

Trek⁸

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champions



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CHAMPIONS

FREDDIE MERCURY WILL BE REMEMBERED for as long as there are winners and losers. His Queen tune “We Are the Champions” is an anthem familiar not only to rock fans of all ages, but to people who wouldn’t know Freddie from a load of hay.

But a better paean to the nature of victory would be hard to find. Rather than trumpeting success, rooster-like, at the expense of the vanquished, the song reflects the true nature of competition: you get knocked around, you lose some, you work hard and you pay some very high dues. Winning isn’t easy. Mercury, who died in 1991, an early victim of AIDS, knew those lessons as well as anyone.

Swimming champions, such as those profiled in *Swimming the College Mile*, page 18, are typical. Being competitive in that sport means dedicating most of your time to the effort. That UBC swimmers bring home the metal *and* maintain high academic averages is enough to make most of us tired just thinking about it, but they do, and consistently. Success, when it comes at some expense, is sweet.

A university like UBC houses a lot of champions, and not just of the sports variety. The list of men and women on faculty who are at the top of their respective games – from gene manipulation and heavy materials research to literary theory and economic model-building – goes on and on, and reads like a who’s who

“We are the champions, my friends.” The 1922 women’s swim team, UBC.



of international academia. And, again, this sort of success doesn’t come easily. If there’s a world more competitive than the university milieu, then one should wear armour when visiting it. Ask a tenured prof. Better yet, ask one who isn’t.

There’s another aspect of the word “champion” that resonates in a university environment: one who fights or argues for a cause on behalf of another; an advocate. UBC is famous for its advocates: Lloyd Axworthy, former director of the Liu Institute for Global Issues, now president of the University of Manitoba, who champions the cause of peace worldwide; Daniel Pauly, director of UBC’s Fisheries Centre, who is sounding the alarm about the decline and foreseeable extinction of much of the world’s commercial fish stocks; William New, professor of English, whose scholarly work on Canadian literature has helped put Canadian writers on the world stage; and others from every department whose research or academic work is dedicated to important causes.

It’s good to reflect on such things when considering the accomplishments of people like Amanda Vincent (*More Than Keychains*, page 24). Professor Vincent’s work began as an investigation of marine ecology and the mating habits of seahorses. She soon realized that the two were inexorably combined: the health of the world’s seahorses was a reflection of the health of the world’s oceans. So Amanda Vincent, champion of the seahorse, became a champion researcher and Project Seahorse was born.

Another example of a UBC champion is Chuck Slonecker. Former head of Anatomy, director of Ceremonies and Killam professor, Chuck has embodied the spirit of UBC for more than 30 years. He’s retiring this year, and we’re delighted to feature him. See page 22.

We hope you enjoy these stories and the other features of this issue.

SPEAKING OF CHAMPIONS, the Alumni Association needs men and women interested in serving as elected members of the Board of Directors. We need three members-at-large and one treasurer for 2004-5.

If you wish to nominate someone for one of these positions, please call our offices and we’ll send you the necessary forms. Nominations must be in by the second Thursday in February at 4:00.

– **Chris Petty** MFA’86 *Editor*

TAKE NOTE

Waiter! There's a robot in my soup

Science fiction writers are going to have to try harder if they want to stay ahead of reality. Futuristic contraptions unleashed by the imagination are rapidly moving off comic book pages and into everyday life. Take UBC researchers, for example, who are exploring the possibilities of building a cheap, insect-sized robot that can fly by itself. And this robot isn't just pie in the sky because many of the tools and materials needed to realize it already exist.

Electroactive polymers are high-tech plastics that can mimic the characteristics of muscle. John Madden and Joseph Yan (electrical and computer engineers, respectively) want to investigate polymer application in robot design. Earlier research by Yan established that mechanical wings are able to produce enough lift to get a robot airborne and Californian researchers have already managed to get a larger, bird-sized robot into the air.

"The way we're hoping to tackle this is to combine new materials and new actuator technologies – that is, new methods of getting things to move – that will give us tremendous advantages in mechanical design and cost," says Madden. The robot insect would have a microconductor for a brain, an onboard power source, weigh less than a dime and its development would involve approximately \$1 million worth of materials. It would have two sets of wings like a dragonfly. The electroactive polymers, which can double their size when a voltage is applied and return to original size when it is removed again, much like the contraction and relaxation of muscle, would be used in mimicking insect flight.

Madden's side of the project is to examine the electroactive polymers that have become available over the last few years and determine which ones are most suitable for the task. The materials are at various stages of

development and not all their properties are known. Yan will design a wing mechanism that will work with the selected polymer.

A lot of the difficulty lies in accurately recreating the biological movements involved in insect flight since there is limited understanding about its mechanics. "One of our biggest challenges is trying to generate the correct motions so that the robot will do what we want it to," says Yan, who is using high-speed video footage and large scale models of wings to investigate how forces act on wings. "There have been some breakthroughs with unsteady aerodynamics, but we're still at the stage where simulations aren't as good as they should be so we need to copy and measure what the biological organism is doing."

By the end of this pilot in May 2004, the research pair hopes to have identified a suitable polymer, but there are no swarms of plastic dragonflies on the near horizon.

Building the robot will involve future projects replete with more challenges, one of which is scale. "To put it together," says Yan, "you need to have micrometer level resolution in the placement of the parts. A typical hair is 100 micrometres in diameter. We'd need to be able to orient these parts and position them on about a hundredth of the width of a hair."

E. coli Vaccine for Cattle

A vaccine to combat E. coli in cattle, developed by UBC's Brett Finlay, will be marketed by a public company in the new year. Finlay, professor of biochemistry, molecular biology and microbiology, invented the vaccine with colleagues at UBC.

E. coli is found in cow intestines, and is sometimes transmitted to the cow's flesh. Hamburger disease, so called because the disease is thought to be passed on to humans



Robot insects. Joseph Yan and John Madden test drive the new dragonfly.

TREK 2010: RENEWING THE VISION



The past few months have been important in defining UBC's direction in the years to come. With the help of faculty, staff, students, members of the community and, of course, our alumni, we have undergone an institutional re-examination to make sure the goals we set are ones that resonate most with our various communities.

During my first year at UBC we developed a vision document, *Trek 2000*, that attempted to redefine the university

and provide a framework upon which to build new programs and review existing ones to best meet the community's needs. *Trek 2000* established five general priorities – the five pillars – for university units to reference when assessing their programs and services.

The five pillars – People, Learning, Research, Community and Internationalization – are extremely useful to us as we move UBC toward our goal of becoming the premier research university in Canada. Our review of *Trek 2000* in its entirety was undertaken to make sure those tools can still serve us.

The first version of the *Trek 2010* discussion paper was prepared in early November and distributed across campus and the community in both print and web versions. Feedback on this discussion paper has now been gathered, and the process of finalizing the *Trek 2010* vision is underway.

As BC's largest post secondary educational institution and one of the leading research universities in the country, we must constantly assess what we do and how we do it by asking ourselves some basic questions:

How much input should we place on workplace needs when we set our educational goals?

Should we rebalance the relationship between our arts and science offerings?

What are our educational priorities in terms of new technologies?

Should UBC be local, national or international in scope? Should we embrace all three?

Considering the problems of student access to UBC, what should be our stance re: government financing v/s private donations?

The answers to these and many other questions will inform our next steps in developing a long term plan for the development of this university. In an ever-changing, increasingly complex world, it's important that we know what our constituents think and that they have input into the planning process.

During January and February, we will prepare the final version of *Trek 2010*, and present it to the university's Senate and Board of Governors for approval. It will be ready for circulation in March, 2004.

I appreciate your input, and look forward to your assessment of the final product.

– Martha Piper, President, University of British Columbia

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disease is thought to be passed on to humans from undercooked meat, kills many people around the world and infects 55,000 North Americans annually.

The vaccine will likely sell for about \$2 per dose. There are more than 100 million beef cattle in North America, about half of which are known to be carriers of *E. coli*.

Fighting AIDS Dementia

At least one in five people with AIDS will suffer from HIV dementia. The condition advances aggressively, impairing memory, movement, concentration, problem-solving and speech. But there is hope. Researchers at UBC and the University of Calgary have found that the dementia is caused by an HIV-induced enzyme, Metalloproteinase-2 (MMP2), which kills nerve cells in the brain by altering and rendering toxic a molecule that is crucial for normal brain function and growth.

"We now understand how this enzyme becomes a killing machine," says Christopher Overall, Canada Research Chair in Metalloproteinase Biology at UBC. "This is exciting news for patients because we think dementia can be slowed or stopped by adding another protease blocker to the drug cocktail now used to treat HIV." The drug they hope to use to combat MMP2 is already in clinical trials for cancer treatment.

The research is exciting because it may have implications for the understanding and treatment of other dementias. "The team and I are revved up about the new avenues of potential treatment for people with HIV and perhaps for other types of dementia, such as Alzheimer's disease," says Christopher Power, principle co-investigator and physician-scientist in the department of Clinical Neurosciences at the University of Calgary.

A number of pharmaceutical companies have expressed interest in testing anti-cancer drugs like Prinomastat as blockers for MMP2 and negotiations are now underway, although it may be five to 10 years before the drugs become available to patients.

Pauly's Disappearing Fish

A UBC scientist, famous for his outspoken criticism of global fisheries, has been named one of the 50 most influential scientists in the world in the December issue of *Scientific American*. Daniel Pauly, director of UBC's Fisheries Centre, is a world authority on declining fish stocks, and how they respond to environmental pressures, ecosystem fluctuations and commercial fishing.

After a peripatetic childhood in Germany, France and the US, Pauly earned a PhD in fisheries biology at the University of Kiel. Afterwards, he traveled extensively in Africa, Indonesia and the Java Sea carrying out research and growing ever-more concerned about the state of the world's fish stocks.

Once in tropical waters, he realized that methods used to analyze fish in temperate waters could not be applied to tropical fish. He

developed original methods to collect data on tropical fisheries, methods that did not depend on expensive equipment. He feels strongly that researchers in developing countries are the best ones to study their own fisheries, and that the tools must be affordable.

Pauly's research has shown that the world's most preferred commercial fish, such as cod, tuna, haddock, flounder and hake, are already seriously overfished. A report written by Pauly and other researchers in 2002 predicts that, at current fishing rates, these and other preferred fish will be all but extinct. The study also showed that the catch of these fish has declined by half in the past 50 years while efforts to harvest them has tripled.

Pauly came to UBC in 1994 and was named director of the Fisheries Centre in 2003. His research has resulted in the most important global database on fish stocks, *FishBase*, which contains information on more than 28,000 fish species. The database, which includes information on a specie's distribution, biology, importance, population growth rate and risk status can be accessed at www.fishbase.org. He also developed *Ecopath*, an ecosystem modeling program that predicts how fish may respond to changes in their environment.

Most fishery scientists, says Pauly, are only concerned with the fish stocks around their particular geographical area. He and his colleagues have taken on the global view, and that view isn't good. If commercial fishing is not heavily regulated, he says, there will be little left to harvest in the seas outside of the lowest levels of the food chain, such as sea cucumbers and plankton. Pauly and his colleagues say the only solution is to reduce global fishing drastically and to establish zones where fishing is absolutely prohibited so they can grow large, breed and replenish. The public, he says, must demand wholesale change in the way fish are harvested or lose forever most of the species.

Press Enter

■ The list of everyday tasks that can now be carried out online is growing. Paying bills, booking air flights, renewing library books, shopping – all can be completed within sec-



Fish Expert. Daniel Pauly is one of the world's top 50 scientists.

onds and without human interaction. You can even admit yourself into university – at least you can if the university is UBC and you meet admission requirements.

Ours is the first university in Canada to offer prospective students this service. The Enrolment Services Office developed the tool to ease the process of undergraduate application and enrolment. Prospective students can enter grades and other high school information to see if they meet requirements. If they do, they can immediately register via the web. If not, they get feedback about where improvements are needed.

