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On the cover: Environmental Studies Prof. Kara Shaw, Common Energy leader and graduate student Jamie Biggar and Mechanical Engineering Prof. Peter Wild. Photographed at Mount Tolmie by Jo-Ann Richards.
When, not If
Finding a degree of hope in the face of climate change.

My heart sank when I saw the story from the New York Times’ science page. Experts, the headline stated, were “unnerved” by the latest reports of this summer’s rapid retreat of sea ice in the Arctic Ocean. The big melt exposed 1.6 million square kilometres of open water above and beyond the average measurement since 1979, when satellites started gathering Arctic ice data.

I tend to notice when experts are rocked by what they observe in nature and by what it means for the future. But there was something more about the story that struck deeper. Permafrost, Polar bears and an ice-packed Northwest Passage are iconic elements of Canadian life. When that entire ecosystem gets so quickly flipped around, when observers begin to speculate about when, not if, summer shipping lanes might open through the Arctic, it is, well, unnerving.

There are different theories about why the floating ice melted this summer in a way that hasn’t been seen in a century or more. The unexpected speed with which the retreat occurred is challenging science’s understanding of the Arctic. It is also providing more support for contentions that civilization’s greenhouse gasses are primary factors behind it all.

Whatever the cause—or combination of causes—what occurred this summer in the Arctic is a reminder of the enormous complexity of our climate system. It can also make a person feel sort of helpless to do much of anything about it.

But there are reasons to be optimistic in the face of climate change.

Take the story of what happened when an Environmental Studies professor and an Engineering professor started talking—about their research interests and about the importance of bringing together students from opposite ends of campus to trade ideas and to see climate change from other perspectives. It worked beautifully and you’ll read about their work in our cover feature.

What’s inspiring is that their experiment in interdisciplinary teaching and research provides, not a solution, but a reminder that ingenuity and creative thinking still offer a degree of hope for our future.
ON A WRONG NOTE

Many superlatives and laudatory phrases in Mr. Moyes’ article (Gould’n Year, spring 2007) attest to the ongoing public fascination and adulation of Glenn Gould. What Mr. Moyes fails to do in his article, however, is to give any indication to the reader why Gould was “...the most influential Canadian artist in history.” Even the selected quotes from Gould’s biographer, Kevin Bazzana, give the reader unfamiliar with Gould little understanding of what he represents in the world of Canadian arts. In a university publication such as the Torch we really don’t need more “possibly apocryphal” anecdotes about Gould’s eccentricities or lists of objects his “cult followers” may be trying to collect.

While Gould was an eccentric by most conventional standards, he was above all a pianist of unquestioned status; his recordings of the Bach Goldberg Variations are still considered among the most influential—if controversial—recordings of that great opus. A look at his status as an intellectual pianist would have been much more informative and interesting.

R. BRUCE DUTTON, BA ’69
VICTORIA

GOULD’S SNEEZE

Your article includes an anecdote about the hypochondriac Gould fearing germs from a sneeze over the phone. The anecdote is not “apocryphal,” as you put it, but entirely and inspiredly fictional. It originated in a blackout sketch in a Toronto stage revue of the 1950s, whose two characters represented Gould and a flu-bitten caller, Van Cliburn.

JOHN BECKWITH, VICTORIA COLLEGE ’45, HON. DMUS ’99
TORONTO

NOT RECYCLED ENOUGH

Thank you for your Spring 2007 edition. I was grateful to read the editor’s section where it is stated that the magazine now contains 30 per cent recycled material. Based on the calculations listed this means that you now only use over 90 trees, over 34,000 litres of water, and more than 6,600 kg of greenhouse gases in producing one single issue. This is in my opinion a vast amount of resources. Please stop delivering your magazine to me. I would like to keep in touch via the web.

TODD TURK, BA ’90
VICTORIA

Current and past editions of the magazine can be viewed online at uvic.ca/torch — Ed.

I’M THE GUY SECOND from the right, wearing the dark large-check shirt. It was a great band, by the way, with lots of volume. I left in 1970 for University of Calgary med school. Now I’m a pediatrician, practicing in Stratford, ON. I became a Baha’i in ’77, married in ’80 and have three grown children. I have often returned to Victoria to see family and during my last trip I was up to UVic—so many changes.

PHIL SQUIRES
STRATFORD, ON

DANCING FROSH STEP FORWARD

The Centennial Year photo featured in the Spring 2007 edition (“Dance, Frosh!”; see photo below) pictures six frosh students in a chorus line. Although this photo was likely chosen for its comic appeal it should be recognized that one of these students went on to dance with the Joffrey ballet. Another became the understudy for Sammy Davis Jr. during a 20-year Las Vegas stage show run that saw our frosh filling in for Sammy three of seven nights of the week. I am the wingman on the far right of the photo and further success in “the business” has eluded me.

The remaining three dancers ultimately found fame and fortune as “boom chukalukula” girls backing the Tina Turner comeback in 1983. Sadly one of them broke one of his (her?) heels during a particularly stirring rendition of “Proud Mary’’ at the Seven Cedars Casino in Sequim, suffered a compound fracture of the distal tibia/fibula and had to be put down.

I may be a little fuzzy on the details but I think that’s what happened to the six of us.

I suppose the other “for sure” is that neither the beanie nor the dance were voluntary activities. When my adult son saw the photo he asked, “Why did you do it?” Suffice to say the times were different. Not better or worse, but different and I was happy to be part of it all back then while the earth was still cooling. Thanks for the little shot of nostalgia.

DAVID NAYSMAITH, BSC ’71
VICTORIA

MEMORIES OF MOSS ROCK

Your last issue included some memories of Moss Rock (“Textures of Time”); these are some of mine. I started at Sir James Douglas School in 1930 in the building where the community centre is now housed. Moss Rock became our playground. In 1939 when Queen Elizabeth and King George visited Victoria we all went >>
up to Moss Rock to watch them sail from Ogden Point for Vancouver. And when I introduced by fiancé Donald Davey Wilson to my parents in 1948 we climbed to the top of Moss Rock. Don and I just celebrated our 57th anniversary on the 10th of June.

FRANCES P. WILSON (NÉE NICKERSON), VICTORIA COLLEGE ’41
VICTORIA

I enjoyed Theresa Kishkan’s evocative sketch of Fairfield from her childhood memories, maps and dreams. I came to Victoria to the university at the age of 17 while the campus and surroundings still had a semi-rural feeling. I explored an overgrown water tower in Finnerty Road and a derelict mansion in Rockland Ave., relished the view of Mount Baker on clear winter days and walked under the trees in Mount Douglas Park in the sun and mist. Although I have made my life in Australia for over 25 years I too revisit these places in my dreams.

DEL SMITH, BSC ’70
EAST HAWTHORN, AUSTRALIA

POEM FOR THE CLASS OF ’07
I’ve enjoyed reading my mom’s copies of the Torch in the mail and now that I have graduated I’m excited to look forward to my own copy. In the spirit of celebration for all alumni, I would like to share a poem of mine with you. Through my poem, I hope to give my best wishes to the Class of 2007, to thank UVic, and to celebrate our UVic community. It’s meant as a tribute to everyone, not just my UVic experience, and I hope when readers read my poem, they can relate to it as capturing their overall celebration at UVic.

Thank you UVic
Today,
We convocate.
We show the world what we can do.
We celebrate how UVic has helped us to

“U”nleash our potential,
“V”ault us into the essential,
“I”gnite our passion,
“C”ultivate our compassion.

We’re set to spread our wings,
Soar to new heights, beyond the Ring,
Chase our dreams, the dream to dare,
Live the pulse that beats everywhere.

Be the UVic bunny,
Leap for it!

YICHUAN WANG, BSC ’07
VANCOUVER
An Engaging Atmosphere

BY DAVID H. TURPIN
PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR

Our students returned to classes this fall with exceptional energy, an eagerness to learn and a desire to grow intellectually. The start of the academic year is always a special time, one with which we can all identify. The season signals the arrival of new learning opportunities, it presents new ideas to be debated and discussed with faculty members and fellow students, and it brings friendships—new and renewed—that can last a lifetime. Across campus, in classrooms and laboratories, students set about the work of developing their capacities for critical thinking, good judgment and effective communication.

Yet while campus becomes the centre of university life in September, it’s also the departure point into an ever-widening set of experiential opportunities that are available to today’s students. That’s because at no other time in our history has the breadth of our students’ civic engagement through the learning process been as deep or as far-reaching.

Through co-operative education, practica, internships, service learning, clinical programs, performance, field work and international study exchanges, we see our students constantly looking outward and welcoming the sorts of real-life opportunities that widen their perspectives.

For example, students enrolled in our Co-operative Education program now have access to work-term postings in more than 30 countries, gaining relevant career experience and developing their abilities to see the world from the perspectives of other cultures.

Many of our students choose to study abroad and we have partnership agreements with institutions in many countries, including China, Australia and France. As well, our university welcomes about 1,700 international students who bring an important and unique dimension to the learning experience.

Why is this becoming an increasingly important priority for the University of Victoria? It is because our community of teachers and learners recognizes that an engaged individual is a productive individual. We believe that an education that extends beyond the boundaries of our campus is an education that can make an even greater contribution to society.

It’s an approach that has been evolving at the University of Victoria from its earliest days, rooted in the strong attributes of a liberal education that was so fundamental to the work of our forerunner institutions and that continues at the core of our mission, along with our growing research activities and the enrichment that they offer to our learning environment.

One such example in this issue of the magazine is the work of our professors and students in response to climate change. You will read about one of our graduate student and the leadership he has brought to the “Common Energy” group of students, fac-

An education that extends beyond the boundaries of our campus is an education that can make an even greater contribution to society.
Bookstore Blue

Physics major Kai Fuglem used three exposures, at different shutter speeds, for his surreal capture of the campus bookstore. The picture was featured originally on the UVic Flickr page (flickr.com/groups/uvic).
University astronomers conducting some galactic detective work may have found evidence that dark matter—thought to form about 90 per cent of the universe—may not behave quite the way generally accepted theories predict.

Andisheh Mahdavi, a research associate with a group including Prof. Arif Babul reported their findings in the October Astrophysical Journal. They based their conclusions on observations of what they term a “cosmic train wreck” involving three large galaxies that collided to form a massive cluster called Abell 520, about three billion light years from earth.

The puzzle lies at the centre of the wreckage where the UVic investigators say they’ve detected dark matter and hot gas, with the galaxies sent to the outer edge of the cluster. That’s not something that’s been observed before and is not predicted by standard theories. Dark matter and stars would normally move together, and not be separated, in galaxy collisions.

In the accompanying image, Abell 520’s centre is filled with hot gas (red) and dark matter (blue) but empty of bright galaxies (yellow and orange).

Further, perhaps more conclusive observations involving the Hubble Space Telescope, are planned for next year. Those results are being awaited by others in the field who were naturally skeptical about the initial findings.

