potvin knocked him out and Steve Shutt—both now in the Hockey Hall of Fame—broke Gaston’s nose in Ontario midget hockey. His favourite anecdote is about playing in France, “waking up on the floor, severely hung over, after being in jail, and then going and winning the tournament for Marseilles, which had never won a game in its history.”

Department of Writing colleagues Lorna Crozier and Joan MacLeod read the manuscript and gave it the proverbial Don Cherry thumbs-up. But Gaston didn’t skate into the hearts of publishers and retailers with Bobby Orr-like ease.

Doubleday Canada’s marketing gurus spurned his original title of Old Men on Thin Ice, claiming the word “old” would psychologically dissuade wives of old-timers from buying the book as a Christmas present (since they themselves would then feel old). Gaston vetoed their alternative suggestion of He Shoots, He Pours as a “cheap pun” before settling on Midnight Hockey. Meanwhile, an Ontario beer retailer canned plans to carry the book since apparently “somebody complained that it was too profane.”

But well-received readings at Toronto’s Harbourfront Centre and the Ottawa International Writers Festival, plus solid sales, gave Gaston the motivation to give 110 percent again. He’s now working on his next book, unrelated to hockey. The Order of Good Cheer is slated for publication in 2008.

“It’s half-set in Nova Scotia in 1607 with Samuel de Champlain and half-set in present-day Prince Rupert,” Gaston says. “It’s historical fiction about an odd supper club that Champlain invented.”

He hasn’t ruled out a sequel to Midnight Hockey. That’s because he decided not to “hangummup” this season. He played twice a week before a hip injury sidelined him in February. And there’s little doubt Bill Gaston will make a comeback, because for him, the taste of beer in an old-timers dressing room is as tempting as Stanley Cup champagne.
Dance, frosh!

It had to be impossible to look cool in a beanie cap, no matter how much the band rocked out on the roof of the SUB. But being forced to perform in a chorus line probably didn’t help much either. Such was life when you were one of the first-year “frosh” students in 1967. This Centennial Year photo of the good sports appeared in the Sept. 22 Martlet. Neither the paper nor the archives lists the names of the students, so if you’re one of them—or if you just have a story to tell about those days—let us know: torch@uvic.ca.

KEEPING IN TOUCH send an update to torch@uvic.ca

VICTORIA COLLEGE

STUART E. BROWN, VC ’60, is a professor of philosophy and religious studies at the new Abti-American University in Yola, Nigeria: “Classes began in September 2005 so by the time I arrived a year later we had both first and second year students; we expect to have our first graduation in May 2009. For now, we have no ‘departments’ but we do have embryonic faculties. In my first semester here I taught two sections of African history (along with a sociologist, and anthropologist and an economist, as we have nobody who is officially a ‘historian’), and an introductory course on Islam and Christianity. My wife, Margaret, is the library assistant for reference, so she can tell me which books are available, and which of my students are using the library. As this university is new and growing, there may be readers who are interested in joining our number. (There are other alumni of Canadian universities here, mostly from McGill, McMaster and Ryerson so far.) The Web site is: www.abti-american.edu.ng.”

1965

ROsalind Boyd, BA, took up a two-year assignment in June 2006 as special advisor on international research in the office of the vice-principal (research and international relations) at McGill University. She has been based there since 1968 after a stint as a CUSO volunteer in Nigeria. Rosalind received her PhD from Concordia and was previously the director of McGill’s centre for developing-area studies (from 1996 to 2004)—the only woman to hold that position since the centre was established in 1963. Her travel, research and publishing concerns social, political and economic problems in dozens of countries in the developing world and she continues to conduct research, write and guest lecture. Her Web site is at rosalindboyd.ca.

1967

tONY CHAN, BA, is an associate professor of communication at the University of Washington. Before entering academic life, Tony was a senior producer and a television journalist in Hong Kong where he anchored a public affairs show and produced documentaries. He also worked as a reporter for CBC television. His independent films include a series on Asian Americans and Vietnam: The Insanity of it All (2002), Sweet Heat (1998), and American Nurse (1992). The latter was shown at film festivals in Hiroshima, New York, Olympia and aired on PBS, KCTS-TV in Seattle. Tony’s most recent book is Perpetually Cool: The Many Lives of Anna May Wong, 1905-1961, a chronicle of the life of the legendary Chinese-American actor.