For those who balk at the idea of the

diminishing human contact in service provision, bear in mind that the human interaction version of university admission can be confusing, time-consuming and patience-frazzling. Trying to get a handle on the status of an application isn't always straightforward, considering that for fall 2003, UBC received 30,000 applications. And an online system means the university can make more offers to top students earlier, cut down on processing procedures and free up staff time to address other student needs.

The idea is a winner. EDUCAUSE, an American non-profit organization that exists to promote the best use of informa-

ALUMNI RELATIONS MOVE FORWARD



In the next few weeks, the Alumni Association will sign an agreement with the university to share the delivery of services to our membership. The outline of this agreement was provided in the Spring, 2003 issue of Trek Magazine, but I will review it here to bring readers up to date on the changes about to take place.

The university will create the office of Alumni Relations under the authority of an associate vice president of alumni affairs.

This office will be responsible for alumni reunions, events for grads in branches around the world, young alumni programs such as mentoring and networking and faculty-based alumni programs.

The Alumni Association will be responsible for developing a pool of advocates to promote higher education to government at all levels, selection of alumni candidates for Chancellor, the university Senate and Board of Governors, alumni scholarships and bursaries, volunteer leadership, affinity partnerships and member benefits, alumni awards and the production of this magazine.

The new AVP, Alumni Affairs, will oversee the operations of both units, and will report jointly to the VP, Students, and to the Association's Board of Directors.

Anyone who has been involved with the Alumni Association recently knows that this agreement has been in the works for many years, and is the result of much hard work by successive Association boards and staff. As President of the Alumni Association, I feel this agreement represents the best method for achieving our mandate of keeping you informed about and involved in your alma mater. It also gives us an opportunity to be advocates for UBC in the community.

Our traditional role has been outward: we develop programs so you can maintain a relationship with your university and with the men and women who shared this significant experience with you. Now we have an opportunity to make our voices heard in an organized way beyond the university. Government and business at all levels need to understand the importance of UBC in our community, both as an economic and a cultural engine. As alumni, we have a unique perspective and a vested interest in keeping our university strong.

This new relationship with the university will help us, as an association of graduates, focus our energies on doing what we can in the community to support UBC. As part of the Vice President, Students office, the Alumni Relations office will deliver service-oriented programs designed to encourage your participation in UBC affairs, and to inform you about the exciting work being done here. The Association will, of course, oversee these programs and aid in their development.

The Board of Directors and the staff of the Alumni Association are excited about the changes coming to our program delivery and to our organization. At the same time, we want to ensure that you, our members, are informed and up to date about those changes. Please feel free to contact us with your ideas and opinions.

– **Jane Hungerford**, BED'67, *Chair, UBC Alumni Association*

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nology in higher education, has just awarded UBC an Award of Excellence in Administrative Information Systems.

Currently available to BC students only, the self-admission system will eventually be made available to high school students across Canada. March, 2003 was the deadline for 2003/4 applications. More than 10,000 high school students submitted applications over the web and more than 2,000 admitted themselves.

Back at Work

▣▣ The Occupational Health and Safety Agency for Healthcare was set up in 1998 to study, design, and assess health and safety interventions in the health-care workplace. Jointly governed by health-care bosses and union leaders, OHSAH includes UBC researchers from a range of faculties and is headed by Annalee Yassi, director of the university's Institute for Health Promotion Research and Canada Research Chair in Transdisciplinary Health Promotion. The organization has just completed a five year mandate culminating in a report claiming more than \$50 million in savings over two years for provincial healthcare employers. The savings lie in a 28 per cent reduction in injury rates since 1998 and 38 per cent less time lost from injury since 1999.

Interventions collaborated on and monitored by the organization include alternatives to the manual lifting of patients. Pilot studies at four sites suggest that an initial investment of \$21 million made in 2001 to introduce ceiling lifts has led to an 80 per cent reduction on lifting-related injury in health-care staff. The lifting systems are now being introduced province-wide. OHSAH is also looking into how to reduce violence in the workplace, and increase safety in kitchens and bagless laundry systems.

The group hopes for further funding to carry out its work. Its main supporters have been the BC Ministry of Health Services, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Canadian Health Services Research Foundation, the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research and the WCB Research Foundation. www.ohsah.bc.ca

Perfect Misery

▣▣ Major adjustments in life, whether positive or negative, can often give rise to high levels of stress and anxiety. Retirement is a life transition that some may find easier to adjust to than others. For some, it is a challenge that can lead to serious depression and even suicide. Personality traits play a role in how much difficulty is experienced and psychology professor and clinical psychologist Paul Hewitt thinks a determining factor could be perfectionism. "For individuals characterized by high levels of self-oriented perfectionism, who derive their self-esteem from their work and base their identity around work, productivity and achievement, it can be particularly difficult," he says.

Serious depression in the face of retirement is more prevalent in men than women, and those sufferers over 65 years old are especially likely to consider, plan or attempt suicide. Hewitt has recently launched a



Designing Software. New engineering software and hardware part of \$240 million gift.

one-year study that will attempt to understand the link between self-oriented perfectionism (demanding perfection of the self) and these suicidal behaviours. It will involve 130 men who will be given two questionnaires to complete, one of them five months prior to retiring, and the other five months after retiring. Hewitt hope the results can be used to spot those vulnerable to severe depression to enable more timely intervention. Its broader application may be to throw light on how personality traits can make people prone to maladaptive behaviours. The study is funded through a UBC Humanities and Social Sciences grant.

In-kind Gift Good for Geers, Annoys Protesters

▣▣ The largest 'in-kind' gift in UBC's history was recently received by the faculty of Applied Science. General Motors, EDS Canada and Sun Microsystems gave \$240 million worth of computer-aided design, manufacturing and engineering software, hardware and training.

The software and hardware is considered some of the best in the world for its intended application. An industry spokesperson said the gifts are a good investment because students who train on them will be at the cutting edge of technology when they graduate.

The companies have made similar donations to universities in the US, Mexico, Germany and Sweden under the banner of PACE, Partners for the Advancement of Collaborative Engineering Education.

Some UBC students, however, were not impressed. They staged a protest at the Asian Centre, where the presentation was made. A student spokesperson said the gift represented increased privatization and corporatization of the university, and warned that such gifts always have strings attached, committing the university to adhering to a corporate agenda in its development.

Dean of Applied Science, Michael Isaacson, agreed that universities must be vigilant about gifts given with conditions, but stated that the PACE gift had "no strings attached."

Studies in Schizophrenia

▣▣ Schizophrenia affects approximately one in 100 people. One in 12 hospital beds in Canada is filled by someone suffering the affects of the disease. More than four in 10 people who have the disease will attempt to kill themselves. At least one of them will succeed.

Commonly misunderstood as a split personality, schizophrenia (though still not definitively understood by researchers) is a biochemical disorder of the brain that can give rise to varying symptoms, such as lack of clarity in thought processes, delusional thinking, auditory and visual hallucinations and emotional and behavioural changes.

Medication is used to regulate the disease, but often isn't able to alleviate all symptoms and can also give rise to serious side effects. "Schizophrenia is a tragic illness for both patients and their families, and treatment hasn't changed much in 50 years," says psychiatry professor Bill Honer.

But recent research carried out by Honer is providing hope. In the brain, billions of nerve

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providing hope. In the brain, billions of nerve cells transmit messages to one another via chemical neurotransmitters, a process which is compromised in schizophrenic patients. Each nerve cell is surrounded by a substance called myelin, which plays a role in this communication process. Honer has discovered that people with schizophrenia show a loss of myelin, particularly around the frontal lobe area of the brain. The findings support recent discoveries in gene studies.

His research used magnetic resonance

imaging (MRI) technology devised by UBC multiple sclerosis (MS) researchers to conduct brain scans on 30 schizophrenia sufferers. The scans showed a 12 per cent reduction in myelin – enough to impair brain functioning and cause symptoms such as hallucinations.

Although the cause of the myelin loss is not known, further research by Honer (using post-mortem tissue samples, this time, rather than live subjects) discovered that of the two proteins found in myelin-producing cells, one was present in quantities approximately one third lower than normal in tissue samples from schizophrenia sufferers.

Researchers don't yet know how to reverse loss of myelin, but drugs are currently under development for the treatment of MS, which also involves reduced levels of myelin, that might prove beneficial when applied to the treatment of schizophrenia.

Bill Honer holds the Jack Bell Chair in Schizophrenia and is a member of the Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute. In future research he hopes to gain insight into how nerve cells communicate with myelin-producing cells, how myelin loss affects brain function and genetic variations in myelin.

Sick Kids' Opinions Count

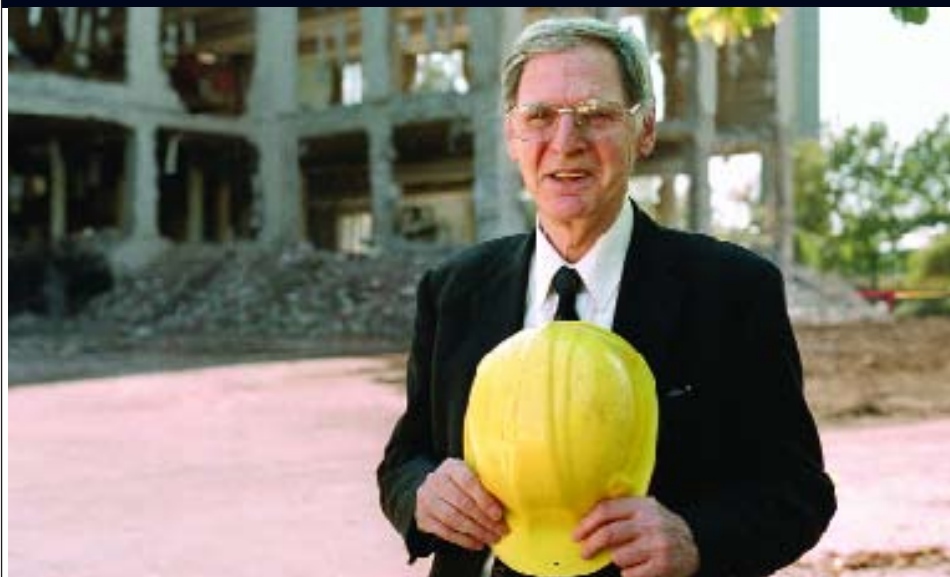
▣▣ Parents may routinely ask their kids for an opinion on what to have for lunch or where to go for entertainment on a Sunday afternoon, but when it comes to matters of life and death, a child's input on decision-making might be considered less appropriate. Would it still be considered inappropriate if the life in question happened to be the child's?

Pediatric nurse and PhD student Gladys McPherson believes kids suffering from chronic illnesses could be involved in deciding between treatment options a lot more than is typically the case. "Kids' voices often get lost in the dialogue between parents and healthcare professionals," she says.

"Especially in our highly technological medical environment, a child's opinion may be the last thing considered. We have an ethical commitment, however, to make sure that children's perspectives are considered in all matters that affect them." Some may feel an adult's and a child's perspectives would be incompatible, a clash between the child's immediate wants and the parent's perspectives on what's best for their child's longer-term health. But McPherson thinks children's involvement in their own treatment choices could take many forms. "It may be something as simple as being able to say 'I'll take my medicine in 10 minutes – not right now,'" she says.

McPherson is to conduct a study which will involve interviewing 40 kids, aged from seven to 11 and from various cul-

Can UBC create your legacy?



Roy Davy thinks so. "Education is the foundation of our society, and knowledge allows us to do great things—like save lives." In 1993, the former construction worker and property manager was diagnosed with a life-threatening illness. Surgery saved his life, and the doctors who cured him were trained at UBC. So Roy put UBC in his will to support deserving medical students so they could learn to save others.

You can create a legacy that helps change the world. Ask for a free information kit at 604.822.5373 or e-mail us at heritage.circle@ubc.ca and UBC Gift & Estate Planning staff will help you get started.

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA | VANCOUVER



tural backgrounds, with conditions such as diabetes, epilepsy, asthma and rheumatoid arthritis. She wants to grasp how the kids perceive their own role in decision-making on matters that profoundly affect them. She will also interview their parents to find out their opinions on a child's participation in such processes. The study will consider the impact both of the nature of illness and the type of decision being made.