“That’s the way science works,” says Babul. “It’s the task of each one of us to be bold but cautious. It’s the responsibility of the scientific community to resist (new theories) until the evidence mounts sufficiently to overwhelm every opposing idea. It can take at least a decade.”
Bob Wright, founder of the Victoria-based Oak Bay Marine Group of sports-fishing businesses, has donated $11 million to support the university’s new global centre of excellence in ocean, earth and atmospheric sciences. A portion of the donation, $1 million, will fund scholarships.

Announced on the first day of summer, the gift amount is unprecedented in the university’s history.

Wright’s support grew out of a concern about global climate change, its potential impacts, and contradictory opinions about the issue. “I have made my living from the ocean. I live on the ocean, I work on the ocean, and my business interests are on the ocean,” Wright told the Globe and Mail. “As a gumboot fisherman with very limited educational background, I thought what the hell is really going on here?”

Wright also made the donation on behalf of his company’s “crew” of employees, many of whom are UVic alumni. “I have had many UVic graduates and students work with the company over the years and I’ve always valued the education they received there,” he said. “The scholarship fund will help more students experience a UVic education.”

Wright quit school in Grade 10 and moved to Victoria from the Prairies, establishing the Oak Bay Marine Group in 1962. The company operates resorts, marinas and attractions in BC, the US and the Bahamas and has more than 1,000 employees.

President David Turpin initially suggested, during a lunch meeting at Wright’s Marina Restaurant, that Wright consider a donation of $10 million. A few weeks later the president’s phone rang. “He said ‘Dave, I’d like to help but I’m not going to give you $10 million,’” Turpin recalled at the donation announcement. “He went on to say ‘What I am willing to do is, I’m willing to give you $11 million—$10 million for the building and $1 million for scholarships.’”

The new building, due for completion next year, is situated behind the Elliott Building and will bring together earth and oceans faculty currently dispersed across seven campus buildings. It will also house federal scientists from the Canadian Centre for Climate Modelling and Analysis.

The synergy created by having everyone under one roof will make a “tremendous difference,” according to Faculty of Science Dean Tom Pederson.

The building has a project budget of $66.6 million, with over 12 thousand gross square metres of lecture space, labs, offices, meeting rooms and food services.

It is among four buildings currently under construction on campus. The Torch is planning full coverage of all of the buildings once they’re complete next year.
China Connects

A formal agreement between the university and the China Scholarship Council means that some of the top graduate students from that country will be coming to Victoria to complete their doctoral studies. The agreement is only the second of its kind between a Canadian university and the council, which is part of the Chinese ministry of education.

“It will provide further opportunities to internationalize our campus by allowing some of the best students in China to come to work together with students and faculty here,” says President David Turpin, who co-signed the agreement with Zhang Xiuquim, secretary general of the scholarship council.

The groundwork for the agreement was laid last year during a visit to China by Mechanical Engineering Prof. Zuomin Dong and Jim Anglin, associate vice-president, academic and student affairs. China’s rising investment in education will see the country sending 5,000 of its top graduate students to foreign universities annually.

Gore Talks Climate

What started with a simple e-mail ended with U.S. politician-turned-climate activist Al Gore speaking to a packed house of 600 in the Victoria Conference Centre ballroom on Sept. 29. Credit the determination of the three undergrads who made it happen—Jeff Jacobsen, Stefan Krepiakeich and Justin Yorke (left to right in the photo, with Gore)—who convinced the former US vice-president to add Victoria to his speaking tour.

A simulcast of Gore’s talk was provided in the centre’s downstairs theatre where seats were sold at a reduced rate to students. In an unannounced pre-talk visit to the crowd of about 400, Gore urged students to be “even more active” on climate change. “It is the defining crisis of our time and the greatest opportunity to get our act together, globally—and we’re going to do it.”

Art, with Local Flair

What is it all about? It’s the new Legacy Art Gallery and Café, made possible by the bequest of an extensive personal art collection and property holdings from the estate of Michael Williams. The gallery is run by UVic and Heritage Properties, the firm that manages much of the property from the estate.

What’s it show? The opening exhibit features the works of many of the Old Town artists who were encouraged and supported by Williams, starting in the ‘70s when he became involved in heritage restoration and developed a taste for fine contemporary art.

Where is it located? Right in downtown Victoria, at the corner of Yates and Broad.

When is it open? Check it out any time between 10 in the morning and 5:30 at night, Wednesday through Sunday. The space is available for private functions.

What’s the admission? Free.

What’s on the menu? Have yourself a panini or other such fare. There’s a small gift shop, too.
A Googler Googling “Jack Hodgins” would reasonably expect dozens of returns for web pages about the accomplished novelist and retired Department of Writing professor. Not so fast. Inching closer in web search popularity is the fictional “Dr. Jack Hodgins,” a supporting character in Fox Television’s procedural crime drama, *Bones*.

The connection is via Hart Hanson, the show’s creator and executive producer. A former Victoria resident (he spent a year at UVic), Hanson met Hodgins at a reading in Toronto in 1980. It was the beginning of a best friendship. “I had a copy of *Spit Delaney’s Island*, very battered, and asked Jack to sign it,” Hanson says from his studio offices in Los Angeles. “I think the Cowichan sweater clued him in that I was from his part of the country.”

For Hodgins, whose novels and short stories hold a mirror to the lives and ways of Vancouver Islanders, sharing names with a fictional character is an ironic, amusing experience: “I suppose you could say it serves me right.”

But it has also offered an inside look at the “magician’s world” of network television production. Hodgins has visited the soundstage, talked shop with the “building full of writers” who work on the show, and met TJ Thyne, the 32-year-old actor who plays his namesake.

In a discussion with the novelist Gail Anderson, BFA ’99, on her web site, Hodgins recalled the way the clerk at a Victoria hardware store, after handing him back his Visa card, asked whether he knew about the TV character with the same name. “After I’d explained the situation, she almost fainted when I told her I’d met the actor and that he was a great guy.”

Hanson’s TV work has also included the 1990s Canadian series *Traders* as well as US network shows like *Judging Amy*. Adding touches of Canadiana to his scripts is his way of “waving to Canadians.”

As for any similarities between the real and fictional Hodgins, Hanson says there are fewer than he first imagined but some traits remain. “My intention was to hijack a number of Jack’s characteristics for the part—purely for the joy of ragging on my old friend,” says Hanson. “However, once you have an actor, the character changes. I do think that sometimes I (write) things Jack would like to say but is too gentlemanly to utter.”

*Bones* is based on the work of forensic anthropologist and bestselling novelist Kathy Reichs. It airs on Tuesday nights and enjoys a combined US and Canadian audience of about 14 million viewers—most of whom probably don’t realize they’re getting a weekly dose of mildly subversive Can-con.

**The Invention of Jack Hodgins**

Or, how the novelist has found himself sharing his name with a popular US network TV character.

The real Jack Hodgins (left) and actor TJ Thyne, who portrays Dr. Jack Hodgins on the Fox crime drama, *Bones*. 
Kids and war: Three faculty members from the School of Child and Youth Care this summer joined Romeo Dallaire’s mission to eradicate the use of child soldiers in Africa. Professors Sibylle Artz and Marie Hoskins together with Philip Lancaster, adjunct professor and military assistant to Dallaire during the Rwandan genocide, were at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre in Ghana. In Africa there are as many as 300,000 children in more than 30 countries serving as soldiers, human mine detectors, porters, spies and messengers in suicide missions. “The school’s practical experiences with youth violence, gangs and the aftermath of war make this initiative a natural fit,” says Artz. A Canadian senator and retired general, Dallaire, received an honorary degree from UVic in 2005.

RSC honours two: Philosophy Prof. Eike-Henner Kluge, a leader in medical ethics, has been awarded for his contributions to the field with the Abbyann D. Lynch Medal in Bioethics from the RSC: the Academies of Arts, Humanities and Sciences of Canada. Kluge was the first expert witness in medical ethics to be recognized by the Canadian court system. His current focus is on the ethical issues surrounding electronic health records, informed consent in medical research, and questions about ownership of genetic material and human tissue. Regarded as the leading Aboriginal legal academic in Canada, Prof. John Borrows has been named a fellow of the RSC. He holds the Law Foundation Chair in Aboriginal Justice and his scholarly work is widely cited in courts and classrooms. Borrows is also a past recipient of the National Aboriginal Achievement Award. The RSC, founded in 1885, is the country’s oldest and most prestigious academic organization.

Assisting CanAssist: The BC government has given $750,000 to the campus organization dedicated to improving the quality of life of people with special needs. CanAssist (formerly known as the University of Victoria Assistive Technology Team), began in 1999 and has grown considerably under the leadership of founder Nigel Livingston, a biology professor who has a daughter with a disability. Since its inception, the students, staff, faculty and community volunteers associated with CanAssist have worked on more than 140 projects that address communication, mobility, motion, and human-computer interaction issues. Usually the resulting products are given to clients free of charge.

Digital dissertations: A project led by the McPherson Library and the Faculty of Graduate Studies makes it possible to submit digital copies of dissertations and theses for posting on the web. Alumni with master’s or doctoral degrees can have their research added to “UVicDSpace” by their granting permission to do so. Additional information is online by going to the UVic Libraries Gateway home page at gateway.uvic.ca and selecting the “Digital Initiatives” tab.

A place in space: An asteroid 416 million km from earth has been officially named “(150145) UVic” by its discoverer, Department of Physics and Astronomy research associate Dave Balam. He named the object in tribute to his colleagues in the department. UVic’s asteroid is about 3.5 km long and orbits the sun, between Mars and Jupiter. First spotted in 1996, it took 11 years to confirm its orbit and register the name with the Minor Planet Center at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics.

Honours for Shields: The top honour from the Canadian basketball community went to Ken Shields this summer when he was named the 2007 recipient of the James Naismith Award from Canada Basketball. Past recipients include Steve Nash. Shields coached the Vikes to seven consecutive national titles between 1980 and 1986.

See the Trees

The Centre for Forest Biology has compiled a self-guided walking tour of campus. The route passes 40 different species and can take an hour or two to complete. Near the Cornett Building, in the Quadrangle, are two “Finnerty Apple” trees, remnants of the farm and orchard that the pioneering Finnerty family started in the 1870s. The map is available online at web.uvic.ca/forbiol/news/Treewalk.pdf.
THE UVic-led NEPTUNE project, promising an unparalleled window on the Pacific Ocean, took a huge step forward this summer when installation of 800 km of powered fibre-optic cable began at Port Alberni.

Extending westward along the ocean floor, to depths of up to 2,650 m, the cable will form the backbone of the world’s first regional cabled ocean observatory, simultaneously delivering power to scientific gear and relaying the data they collect back to shore and the Internet.

More than 200 oceanographic instruments and sensors, video cameras, a 400-m vertical ocean data profiler, and a remotely operated vehicle are planned, with five large undersea nodes for power distribution. Much of the equipment is being designed specifically for NEPTUNE’s purposes and will be tested for the first time in the harsh conditions of the Pacific.

NEPTUNE will enable researchers to better analyse the deep-ocean, including climate, earthquakes, tsunamis, deep-sea volcanoes, seabed chemistry and geology, and marine life.