1968

KEITH HOMEr, BA, writes: “After teaching secondary school in Prince George, Armstrong and Sooke, in 1981 I joined BC Systems Corp in Victoria and spent a thoroughly enjoyable 20+ years in information technology. Despite some health issues I’m finding retirement suits me just fine—although my wife and two sons may disagree. I see a fair number of alumni, but I always look forward to hearing from old classmates.”

1974

CoLLEEn LUDNe, BSc, writes: “I recently achieved certification as a deputy district registrar in the civil
A Fond Farewell

BY LARRY CROSS, BEd ’64
PRESIDENT, UVIC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

I want to thank alumni for the honour of serving you for the last two years. My term expires in May, so this is my last message in these pages.

It has been rewarding, challenging and enjoyable. The association’s board of directors has provided wonderful leadership and incredible support. Also, my thanks to the UVic Alumni Services staff who do such an outstanding job. I want to acknowledge, too, the support shown to me by the university’s senior administration, the deans, faculty and staff.

Among the highlights for me has been our effort to create a special place on campus dedicated to alumni. I’m pleased to report that the “University of Victoria Alumni Garry Oak Meadow” (between Finnerty Gardens and Cedar Hill X Road) has been formally approved. This lasting recognition of alumni and their contributions to the university is hugely important. I want to thank the facilities management group for their assistance.

As I was writing this, I thought about how much it has meant to me to volunteer with the alumni association. It led me to think about an early experience I had shortly after I graduated from the Faculty of Education and was teaching high school English. A former student asked if we could talk about an assignment she was having trouble with in her first-year English course at UVic.

Anne was to review and report on two poems. Her problem was that her instincts told her that one was superior to the other, but the inferior one seemed to be much more “serious.” The other poem was more whimsical: “The Naming of Cats” from T.S. Eliot’s Old Possum’s Book of Practical Cats. As we talked, Anne saw that both poems, in their different ways, dealt with the same theme: what in our lives has meaning and value?

Eliot’s poem said we need to name our cats carefully, to view their true nature and to assess their character. But he also drew parallels between feline and human life. He was really saying that we need to look closely at our daily lives and focus on the quality we find in our experiences.

In that light, it occurred to me that my role with the alumni association over the past few years has underscored what Eliot was talking about: my involvement with alumni has become one of the things in my life that I truly value. It has given me a sense of completion after the profound experiences of my earlier university days.

I hope that each of our alumni will maintain a connection with the university through our alumni association. And, as time and circumstances permit, that connection grows into active involvement, even if for only a brief time. It’s worth it. After all, our common experience as students at UVic is like having one of Eliot’s “practical” cats in our lives.

My best wishes to you all.

1979
PETER CICERI, BA, became president of Victoria-based Custom House Global Foreign Exchange. Ciceri is a past recipient of the UVic Alumni Association’s Distinguished Alumni Award and he’s a member of the UVic Board of Governors. Ciceri is tasked with expanding Custom House’s global reach. It currently has trading offices in Australia, Canada, Italy, New Zealand, Singapore, the United Kingdom and the United States.

JAMES EDWARD O’REILLY, BEd, has been married to Bernadette Alford (former support staff employee for the English and philosophy departments) since 1977 and five beautiful children followed. After receiving his degree, Jim joined the faculty at St. Andrew’s, Victoria, as a teacher of music and English. In 1983, he helped, with other faculty members, to establish St. Andrew’s High School on McKenzie Avenue. In 1984 he returned to St. Andrew’s Elementary as head teacher. He remained at St. Andrew’s until 2001, serving as vice-principal then principal. Over the last five years he continued to serve Island Catholic Schools as an administrator at both St. Joseph’s and St. Patrick’s in Victoria. Last June he was appointed religious education coordinator for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Victoria.

1981
DULCIE MCALLUM, LLB, became Nova Scotia’s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy review officer in February. She was BC’s ombudsman for seven years, until 1999, and is a past recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award. More recently she was a member of the Canadian delegation to the United Nations, helping to draft the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

1982
ROBERT LOUIE, LLB, Chief of the Westbank First Nation in Kelowna, was among 87 new appointees to the Order of Canada announced Feb. 20 by the Governor General. Louie was the first Okanagan Nation
Alumni in the Family

“Sometimes we need to remind ourselves of just how powerful an alumni network can be.”