With her findings, she hopes to improve health care for kids by addressing the dearth of advice for health care professionals on understanding and assessing the needs and wants of chronically ill children.

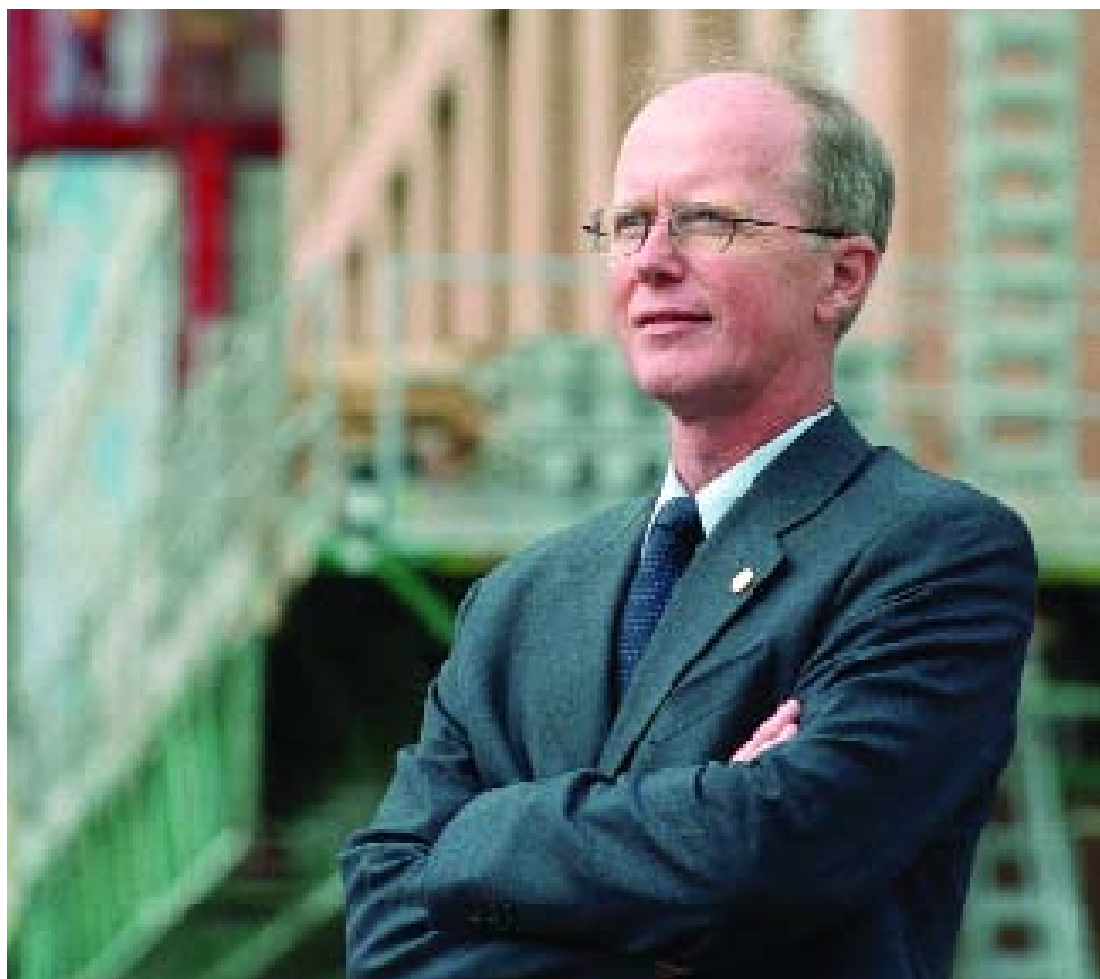
New Dean for Medicine

▣▣Gavin Stuart, a specialist in gynecological cancers, has been named new dean of Medicine. Stuart, former head of oncology at the University of Calgary, VP of the Alberta Cancer Board and director of the Tom Baker Cancer Centre, will take on the expansion of UBC's medical school under the new 'distributed education' model.

Plans to expand medical training in British Columbia to other universities in the province have been in the works for the past few years. Starting in 2004, medical students will be trained at the University of Northern BC and the University of Victoria, under the auspices of the UBC school. By 2010, British Columbia will graduate 256 medical students, twice the current number, all with degrees from UBC. The model is being developed in Ontario and Quebec as well, but BC's will be in place first.

Stuart will also be responsible for the new Life Sciences Centre currently under construction on campus. The \$110 million facility will integrate life sciences education – from neuroscience to social work – in one area of the campus, and will encourage more interdisciplinary research in the life sciences.

As well as building the school's education program, Stuart is eager to develop more research opportunities in all aspects of the health sciences at UBC. *Trek Magazine* will provide an in-depth look at changes in the delivery of medical training in a future issue.



Gavin Stuart: UBC's new Dean of medicine.

Hip Fractures

▣▣Specialists spanning many disciplines are collaborating on a research project that seeks to tackle the high incidence of hip fracture around the world, a health problem that scientists describe as epidemic. The project was spawned from an international workshop this June at UBC's Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies, an organization which fosters innovative interdisciplinary research.

UBC assistant professor of Family Practice and Human Kinetics Karim Khan is spearheading the project, which involves researchers at home and abroad in disciplines that include law, psychology, and bioengineering. Tackling hip fracture from a prevention standpoint, the researchers hope to impact the alarming statistics that accompany the condition: a 20 per cent

mortality rate in the first year and a \$650 million health bill per annum in Canada alone. The problem is projected to worsen as baby boomers age, but an ageing population alone cannot account for a rapid global rise in average individual risk. "If the trend continues," warns Khan, "it will choke health systems the world over."

Already established is that a high proportion of hip fractures is associated with the bone-thinning disease osteoporosis. Other factors associated with ageing, such as poor vision and weak muscles, also increase the risk of falling and fracturing a hip. The researchers plan to explore aspects such as poor nutrition and sedentary lifestyles, which contribute to decreasing bone mass. They will also look at lesser explored possible risk factors such as level of education and legal safety standards. The international research project is part of a larger proposal to establish a new Centre for Hip Health,

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be led by Canada Research Chair Tom Oxland, a biomedical engineering professor. As well as promoting international collaboration in research, the centre will focus on early detection of osteoarthritis, aspects that influence its progression, and genetic risk factors. It will also seek to improve surgical interventions for hip problems.

Domestic Violence Affects Fetus

Domestic violence encountered during pregnancy can lead to abnormally slow fetal growth, severe bleeding and premature birth. And the babies of women who suffered such abuse are eight times more likely to die than those whose mothers did not. These startling facts were uncovered over the course of a two-year research project that surveyed 4,700 pregnant woman attending two Vancouver hospitals, the largest such study ever published.

Co-investigators Patricia Janssen (assistant professor, department of Health Care and Epidemiology) and Angela Henderson (associate professor, school of Nursing) also found the incidence of abuse increased threefold with pregnant teenagers, and that single motherhood, First Nations origins and low income were common factors in abusive situations.

"This research confirms common beliefs and gives us the scientific evidence we need to leverage practice and policy change in the area of pre-natal care," says Janssen, who would like to see assessments of domestic violence included in pre-natal exams. "Doctors and other health care providers don't ask about violence when taking histories from pregnant women. We're missing an opportunity to intervene early and refer women to appropriate sources." The research also involved colleagues at the University of Washington and was recently published in the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*.

Adult Stem Cells to the Rescue

As the human fetus develops, certain cells, called stem cells, are used to shape the various parts of the body. These extraordinary cells combine to become organs, muscle fibre and blood, adapting to the needs of the developing body. Once the body is formed, stem cells seem to lose this versatility. So-called adult stem cells have been thought to be only effective in renewing the tissue from which they originate, such as blood cells, and don't appear in many parts of the body, such as the heart or spinal cord.

Early experiments with stem cells drawn from aborted or miscarried fetuses showed that these cells could be used to repair a variety of damaged tissues in adults. Ethical concerns around using these cells, and in producing them artificially, have slowed down their utilization in experimentation and in easing human suffering.

Fabio Rossi, Canada Research Chair in Regenerative Medicine, has discovered that adult stem cells produced in bone marrow to renew the blood may be used to repair damaged tissue in areas where stem cells are no longer naturally produced. Rossi extracted individual blood-forming cells from bone marrow and introduced the cells into blood. He found that these cells, as they reproduced, not only produced blood, but repaired damaged muscle tissue as well.

Rossi, who is an assistant professor of Medical Genetics and a member of UBC's Biomedical Research Centre, says the discovery may lead to therapies for repairing scar tissue that results after a heart attack.

He cautions, however, that such therapies are at least 10 years away, and that the discovery should not be used by opponents of research on embryonic stem cells for political purposes.

Slice of Wood Life

One of the stalwarts of the Point Grey campus is a huge slice of Western Red Cedar, lovingly dubbed Stumpy, which has been in a display case in the Biological Sciences building for many years. A rare



Stay, work and play

The new Building at Vancouver School of Theology on the UBC campus. Photo: Philip Stoddart

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specimen, Stumpy is thought to have hailed from a 775-year-old tree felled in the old-growth rainforest of BC sometime in the 50s. It is a near perfect example of a cedar, with no evidence of rot, decay, pest or fire damage. The future of this unwieldy two-metre wide, 585 kg cross section (probably used initially as a teaching aid) came under threat recently when plans arose to renovate the Biological Sciences building.

Led by Associate Professor Gary Bradfield (Botany), Stumpy's saviours decided to scale down the size of the problem by creating a thinner cross-section from the original. The task was carried out by Les Joza, a Sopron forester, wielding a 1.4-metre chainsaw. The new slice is now on display.


Take Note thanks UBC Reports and UBC Public Affairs for allowing liberal adaptations of news articles and media releases.

Stumpy Returns. A slice of a 775 year-old tree is on display at Bio Sciences building.

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LETTERS

Dear Editor

I welcomed the expression of opinion in a letter from Joseph Jones, one of our retired librarians, on the construction of the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre around the heritage core of Main Library (*Library Redux*, Fall 2003). I would like to clarify a few points in his letter, particularly for readers who may not have the opportunity to view construction of the Centre now in progress.

Mr. Jones writes, "We are on the verge of using prime campus real estate for a large, impenetrable storage box that should be situated elsewhere." In fact, the Centre will occupy essentially the same footprint as the previous north and south wings of Main Library. In other words, very little new "real estate" will be taken up by the project.

As to impenetrability, the original article in *Trek* points out that traffic into Main Library has increased tenfold since completion in 2001 of the Chapman Learning Commons in the Main Library concourse. The Learning Commons helped set the stage for the Learning Centre, which will adjoin the Commons on three sides. Given the facilities and services the Centre will offer, as well as an architectural design that places priority on natural light, airiness and visibility, it seems reasonable to assume Main Library will continue as a welcoming and popular gathering space.

Referring to the new Centre as a "storage box" also seems a limited description; whatever one's view of the merits of smart classrooms, wireless technology, social space, computer labs, lecture halls and new homes for Arts One, Science One, Integrated Science and the School of Library, Archival and Information Studies, they are bound to teem with the energy of lively minds that defy storage in any sort of box.

And as to whether the Centre "should be situated elsewhere," in a very real way it is. Thanks to its focus on on-line resources and support services, the Centre will be situated on keyboards and screens across our province and around the world, wherever you can plug in a computer. I can point to the words of Dr. Barber, whose vision for this gift to the people of BC was of "a centre without walls, accessible from anywhere, at anytime."

I am thankful to everyone who has taken the time to share their comments as we have moved forward in developing the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre. And I look forward to inviting alumni and friends of all eras to visit

athletic director at UBC. When he left UBC he was succeeded by Bob Osborne.

The article suggested that Nestor was inspired by his experience in the "outstanding athletic program" created at the University of Alberta by Maury. Maury had done much the same thing at UBC during the war years, 1942-1945. At that time UBC had a very active and successful intramural athletic program.