On Aug. 23 in Port Alberni, the Alcatel-Lucent cable installation vessel Ile de Seine, after hauling the cable from France, fed the land connection to shore where a crowd of several hundred residents watched. A line of buoys held the cable above the ocean floor as divers guided it and it was hauled to the beach. The ship then proceeded down Alberni Inlet and out to the open ocean.

“From Barkley Sound the Ile de Seine began to bury the cable to an average of one-metre depth, using a huge 30-tonne plough that pushes the sediment apart, inserts the cable, with the sediment closing in behind,” says NEPTUNE director Chris Barnes. “The plough became entangled with the cable on a couple of occasions, severing the cable, and requiring a cable splice and re-lay. Progress was much simpler and faster in depths over 1,500 m when ploughing isn’t necessary.”

By mid-October, installation of the cable, repeaters, branching units and spur cables that lead to the node sites was about three-quarters done, with completion expected by the end of the month. Next year, nodes and instruments will be added and tested before the system goes online.

August saw NEPTUNE’s installation commence at Port Alberni, landing site for the project’s electro-optic cable network. Top: A close-up of the cable that will form the backbone of the NEPTUNE observatory, with the Ile de Seine in the background. Inset: An illustration of one of the five 6.5-tonne nodes that will distribute and regulate system power. Bottom: The cable will extend along the northern section of the Juan de Fuca tectonic plate.
One for the Volunteers

Distinguished Alumni Award recipient and community leader Murray Farmer accepts lifetime achievement recognition on behalf of “thousands” of local volunteers.

Murray Farmer, this year’s recipient of the UVic Alumni Association’s Distinguished Alumni Award for Lifetime Achievement, admits feeling a bit embarrassed by it all. “It’s something I never thought I would be chosen for,” says Farmer, BA ’68. “But I take it as recognition of my volunteer work, and so I accept it on behalf of so many, thousands, of people who volunteer for different things in Greater Victoria.”

Farmer will be recognized at the UVic Legacy Awards in November when Distinguished Alumni Awards and Alumni Awards for Excellence in Teaching will be presented along with inductions into the UVic Sports Hall of Fame.

Farmer says UVic taught him how to think critically, a skill that helped him rise to national prominence in the construction industry. It’s a learning path he would encourage young people to consider today, even if they plan on entering the building trades. “Any industry needs well-rounded people,” he says, “and for me the personal development that I got from university was hugely important.”

Farmer, who chairs the UVic Board of Governors, has in recent years become an avid horseman and partner in a Central Saanich equestrian centre that introduces young people to riding and its responsibilities. His family’s business endeavours include Farmer Construction and Accent Inns.

Also being honoured are mutual fund industry leader Jim Hunter, BA ’74, who will receive a Distinguished Alumni Award and Michaela Tokarski, MBA ’01, Distinguished Young Alumni honoree.

Hunter, a former Vikes basketball team member, is the CEO of NexGen Financial in Toronto, after previous leadership roles at Mackenzie Financial and Deloitte Haskins & Sells accounting.

“In truth, I came to UVic to play basketball,” Hunter says, “when I left my views of the world and my ambitions were far broader.”

Tokarski is the vice-president of marketing for MODASolutions of Ottawa, an e-commerce software firm. She was also a co-founder of Coastal Contacts, the successful online retailer of contact lenses.

“The curriculum and the entrepreneurship option provided a deeper dive into the dynamics of start-up companies,” says Tokarski. “Professors and classmates had this incredible wealth of life experience and I’m truly thankful to them for sharing their experiences.”

ALUMNI AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

Political Science Prof. Michael Webb and Law Prof. Glenn Gallins—who both inspire students by creating opportunities to learn by doing—are the recipients of the Alumni Awards for Excellence in Teaching.

Webb, winner of the “Harry Hickman Award” (the category designated for regular faculty members), emphasizes experiential learning, particularly in his guidance of the Model United Nations Club.

Gallins receives the Gillian Sherwin Award (for instructors) for his long-standing leadership of law students who gain skills by representing clients of the Law Centre Clinical Legal Education Program in downtown Victoria.

UVIC SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Gary Dukelow, MPA ’93, was a two-time Vikes rugby MVP (in 1978 and ’80) and he was a member of the Canadian team that earned a quarter-final berth in the 1991 World Cup, Canada’s best finish at the tournament. He earned 14 international caps and served as general manager of the national team.

Cross country and track star Robyn Meagher, MEd ’06, earned a silver medal at the 1994 Victoria Commonwealth Games in the 3,000 metres—a highlight of a career that included two appearances at the Olympics and two Canadian university championships during her Vikes career (1985-90).

Deb Whitten, MEd ’02, goalie for the Vikes women’s field hockey squad from 1985-91, was part of two national (CIAU) championships and four Canada West conference gold medals. She was captain of the Canadian national team from 1993-95 and helped Canada to a silver medal at the 1991 Pan-Am Games.

The Legacy Awards celebration, presented by the University of Victoria, is on Nov. 20 at the Victoria Conference Centre.
Equa
Fran Hunt-Jinnouchi’s grandfather was her first teacher. He shaped her perspective on the world and recognized her gifts. On the water, along the beaches and in the big house of the Quatsino people of northern Vancouver Island, she watched him fish, listened to his life stories and learned the Kwak’wala language. He nick-named her “Jsianu” and told her that one day she would speak for their people. It was a “beautiful, idyllic situation” for the first 12 years of her life in the isolated village of Old Quatsino. Now, in her new job of linking the University of Victoria and Indigenous communities, she often revisits those shores—in memory, and in regular trips back to the places and people of her upbringing. >>
“MY GRANDFATHER HAD A VERY FOCUSED APPROACH TO EVERYTHING HE did. He always linked what he was doing to a story or something that he had seen,” Hunt-Jinnouchi recalls over coffee and conversation in her office in the Sedgewick Building.

“This one time there was this old silver tub and I filled it with rocks and seaweed and things I had found on the beach. I put some crabs in and I brought it to him. I was very excited because I thought I had set it up beautifully. My grandfather said, ‘Only for a day. Only for a day. Without freedom they will die.’ I remember doing dishes years later and hearing Barbara Frum (on CBC radio) talking about Oka. And that story came (to me), Because it was all about containment. And there was this sense that as a people we were forced to be contained. It’s those types of things and the way that he taught me. They didn’t quite resonate with me as a child but they’ve tended to come forward later.”

BY 1972 THE VILLAGE POPULATION OF OLD QUATSFINO HAD DWINDLED to the point where it wasn’t feasible to stay. Hunt-Jinnouchi’s family members were the last to leave, joining others from her community near Quatsino and, in the summertime, the fishing and hunting territories of Winter Harbour. But the community bonds of the traditional way of life had already begun to decay. There had been a lot of bad car wrecks on the road to Port Hardy. And, at 12, she was hearing the older people talk about and mourn all of the suicides. “I didn’t even know what suicide was.” She loved the one-room school in Quatsino but in Grade 8, after her family moved to the Port Hardy area, she dropped out of school. “It was just not for me.” Her parents, who had been through residential schooling, accepted her decision without question.

“I didn’t return to the school system until I was 27 years old. I spent a year upgrading. I just knew that I wanted to build on my skills that would be helpful in my community. I guess the natural connection was to move forward into social work.”

No one had encouraged her to put her talents to use and to consider post-secondary education until she met her husband, Marc Jinnouchi, in Port Hardy when he was doing a practicum for his criminology degree from Simon Fraser University. He persuaded her to finish her high school prerequisites for the UVic School of Social Work. She chose the program because, except for three weeks on campus at the outset, she could complete her studies via distance education. By that time she was bringing up a family and had started a successful boat rental and kayaking business specializing in native cultural tours through Quatsino Sound. “So I cannot emphasize enough the need for relevant Aboriginal (educational) programs—online, distance hybrid models… what can we do at the community level?”

After completing her BSW in 1994, she earned her master’s in adult education from St. Francis Xavier. She was the first First Nations person elected to the Port Hardy school board. She worked for seven years with the Saanich Indian School Board as director of its adult education centre. And she is a former chief of the 300-member Quatsino First Nation, an experience that “was like a PhD in one year. It gave me a different lens for looking at my community and looking outward at the multiplicity of tasks that are required and the need to build capacity to be able to deal with the onslaught of what has been thrown at us. From environment to economic development to social issues to health issues that are just rampant with diabetes. And yet within there is so much strength.”

Name: Fran Hunt-Jinnouchi
People: Quatsino First Nation of northern Vancouver Island
UVic degree: Bachelor of Social Work, 1994
Job: UVic Indigenous Affairs Director
What she does: In a matter of months, Hunt-Jinnouchi’s influence is already being felt in Aboriginal communities and on campus. She’s helped initiate a new program matching UVic Nursing students with members of the local Tsawout First Nation. Twelve students and 12 band members are collaborating on health awareness projects. The students will also spend two days in the band’s long house to learn from elders and to get a full community perspective on health issues.
Key quote: “There’s equal knowledge, just different ways of learning. The idea (for the healthcare collaboration) came from the community. My job has been just to provide the links.”
Late last year, UVic was advertising for applications for the newly created post of “Indigenous Affairs Director.” Fran Hunt-Jinnouchi’s life in education was about to take another turn.

“Finally, I was quite apprehensive because I wasn’t sure where the university was in terms of truly wanting to build relationships (with Aboriginal communities),” she recalls. “We need reciprocal relationships, not one-way relationships, because basically that’s where we’ve been in the past. I was also very candid when I went through my interview process that if this position is intended as a token position and we’re not really ready to respond to the needs and work with communities then I’m the wrong person.”

About eight months into the job, she’s thrown herself into it with an infectious keenness and energy. She speaks of the full support she’s received from President David Turpin. She’s held all kinds of meetings and planning sessions on campus and in communities across the province. “There are capacity needs within all sectors of Aboriginal communities, especially as we move towards post-treaty. There’s band administration, they’re running their own health offices, land management, economic development…it’s really limitless, so we need to respond to that.”

Already, Hunt-Jinnouchi has a focused list of priorities, like the need for a point-of-contact person on campus that Aboriginal students and members of their communities can go to first when they come to campus. There’s a need for a stronger elder presence on campus. In September, her office led an orientation and full week of welcoming events were organized for Aboriginal students. There are discussions about introducing summer math, science and computer camps and after school programs, as well as a summer orientation program for students in adult education programs (since the median age of Aboriginal students entering university is 30).

When the interview ends, Fran Hunt-Jinnouchi will make a phone call to see how the fishing is going up-Island. It’s been a dismal year for the sockeye runs but she’ll be making the six-hour drive north to spend the weekend at home to “smoke fish, can fish, and freeze fish.” She talks about how she would love to be kayaking and she remembers the visitors who would come from Europe for her paddle tours of Quatsino Sound.