BY SHANNON VON KALDENBERG
ASSOCIATE VICE-PRESIDENT ALUMNI AND DEVELOPMENT

Spring time on the University of Victoria campus brings the wonderful scent of cherry blossoms, an incredible array of rhododendron blooms, and graduation for about 3,000 anxious soon-to-be-alumni. You remember the feeling, don’t you? The nervous anticipation about starting a new career, going on to further education, or exploring the world. It’s a very special time of year for graduates and their families.

It’s something I identify with every day in my work with UVic alumni, as we do our best to keep you connected to each other and to your university. But this year in particular, graduation season—and the welcoming of new alumni—takes on an even deeper significance for me.

That’s because our son Alexander graduates in May from the University of BC. In a recent conversation he said he was looking forward to graduating and having the opportunity to “make some money.” But at the same time he is going to miss the place that has been his home for the past four years. That walk across the stage on convocation day marks a new passage in time for Alexander and in June he leaves for Japan for one year to teach English.

As we talked, I asked if he had given any thought to his new “membership.” He looked at me questioningly. Your alumni membership, I said. Another questioning look. He wasn’t getting it.

I explained to him that his alumni membership provided him with a network that, for example, is a wonderful tool to help him as he prepares for his trip abroad and throughout his career. How many 22 year-olds have access that sort of network?

Sometimes we need to remind ourselves of just how powerful an alumni network can be.

UVic’s Class of ’07—and all of the graduating classes before them—have access to all kinds of support from their fellow grads in the UVic Alumni Association.

One place to start is the Online Community Network. Sign up and stay connected with the UVic alumni family.

I also hope that our more established alumni will welcome a call or a visit from recent alumni. You really can help them achieve their dreams. And isn’t that what families are for?

PS: If you are a parent of an alumnus or alumna who no longer lives at home, could you please pass this magazine onto them and encourage them to send us a change of address? If you are not already receiving your own copy of the Torch we would be happy to put you on our mailing list. Send your address information to torch@uvic.ca.

Member to Practise Law and has been deeply involved in Aboriginal law and economic development locally and on the national level. • Chris Weicker, BSc, reports: “My wife and I are attending a year-long course at the Chinese military’s language school in Kunshan, Jiangsu, China. This is a new school that is situated 50 kilometres from Shanghai. So we are university students again!”

1985

Michael Cahill, BEd, writes from Brunei: “Since leaving UVic in 1985, I spent four years in the Philippines, and then went to Bangkok, Thailand for 10 years. For the past six years I have been living in Brunei with my lovely wife and two children.” • Keith Smith, BSc, earned an Award of Merit from the BC Soccer Association for his 35 years of involvement in the Victoria soccer community. The former Vikes soccer member has served on the Vancouver Island Soccer League’s board of directors for more than 15 years.

1986

Becky Kwan, BA, is an assistant professor in the department of English and communication, City University of Hong Kong. • Faith Mackay, BEd, has an update: “After graduating from UVic, my husband Alisdair and I moved to Mackenzie, BC where I started teaching English and social studies at Mackenzie Secondary School. I have completed my teacher librarian diploma in education through UBC and am currently in my last course of a master’s in education. I was the principal of Mackenzie Secondary School when my son Duncan graduated in 2004. I am happy to see him graduate in May from the University of Victoria.”

1987

Lawrence Alexander, BA, writes: “I completed my MBA at University of Calgary in 1997. Currently working as a commercial credit manager with ATB Financial in Calgary. Happily married with one son.”

1988

Allison Fader, MPA, recently returned to BC and resides in the Okanagan Valley, where she expects to enjoy semi-retirement while following her passion for wine. • Tim Moshansky, BA, and his brothers published the A to Z Guide to Hockey Terms, a pocket-sized dictionary of over 600 terms and phrases related to hockey, as well as referee symbols, rink diagram, lists of teams, arena and farms teams, NHL expansion timeline, world to the national anthems, famous hockey quotes, nicknames and much more. Visit the hockeybook.com.
Gearing Up: Alumni Help Student Racers
Race crew gets key piece of equipment with alumni grant.

IN AUTO RACING, EVERY LITTLE ADVANTAGE HELPS. THAT’S WHERE THE dynamometer, or “dyno” comes in. The instrument precisely measures engine horsepower and torque. It’s something the UVic Formula SAE team, in five years, hasn’t had in its garage. When you’re up against 80 other universities from around the world, like they will be this summer, a key piece of gear like the dyno can make a huge difference.