I recognize that the statement may be a little self-serving since I was the assistant director under Maury for that program. Nevertheless, there is a record of it in the 1944 Totie, a wartime, abridged versions, of the Totem. The record indicates that 16 teams (down from 22 the previous year) participated in eleven sports. Not bad when total enrolment was less than 4000, and enlistments had shrunk the talent pool.

There is no doubt that Maury ran a very successful athletics program at the University of Alberta. What is less well remembered is that he was equally successful at UBC, as is shown not only by the active intramural program but also by the record for team championships during his tenure.

Peter McGeer, BA'44, MA'46



this wonderful enhancement to the UBC campus. **Can you see what's missing?** The north wing of Main Library is no more. Work on the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre will begin in the spring.

campus when completed in early 2006.

Catherine Quinlan
University Librarian

Dear Editor:

The Spring 2003 *Trek* carried an article honouring Nestor Korchinsky for his dedication to Intramural Athletics at UBC. From the description, he deserves all honours. However, there was one error in the article, and one possible oversight.

The article cites Maury Van Vliet as a graduate of UBC. Maury is a graduate of the University of Oregon. His first job was

Dear Editor:

I have been receiving alumni newsletters/magazines for years, and I just wanted to let you know how much I enjoy *Trek*. The magazine is informative, entertaining and well written. It is far superior to previous newsletters and I look forward to the arrival of each issue. I left Vancouver in 1998 and currently reside in Florida where I am pursuing a PhD in marketing at the University of Florida. *Trek* keeps me linked to Vancouver and to the UBC community, one which I hope to return to someday.

Thanks and keep up the good work.
JoAndrea Hoegg, BA'91, BED'94



GOING . . . GOING . . . GONE

IN OCTOBER, the north wing of Main Library came down to make way for The Irving K. Barber Learning Centre.

Main Library and Chapman Commons were just as busy as they were last year, says Catherine Quinlan, in spite of the noise.

But with jack-hammers, heavy machinery and dump trucks breaking the academic quiet of the library, students bothered by the noise picked up free ear plugs at service desks to restore the quiet.

The wing was built in 1947 with reinforced concrete, and moulded into the existing building, built in 1925, to maintain the classic lines and window design. The south wing, built in 1960, is scheduled to be taken down next year.

Top: With help from heavy machinery, the walls and roof collapse in a cloud of dust; *left:* over a period of three weeks, workers hollowed out the building, removing ceilings, walls and floors, leaving little but structural supports; *below:* viewed from Buchanan Tower, bulldozers sweep up the rubble, preparing the site for the new structure.



LEARNING AT HOME

BY DAPHNE GRAY-GRANT

WHEN RACHEL KLIPPENSTEIN WAS 10 YEARS old she discovered an English book on the family shelves. Enthralled to see it contained text in Old, Middle and contemporary English, she spent hours deconstructing the passages, meticulously examining and comparing them.

Now a 4th year honours student in linguistics who has been invited to apply for a Rhodes Scholarship, her academic path might seem unsurprising, predictable even, except for one thing. Until she went to UBC, Klippenstein had never attended school. Instead, she learned at home in a largely unstructured, permissive way, where she was free to explore her own interests.

Like many famous homeschoolers (including Albert Einstein, Irving Berlin, Thomas Edison and Agatha Christie), she has excelled. But likewise she's sometimes been considered part of a fringe activity most often associated with the religious right.

That perception is changing. While still not common, homeschooling is being viewed as more acceptable. The number of homeschooled children started increasing in North America in the 1990s and today's best estimates put figures at about one per cent in Canada (more than 100,000 children annually) and about two per cent in the US.

Rachel's father, John Klippenstein, BSc '79, laughs when he recalls his daughter's first venture into Old English. "Kids tackle these projects that would be so boring to us," he says. Still, he was absolutely determined to give her educational freedom.

"We didn't like the way school was homogenizing people," he says of his family's decision to go against the educational grain. He remembers being inspired by the books of

educators Frank Smith and John Holt. "They argue that you learn in context of the things that interest you. What's that expression? 'Drill and kill.' A lot of school exercises just kill your interest in learning."

Now an engineer with Creo Industries based in Belgium, John taught in UBC's math department for four years and believes that homeschoolers also make the best university students. "They're more engaged students," he says. "Faculty will enjoy having them in class. They're self-motivated and have learned to study on their own."

His views are shared by 20-year-old Karsten Hammond, BSc '03, who graduated in honours biochemistry after homeschooling in Nelson, B.C., from grades 1 to 11. "Homeschooling taught me to learn on my own," he says. "I had direction from my mom but I had to do it myself. That was incredible preparation for me. I feel as though I'm ahead of the game." After gradu-

Homeschooling, Rhodes Scholarships and the love of learning.

ating from UBC and weighing competing cross-country academic offers, Hammond is now happily ensconced in medical school at the University of Alberta.

Still, mention the word homeschooling and it raises alarm bells for some. Many people focus immediately on socialization: "Do homeschooled children have enough contact with their peers?" they worry.

For Charles Ungerleider, a UBC professor of Educational Studies, the concern is even more precise. "No matter how solicitous and caring and able I may be as a teacher and a parent, I do my youngsters a disservice by being their teacher," he says. "Part of what it means to go to school is to lead a person out of the narrow confines of a previous

experience. If they don't learn to connect with people whose values are different from theirs, I've done them a disservice."

A passionate supporter of the public school system, Ungerleider believes that education should not be a private enterprise, but rather a chance to bring together kids from different strata of society so they can interact and learn from each other.

Gary Knowles, who is a professor at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education doesn't disagree. He just argues that home-schooled kids are exposed to that kind of diversity. As someone who has studied home-schooling for more than 20 years, he says that kids who learn at home are often better socialized than their schooled counterparts. After all, school children spend all day in classrooms filled with other children exactly the same age and usually from the same socioeconomic group. Their exposure to adults is limited to a few teachers and their exposure to

seniors and other-aged kids is often virtually nil.

"Home-educated kids make all kinds of contact with people in our communities based on vertical groupings rather than horizontal ones," Knowles says. He adds: "School doesn't guarantee healthy perspectives. Often we see balkanization of different groups in schools. When kids can be engaged one-on-one there's a greater opportunity for acceptance."

His views are echoed by Jan Maynard-Nicol, PhD '01, a former classroom teacher who is now a curriculum consultant. Maynard-Nicol wrote her master's thesis on homeschooling, after hearing a radio program on the topic. "I was driving to a workshop and heard this documentary," she recalls. "At first I thought it sounded pretty flakey, but then I became interested." After speaking to

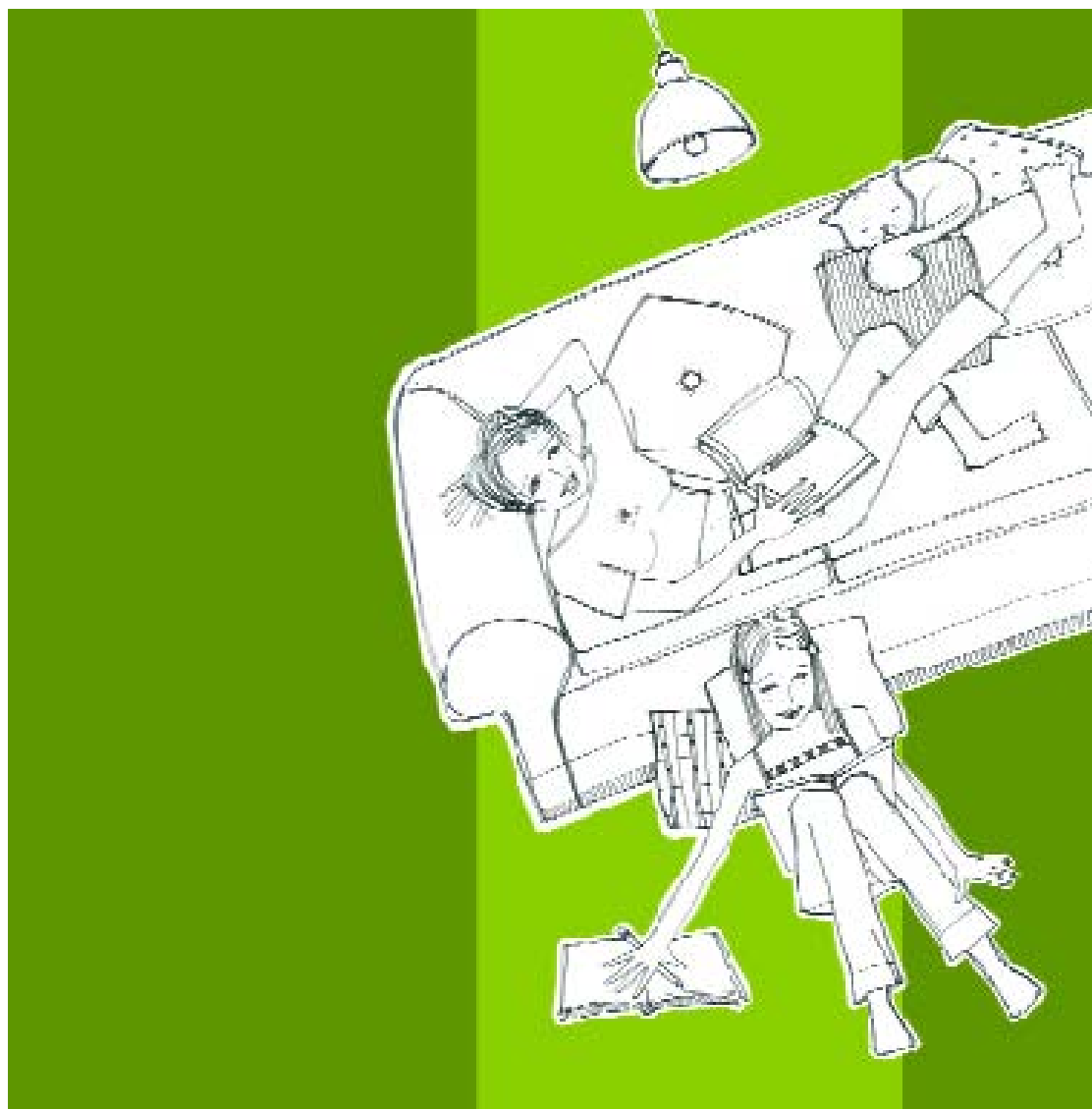
other teachers and parents, she decided to learn more. “As a classroom teacher, I began to realize how much time I spent on discipline and collecting milk money.”

Maynard-Nicol then spent six months following around a group of Vancouver-based homelearners and learning about their lives. “In my experience, very few parents home-school in isolation,” she says. “Most belong to various organizations, such as gymnastics or youth groups. Many belong to support groups and they do things together regularly. They might hire people to teach the children things like African drumming or French. It’s just not sitting at the kitchen table the whole time.”

Besides worrying about socialization, Maynard-Nicol says that the general public often frets about whether homeschoolers can get a decent education without the discipline of textbooks, testing and trained teachers. She says research has shown the parent’s level of education is actually irrelevant when it comes to successful homeschooling. “Some jurisdictions think the parents should be teachers. In fact, the main criterion is that the parents themselves have to be really curious people. That is contagious.”

So, without the stick of tests to drive them, homeschoolers tend to follow the carrot of their own interests and this results in intense self-motivation. Maynard-Nicols recalls one young history buff who was already acting as a docent at the Vancouver Museum at the age of 12. As well, she says, many homeschoolers have an entrepreneurial bent and ultimately go into business for themselves.

But for those who follow the path of higher education, perhaps the biggest seal of approval is that universities such as Harvard and Stanford have developed homeschooler admission policies so that absence of a grade point average is no barrier to enrollment.



Otherwise, homeschoolers must usually do a couple of years at a community college before gaining university admission.

Still, Maynard-Nicol admits that homeschooling is not for everyone. “For some people it certainly works. But not every parent can handle having their child beside them for 24 hours, seven days a week.”