“We would end every night with the Talking Feather and you would hear comments like, ‘Now I understand why the land is so important.’ It was that experiential learning that made a difference. So here, it’s certainly applicable. By bringing faculty and staff to the community, that’s where that transformation will come about. Yes, I’m working for the university but I’m here because I’m working for the community. I have my feet in both worlds.”
Global climate change is inspiring some creative meetings of the minds. Professors Kara Shaw and Peter Wild, with graduate student Jamie Biggar, evaluate the politics, the technology and grassroots responses to the crisis.

BY FRANCES BACKHOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JÔ-ANN RICHARDS
As Leonardo DiCaprio’s *The 11th Hour* hit theatres this fall, the buzz about global climate change got a whole lot louder. But it’s not just that the volume has been turned up. The very nature of the public discourse on our climatic future has shifted dramatically over the past 18 months, driven by the convergence of extreme weather events around the world and the release of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s sobering Fourth Assessment Report last spring. The big question these days is not “What if?” but “What now?”

The pursuit of solutions to global warming and the examination of its implications cut across academic disciplines. It’s bringing together researchers, teachers and students from all corners of the University of Victoria campus. The broad-based response to climate change has created opportunities for unusual collaborations. Courses have been combined so that environmentalists and technologists can learn together—and from each other. And a new climate-focused grassroots organization has been formed by students, with representation from faculty, staff and alumni.

Environmental Studies Prof. Kara Shaw has long been interested in the ways contemporary environmental challenges reshape politics, but she only began focusing on climate change about a year and a half ago. “I spent all this time just desperately trying to pretend it wasn’t happening,” Shaw admits. A political theorist by training, she adds that she’s “still on a 90-degree learning curve.”

That steep ascent started when she fielded an unexpected phone call from the Institute for Integrated Energy Systems. IESVic, a research centre in the Faculty of Engineering, tries to advance the use of sustainable energy by developing and promoting new technologies. “They wanted someone to bring some social and political context into their highly technical analysis,” recalls Shaw, a request that piqued her interest despite her lack of experience in the energy field. “I went over not knowing anything about energy systems really, but I found them to be a dynamic and interesting group.”

Her resulting teaching and research collaborations have convinced her that climate change is fundamentally an energy problem and that energy is, among other things, a political problem. It calls for “a new understanding of what parts of our behaviour are relevant to climate change and then thinking about what kinds of governance institutions would help us move that behaviour in the directions we want.” She finds, though, that traditional political theorists tend to have a narrow view of what those institutions might be. “I think a lot of the really important work that is done by the environmental movement gets missed by political scientists, because they’re so focused on the government and on policy.”

We tend to get very absorbed in the technical and to be reluctant to zoom out and look at the some of the non-technical, big-picture issues, such as environmental, social, economic and legal impacts.

Working with energy system researchers has also offered her a new perspective on how the environmental movement regards energy production. “There’s a kind of rigidity in thinking about technology within the environmental movement that’s perhaps...”
getting in the way of engagement,” she says. She cites the reluctance to discuss environmental impacts of renewable energy technologies and the opposition, under any circumstances, to nuclear energy as a viable alternative. “These kinds of refusals are going to be counterproductive in the long run.”

**Green Engineers**

Shaw has worked closely with IESVic director and Mechanical Engineering Prof. Peter Wild since they decided to link Shaw’s fourth-year energy, ecology and politics course to Wild’s graduate-level course on renewable energy.

The interdisciplinary experiment has been a resounding success. “The sessions are always exceptionally lively and there’s tremendous interplay,” says Wild, PhD ’94. “From the engineering side, we tend to get very absorbed in the technical and to be reluctant to zoom out and look at the some of the non-technical, big-picture issues, such as environmental, social, economic and legal impacts. Working with Kara and her students brings those forward. It gives context.”

Wild’s grad students also act as advisors to the Environmental Studies students for their group projects, helping them find resources and interpret technical information. At the end of the term, the engineers present their own course projects to Shaw’s class. “A lot of our grad students come to IESVic because of its reputation,” says Wild, “but also because of a predisposition toward working in the energy field and trying to do something (about) climate change.”

Back in 1977, when he was deciding on an undergraduate program, Wild’s interest in solar energy led him into mechanical engineering. “Since I was very young, I’ve had a strong belief that we were doing terrible harm to our environment and that there would one day be serious consequences,” says Wild. “When I joined UVic and IESVic five years ago and began working in the field of energy systems, it was an opportunity to apply my engineering skills to the development of systems that will, hopefully, reduce the harm that we are inflicting on our environment, [including] global warming.”

Wild is part of a team of IESVic members conducting research on incorporating alternative power sources, such as wind, wave, tidal and run-of-river hydro, into transmission systems. “We’re interested in the effects of the integration of ever-increasing amounts of renewable energy into an electrical grid,” Wild says. With wind power, for example, “issues start to arise around how you’re going to manage the fluctuations in the supply of that renewable resource. So when the wind comes up in a hurry and you have a sudden peak in generation or when the wind falls off and you have a sudden drop in generation, what are the implications for the network?”

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We’re not in a situation where there’s only one path forward, but our options are constrained. The more the population begins to understand those options and weighs in on them, the better the choices will be because people will be committed to them.”

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**The Political Climate**

The sort of interdisciplinary approach to climate change that brought together Shaw’s Environmental Studies class and Wild’s Mechanical Engineering students is also one of the guiding principles behind “Common Energy,” a broad-based group that sprang-up on campus a year ago.

“There are tons of people out there who are interested (in addressing the climate change issue) and have expertise and knowledge and resources that they could contribute,” says Common Energy organizer Jamie Biggar. “Those people are mainly stuck asking themselves ‘How many more light bulbs can I change?’ and ‘Should I buy a Prius?’ and that sort of question, all of which is actually kind of de-motivating, because personal actions seem completely out of whack with the scale of the challenge.”

“The theory we’re working with,” explains Biggar, “is that if you get those individuals together in networks organized around common goals—and those common goals involve very large, powerful institutions like universities—then you can >>
shift them from this kind of despair around the light bulb question to a much more optimistic and motivating strategy of working with other people that care to make a difference.”

Common Energy’s objective is to move the university “beyond climate neutral. That means both reducing our contributions to

the problem and increasing our contributions to the solution,” says Biggar, a master’s student in Environmental Studies.

Common Energy’s main focus has been organizing a series of events that Biggar describes as a large collaborative planning process. Last January more than 1,000 people attended a trio of question-framing lectures presented by faculty members Andrew Weaver of Earth and Ocean Sciences, IESVic’s Ned Djilali and Shaw. Although founded by students, Common Energy is open to the entire university community, including former students. “Alumni have such an incredible wealth of experience and insight to bring,” says Biggar. “It would be great to connect with more of them to work on this.”

Common Energy is an example of Shaw’s contention that the standard notion of the state as the locus of political power doesn’t match the reality of how society is rising to the climate change challenge. Action is coming both from above the state level, in the form of international agreements like the Kyoto Protocol, and from below. Instead of waiting for national governments to take the lead, grassroots activists, the private sector and municipalities are “trying to solve problems on the ground, with the hope of bringing state support along at some point in time.”

Shaw points to the US Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement as an illustration of how climate change is reconfiguring political space. Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels launched the agreement on February 16, 2005, the day the Kyoto Protocol became law for the 141 countries that had ratified it to date. His objective was to champion the protocol’s goals through leadership and action by at least 141 American cities. Two and half years later, more than 600 cities have signed on.

“Leadership can come from anywhere,” says Shaw, “particularly when you’re facing federal governments that are paralyzed or actively opposed.” For her, as a political scientist, that’s a good thing. “The more the people lead this, the better it will be. We’re not in a situation where there’s only one path forward, but our options are constrained. The more the population begins to understand those options and weighs in on them, the better the choices will be because people will be committed to them.”

As one of the experts who appears in the DiCaprio documentary says, “Not only is it the 11th hour, it’s 11:59.” But rather than giving up hope, people like Shaw, Wild and Biggar are working to reset the clock.
Graves Regained
Straits Salish cairns, centuries old, are the focus of doctoral research by Darcy Mathews who is surveying native burial sites from Albert Head to East Sooke Park to determine the intricate social context of the rock and soil memorials.

BY MATT J SIMMONS
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JO-ANN RICHARDS

They are the nearly forgotten graveyards of Greater Victoria—collections of stone and earth burial cairns that, as tributes to the dead, also reveal insights into the social hierarchies of the First Nations people who constructed them during a period 1,000 to 1,500 thousand years ago. Anthropology PhD student Darcy Mathews is conducting the first detailed investigation into the cairns of Victoria since archaeologist Harlan Smith and the Jesup North Pacific Expedition of 1897-99.

Mathews, MA ’06, has collected data from more than 700 of the ancient burial sites, probably only a fraction of the actual number, in his exhaustive survey of cairns in the Metchosin area. In size, cairns range from a metre or so across to huge monuments, some featuring rocks likely weighing more than a tonne.

The most impressive cairn that Mathews has identified so far is 21 metres long, near Pedder Bay. Its amount of soil and rock is equivalent to roughly 18 dump truck loads. “The pre-contact Straits Salish would have moved (the material) with baskets, digging sticks and sheer strength,” says Mathews. “I think this speaks volumes about the significance of these burials. These were likely monuments for the living as well as a means of commemorating the dead.”

The Department of National Defence property at Rocky Point is the largest known site with 333 burial cairns and mounds in a three-hectare area.

While earlier researchers excavated cairn sites, Mathews does not disturb them. Instead he relies on the exterior features (dimensions, shapes, rock types, sizes and locations) for clues about how cairns were used to communicate the social status of the individuals buried underneath.

“My research is an analysis of how the cairns were made, combined with a spatial investigation of how there were placed on the landscape, and their implications for social networks and concepts of identity,” Mathews says. “Cairns might have been a statement of centrality and a focal point for one or more communities or (they may have been) markers defining social peripheries or boundaries that may have been contested.

“Once patterns in cairn construction are identified, I look at how these cairns are arranged on the landscape. Certain types of cairns are only built in certain parts of a site. At Rocky Point there is a definite spatial segregation with seven...”
different ‘plots,’ each comprised of numerous cairns.”

Eric McLay, president of the Archaeological Society of BC and archaeologist for the Coast Salish Hul’qumi’num Treaty Group, applauds Mathews for setting a “high standard for how archaeology should be done in British Columbia and how archaeologists, in general, should practice working with First Nations in Canada,” he says. “I think the important message of Darcy’s research is that archaeology in BC is just as much about protecting and understanding the past as it is about respecting First Nations culture and people today.”

From his perspective, Grant Keddie, curator of archaeology at the Royal BC Museum, says that no one has yet taken the time to sit down and properly take stock of what burial cairns actually are, what they mean, and how they fit with the rest of Salish culture. “I have about 500 pieces of paper with projects on them like this that need to be done,” says Keddie. “Darcy is getting one of those projects done properly.”

Keddie refers to Mathews’ patient gathering and sifting of data. Mathews intends to include in his research all the information he can dig up from historical archives, such as records of the now-destroyed burial cairn sites in the Uplands and Beacon Hill Park.