The UVic Alumni Association, with the aid of donations to the alumni fund, is providing a $2,000 contribution to the student racers to help cover the cost of the dyno, an $8,000 piece.

Team spokesman Graeme Newby says the dyno is even more important this year as they convert from gasoline to E85, a blend of 85 per cent ethanol and 15 per cent gas. “We feel that switching to E85 will be beneficial both in the vehicle’s performance and in promoting E85 as a viable alternative to gasoline,” he says.

About 30 students, mostly from the Faculty of Engineering, form the crew with about 10 core members. There are five drivers. The cost of the $20,000 car, designed and built in a campus garage, comes entirely from sponsorships that the students secure.

The upcoming race, organized by the Society of Automotive Engineers, is about more than just seeing who can go the fastest. When the UVic team competes in June in Fontana, California their car will be judged on a number of criteria—a static display outlining the car’s specifications, acceleration, cornering and road course tests.

Each year the alumni association, through its grants and awards committee, supports a variety of student and alumni activities that enhance education, campus life or generally support the university. “We do appreciate the support,” says Newby who hopes the competitive tuning provided by the new dyno will boost the team to a best-ever, top 10 finish.

—MIKE MCNEENY

1989
LORRIE JORON, BEd and RUSSELL HERKES, BEd, are living in Masset, where he’s teaching and she’s taken on a new job: “After years of saying no way to an admin job, I got tired of training new principals and decided to take the job myself. I am now proud principal of George M. Dawson Secondary and want admin job, I got tired of training new principals and taken on a new job: “After years of saying no way to an

1990
TANIA REINECKE (née D’AGOSTINO), BA, and her husband Richard have a new addition to their home in Point Roberts, WA: “We have a beautiful little girl—her name is Amaya (nickname ‘Peanut’). She is 3.5 years old and is precocious and athletic and a bundle of energy. She keeps both of us smiling and laughing. We thank God daily for our wonderful little blessing!”

1991
NOOR AHMED, LLB, writes: “After 12 years of private practice in the Comox Valley and six great years as a municipal councillor in Courtenay, I felt it was time for a career change. Last year, I joined the Canadian Forces and completed three months of basic training and seven months of French language training. In November 2006, I was given my first posting as a captain to the deputy judge advocate unit at CFB Petawawa. It’s been an extremely positive move and wearing ‘CadPat’ is a lot more comfortable than wearing suits!”

1992
GARTH MILES, BSc, says: “Hello Co-op Computer Science!” - JANET WILLIAMS, BEd, was recognized with a 2006 certificate of achievement from the Prime Minister’s Awards for Excellence in Teaching. She’s on staff at MacKenzie Secondary School in MacKenzie, BC.

1993
MICHELE (Misha) GARDINER, BA, is a child and youth counsellor in Summerland: “Life has been busy and full of interesting change since graduating. Having a BA in psychology has provided unique career options that I never imagined. Knowledge and skills gained through this type of degree program are truly limitless. Now, four years after completing my degree, we have bought a wonderful little house, and I have finally landed my first ‘real’ career role(s) as a child and youth counsellor for ARC, and addiction prevention worker for Pathways in Penticton. The picture includes Duncan, my husband, me, and our adorable GSD, Dori. We adopted Dori two years ago from the SPCA and she’s been a wonderful addition to our family! We’re looking forward to getting into our new house in Summerland so she can enjoy the big back yard.” - SUSAN KELLOCK, BA, is enjoying the restaurant business in the Alberta capital: “My daughter Amy and I opened a small organic bistro in Edmonton on Dec. 1: Skinny Legs & Cowgirls—A Sort of Bistro. My daughter is a Tom Robbins fanatic hence the name. We serve Latin inspired tapas (attention Prof. Duncan Taylor: I’m serving my famous vegetarian polenta!) and carnivorous bistro fare—it is Alberta after all. I don’t eat meat but apparently I cook the best rack of lamb and strip loin steak ever! If you’re ever in Oil Country come visit us.”