Count Rachel Klippenstein among the grateful ones. She says that homeschooling gave her the chance to focus on her true interests and to take pleasure in learning. “I think everyone has a natural curiosity,” she says. “If you look at any 4-year-old, they ask ‘why’ about everything. Being homeschooled helps encourage that natural curiosity.” Currently writing her honours linguistics

thesis on the “Canadian rising,” a pronunciation oddity that causes Canucks, unlike other English speakers, to pronounce words like “eyes” and “ice” distinctly, she says she finally has the chance to research something that has interested her for years.

Her comment would warm any professor’s — and homeschooling parent’s — heart: “I learn the things in my courses because I care about them and like them not because I have a test coming up,” she says.

For more information about homeschooling in B.C., visit <www.bchla.bc.ca/>.

Daphne Gray-Grant is a Vancouver writer.



Competition, dedication and the “Three Tenets” define success in more than just the swimming pool.

IT IS A SUNNY SPRING AFTERNOON ON UBC CAMPUS. Inside the Aquatic Centre, home of the UBC Varsity Swim Team and the UBC National Swim Centre, the international group swimmers stroke up and down the pool with the grace and ease of highly trained athletes. In the far left lane, world record holder Brian Johns, Mark Johnston and Brent Hayden, members of the fastest swim club 4 x 200 metre freestyle relay in the world this year, good-naturedly pace each other. Not far behind them, in the next lanes, Jessica Deglau, varsity team women's co-captain Kelly Stefanyshyn and Kelly Doody, also national team members, cut through the water, their techniques seamless.

On the pool deck, head coach Tom Johnson and his two senior assistant coaches, Steve Price and varsity head coach Derrick Schoof, look on, stopwatches in hand. The team has recently returned from the Canadian Intercollegiate Championships (CIS) at the Saanich Commonwealth Games Pool in Victoria where they won their sixth consecutive team overall as well as men's and women's titles, a feat unprecedented in CIS history. Even more unprecedented was Brian Johns' world record swim in the 400 metre individual medley.

The majority of the swimmers who train in the elite group rank belong to the UBC Dolphins Swim Club. Canadian National Team members are affiliated with the UBC National Swim Centre under the organizational umbrella of the main funding body, Pacific Sport. Many of them also belong to the UBC Thunderbirds Swim Team. They

train six days a week year round while attending classes in a variety of degree programs. They are expected to keep up with their studies and commit to regular workouts, among the most strenuous of any swimming program in Canada. While the average person might find such a rigorous schedule daunting, these athletes relish the thought of devoting their time and energy to their sport. In fact, they find that their high intensity swimming actually enhances their academic life and teaches them valuable life skills.

Coach Johnson takes pride in a program that is both highly competitive and also integrative. “We put academics and swimming at the same level. We don't want people to come here and struggle,” he says. “We're trying turn out not just good athletes but good people, future leaders. The lessons, values, and life philosophies they develop in this setting are powerful for later on in their lives.”

The swimmers, who maintain a mature attitude at pool side, train under the “Three Tenets” introduced to the team by American sports psychologist, Dr. Keith Bell: no grief, no complaining, and no excuses. The joy of swimming lies in the challenges posed by the pursuit of success in the pool and in the classroom.

“So many people feel that training and studying are mutually exclusive. It requires time management,” says Jason Strelzow,

who maintains an 80.5 per cent average in a pre-med double major program in microbiology and cell biology. With a top three ranking in Canada in the 50 metre freestyle, Strelzow trains with the sprinters. “After I finish my workout, I do some stretching while I read my textbook. I set up checklists and envision where I want to be and what steps to follow to attain my goal. It gives me a great sense of concentration and a goal-oriented lifestyle. I get less done when I'm not swimming.”

Strelzow, who aspires to be a surgeon, firmly believes that swimming will help him in his future work. “You develop a lot of discipline coming to the pool every day bearing your goal in mind. There are probably fifteen different ways to reach

your goal and you have to be able to see a way. It's like that in surgery

where the outcome becomes so important.”

Varsity women's team co-captain Caroline Clapham agrees. A first-year student in the part-time law program, Clapham thrives on combining the athletic and academic challenges. “I've learned how to balance what I'm doing so taking three law courses is not so demanding. I like the fact that I can be in a beautiful city with a great law school and one of the best swim centres in the country,” she says. She heads for the Pan American Games in the Dominican Republic and the FISU Games in South Korea with a positive feeling. “I'm enjoying myself now and I can go faster.”

Clapham points out that, since varsity

BY SANDRA FILIPPELLI

Brian Johns, world record holder for the 400 metre individual medley.



In the swim: UBC Womens' Swim Club circa 2003; (opposite) 1924 UBC Womens' Swimming Club: 80 years later the style is different but the spirit is the same.

swimming is team-oriented, it is important for each person to take responsibility. "You develop your own independence while working in a group." Double Olympian and varsity team veteran Jessica Deglau has a similar feeling. "The team's behind you so much and you want to help out. You think less about yourself and more about stepping up to the conditions you're under so you can win points." One of the pillars of the team, Deglau is the winner of some 29 medals in CIS competitions from 1998-2003 and four gold and two silver at the 1999 Pan American Games as well as countless other international accolades. She has kept up with her busy training and competition schedule while maintaining an average of over 80 per cent in the last two years as a double major in speech sciences and psychology. "It's taught me a lot of life skills like how to manage my time,

pursue goals, work with a team and persevere."

Clapham's varsity co-captain Kelly Stefanyshyn, a third year major in Human Kinetics Sport Management and former Olympian, says that as the leader appointed by the team, it is important to set an example for everyone to follow. This year the women's team lost the western title to Calgary in spite of the fact that UBC won 11 gold to Calgary's four. It got a bit tense going into the CIS Championships. "Everyone was watching me to see how I would react. I had to decide as long as everyone did their part, we could do it." She took team psychologist Dr. Dana Sinclair's advice and let the other women on the team know she believed. "Even when it's not looking good, you have to pretend it's going to work out. You can't show fear," she says. The women's team went on to their sixth consecutive win at the CIS Championships.

Swimming at international competitions has given Stefanyshyn invaluable insight, which has greatly enhanced her studies in Human Kinetics Sport Management. "You get to meet people in the area you want to work in like Swim Canada and the Canadian Olympic Association. I can relate a lot of material we cover in my courses to my personal life in sport," she says. She wrote a paper about the Commonwealth Games right after she returned from the competition fresh with an athlete's perspective.

Former Olympian and double Commonwealth Games gold medallist in the 100 and 200 metres backstroke, Mark Versfeld, an eight year veteran of the Canadian National Swim Team, also stresses the impact that training at UBC has had on his life. He left the prestigious National Sports Centre in Calgary in 1996 to train at the UBC National Swim Centre

while he pursued a degree in Economics. "I came here from a program with only five swimmers for the strong training environment in backstroke with Greg Hamm and Dustin Hersee." Versfeld's teammate Greg Hamm took bronze in the 200 metres backstroke race he won at the 1998 Commonwealth Games. Their predecessor Kevin Draxinger, now a physician, was a silver medallist in the 200 metre backstroke in the 1994 Commonwealth Games in Victoria.

"It was fun to be part of a big team atmosphere," Versfeld says of swimming at UBC. "Everyone builds the excitement together. Tom has proven himself and the team has refined itself to be oriented to high performance. It's an affluent club and the coaches can decide what you need."

However, he points out that UBC does not operate like an American school. "It takes time for a sports centre to pursue sport to the highest level. The time you invest in it detracts from the pursuit of

education at the same level," he says. "The onus is on the athlete to arrange with his or her professors to make up missed exams and assignments. Some professors here don't want to make concessions, whereas in the States they have to make allowances for athletes to go away to attend competitions."

Versfeld does not believe this detracts quality athletes from coming to UBC. "UBC has academic integrity. That's an attraction for swimmers to stay in Canada. They can come to a top notch school with a high level sports program, but they have to be ready for competition in the pool as well as in school."

After graduation in 2002, Versfeld retired from swimming and found himself in a transition stage. Gone were the trips to international competitions and the endless workouts. Like any other athlete, the time had come to transfer the life skills he had learned in sports to the workaday world. "I needed to adjust my lifestyle,

routine and goals," he says. "When I realized that swimming was developmental, it was easy for me to make the decision to retire."

Varsity swimmers who are part of the UBC National Swim Centre can take advantage of Pacific Sport's program to help retired athletes integrate into the real world. Versfeld is currently channeling high energy into house construction while he prepares for a possible career in real estate. "Now I have a mentor, a swimmer from the '80s, because I don't know what I want to do careerwise," he says. This year, he explored life further while backpacking around Southeast Asia.

Versfeld is elated with Brian Johns' world record and hopes it will inspire others to pursue excellence at the same level. "The resources are here. We want to be thinking of going there, whatever it takes," he says. ♦

Sandra Filippelli is a Vancouver writer



MAGIC MOMENTS

CHUCK SLONECKER is one of those guys who always seems to be happy. The rain can be driving under the door and the dog can be lost in the storm, but Chuck will still wish a merry, “Hey! How ya doin’” to passersby.

He whistles. A lot. When he had an office here at Cecil Green Park (my old office, actually: see the view on page 29), you always knew when Chuck was in the building. He’d stick his head in an office and say, “Great new Trek Magazine. Congratulations,” or, “That event last night was fantastic,” then proceed down the hall to his office, whistling a tune.

For months he whistled the same tune: the intro to some annoyingly familiar song I couldn’t quite place. I’d hum it over and over to myself trying to remember the next tune line until I was nearly mad. Then, one day, I got it: *Magic Moments*. That old Perry Como song from the ’50s. Perfect.

Magic moments are what Chuck produced for nearly 40 years. He started in 1968 as an assistant professor of Dentistry (where he taught anatomy), becoming a full professor in 1976. He won the Master Teacher award that year, the Killam Teaching Prize in 1996 and served as head of the Anatomy department. He also published a textbook and 19 other publications, as well as abstracts, reviews and papers.

While students in Anatomy will remember Chuck as a spectacular teacher, anyone who graduated from UBC in the past 12 years will remember him as the upbeat guy with the grey hair who ran the graduation show. Director of Ceremonies since 1991, Chuck was responsible for every convocation ceremony, every presidential function, every VIP party that took place on campus. Over the years, he’s been responsible for thousands of magic moments.

Chuck Slonecker retires this year. As one of the people who have defined UBC’s rhythm and identity, he’ll be missed. — *Chris Petty*



Faaaaantastic! This page, top left, clockwise: The happy couple, Jan and Chuck, freshly married, 1961. Note the Elvis cut; Chuck in his lab, mid ’70s; Convocation master, thumbs up, with Richard Vedan, First Nations House of Learning; United Way batter boy – Chuck prepares pancake breakfast for the campaign. Chuck was a major force behind the extremely successful annual campus United Way Campaign.



All the Presidents' man. Chuck was man of the hour for more than 30 years. This page, top left, clockwise: Jan and Chuck in Hawaii, 1995; with Martha Piper, in 2001, stepping down as acting Vice President, External Affairs; with Martha Piper and former president David Strangway at Chuck's retirement dinner, December 2003; as Andreas Vesalius, Renaissance anatomist who wrote the first modern textbook on anatomy. Chuck poses with the remains of a friend at UBC's open house in 1985.



MORE THAN KEYCHAINS

Amanda Vincent is casting a wide net to save seahorses.

THE STORE was large, spacious, brightly lit, occupying a busy corner in Vancouver's Chinatown. Glass-topped display cases filled the middle aisles; along the walls, shelves were lined to the ceiling with jars, trays and cabinets of herbs, roots, leaves, animal parts, fungi, teas, soups, powders and insects. Knobby lumps of ginseng. Crinkled dark green leaves of seaweed. Twisted, misshapen mushrooms in shades from cream to charcoal.

I approached the gentleman behind the counter. "Do you have any dried seahorses?" I asked.

"Yes, certainly," he said, leading me to a display case holding trays of dessicated creatures. There, on the top row, were two trays of seahorses, lying on their sides as if asleep, each with one tiny black eye gazing skyward, their curving bellies and tails forming graceful question marks, even in death. The specimens in one tray were grayish-brown, old-looking; those in the other were ivory-white, pristine.

"What's the difference?" I asked.

"Skin on, skin off," the man said, pointing to each tray in turn. "Otherwise the same. All good."