What it comes down to is that death, and the ways in which the living deal with death are defined by social relationships within a community: “Mortuary ritual is a chance to perpetuate the status quo,” Mathews says, “but it’s also a chance to push the boundaries. In burials there’s an opportunity for people to contest or try to reshape the social norm.”

By developing a better understanding of their place in Straits Salish culture, Mathews hopes to help protect remaining cairns from the pressures that have erased so many of the monuments from the local landscape. He often gives public talks about his work and the meaning of the cairns and he intends to combine his archaeological findings with the knowledge of elders and others in First Nations communities. “It’s really important to recognize that there are multiple perspectives. I’m trying to step back and find ways that we can look at this from outside of our Western notion of ‘bigger is better’…Culture doesn’t fit very well into the scientific process—the hypothetical-deductive process. Culture can be messy. (But) burial cairns have been destroyed by the thousands in Victoria, and continue to be destroyed to this day. I’m hoping I can provide a more cohesive body of information about these burials, hopefully to enrich everybody’s understanding…and ultimately, preserve them.”

Darcy Mathews’ studies have been assisted by Henry Chipps and the chief and council of the Scia’new First Nation of Metchosin. Mathews holds a Canada Graduate Scholarship from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada and his doctoral research is supervised by Anthropology Prof. Quentin Mackie.
I quail, in those dire straits
my manhood blunted.
—Petronius, The Satyricon

Nearly two thousand years later, the lament of the Roman satirist Petronius for his blunted manhood can still summon a wince or a rueful chuckle. Almost every man at some point in his life will be humbled by impotence, be it physiological or mental, temporary or permanent. What’s more, he’ll likely suffer at least one embarrassing episode of “arriving too soon.” But he won’t suffer alone, as History Prof. Angus McLaren writes in his comprehensive yet riveting new book, Impotence: A Cultural History chronicles “man’s failure to rise to the occasion” over the millennia, and contains a wealth of famous writers and thinkers who have weighed in on the subject, including Catullus, Montaigne, Shakespeare, Freud, and Hemingway.

But this is not a mere collection of gleeful quips about men’s struggles to perform, nor a tongue-in-cheek survey of strange and misguided remedies and cures through the ages. Not that McLaren couldn’t supply countless anecdotes: since 1978, he’s written 11 books on the history of sexuality, including birth control, fertility rituals, contraception and abortion. Instead...
of simply displaying the depths of his research, however, McLaren offers a compelling argument that different cultures have used impotence to maintain their own unique definition of masculinity.

What we now call “erectile dysfunction” has long been the source of both public and private humiliation, anxiety and fear. The inability of kings and presidents to sire an heir has changed the shape of nations. Victorian-era doctors gave accounts of suicide notes that read “I am impotent and unfit to live.” But impotence has also provided centuries of bawdy jokes and limericks. It is, as McLaren says, “a problem that humanity has simultaneously regarded as life’s greatest tragedy and its greatest joke.”

Although McLaren admits that his book is best suited for the more scholarly reader, *Impotence* is full of entertaining, thought-provoking surprises, often delivered with a deadpan, subtle wit. He seems to delight in ironic situations: in the medieval age, for example, church tribunals used “honest women” to publicly examine men whose ability to procreate had been questioned by their wives. Some doctors in the early 20th century, hoping to pass along the randy nature of our genetic cousins, transplanted chimpanzee testes into men. Their Victorian predecessors, meanwhile, used a dubious combination of salves, scalding and even cauterization on men’s privates. Most of their patients “rarely asked for a second treatment.”

But *Impotence* truly hits its stride when McLaren challenges a culture’s definition of “manliness.” Is masculinity the “impene-trable penetrator,” as the Romans claimed? The wan, sexually restrained businessman of the 19th century? The man who fathers numerous children, or the man who succeeds in giving his partner multiple orgasms with or without penetration? And why, as McLaren points out, do women so often take the heat for men’s bedroom fiascos?

More than a tale of men defeated and deflated, *Impotence* is also a history of women and the evolution of femininity. Whether accusing so-called witches of stealing their virility, or blaming sexually aggressive feminists for an “Impotence Boom,” men have fought to remain the dominant partner. Women haven’t shouldered all the blame—they’ve shared it to a lesser degree with stress, the Oedipal complex, and the “dangers of self-abuse.”

Whatever the supposed cause, there have always been inventors and quacks ready to exploit men’s sexual anxieties. Indeed, fear-mongering did not end with the Victorian-era suction machines and bizarre surgeries. In order to peddle their wares, today’s pharmaceutical firms use marketing to reinforce the notion that men should measure their manliness, both figuratively and literally, by the strength of their erections.

“We have a false sense of being in an emancipated world,” says McLaren during a phone conversation. “Society is more susceptible to the influence of the media.” Enhancers like Viagra, Cialis and Levitra have raised the standards of “normal” virility for all men, not just aging baby boomers. Although the occasional failure to perform is not unusual, even men in their early 30s are hedging their bets by popping a pill before the big date. Not surprisingly, “female sexual dysfunction” has become the new buzzword, with Viagra-like drugs on the way.

“Given the voracious pharmaceutical corporations’ pursuit of profits,” McLaren warns, “it is in their best interests to induce sexual anxieties in as many consumers as possible.”

Few ailments have influenced how men perceive their place in society like impotence. And no author before McLaren has recounted these perceptions with such insight and detail. The celebrity psychoanalyst and writer Adam Philips, best known for hobnobbing with Britain’s literary elite, writes in the *London Review of Books* that *Impotence* is a history not only of gender relations, but “of our will to believe.” Whenever man finds himself in those dire straits, belief will lead him to new cures, new scapegoats, and new ways of defining himself by his blunted manhood. Impotence may have had a rousing history, but it also—alas, poor Petronius—has a future.
Wired

It was October 1977, in the campus computing centre’s first room set aside for computer networking. Amid the nest of cables, a Digital Equipment Corporation PDP 8e fed coded data to an adjoining room where a state-of-the-art “Big Iron” computer—an IBM System/370, model 148—had been installed that year.

Allan Trumpour, BSc ’69, a senior programmer analyst in the Computer Science department, remembers the mainframe system was the university’s only central service computer, handling all of the teaching, administrative and research loads. It would have had one or two megabytes of main memory, with a price tag of between half a million and three quarters of a million. The desktop PCs installed last spring in the Computer Science teaching labs have 2000MB of main memory—at about $1,000 each.

Taking UVic to Heart

Northern California isn’t the first place you might look for fans of the University of Victoria but you would be hard-pressed to find a more enthusiastic bunch of Vikes than Kristin Litster’s Grade 3 class at East Palo Alto Charter School.

After receiving a box full of UVic memorabilia courtesy of the Education Alumni Chapter of the UVic Alumni Association, Litster, BEd ’04, has been handing out the UVic-crested pens, water bottles, magnets, notebooks, posters—even copies of this magazine—to her students. It’s in support of the school’s “college for certain” approach that gets kids thinking about university, right from kindergarten.

Each class adopts the alma mater of its teacher and when Litster brought the UVic box to class “it was hilarious,” she says. “They were so excited. It was like Christmas morning.”

The school is in the inner-city neighbourhood in which the 1995 motion picture Dangerous Minds was set. Across the community, only 35 per cent of students graduate from high school on time.

Education Alumni Chapter organizer Wendy Gedney, BEd ’83, says the whole experience has been pretty heartwarming. “We’ve been a chapter for five years and this has been our biggest project in that it’s touched so many children.”

“The best part,” says Litster, “was when one of my little girls came up to me after school and informed me she’d made her college choice and she’s officially going to go to UVic, live in the Emily Carr dorm, and study in the SUB.”
I feel privileged to serve as the new president of the University of Victoria Alumni Association. My predecessor, Larry Cross, gave the board of directors excellent advice and guidance during his two-year term. Fortunately, he remains on the board as past president, allowing us all to continue to seek his advice whenever necessary. “The University of Victoria Garry Oak Meadow” that Larry spearheaded firmly establishes continuing recognition of alumni and their contributions to UVic. His efforts on the association's strategic plan for 2003-08 provides us with a valuable document enabling the board of directors to work in concert with UVic’s strategic plan. On behalf of alumni, thank you Larry for your dedication and hard work.

I am a communication consultant and a writer who graduated from UVic in 1998 with a BA in Writing from the Faculty of Fine Arts. Being asked to serve on the association’s board was indeed an honour. My time as a student at UVic was exciting and challenging and being able to reconnect with the university is a pleasure. I consequently joined the board in 2003.

In February 2007, the university introduced its renewed strategic plan: “A Vision for the Future–Building on Strength.” I hope you take the time to read the goals and the vision of being a university of choice for outstanding students, faculty and staff. The alumni association is currently establishing its own strategic plan to make our association the life-long link between the university and its graduates by developing programs directed to alumni, current students and potential students.

The university and the alumni association have worked together to strengthen this relationship throughout the years. As president of the association, I aim to maintain this outstanding relationship we have with the university. Also, I shall work to keep the alumni association interesting and vibrant. To accomplish this, I encourage you to attend our many exciting events in the upcoming year and to consider obtaining your Alumni Benefits Card, offering special privileges to alumni.

The University of Victoria is indeed a great university and many of our alumni have achieved outstanding success. We welcome all alumni to maintain your connection with the university.

I look forward with pleasure to meeting many of you during my term of office and learning about your achievements. It looks like an exciting year ahead for the UVic Alumni Association.
Making the Connection
Alumni networks are about more than memories.

BY SHANNON VON KALDENBERG
ASSOCIATE VICE-PRESIDENT ALUMNI AND DEVELOPMENT

Since the last Torch, I’ve had the honour of meeting many of our alumni, not just in Victoria but across Canada and in Asia. It’s part of my commitment to regularly visit each of the cities where our university’s alumni can be found in major numbers. It’s rewarding and I’m encouraged by the feedback I hear from alumni who may live far from Ring Road but still carry UVic very much in their hearts and welcome the opportunity to reconnect.

You never know when or where you might bump into a UVic grad. This spring when I was in Beijing it was terrific to meet an alumnus from Hong Kong who happened to be staying at our hotel and noticed that we were hosting a reception for alumni. He was able to join us to talk about the exciting developments at UVic but he was also able to create new connections with fellow UVic alumni in his part of the world.

Being part of our alumni network is not just about the shared memories and the shared experience of going to UVic. It can be more practical than that, offering all sorts of rewards—both personal and professional.

When I represent the university at alumni gatherings in places like Beijing, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Toronto, Ottawa or Vancouver—all cities that I’ve visited in recent months along with President David Turpin—I do so with the strong belief in, and commitment to our alumni. Our alumni events not only bring the university to our graduates, they’re also about our alumni benefiting from connecting with each other. It’s something that will pay dividends for any alumna or alumnus who wants to plug into our network.