MISHA GARDINER, ‘93

Ready to roll: UVic Formula SAE team members Russ Huband, Ian McEvoy, Matthew Ludvigson and, in the car, Misha Steiner-Jovic.
Here, there…

IT’S BEEN A BUSY FEW MONTHS FOR ALUMNI EVENTS, WHETHER IN OUR OWN BACK-YARD or on the other side of the world: Photo 1) Walking to the Peak: Hong Kong alumni joined Vice-President External Relations Valerie Kuehne and Associate Vice-President Alumni and Development Shannon von Kaldenberg for a walk up the Hong Kong landmark followed by lunch. 2) Emily Carr up Close: Matthew Collinge, BA ’97 and Jennifer Chow, MPA ’02, were among the many alumni to attend a special viewing of the Emily Carr exhibit at the Vancouver Art Gallery. 3) A Night at the Pub: Vancouver alumni Rob Finkelstein, BComm ’02, Desiree Dupuis, BComm ’03, and Caleb Gooley got together with a large group to celebrate some St. Patrick’s day cheer.

LOCK IT AND LEAVE IT: The alumni-affiliated Student Ambassador Association (right) paid for 10 new bike racks installed around campus. It’s the third major campus service project from the SAA, which generates revenue from flower and diploma frame sales at convocation. From the left: Erica Grainger, Navraj Chima, Magnus Macnab, BSc ’04, Jennifer Evans, BA ’05, and Kailee Douglas.

GALLERY OF EXCELLENCE: In February, the alumni association unveiled a new plaque and reformatted frames for the McPherson Library’s gallery of recipients of the Alumni Awards for Excellence in Teaching. Fifteen past winners of the award were on hand. Back row, from the left: Reg Mitchell, Richard King, Dave Berry, David Clennman, Gwenneth Doane, Barb Whittington, Elsie Chan and Martin Smith. Front row: Ed Ishiguro, Aaron Devor, Gerry Poulton, Kelli Fawkes, Pat Martin Bates, Susan Elderkin, and Bill Pfaffenberger.

1994

JILL ARANGO (née SCHEFFER), BA, has news: “I moved down to the US in 1998 to work for the Bureau of Land Management in Oregon. I met my future husband there and we moved to Ellensburg, WA in 2000. In Ellensburg, I founded the Kittitas Environmental Education Network and worked for the Cascades Conservation Partnership. In 2002, my husband received a fellowship at Notre Dame for the PhD program and we moved to South Bend, Indiana. I worked as the director of the Midwest program for the Land Trust Alliance. My husband and I had two children—Nathaniel and Serena—while in Indiana. Just last August—after four years in Indiana—we returned to Ellensburg and I took a job with the Cascade Land Conservancy as the director of conservation where I am proactively conserving open space. I love being back in the Northwest and am looking forward to a visit to Victoria soon.” - FRAN HUNT-JINNOUCHI, BSW, is U Vic’s new director of the Office of Indigenous Affairs. She had been acting principal of the K’a:k’ot’lat-si School in Port Hardy and in 2006 was elected Chief of the Quatsino First Nation. She’ll provide leadership in promoting U Vic’s Indigenous academic programs, student services, protocol activities, and the First Peoples House, scheduled to open in 2009. - MEKALA PADMANABHAN, MA, completed a PhD in musicology at the University of Nottingham, UK in August 2006 and currently works as visiting assistant professor of music history and theory at the University of North Dakota.

1996

ROWENA HART, BA, works in Victoria as a technical writer/trainer for ACD Systems and she sends this update: “I graduated with an MA in distributed learning at Royal Roads University in November 2006. I teach several technical communication courses in the writing and publishing program at SFU. I am also an industry advisor for the program. In the next year I will be working on a couple of proposals for technical communication textbooks as well as research papers and conference presentations.”

1997

ERRIN ARMSTRONG, BA, and GRANT MORRISON, BA ’98, met at UVic while completing their undergrad studies and got married on August 12, 2006 back where it all began, with a ceremony at the Interfaith Chapel and reception at the University Club. • STEVE BURRI, LLB, writes to say: “I recently returned to work as an intellectual property lawyer at Miller Thomson LLP in Vancouver after receiving a new (actually used) kidney from my sister. I keep busy with my family of kids Jazz (13) and Zea (4) and their UVic alumni moms Wendy Martin, BA ’91, and Coreen Hanson, BSc ’96. I also sing with the Vancouver Men’s Chorus.” - MATTHEW COLLINGE, BA, is “living in the False Creek area of Vancouver with my wife and three children (ages 6, 3, and 6 months). I am a realtor now serving Vancouver and the surrounding areas. Feel free to e-mail me at matt@6004homes.com.” - CHARLES HOTEL, LLB, left the partnership at Lawson Lundell LLP in Vancouver to join the Vancouver Organizing Committee for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games as legal
Legacy Night Shines