"What do you do with them?"

"Boil into soup or tea, then drink."

"What do they do for you?"

"Good for people who need iodine. Good for kidneys."

"How much?"

"Twenty-eight dollars an ounce."

THE FACT that you can walk into a Chinese herbal shop and buy dried seahorses is not in itself a cause for alarm for Amanda Vincent, UBC's newly arrived Canada Research Chair in Marine Conservation. After all, she says, it's perfectly legal, and traditional Chinese medicine is widely respected and often effective. It's only when the demand for ingredients outstrips the supply that concerns arise.

Unfortunately for seahorses, there is plenty of cause for alarm. In addition being harvested for the traditional Chinese pharmacopoeia, many species are sold live for display in public aquariums and as pets in home aquariums ("Easy to raise!" boast the

ads – a claim that is denied by Vincent and other marine scientists, who point out

that the animals are notoriously finicky and usually die within a few months). Through the curio trade, dried seahorses are offered dangling from keychains, fashioned into jewelry, glued to

picture frames, suspended in paperweights and even embedded in plastic toilet seats.

They are caught directly in small fisheries – often by some of the world's poorest fishers – and accidentally in larger fisheries. In shrimp trawling, for example, typically only about five per cent of the catch is actually shrimp; the other 95 per cent, called "by-catch," often includes seahorses and is either sold or thrown back into the sea – alive, in varying states of health, or dead.

Add up all these pressures, and you arrive at a grim total: each year, 25 million sea-

horses are traded by 80 countries. Weigh that fact, and you reach the conclusion that the demand-supply balance is tipping dangerously in the direction of unsustainability. Which is exactly what Amanda Vincent did – and what led her to dedicate her career to the conservation and sustainable use of these amazing fishes.

And it's not just seahorses she's aiming to preserve. Project Seahorse, the international initiative Vincent co-founded seven years ago, takes as its central mandate "advancing marine conservation"; the seahorse is a symbol of a wider problem, of a broader approach to finding solutions.

"Saving seahorses means saving the seas," Vincent says, fixing me with her direct, brown-eyed gaze, "and saving the seas means saving seahorses. To do both, we need to learn a lot more about these fishes and their environments. That's what Project Seahorse is all about – research in service of the oceans."

WHEN AMANDA VINCENT accepted a position at UBC in fall 2002, after six years at McGill University in Montreal, she came full circle. Born in Vancouver, she had a peripatetic childhood in South America, following the path of parents who "had had enough of the rat race"; her father, a public relations official with Alcan, crafted a new career as a lecturer on Latin America, her mother, as a photographer. Family legend holds that Vincent was camping by the age of six weeks – "and I've continued to do outdoor things ever since. I constantly had



my nose under stumps and into hedges. I was interested in the way the world worked – and not just nature, but people, too. From an early age, I grew up with the determination to help make the world a better place.”

Vincent’s fascination with seahorses came about as a result of combining two of her great loves: science and oceans. Surprisingly, for someone who would later gain worldwide renown as a marine biologist, she never took a science course in high school, preferring to focus on history, politics and math – until a grade 13 biology course sparked her interest in science. “It was so invigorating,” she says, “I decided to major in biology.”

Her interest in the oceans was more a biding. “I’ve always had an affinity for the ocean, its vast horizons, its moods. To me, mountains don’t communicate as well as the ocean does,” she asserts, then adds hastily, “but luckily here in Vancouver we don’t have to choose!”

After completing an undergraduate degree in zoology at the University of Western Ontario, Vincent grabbed her bike and traveled around the world, stopping to work

to nine hours, then mate again.

“Seahorses are every woman’s dream,” Vincent says with a grin, “and every man’s nightmare.”

Their sexual habits notwithstanding, seahorses fascinate for other reasons, most notably their unfishlike appearance. Their Latin name, *Hippocampus*, comes from the Greek hippos meaning horse and campus meaning sea monster. Observing an animal that had a horse-like head, a monkey-like, grasping tail and a kangaroo-like pouch for the young, it’s no wonder that our forebears were confused; early scientists classified them as aquatic insects, and the ancient Greeks conjured a mythical creature, half-horse and half-fish, on which sea gods rode through the waves, bearing mermaids or pulling Neptune’s chariot.

In reality, seahorses are bony fishes belonging to the family Syngnathidae, which also includes pipefishes, pipehorses and sea dragons. They range in size from 1.3 to 300 millimetres and are found in most of the world’s temperate and tropical coastal waters, living in shallow seabeds among sea grasses, man-

of what would become a growing sense of alarm about the survival of seahorses worldwide. As well as being a popular dive location, Florida is home to a sizeable trawling fleet that fishes for shrimp as live bait for anglers. There, Vincent saw large quantities of seahorses brought up as incidental catch and sold to aquariums.

That was only the first warning. Soon after, commissioned to write a National Geographic article on seahorses, she traveled widely and saw baskets of dried seahorses in Asian markets, seahorse curios for sale as tourist souvenirs in coastal towns, an electronic billboard in Germany advertising seahorses as being “good for men with weak tails.”

“I began to get frightened about what I perceived to be a really big trade in these animals,” Vincent says. She launched a worldwide investigation into their trade. The more she dug, the more she perceived a serious threat not just to seahorses but also to their habitats, to other marine species, to the oceans themselves. Her painstaking surveys soon indicated that exploited seahorse

SHE LAUNCHED A WORLDWIDE INVESTIGATION INTO THEIR TRADE. THE MORE SHE DUG, THE THREAT NOT JUST TO SEAHORSES BUT ALSO TO THEIR HABITATS, TO OTHER MARINE SPECIES,

when she needed money. Her travels included work stints at a ski resort and grape harvests in France, a pub in Ireland and a sheep farm in Australia. Two and a half years later, ready to return to her studies, she decided to pursue a doctorate at Cambridge University. “I was interested in the evolution of sex differences in fishes – and if that’s your interest, there’s no better creature to study than the seahorse.”

Consider: Seahorse pairs bond for life. Every day, each pair performs a ritual mating dance for about 10 minutes. Only the males get pregnant; at mating time, the female deposits her eggs in the male’s brood pouch, where they’re fertilized. The male incubates the eggs, supplying oxygen, nutrition and protection, for 10 days to six weeks, depending on the species, before giving birth. Immediately afterward, the pair dance for up

groves, coral reefs and estuaries.

It was in shallow waters off the Florida Keys that Amanda Vincent made her first dives to observe seahorses in the wild, after several years of watching them in tanks. Those early dives, she says with a laugh, were a flop. “I simply couldn’t find any seahorses! They’re extraordinarily cryptic; they have excellent camouflage abilities. They can change colour to blend in with their surroundings, grow barnacles, attach themselves to rocks. I made a name for myself as the seahorse biologist who couldn’t find seahorses! I began to understand why nobody studied them underwater.” She laughs again. “Finally, at the end of one dive, I spotted some among some mangrove roots. One was greeny, another reddish-purple.” She sighs. “It was love at first sight.”

It was also, Vincent recalls, the beginning

populations had dropped by an estimated 15 to 50 per cent over five years. Those numbers spurred her to action. In 1996, with Dr. Heather Hall, Senior Curator, Aquarium, for the Zoological Society of London, she founded Project Seahorse, an international consortium dedicated to marine conservation.

Project Seahorse has about 40 scientists, community organizers and support staff, plus village research assistants, working in Canada, the United Kingdom, the Philippines, Hong Kong, Australia, Portugal and the United States. It has forged partnerships with UBC, the Zoological Society of London, Chicago’s John G. Shedd Aquarium, the University of Tasmania, marine conservation organizations and TRAFFIC East Asia, a joint agency of the World Wildlife Fund and the IUCN – World Conservation Union.

“Project Seahorse works with a wide array

of constituents – people and systems – that are involved with marine issues: fish, fishers, ecosystems, traders, consumers, policy makers and the public,” Vincent says. “We don’t have the luxury of tackling one problem at a time. We take a multi-faceted, integrated approach to ensure that solutions will work on many levels: at the village level, at the policy level, at the ecosystem level. And we’re not just focused on the seahorse. Because they’re well-recognized and well-loved, seahorses make an ideal emblem, an icon that people can identify with, but the project is really much more diverse. Seahorses are ambassadors for a broad range of marine conservation issues.”

The initiative has five main streams, or foci: undertaking research, managing marine populations and fisheries, monitoring and adjusting consumption of marine life, developing conservation policy and promoting awareness.

What this means, on a practical level, is that team members are working on dozens of different projects at any given time: conducting fundamental research on species and

MORE SHE PERCEIVED A SERIOUS TO THE OCEANS THEMSELVES.

habitats, working with fishers and villagers to manage fisheries in a way that respects people’s need to earn a living while conserving the fishes, consulting with international agencies and governments to establish marine protected areas, and more.

One of Project Seahorse’s major accomplishments was the decision, in fall 2002, by CITES, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna, to place all species of seahorses on its list of regulated species, following a years-long effort spearheaded by Vincent. The ruling means that when any of the 164 signatory nations exports seahorses, it must do so in a sustainable manner that does not threaten the survival of the animals in their wild environment. The provision comes into effect in May 2004.

“We deliberately asked for a long defer-



AMANDA VINCENT

One of Project Seahorse’s major accomplishments was the decision, in fall 2002, by CITES, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna, to place all species of seahorses on its list of regulated species, following a year-long effort spearheaded by Vincent.

ral before the ruling comes into effect,” says Vincent, who was recently re-appointed as chair of the working group for CITES, “because seahorses are the first commercially important marine fish species to be regulated under CITES, and it’s important that we make it work. In the meantime, we’re developing simple fishing protocols to advise governments on how to regulate their exports in seahorses, and working with fishers to find ways to conserve seahorse populations.”

One of these grassroots projects is taking place in the Philippines, where Project Seahorse has established nine “no-take” marine conservation areas. In what Vincent calls “one of the poorest villages in a poor municipality in a poor province of a very poor country,” where people rely heavily on income from seahorse fishing, it’s perhaps surprising that the villagers would be receptive to no-fishing zones. On the contrary, Vincent says, local people have taken the lead.

“We find that villagers usually can identify the problems at least as quickly as we can. When we discuss ways forward with the fishers, they’re full of suggestions and very happy to evaluate our suggestions and then try the ones that we mutually feel are possible. The villagers set up a marine sanctuary for all species, not just seahorses. And it’s been strictly their baby. They’ve policed it, they’ve enforced it, and they’re very proud of the rapid recovery of the fish. The fishing around the reserve appears to have gone up, and other villages are now asking us to help them set up their own sanctuaries because they’ve heard from their friends and seen with their own eyes how much difference it makes.”

Yet another initiative is taking place in Hong Kong, where Project Seahorse is attempting to increase awareness of conservation concerns in the traditional Chinese medicine community – but with a decidedly respectful approach. “We pass no judgment on the validity of traditional medicine,” Vincent insists. “After all, it has been codified for two thousand years, it’s recognized by the World Health Organization and it’s still a significant part of health care for a majority of the world’s population. Our only wish is that seahorse exploitation be done in a sustainable

fashion.”

To that end, Project Seahorse, in conjunction with TRAFFIC, is working with traditional medicine practitioners to set minimum size limits for the seahorse catch, so that juveniles have a chance to grow to maturity and reproduce, and to identify and encourage the medical use of alternative species that are not at risk.

ALL OF THESE INITIATIVES require Vincent to work with a wide array of stakeholders in a variety of disciplines that take her far from her marine biology roots – and the opportunity to do that was one of the things that drew her to UBC. “Anyone who thinks that conservation is primarily about biology is wrong; it’s first and foremost about changing human behaviour,” she says. “So I need to work with others who have an understanding of how humans tick. I look forward to working with colleagues in the social sciences, anthropology, law, politics, oceanography, resource management, even the Centre for Applied Ethics – and that is something that UBC encourages and supports.”