A relaxed gathering of old friends and new is always great but between those opportunities, make sure you stay connected in all of the other ways that you can. There’s the UVic Online Community (olcnetwork.net/uvic) where you can post your profile, pictures and connect with UVic friends anywhere they may be. Don’t forget to send a Keeping in Touch note to the Torch (e-mail torch@uvic.ca) with your latest news so that we can include it in our next issue. It’s fun and one of the most popular sections of the magazine. It’s just been redesigned for this edition, too.

I would love to hear from you directly. If there’s another way we can help you keep your connection to UVic strong, you can always reach me at shannonv@uvic.ca or you can e-mail Alumni Services director Don Jones at djones@uvic.ca.

Alumni Photobook
Beginning on the opposite page: [1] Alumni association treasurer Lise (Luk) Richardson, BA ’01 (left), with new board members Jignesh Patel, Dipl ’03, and Sarah Cotton, BA ’03, at the association’s Annual General Meeting in the spring. [2] Bachelor of Social Work grads Jennifer Osei-Appiah, ’06, and J. Spencer Rowe, ’98, were among guests of UVic at the Toronto reception this spring. [3] Nursing students Iris Fung, Pam Cheng, Elaine Irwin and Marlena Flis with an art piece created by faculty, staff and alumni of the School of Nursing’s Lower Mainland Campus at Langara College to commemorate the LMC’s closure. [4] 2007 Alumni Volunteer of the Year Jack Rowe, Victoria College ’46. He is a former president of the Victoria College Craigdarroch Castle Alumni Association and regular participant in the Student Alumni Association’s annual campus clean-up day. [5] Andrea Vagg, MSc ’04, Heather Palmer, BA ’01, and Hong Gou, BSc ’04, at the spring alumni gathering in Toronto. [6] Associate Vice-President Alumni and Development Shannon Von Kaldenberg (left) with President David Turpin met with 2000 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient Eliza Chan, LLB ’82, in Hong Kong in May. [7] Five Class of ’93 Visual Arts graduates, with their professor and mentor Pat Martin Bates, Hon. DFA ’94 (seated), staged their fourth group exhibition, this spring. “What’s in a Decade” was held at the Union Club of Victoria. Standing, from left to right: Anne Carlson, Judith Saunders, Audrey Meeres, Joanne Emberton and Margitta Ben-Oliel.
For 18 months Mary Kerr felt as if she was living with a giant thunderbird hovering over her. Such was the “shamanistic” force the UVic Theatre professor felt as she created the set and costume design for this spring’s National Arts Centre presentation of Copper Thunderbird, about the life of one of Canada’s great artists, Norval Morrisseau.

“It was the experience of a lifetime. I did the best I could do for him because he has been such an influence in my artistic life,” says Kerr, who shares Morrisseau’s belief in the “power of art and colour to heal people.”

UVic alumni in the Ottawa region were invited to a special reception hosted by President David Turpin prior to a May 23 preview performance and had the opportunity to meet Kerr and director, Peter Hinton. The play, which ran from May 25 to June 9 at the NAC theatre, was written by Galiano Island playwright Marie Clements.

Kerr’s set design interpreted the script by using minimalist, abstract spaces and forms while screen projections suggested Morrisseau’s imagined worlds and the inspirations for his paintings.

“We were not trying to do a documentary, but a creative interpretation. The set was white (like a canvas) and, if you sat through the entire show, it was constantly saturated with primary colour. We took it back to the colour. There were 38 scenes and they all looked different.”

An Ottawa Citizen review called the production “a visual marvel.”

Kerr says her work on Copper Thunderbird was a “logical extension” from her work on the opening and closing ceremonies of the 1994 Victoria Commonwealth Games, which were based on Kwagulth creation mythology.

Morrisseau’s vivid, spiritual interpretations of the Ojibway (or Anishnaabe) myths and legends of his ancestry began attracting international attention in the 1960s. After he became seriously ill as a young man, a medicine woman gave him the name Copper Thunderbird to give him strength.

Self-taught, he was inspired by the ancient Great Lakes pictographs and petroglyphs. He is considered the father of contemporary native art and the Woodlands School of Art, and he has the distinction of being the first Aboriginal artist to have a solo show at the National Gallery of Canada.

His life on streets, and battles through addictions were well-documented and the play follows his journey through his ups and downs, his art and the reconciliation of his Aboriginal and Catholic religious beliefs. “There was drunkenness. There were his addictions. But he has the powers of a shaman. No question about it,” says Kerr. “His paintings are shamanistic and the energy that comes from them can be overpowering. He is a genius.”

Morrisseau, once dubbed “the Picasso of the North,” resides in Nanaimo. Now in his 70s, he is no longer able to paint due to the effects of Parkinson’s disease.
Keeping in Touch
Let your friends from UVic know what’s been happening in your life. Go to uvic.ca/torch and click on “Keep in Touch” to include your news in the next edition of the magazine.

1960s

1966
CAROL WOOTON, BA (English/German), has published a new book of essays, Preening Clefs (Towner). Her fourth book includes a copy of her presentation on Glenn Gould, in 1983, to the Victoria branch of the Royal Conservatory of Music alumni as well as an image of the concert program Gould signed for Wooton at a 1960 performance in the Royal Theatre. Carol lives in Oak Bay.

1970
DAN GALLACHER, MA (History) received the Canadian Museums Association’s 2007 Award of Distinquished Service. Dan is currently curator emeritus, Canadian Museum of Civilization, retiring from his position as director of history in 2002. During the early ‘80s he served as UVic Alumni Association president. Dan and his wife JOAN, BSN ’79, reside in Kelowna.

DIANE GRUTSCHNIG-BISHOP PETERSEN, BEd (Secondary), sends this: After 33 years of joyfully teaching English in Surrey School District, Diane is retiring. She looks forward to new adventures and would enjoy hearing from fellow grads (dpeterse@sfu.ca).

1971
DARIN GUNESERKA, BA (Economics) writes from Sri Lanka: “From UVic I went on to Yale and after academics opted for the ‘real world.’ After setting up stock exchanges and regulators in Sri Lanka, Kenya and part of the work in other countries (and about 400 pages of national law) I changed my line. I now do re-housing of slum and shanty dwellers using stock exchange methods. I have projects in several countries. This second career saw me start with marriage plus a daughter and social entrepreneurships. I am looking for persons to join me in Capital Markets for the Marginalized.” E-mail: wiroshermes@yahoo.com

1976
Prints from the late Ojibway artist CARL BEAM, BFA (Visual Arts), were featured in an exhibit this summer at the Art Gallery of the South Okanagan. His influential and varied work often juxtaposed autobiographical, historical and commercial images dealing with conflicts between Western and Aboriginal cultures.

1978
ED DE WALLE, LLB, a BC provincial court judge, was transferred from Terrace to Salmon Arm this year. He was first appointed to the bench in 1991 and was Terrace’s only provincial court judge during that time.

1980s

1981
DIANNE GRIMMER, BA (Political Science), writes: “It was challenging for me to return to full-time university studies as a mature student, a relatively poor single parent of three in 1980-81. Luckily I did graduate and my family story has turned out so much better than I ever expected. My children are now grown, all successful in careers and families, and I am happily retired in my new (to me) warm and cheerful home in Nanaimo.

DARAGH HOURIGAN (née COULTER), BA (History), has big news: “Hey, I got married(!) and changed my surname. I’m still teaching at Queen of Angels in Duncan—but not high school—this is my fourth year in elementary and I am loving it. Had my first practicum student this year. Great experience for us both. And through the ‘net two former UVic’ers from Gordon Head Residence tracked me down, with excellent reunion results!”

1982
DAVID FORDE, BSc (Psychology) and Linda Forde send an update: “After 11 years in Memphis, we’re heading further south to Tuscaloosa, Alabama. David will join the University of Alabama as professor of criminal justice. Linda continues her work as a CPA. A long distance from UVic, but we’re doing very well and enjoying life with our new baby, Robert Reinhart.”

JOHN M. McINTOSH, BSc (Computer Science), is part of the One Laptop per Child initiative, an international non-profit collaboration to develop low-cost computers for education in developing countries. The effort is led by MIT professor...
Nicholas Negroponte, who hopes to have the cost of the durable devices lowered to $100 US within two years.

1983

CYNTHIA MUNN (née DOJACK), BMus (Education), writes: “Hi friends. Just thought I’d give y’all an update. I’ve been happily married to my soul mate for 16 wonderful years, we have three beautiful children, ages 15, 10 and 7 (girl, boy, boy). I keep busy playing horn with Symphony New Brunswick, teaching piano, and teaching school full-time. In my spare time I’ve been training for a 5K run! Life is great here in the Maritimes and I invite you all out to see the beautiful fall colours. Take care everyone, keep in touch!”

ART POLLARD, BA (Political Science), has an update: “I have been working for BC Ferries for 20 years now and married for 10. I have had a very active volunteer life outside of work that has kept my wife Patti and me very busy. We are currently enjoying doing renovations to our house and I would love to hear from old classmates and what they are doing.”

1984

SHARON DANARD, BA (French), is assistant professor of Spanish at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center in Monterey, California. DLI is the largest language school in the US. Sharon previously taught French and Spanish at Camosun College for more than a dozen years.

ALVIN KUBE, BA (Sociology), checks in from Ottawa: “I have been with the federal government now for 20 years. Without question, achieving a degree made a huge difference. As an Aboriginal man I believe that because of the skills and knowledge I gained in university I have made a significant contribution not only to society but to my people.”

1985

DIAINE KENNEDY, BSW, has been appointed the first executive director of Social Planning Cowichan where she’s working on a number of issues, including access to affordable housing in the region.

MARK LEIREN-YOUNG, BFA (Theatre/Writing), is the writer and director of The Green Chain, a “powerful, funny and thought-provoking” film about environmentalists and loggers. The movie, his first, is scheduled to be on the festival circuit this fall.

1986

KELLEY LEE, MPA, works in Global Health at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and is to become head of its public and environmental health unit later this year. She has also been named a fellow through distinction of the faculty of public health of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of the UK. She also plays for the Milton Keynes Falcons of the English Ice Hockey Association.

DARREN E. LUND, MA (Language Arts Education) has published a co-edited book (with Paul Carr), entitled The Great White North?: Exploring Whiteness, Privilege and Identity in Education (Sense Publishers). He is an associate professor in the faculty of education at the University of Calgary, and was recently named one of Red Deer’s Top Educators of the Century.

KEN MERKLEY, MPA, retired as president of Three E Training and dedicates his time to the non-profit sector. He volunteers with the Kidney Foundation of Canada, where he is vice-president of the BC Branch and holds various committee positions as well as an executive position with the Victoria chapter. Ken also holds an advisory position with the IT branch of BCIT and a director position with the Vancouver Island Safety Council.

TRISH ST. ONGE, BSW, is executive director of Catholic Family Services of Saskatoon, which offers professional counselling, education and community programs.

1987

IAN THORNTON, MSc (Biology), has left his post as senior instructor in Biology: “After 38 enjoyable years of teaching, I retired this year. To all my colleagues and students, past and present, thank you for a memorable and rewarding experience.”