More than 500 supporters came out to celebrate the 2006 Legacy Awards at the Victoria Conference Centre in November. Photo 1) Distinguished Young Alumni award winners David Garrison, BEng ’94, and Shannon Hunt, MA ’93 were presented their award by Lone St. Croix (left) of TD Meloche Monnex. 2) Award sponsor Wade Neilson of Graphic Office Interiors, Vikes basketball great and hall of fame inductee Luanne Krawetz, MEd ’93, and (right) former coach Kathy Shields. 3) The Philomela Women’s Choir started the evening on the right note. The 2007 Legacy Awards will be in November.

> alumni.uvic.ca/legacyawards

CHRIS SMART, BSN/BA, has a new book of poetry called Decked and Dancing published by Hedgerow Press.

1998

PATRICK EWING, LLB, and ALYNDA KINGZETT, BA ’91, were married on July 1, 2006. In December 2006, Patrick was promoted from senior policy advisor to manager of intergovernmental fiscal relations for the BC Ministry of Finance, working on files such as equalization and Canada’s health and social transfers. After spending six years in UVic’s Kiwanis youth program (Circle K), Patrick has continued to volunteer with Kiwanis, often in leadership roles. In October he was reappointed as marketing and public relations chair for Pacific Northwest Kiwanis and in December he published the first edition of a new magazine for almost 12,000 Kiwanis volunteers throughout the Pacific Northwest. Patrick attributes much of his career and personal success to making the most of his time at UVic—not just the education programs but also the clubs on campus.

NAOMI HAZON, BEd, says: “I took an incredible course at the Vancouver Art Gallery offered through UBC this past summer. It was a wonderful teacher’s institute. It would be incredible to open it up to UVic students as well.”

DARLENE MCGOUGAN, BSN, has stayed involved with the school by working with students in her workplace settings and by inspiring them with her classroom presentations.

2000

LAURA KRAEMER (née NICOL), BA, and MARTIN KRAEMER, BSc ’98, along with siblings Isaac and Natalie, are delighted to announce the arrival of the newest member of their family, Daniel Martin Kraemer. Daniel was born in the afternoon at home in Calgary on October 19th, 2006, weighing eight pounds, three ounces and sporting, in big brother Isaac’s words “a nice haircut.”

ROGER LU, BSc, is working as a component engineer with Flextronics Canada and keeping busy with his investment properties in big brother Isaac’s words “a nice haircut.”

JENNIFER MACDONALD (née SYMONDS), BEd, is teaching in Maple Ridge. She and her partner lan welcomed Michaela Grace MacDonald on September 6, 2006. “She came a couple weeks early, weighing in at 5 lbs 12 oz. We moved into our first real house just before Christmas.”

2001

CARLA LARSON, BComm, sent an e-mail from Calgary: “I recently re-located back from living and working in Toronto. I am working for a firm here in Calgary...”
Clearsight Joins Wellington West

CLEARSIGHT WEALTH MANAGEMENT, a UVIC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AFFINITY PARTNER, was acquired by the Winnipeg-based financial services company Wellington West in October 2006. “This is an exciting new partnership that will benefit alumni and professionals across the country,” says Michael Burns, Clearsight’s senior vice-president of marketing and affinity relations. “After careful due-diligence, we’ve chosen to partner with the leading independent financial services company in Canada. Wellington West provides superior investment solutions to meet the specific needs of alumni and professionals.”

With more than 40,000 clients and $8 billion in assets, Wellington West is one of Canada’s fastest growing investment firms. It has more than 100 experienced investment advisors in 30 branches across Canada.

Wellington West came out number one in the 50 Best Employers in Canada Survey by Hewitt Associates and Report on Business magazine. It was also named one of the 50 Best Managed Companies in Canada in 2006, in a survey sponsored by Deloitte, CIBC Commercial Banking, the National Post, and the Queen’s School of Business.