UBC’s reputation for interdisciplinarity wasn’t the only draw. Vincent was also lured by the chance to work with world-class colleagues in the fisheries Centre, where Project Seahorse is housed (the Centre will move to the new Aquatic Ecosystems Research Laboratory when it is built), and by the tradition of support for marine biology and conservation on the Pacific coast. She was impressed by the fact that UBC, like McGill, was open to approaches to evaluating a faculty member’s scholarly performance that reach beyond primary publication, such as one’s contribution to policy change and the engagement of the community. Then, too, she already had a base of family and personal ties in Vancouver. But perhaps most important was the factor that causes her to break into a grin: “UBC is on the ocean!”

Certainly, UBC snared a “prize catch” in Amanda Vincent. In 1999, *TIME* Canada proclaimed her a Leader for the 21st Century, and *La Presse* named her Personality of the Year for Humanities and Social Sciences, Science and Technology. The following

year, she was awarded the world’s pre-eminent award in marine conservation – a Pew Fellowship – for her work in non-food fisheries. She was also the first Canadian winner of the much-coveted Rolex Award for Enterprise.

Vincent doesn’t dwell on her honours; she’s too busy fulfilling all her roles as a scholar, research scientist, professor, administrator and advocate. When she’s not occupied with running Project Seahorse – “I coordinate and integrate the research, make sure all of the elements of the program are working together, communicate findings, raise funds and talk to stakeholders, the public, policy makers and colleagues” – she teaches a graduate level course on science and politics in aquatic management and is developing a new undergraduate conservation course. She enjoys teaching: “It forces me to read more broadly and to challenge my own assumptions.” And she gets out to field sites whenever she can, to dive and observe her beloved seahorses.

Although Vincent says that she left McGill with considerable regret, she’s pleased with her new academic home. “UBC is very generous in its embrace of a broader vision – I’ve been delighted with my time here so far.”

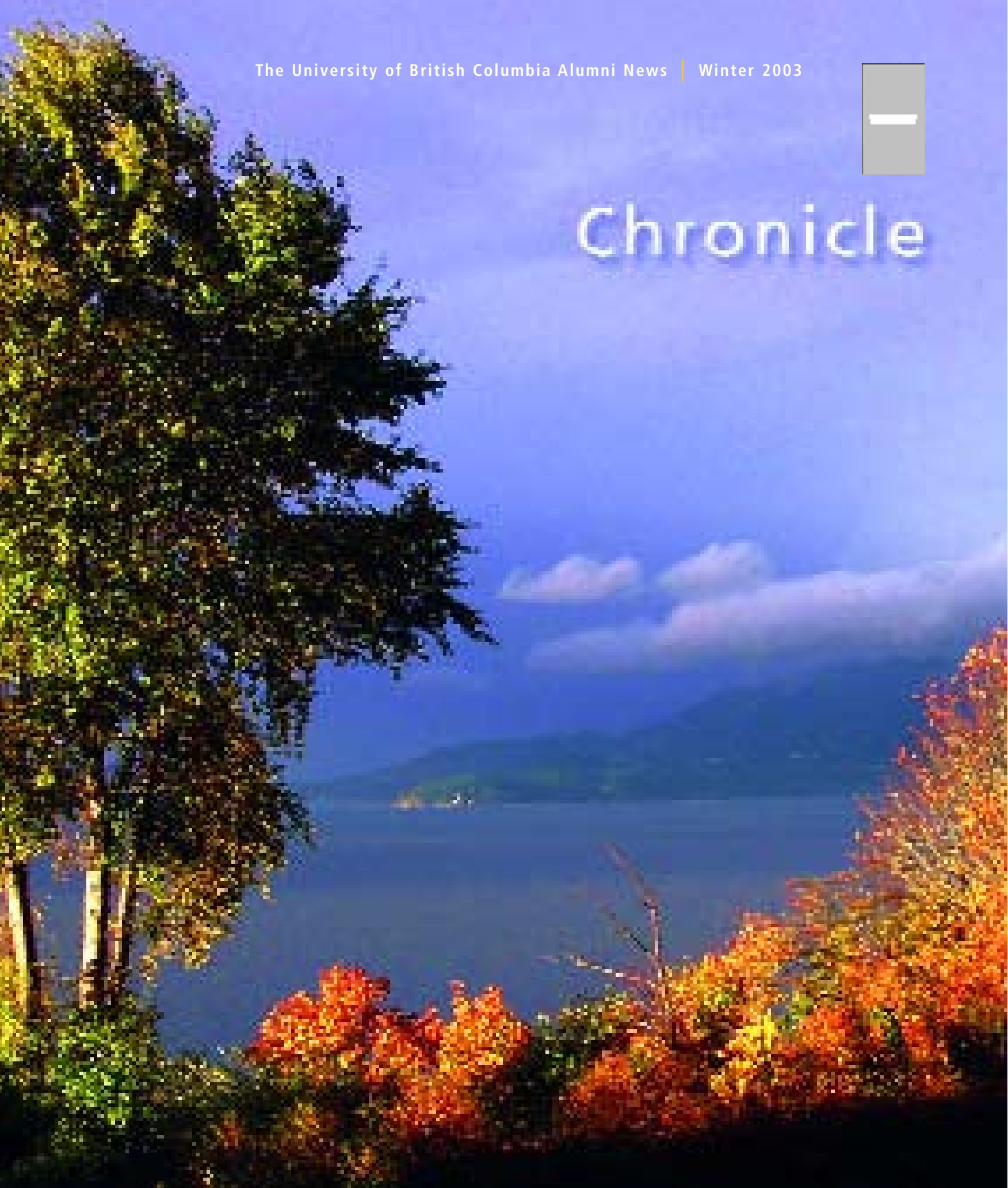
AS I LEAVE AMANDA VINCENT’S OFFICE, I pass a bookcase in the Fisheries Centre hallway that displays a dozen or so exotic items. Unlike the shelves in the Chinatown store, however, these contain raffia products. The intricately woven purses, wallets, wall hangings, belts and baskets, in natural and dyed hues of tan, red and green, are the fruit of yet another Project Seahorse initiative, samples of the work of a village-based crafts cooperative that offers a way for fishers’ families to earn money without fishing. The project represents one more strategy, one more solution that just might help to keep those little “horse-sea monsters” alive. Like the seahorse, these handcrafted weavings are a thing of beauty – and a symbol of hope. ■

Ellen Schwartz is a Vancouver writer

The University of British Columbia Alumni News | Winter 2003



Chronicle



THE ARTS

FREDERIC WOOD THEATRE

K. Franz Kafka, written by Martin Tulinus
January 15-24, 2004 7:30pm

Song of This Place, by Joy Coghill
February 19-28, 2004 7:30 pm

The Lady from the Sea, by Henrik Ibsen
adapted by Bryan Wade (UBC Creative Writing Program)
TELUS Studio Theatre
March 18- 27, 2004 7:30pm

Frederic Wood box office open during the day from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm.
Reservation line: 604-822-2678
website: www.theatre.ubc.ca

THE CHAN CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

For more information on events, please call 604-822-2697.

Kate Clinton (political comedian)
Jan 10, 8:00 pm

Svetlana Ponomareva (piano)
Jan 11, 3:00 pm

Bach & Beyond, Concert Three
Jan 16 & 17, 8:00 pm
(Vancouver Symphony Orchestra with Tania Miller, conductor)

Philip Glass (piano)
Jan 18, 7:30 pm

UBC Symphony Orchestra
Jan 23 & 24, noon (Free)

Anne Sofie Von Otter (mezzo-soprano)
Jan 25, 8:00 pm

UBC Chamber Strings
Jan 30, 8:00 pm (Free)

Violins of the World
(Angele Dubeau and her all-female chamber orchestra, La Pieta)
Jan 31, 8:00 pm

University Singers
Feb 5 & 6, noon (Free)

UBC Symphonic Wind Ensemble
Feb 12 & 13, noon (Free)

Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg/Sergio & Odair Assad
Feb 14, 8:00 pm

Radu Lupu (piano)
Feb 16, 8:00 pm

Manon (by Jules Massenet)
UBC School of Music and Theatre at UBC 2003-2004.
Mar 4/5/6, 8:00 pm March 7, 3:00 pm

Bach & Beyond, Concert Four
Vancouver Symphony Orchestra with Martin Fischer-Dieskau, conductor Ian Parker, piano
Friday March 12 & 13, 8:00 pm

UBC Symphonic Wind Ensemble
Mar 25, noon, Mar 26, 8:00 pm (Free)

UBC Symphony Orchestra
(Featuring Dominic Florence, piano Works by Liszt and Prokofiev)
Apr 1, noon, Apr 2, 8:00 pm (Free)

University Singers & UBC Choral Union
Apr 8, 8:00 pm (Free)

Adrian Brendel (cello) and **Alfred Blendel** (piano)
Apr 13, 8:00 pm

Bach & Beyond, Concert Five
(Vancouver Symphony Orchestra with Bramwell Tovey, conductor Kathleen Brett, soprano)
Apr 16 & 17, 8:00 pm

BELKIN ART GALLERY

For information on exhibits, please contact the Belkin at 604-822-2759 / <http://www.belkin-gallery.ubc.ca>

belkin-gallery.ubc.ca or the Belkin Satellite at 604-687-3174 / www.belkin-gallery.ubc.ca/satellite/index.html

Thrown Influences and Intentions of West Coast Ceramics, Jan 16 - Mar 14
Ceramics influenced by the studio pottery movement of Bernard Leach and Shoji Hamada.

Online

Zero Hour
A program to mark the 10th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall www.ies.ubc.ca/berlin99/

Most Sincerely (Ray Johnson)
An exhibition of works of the New York Correspondance School www.belkin-gallery.ubc.ca/rayjohnson/main.html

Quartet for the Year 4698 or 5760
A multi-media gallery installation
www.belkin-gallery.ubc.ca/laiwan/default.htm

Twenty Questions
Recent acquisitions to the painting and drawing collections
www.belkin-gallery.ubc.ca/webpage/online/twenty.html

Sheila and Wilfred Watson Collection
Canadian writers, Sheila and Wilfred Watson collected many works of Jack Shadbolt. The collection also includes works by Molly Lamb Bobak, Emily Carr, Wyndham Lewis, Henry Moore and Norman Yates.
www.belkin-gallery.ubc.ca/webpage/online/watson.html

BELKIN SATELLITE

Re-reading the 80s: Feminisms as a Process in Vancouver
Feb 27 – Mar 21 (Opening Thursday 26 February 2004 from 8:00-10:00 pm)
A look at the practices of artists engaged with diverse feminisms in Vancouver through book works, printed matter and art journal interventions produced in the 1980s.
Manufacturing Mod: Metal Tunics to

Paper Dresses

Apr 3-25 (Opening April 2, 8:00-10:00 pm)

During the mid to late 1960s, mass manufacturing and new technology effected radical changes on the production, conceptualization and accessibility of modern apparel. Curator Jamila Dunn examines the use of non-traditional materials such as paper, plastic and metal, and other experimental forms. Innovative garments by Paco Rabanne, Pierre Cardin, André Courrèges and others.

MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY

Pasifika: *Island Journeys*

An Exhibition of The Frank Burnett Collection of Pacific Arts donated to UBC in 1927. With historic and contemporary photographs accompanied by commentary.

Celadon: *Beyond the Glaze*

The Anthropology of Public Representation. An examination of celadon (greenish ceramic glazes) through the eyes of the potter, the art historian, the anthropologist and the geologist.

Ceramics from the Victor Shaw Donation: *Ancient Arts from the 1st-14th centuries*

In 2000, Victor Shaw donated 388 pieces of ancient Chinese art to MOA. This single-case show features bowls, vases, dishes, a small cosmetic box and painted human and animal figures ranging from the 1st-14th c.

Weavers at Musqueam

An installation of weavings by Musqueam Artists Roberta Louis (1945-2001), Margaret Pointe (1951 - 1996) and Krista Point.

To Wash Away the Tears: *A Memorial Potlatch Exhibit*

Based on a memorial for Maggie Pointe of the Musqueam Nation, the exhibit includes a contemporary 14-foot West Coast style canoe and its contents donated by Shane Pointe and Gina Grant.