1988

ROSEMARIE COLLINS, BA (History/Political Science) has an update: “Since graduation I have worked mostly for the BC Government in First Nations research and information management.”

ROD CORRAINI, BFA (Visual Arts), turned his visual memories of the winter storms of 2006-07—cloud formations, in particular—into a recent exhibit of oil paintings at the downtown Nanaimo Art Gallery.

PATRICK O’ROURKE, LLB, writes: “On January 5, 2007 I had the honour and privilege to be appointed chief gold commissioner for British Columbia (in addition to my duties as an assistant deputy minister). The chief gold commissioner is one of the oldest public service positions in BC, dating back to 1859 when Chartres Brew was appointed the first chief gold commissioner of the Colony of British Columbia.”

MIKI HANSEN, BSW, is the executive director of AIDS Vancouver Island and in March she received the first Alayne Hamilton Community Award from the School of Social Work. Her career has included extensive experience in addictions counselling, education and community development. As part of her AVI responsibilities, she went to Libode, South Africa to work on a bereavement support project for children affected by HIV/AIDS.

Lansdowne Era Chronicaled

A new book recounting the dynamic final chapter in the history of Victoria College will be published next year. The Lansdowne Era, edited by Edward B. Harvey, VC ’59, will include a range of first-person accounts from Victoria College women and men. The book will be dedicated to Peter L. Smith, VC ’49, the former Greek and Roman Studies professor and unofficial university historian who died in 2006.

Victoria College moved from Craigdarroch Castle to the Lansdowne Road campus in 1946 and classes were held there until the University of Victoria opened in 1963. The essays and personal recollections in the new book about the Lansdowne days will also reflect the post-war social and economic forces that shaped Victoria College—and Canada—including rapid economic growth, the baby boom, and expanding post-secondary enrolment.

1989

MICHAEL GEOGHEGAN, BA (Economics). After having spent a month in Mexico, Mike is back in Victoria doing a mix of consulting and business venturing while spending time with friends and family, especially his son and daughter.

1990

COLIN FIDLER, BA (Political Science), is the global services operations manager with Platform Computing. Canada’s sixth largest software company, based in Toronto. Colin, his wife TANIA JONES, BSc (Biology) ’92, and their three-year-old son Callum, settled in Richmond Hill after completing master’s degrees (MBA and MSc, respectively) at the University of
Saskatchewan and starting their careers in Ottawa. Tania is a former member of the Vikes and the 1992 Canadian University champion in the 3000m. She remains one of Canada’s top marathon runners (ranked third in 2006) and a national team member. Tania balances athletics with a career in Procter & Gamble Pharmaceuticals as a senior regulatory affairs manager.

1991

GREG EVANS, MA (History), is executive director of the Maritime Museum of BC. He also helps out alumni travel partner, Maple Leaf Adventures, with their Tall Sales and Ales trips, serving as brewing historian and guide. His master’s thesis was on the Vancouver Island Brewing Industry from 1858 to 1917.

NICOLE GERVAIS, BSN, runs a successful and secluded bed and breakfast at Long Beach called Long Beach Haven. She also practices reflexology treatment.

1992

JOHN E. MCDONALD, BA (Pacific and Asian Studies), has been named the BC’s trade representative to China. He is based in Shanghai and is responsible for generating investment leads, targeting new clients for BC industries, and gathering market intelligence. He has been working in the region since 1994.

1993

JOE VOSBURGH, BEng (Electrical), is “living, working and playing in Vancouver! Married to the lovely Quinn in 1998 and lucky dad to Mia, 7, and Morghan, 5.”

1994

PETER BRADY, LLB, has joined the online brokerage, Qtrade Financial Group as its general counsel.

MAUREEN GORDON, BA (Writing) and KEVIN SMITH, BA ’97 (Geography), were married on Flora Islet, on August 18th, 2007: “A small group of family and friends joined us for our ‘Wooden Boat Wedding.’ The celebrations took place on our 92-foot schooner, Maple Leaf (picture), in Tribune Bay at Hornby Island. We’ll be sailing the Great Bear Rainforest this fall with our nature cruise business, Maple Leaf Adventure.

1995

TAMARA VROOMAN, MA (History), became the new chief executive officer of Vancity, Canada’s largest credit union, on Sept. 1 after three years as provincial deputy minister of finance. She rose quickly through the ranks of the public service after completing a co-op placement with the ministry of children and families. Widely respected, she was awarded the Queen's Jubilee Medal for Outstanding Public Service in 2003 and in 2005 was listed among Canada’s Top 40 Under 40 by the Caldwell Partners.

1996

PETER HILTON, MPA, lives in Sweden with his wife SOFI ALMERS, MPA ’96, and their two children Emily, 12 and Nicholas, age nine. Peter is director of international relations and recruitment at the Jonkoping International Business School. The school works with over 200 universities around the world, including UVic Business.

ROBERT LAIRD, BCom, has been named vice-president responsible for the natural gas business line of the Canadian Resources Exchange, a Calgary-based trading a clearing system. His son, Byron Pile, graduated with a BEng (Computer Engineering) in the spring.

1997

JESSICA BERGLUND, LLB, and VOLKER HELMUTH, LLB ’95, were married in 2002 and live in downtown Vancouver with their son Hugo, born in October 2006. Jessica practices law in the occupational health and safety enforcement department of WorkSafeBC and Volker is the director of planning and research with the Vancouver Police Department.

1998

CONNIE HOsie (née BEEL), BFA (Theatre), and husband Grayson Hosie are pleased to announce the birth of their son. Logan Jonathan Alistair Hosie was born on May 21st, 2007 at Burnaby General Hospital, weighing in at 7 lbs, 2 oz and measuring 21.5 inches long. The family returned to Victoria in the fall when Connie went back to work with Pacific Opera Victoria.

TYRONE PILE, MA (History), became rear admiral of Maritime Forces Pacific in a ceremony July 27 at CFB Esquimalt. In a 32-year navy career, he has served in missions in Haiti, the former Yugoslavia and the Arabian Gulf. He had spent the previous two years at defence headquarters in Ottawa, leading the overhaul of the military personnel system. His son, Byron Pile, graduated with a BEng (Computer Engineering) in the spring.

BOB YARISH, BCom, is the manager of the new TD Canada Trust branch in the Tillicum Shopping Centre. He first worked for the TD during a co-op work term, staying with the bank after graduation. He had been manager of the Quadra-McKenzie branch.

1999

GAIL ANDERSON-DARGATZ, BA (Writing), currently teaches fiction in the creative writing MFA program at the University of British Columbia and lives in the Shuswap, the landscape found in so much of her >>
writing, including her new novel *Turtle Valley*. Her website is at gailander-dargatz.ca.

TYLER GINGRICH, BA (English/Political Science), completed a master’s of divinity at the University of Saskatchewan in 2004: “I’m a mission pastor in Kelowna. I’m doing some campus chaplaincy work at UBC-okanagan.”

GILLIAN WIGMORE, BA (Writing), has released a 40-poem meditation on emotion and landscape, entitled *Soft Geography* (Caitlin Press). She resides in Prince George.

2000

DAVID KIDD, BCom (Entrepreneurship), has an update: “I received a promotion, to sales manager, within the power monitoring and control division of Schneider Electric/Square D Company. This is a sales specialist role responsible for developing our enterprise energy management business globally.”

2001

MICHELLE KRALT, BSN, and DOUGLAS KRALT, BSc (Biochemistry) ’00, are thrilled to announce the arrival of their daughter, Charlee Ella Kralt on April 16, 2007 in Winnipeg. Michelle completed her master’s of nursing in University of Manitoba in 2005 and has been working as a clinical nurse specialist at Cancer Care Manitoba for the past three years. Douglas completed his medical degree from the U of M in May 2007. The Kralt’s will be relocating to Edmonton for Doug’s residency.

CARMEN LANSDOWNE, BA (History), of the Heiltsuk First Nation was ordained in the United Church of Canada at St. David’s United Church, West Vancouver on May 27. She serves as the United Church chaplain at UBC and is pursuing a second graduate degree in theology at the Vancouver School of Theology. Carmen also serves as the Canadian delegate to the executive committee of the World Council of Churches (where she’s the only indigenous representative from any region) until the 10th General Assembly in 2013.

CAROLINE RUECKERT, BA (English/Germanic and Slavic Studies), writes: “I recently co-authored *The Study Abroad Handbook* (Palgrave MacMillan) and it will be available in 13 countries.”

2002

MICHAEL MACGILLIS, BEng (Electrical), writes from Scotland: “Just wanted to say hello to my UVic friends. I was married in Edinburgh on May 19, 2007 to my long-time girlfriend Rhona Freeman and we’ve recently moved back to Scotland from London, England. I have just started a new job with STMicroelectronics doing chip design. Any old UVic friends can reach me at mikenmacgillis@yahoo.com.”

TARA MACNAIR (née BERGMANN), BA (Sociology) and CLAYTON MACNAIR, BA (English), welcomed their first born, Kyleigh Anna Maria MacNair, on May 15, 2006.

STACEY SLAGER, BA (English), writes: “Since graduation I spent a couple of years teaching English in Asia. I returned to Uvic in 2005 to start a second undergraduate degree, this time with the School of Health Information Science. I completed the first two years and have been accepted into the grad program in the same school, which I started in September. I’ll be getting married next spring (2008) to Dan Feldman.”

2003

JASON FAN, MBA, is the associate general manager with Dragon New Media in Shanghai.

GARETH GAUDIN, BFA (Visual Arts), is the creator of the “Perogy Cat” cartoon character. In the summer, he sent 2,000 copies of a special-edition comic book, “The Perogy Cat for the Troops,” to Canadian Forces in Afghanistan. “If I can’t get them to laugh with my comic strips, then I’ve literally got to go back to the drawing board.” He also operates Legends Comics shop in Victoria.

HEATHER MCDONALD, BSc (Geography), and GIVEN POPOWICH, BA ’04 (Geography), are operating Seaway Express, a new ferry and wildlife sight-seeing service connecting Ucluelet and Bamfield. They’re on the web at sea-wayexpress.net.

2004

STEVE GALPEAU, MEd (Education Leadership), is a military observer stationed with the United Nations Mission in Sudan, and sends this: “Currently deployed to Southern Sudan as the coordinator of the ceasefire joint military committee. The work involves bringing former warring parties together after 20 years of civil war.”

CYNDI PALLENS, BA (English), writes from Powell River, where she is: “working in a new job implemented by the ministry of children and families, incorporating traditional and cultural perspectives of Tla’amin People native teaching. Building a brand new home, too.”

SARAH PETRESCU, BA (English), is a reporter with the *Times Colonist*: “I report on classical music and write a weekly fashion column. I credit my years at the *Martlet* as an arts and news editor as the biggest and best learning curve in my career.”

JESSIE SUTHERLAND, MA (Dispute Resolution), has published *Worldview Skills: Transforming Conflict from the Inside Out*. The book grew from her graduate research and thesis. Since then, she’s focused on helping First Nations, immigrants, refugees and the larger community find a sense of belonging.