In Victoria, investment advisor Fancy Ching, BA ’86, provides Clearsight’s services to alumni and she can be reached at fching@wellwest.ca. The alumni association and Clearsight entered a formal partnership in 2005, and Clearsight has since been a regular supporter of alumni programs and events, including the annual Legacy Awards.

> clearsight.ca

ACT on a Career

If you graduated in the last five years or if you expect to graduate soon and you’re looking for help in finding your dream job, UVic Career Services offers ACT—the Applied Career Transitions program. It’s a structured approach to taking leadership in your own career choices.

Three program modules help participants find a focused, organized approach to career planning and handling the step from university to the work world. It’s not a quick fix if you need immediate employment.

Major career transitions can take from three to six months or longer. Often participants are already working, but in non-career related jobs.

ACT is currently offered free of charge and new sessions begin soon. ▲

> careerservices.uvic.ca/alumni/act.html
Textures of Time

“I’ve dreamed of the Fairfield that Flora would have known, a neighbourhood I sense in the shadows of my own memory.”

BY THERESA KISHKAN, BA ’78

I’VE SPENT FIVE YEARS WORKING ON A NOVEL PARTLY SET IN VICTORIA during and just after the First World War, though the memories of some of the characters go back into the previous century. The main character, Flora Oakden, lives across from Ross Bay Cemetery, a place I loved as a child in the early 1960s. My mother would tell my brothers and me to go play in the cemetery, knowing there wasn’t traffic on its narrow lanes, and that children could roam its hidden corners, staying out of trouble.

My father was in the navy and my family moved every two years until I was a teenager. But Victoria was our home, the place we returned to when the postings in Halifax or elsewhere had finished. We lived in several neighbourhoods; the one I remember best, the one that imprinted me forever with its buildings, its plants, its weather and its geography, was Fairfield. I walked to school, sometimes along May St. to Moss, and sometimes I took a path that went up and over Moss Rocks. I loved this route because of the vistas of Ross Bay and across to the Olympic Peninsula and because of the wildflowers in spring. I remember Easter lilies and the occasional clump of blue camas.

Sometimes I wake in the night from such vivid dreams of that time that I try to dream my way back to the damp moss punctuated with magenta shooting stars. Several times I’ve dreamed of the Fairfield that Flora would have known, a neighbourhood I sense in the shadows of my own memory.

When I was searching for that earlier Victoria, I came across a map held in the Hudson’s Bay Archives in Winnipeg. Drawn by Joseph Pemberton in the early 1860s, it shows Victoria District, Section 1: Clover Point is a long empty finger of land; the waterfront along Dallas Road and where the Ross Bay Cemetery is now located is all indicated as pine land and swamp. But interestingly, there are creeks threading through all this. I know that native people used these creeks to move from one area to another—some of the creeks empty into Songhees (now the Inner Harbour) as well as Ross Bay and Foul Bay. Most of them have been buried, given passage underground through culverts. Like our memories, they resurface in unexpected ways—a sunken area in a garden or a wild tangle of mint in the corner of a park.

As a child, when I lay on the grass of Bushby Park with my ear to the ground, I swore I could hear the passage of water. And in one section of the cemetery, I used to listen to water among the graves. In my novel, Flora’s lover followed these creeks to both their sources in the swamps near what is now Government House and to their arrival at the sea.

It’s a long time ago—those years after the map was drawn and my character Flora Oakden watched the darkness settle on the cemetery following her lover’s death in the Battle of Festubert; and years later when the child I once was climbed Moss Rocks on her way to school. Places change. Or do they? Certainly buildings are torn down, new ones are built, streets are re-routed, trees fall in storms and young ones are planted. But surely everything a place was is sheltered in some way, as photographs shelter earlier versions of ourselves.

I am beginning to think that a place that has witnessed significant history in its time—and by significant, I mean the passage of natural landscapes to human ones, from Aboriginal village to modern multicultural locus for industry and culture, from pine land to streets like Linden and Moss and Eberts—must retain all these incarnations within: a texture, a layering of imagery and tone. We mourn for that older place but what we love is in some sense an accretion of everything that has been. The Moss Rocks have outlived whatever names they might have been called by those earlier people walking towards Songhees with berries or wild onions.

And a woman in her 50s walking through the cemetery to gaze out towards Clover Point knows the route water takes to the ocean and knows where a child might stretch out on grass to listen for it.