JIANG NANN (Jane) ZHU, MBA, writes from Guang Zhou, China: “After UVic, I came back to China and established the Dragonpass Consulting Co. Our company is targeting on the emerging high-end market and providing all kinds of VIP services in the airports in China.”

2005

ETHAN CANTER, BFA (Writing), has published his first novel, *here,
there and nowhere (published by Inexpressible Publications of Kimberley, BC), a three-part examination of consciousness.

HENRY COMAN, LLB, a graduate of the Akitsaraq law program in Nunavut, returned to work for the RCMP after a five-year education leave. He is now in Kandahar, Afghanistan and part of the RCMP’s international peacekeeping branch. He is among eight Mounties who are training Afghan counterparts in regular policing duties and investigations. It’s a one-year posting.

PATRICK ESTEY, BA (Psychology), writes: “I have been living in Calgary for about a year now. For the past six months I have been working at the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology as the supervisor of the SAIT student calling program in the alumni & development department.”

MARJORIE MCQUARIE, BA (Child and Youth Care), is working as a child/youth counsellor with the Prince George Native Friendship Centre.

2006

ALESTINE ANDRE, MA (Interdisciplinary), earned a 2007 National Aboriginal Achievement Award (culture, heritage and spirituality category). A heritage researcher, she is a leading voice in the preservation of the Gwich’in language of the Northwest Territories.

TODD HALPEN, BSc (Psychology), who had 13 individual wins with the Vikes golf team, is now based in Calgary. He’s working in the oil industry while preparing his game (and gathering financial support) for a possible run at the professional circuit.

ANDREA HOLMES, BCom (International Business), is the four-time Canadian Paralympic champion in long jump and three-time champion in the 100-m sprint. After the Beijing games next year, she plans to switch to snowboarding with a goal of competing in 2010 in the Vancouver Paralympics. She also spends time speaking to school kids about the importance of setting goals.

CHRIS HOUSSEY, BA (History), wrote on May 20: “Currently in Afghanistan with Charlie company of 3 PPCLI (Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry). It’s a six-month tour which began in February and is slated to end in August. The majority of local nationals in our area of operations have received us warmly. They are glad we are there to help rid them of the Taliban. We’ve been working closely with the Afghan national army to help them improve their skill sets so we can eventually leave the security of their country to them. To put it bluntly it’s been an engaging experience. Peace.” Cpl. Housser returned home to Victoria safely on Aug. 28. – Ed.

UVic Alumni Association directors, 2007-08

Back row (left to right): Don Jones (Director, Alumni Services), Janet Cho, BA ’02, and Larry Cross, BEd ’64.

Middle row: Erica Grainger (Student Alumni Association), Lise (Luk) Robinson, BA ’01, Peter Tanner, BA ’91, Sarah Cotton, BA ’03, Jignes Patel, Dipl. ’03, Glenda Wyatt, BSc ’94, Tracie Sibbald, BA ’83, and Pat Burns, BA ’96.


Not present: Valerie Gonzales, PhD ’97, Doug Ransom, BEng ’90, and Gary Weir, MPA ’87.

Short biographies of the board members are available online at alumni.uvic.ca/bod/index.html. Board members may also be contacted through the UVic Alumni Services office at (250) 721-6000 or toll-free 1-800-808-6828.

JILL LAMBERTS, MSc (Biology), lives and works in Seattle with Frontier Geosciences where she has been recently promoted to QA officer—a prestigious role in our small environmental chemistry laboratory.

2007

BRUCE DEACON, MEd (Leadership Studies), has joined the Canadian Olympic Committee as manager of education and community relations. He’s responsible for youth outreach programs, including the Canadian Olympic School Program. It’s a natural fit for the marathon runner who represented Canada at the 1996 and 2000 Olympics.

ANNIE SHUM, MA (Musicology), writes: “These days, you can find me at the Victoria Immigrant and Refugee Centre Society. I volunteered in the ESL classroom for a year while finishing my thesis, and got hired as a case manager/employment counsellor just before my thesis defense at the end of 2006. The best part of my job is meeting people from all over the world and helping them realize their potential. Our web site is www.vircs.org.”

NICK SULLIVAN, MMus, completed studies at the Aspen Music Festival and School and is working at the University of Lethbridge as low brass instructor in the school of music.

In Memoriam

SEBASTIAN ALEXANDER, BA (English) ’93, passed away in Chengdu, China on March 15th, 2007 where he had been running a café after several years of travel and teaching.

VIC ESCUDE, BEd ’77, passed away on July 7, 2007. Family man, educator, athlete and music lover, Vic was a member of the 1975 men’s soccer team which won the university’s first national title.

NASTASSIA KUNZ, BEng (Mechanical) ’06, lost her life in a bus accident while travelling in Sucre, Bolivia on May 27, 2007.

SHEILA LANDucci, MA (Spec Ed.) ’96, succumbed to cancer on December 19, 2006 in Fort St. John. At the time, she was teaching at the Halfway River First Nations school.

HARVEY MICKELSON, VC ’41, died on March 20, 2007. The husband of former Chancellor Norma Mickelson was supervisor of special education in the Greater Victoria School District and had a special interest in youth and mental health issues.

ALAN OLIPHANT, BA (History in Art) ’73, passed away August 30, 2007. Alan was an employee of UVic Facilities Management and husband of Athletics and Recreation office supervisor Kathryn Oliphant. He will be missed for his quick wit, genuine character, and kind heart.

Prof. TED WOOLEY, a faculty member in the Department of History from 1968 to 2003, died May 27, 2007. He specialized in US diplomatic history and was well regarded for his humour, clarity and openness of thought. Donations may be made to the Ted and Jane Wooley Scholarship fund, UVic History Department.
Alumni Travel Update

Two new travel partners—Alumni Holidays International and Baraka Tours—will be offering trips to alumni and friends in 2008.

With over 40 years of experience, Alumni Holidays International offers exclusive and unique destinations featuring cultural immersion, educational programming, exceptional value, expert guides, and personal attention.

Baraka Tours specializes in emerging travel destinations in Southeast Asia, South Pacific and China. All trips of Baraka’s vacations are designed, researched and escorted by Ken Tham. He has more than 15 years of experience in the travel business, and his knowledge of the regions is sought after by many frequent alumni travellers from Canada’s top universities.

The UVic Alumni Travel Program’s 2008 destination guide is online at alumni.uvic.ca/travel

Alumni Calendar

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 8</td>
<td>Japan Alumni Branch event</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 13–14</td>
<td>UVic Fall Convocation</td>
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<td>November 14</td>
<td>School of Public Administration awards</td>
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<td>celebration, University Club</td>
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<td>November 20</td>
<td>UVic Legacy Awards, Victoria Conference</td>
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<td>November 20–29</td>
<td>“Soaring Canadian Dollar - Cause to</td>
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<td>Celebrate?” Clearsight Investment</td>
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<td>Seminars in Victoria, Vancouver, Calgary,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Toronto and Ottawa. Check the alumni web</td>
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<td>site for dates, times and locations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>January–March</td>
<td>Grad Year Connections, UVic campus</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 2</td>
<td>Vikes Men’s Basketball Alumni game</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 2–9</td>
<td>Alumni Week, UVic campus</td>
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<td>February 26</td>
<td>Alumni Connections</td>
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<td>March 29</td>
<td>Brown Cup (Vikes Rowing Alumni event)</td>
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<td>April 26</td>
<td>Vikes Women’s Field Hockey Alumni event</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 28–May 19</td>
<td>UVic Chamber Singers Grand Reunion Tour</td>
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For event details visit www.alumni.uvic.ca/events.html
Reverse Déjà Vu
When the familiar seems strange, it might just be life looking back at you.

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There’s a joke I heard once about two Irish brothers on their way to the station to meet a long-lost cousin returning to Ireland after decades abroad. “Do you think we’ll recognize him?” one asks. “I’m not sure,” his brother answers. They continue on but the first brother is still anxious. “Do you think he’ll recognize us?” his brother turns to him, amazed at this. “Sure, and why wouldn’t he? We haven’t been anywhere!” When I think about my relationship with UVic, it’s a bit like that old joke—except, in this case, it’s as if the campus has somehow done all the changing, and I’m the one who hasn’t gone anywhere.

After graduation in 1975, I chose to stay in Victoria. Having fallen in love with the beauty of the city, and with many local friends, I settled in to work and pay back my student loan. My fine arts degree in theatre didn’t go as far as my typing ability when it came to employment. Two years of uninspiring clerical work followed, but an early passion for writing, particularly poetry, resurfaced. One evening, sadly looking over a stack of my poems, I realized I had no idea whether they were any good. Nor did I know anyone who even wrote poems—except one man. His name was Robin Skelton, and I’d met him years before when I’d had a small part in a play he’d directed. I knew he taught in UVic’s creative writing department. I gathered my poems and my courage and applied to take his third-year poetry workshop. It was one of the best decisions I ever made.

Skelton’s class opened a new world for me. Week after week, my classmates and I strove to create poems worthy of our teacher’s praise. A master craftsman, with an encyclopaedic knowledge of poetic forms, he often sat back with a beatific smile and let us dissect each other’s precious works, the good and the downright awful, as we struggled to pinpoint why some poems “worked” and others, well, didn’t. When we disagreed too loudly, or strayed from our appointed task, he would, with a chuckle, ably guide us back, pointing out elements we most certainly would otherwise have missed.

But if Skelton’s influence as a teacher was inimitable, his real importance in my life was on a more personal level. At one of the gatherings Robin and his wife, Sylvia, held regularly at their home—to which students were always welcome—Robin enquired what I did outside of class. When I confessed I was currently between jobs, he kindly offered to “put in a word” with a local firm looking for copy editors. Within a week I had a new career. The man who hired me was Charles Lillard, a poet and historian who’d once taught at UVic and who had once been assistant editor of The Malahat Review under Robin’s editorship.

Years passed, as did my 20s. Some pursuits didn’t work out, but some did. I ended up marrying Charles. For almost fourteen years our lives were happy and busy as we set down roots even further in our adopted city. There’s nothing quite like raising a family to really know a place—its schools, parks, little league teams, and emergency wards. Throughout the early ’90s, with considerable moral support from the recently retired but seemingly tireless Robin, we published a series of chapbooks by mostly local authors, some well-known and some we thought ought to be, as a way of promoting “our” community. When both Charles and Robin died, just months apart, in 1997, that same community was united in its grief as tributes poured in.

And now, a decade on, it would seem that some things have come full-circle. I drive to the UVic campus with my son who will graduate soon. I am the assistant editor of The Malahat—the position my husband once held. Last summer, the office moved to new digs in Clearihue, the scene of my poetry class with Robin. My colleague, editor John Barton, was also in that class, and this year we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the journal co-founded by our former teacher and friend.

There’s a particular stairwell in Clearihue; some of you will know it. With its distinctive ’60s-style sculpture spanning three floors, and well-worn steps, I cannot set foot there without a strand and strong sense of something like reverse déjà vu. I wonder if it’s the university recognizing me?