Dempsey Bob: *The Art Goes Back to the*



Paco Rabanne, *Aluminium chain mail dress* c.1968

Courtesy of Costume Museum of Canada

From the Belkin exhibit, *Manufacturing Mod: Metal Tunics to Paper Dresses*

Stories

Consisting of 14 panels of text and photographs, this exhibit also features three of this world-renowned Tahltan artist's most recent bronze sculptures.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

For tickets and event details, please contact 604-822-5574 / concerts@interchange.ubc.ca

Wednesday Noon Hour Concerts

Recital Hall, \$4

Jan 14: Late French baroque harpsichord

Jan 21: Eric Wilson (cello), Patricia Hoy (piano)

Jan 28: David Harding (viola), Robert Silverman (piano)

Feb 4: Kendra Colton (soprano), Rena Sharon (piano)

Feb 11: Ken Broadway (piano)

Feb 25: Joe Trio (violin, cello, piano)

Mar 3: Early works for alto saxophone, Elise Hall

Mar 10: Beth Orson (English Horn), Rita Costanzi (harp)

Mar 17: Miranda Wong (piano)

Mar 24: Alan Matheson Nonet (jazz)

Mar 31: Ad Mare Wind Quintet

Borealis String Quartet

Recital Hall, \$20/\$10, Jan 22 & Mar 11, 8:00 pm

Scholarship Winners Concert (UBC Students)

Recital Hall, \$20/\$10, Jan 31, 8:00 pm

Music @ Main

Main Library, Rm502 (Dodson)

Jan 16, noon: Celebration of Canadian Music Centre's 45th anniversary (free)

Feb 6, noon: Collegium

Musicum (free)

Mar 5, noon: Student Highlights

Opera Tea

UBC@Robson Square, \$17/\$12, Feb 1, 2:00 pm

Masterclasses

Recital Hall

Feb 5-7, 7:00 pm: Dang Thai Son (piano)

Feb 14 & 15, 7:00 pm: William Bennett (flute)

Free Events at the Recital Hall

Jan 30, noon: West Coast Student

Composers Symposium

Feb 9, noon: UBC Chamber Strings

Mar 8 & 22, Apr 5, noon: UBC Student Composers

Mar 11, noon & Mar 26, 8:00 pm:

Contemporary Players

Mar 12, noon: UBC Chamber Strings

Mar 15, noon: String Chamber Ensemble

Mar 18, noon: Chamber Choirs of UBC

Mar 29, noon: UBC Percussion Ensemble

Mar 18, 8:00 pm & Apr 2, noon: Jazz Ensemble

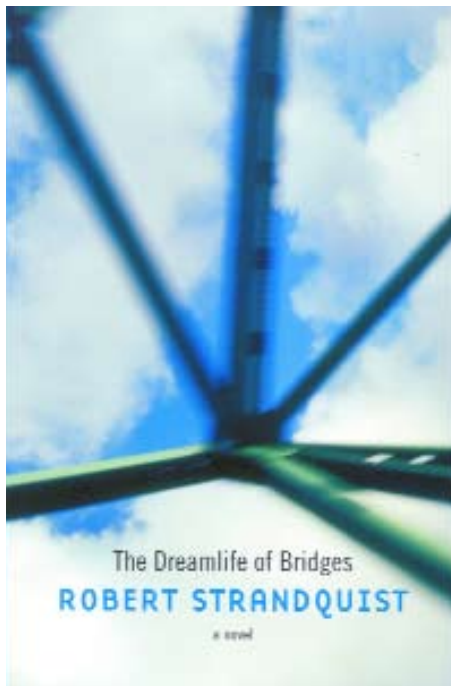
Mar 25, noon & Mar 26, 8:00 pm: UBC Symphonic Wind Ensemble

Feb 12, noon & Apr 3, 8:00 pm:

Collegium Musicum Ensemble

Apr 7, noon: UBC Gamelan Ensemble →

BOOKS



The Dreamlife of Bridges

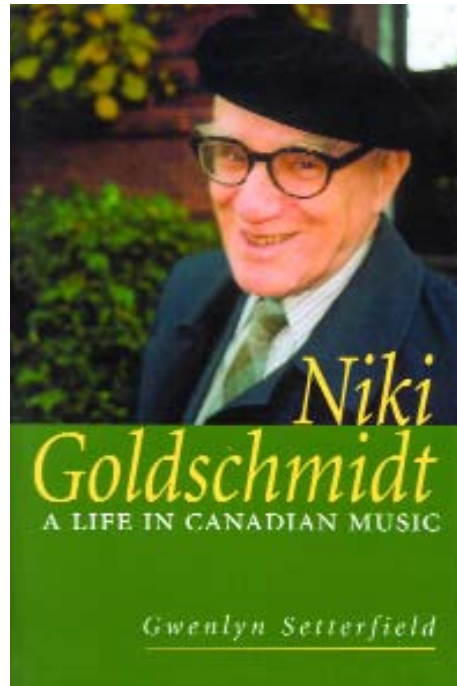
Robert Strandquist, MFA'86 Anvil Press \$18

□□ Leo is a loser. At least, that's how he sees himself in a world both hostile and incomprehensible. How can a universe work where his only son, bright, logical and seemingly untroubled, has killed himself?

The novel begins with Leo holding on precariously to his job and some semblance of a normal life. Soon, though, he's unable to stay connected to the things that make life bearable: work, home, friends. He begins a journey downward wherein all the comfortable things he knows disappear.

One of the many strengths of *Dreamlife of Bridges* is Strandquist's ability to turn images on their heads and surprise us with new understandings of obvious, sometimes banal human travails:

He brings out a photo of his son he normally keeps hidden in the back of a drawer . . . Benson was his mother's choice, the name. Leo would have called him David, as a tactile link to ancestors, a



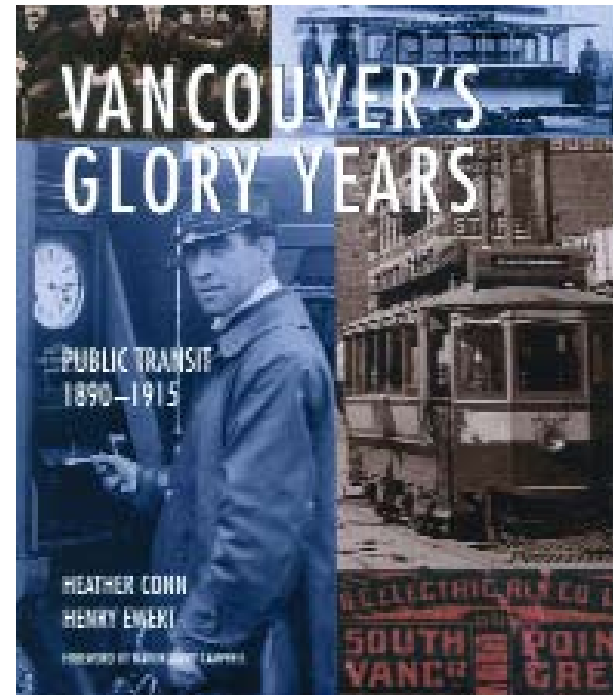
soldier uncle whose picture stood on Leo's mother's dresser, carried like code over the centuries, by men who were shaped by stone, who knew sacrifice, strong medicine. A name from a book severs something, weakens the immune system.

Leo meets June, another troubled soul struggling to make some sense of a world gone sideways. Their trials are familiar, but the strength of the writing brings new insights into a world we would all rather read about than live in. This is Strandquist's first novel, and it's a doozy.

Morganthaler: A Difficult Hero

Catherine Dunphy, Wiley \$28.95

□□ Love him or hate him, Henry Morganthaler has had a huge impact on the Canadian social and medical landscape with his passionate fight to establish a woman's right to legal and safe abortions. This book tells of his early life in Auschwitz, and his sometimes troubled relationships with family, friends and lovers, and exposes the complexi-



ties of a man who is seen as a saviour and man of compassion by some, and the devil incarnate by others. The book also deals with the tumultuous history of the right-to-choice movement, and its difficult relationship with Morganthaler. An essential read for those on both sides of the debate.

Niki Goldschmidt: A life in Canadian music

Gwenlyn Setterfield, University of Toronto Press \$50

□□ Niki Goldschmidt was an unstoppable force on the Canadian music scene. Born in 1908 near Brno in what was then the Austro-Hungarian empire, he left Europe in 1937 to escape the coming war and to establish himself in the new world. Already an accomplished conductor and musician, he eventually came to Canada and began his career as an organizer of festivals and competitions across the country. He is directly responsible for starting the Vancouver International Music Festival, the Bach International Piano Competition and the

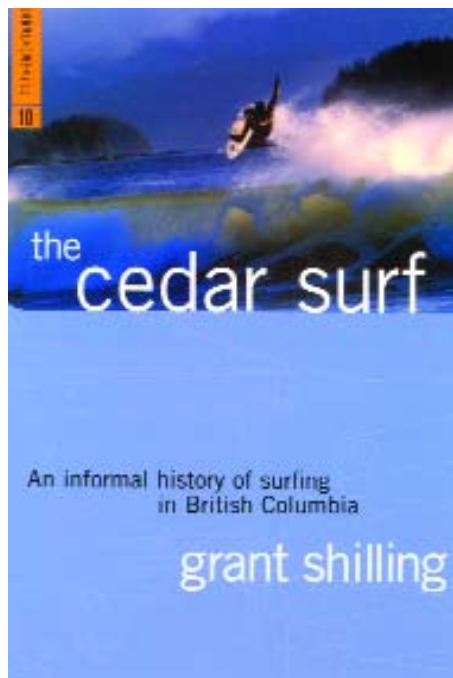


Guelph Spring Festival, among others, and for bringing such international notables as Axel Shoitz, Bruno Walter, Jon Vickers and Yehudi Menuhin to Canada. This biography traces his life from his early years to his accomplishments as a teacher, conductor and artistic director.

Vancouver's Glory Years: Public Transit 1890-1915

Heather Conn, BA'81, and Henry Ewert, BA'58 *Whitecap* \$45

▣▣ The forests, farmland and waterways of Vancouver were imposing obstacles to transportation 100 years ago. Stagecoaches, steamships and rails got passengers and goods around the area as best they could, but the task of joining the region fell to the builders of the electric streetcars and interurban lines, beginning in the 1890s. This fascinating book documents the beginnings of public transit in Vancouver with more than 150 photographs from the era. These rail lines defined the settlement patterns of

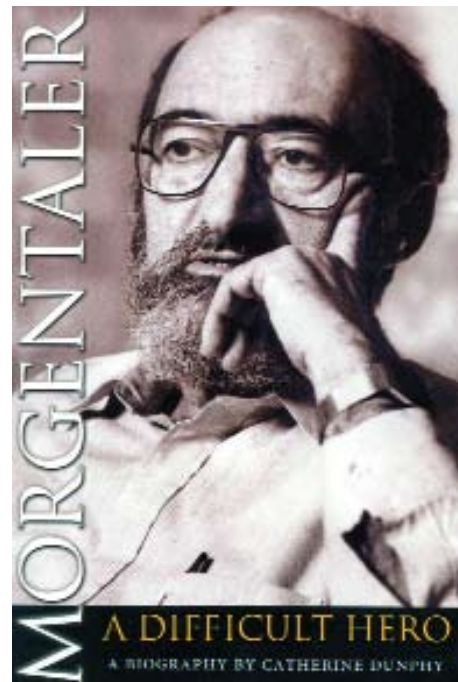


the growing community, and account for much of the early prosperity of the Lower Mainland. Looking at the photos and reading about the political, social and economic wrangling that took place during the building of the transit system, makes one wonder why the system was ever abandoned. But that's another story. This is a great book for those interested in Vancouver's early history.

The Cedar Surf: An informal history of surfing in BC

Grant Shilling, *New Star* \$16

▣▣ The water temperature in coastal British Columbia waters never gets above 11 degrees Celsius. But as anyone who has been to the west coast of Vancouver Island knows, the surf can be pretty spectacular. Imagine being one of the odd breed who lives to slide along the tops of huge, curling waves, and think about what you have to do to surf that water and stay alive. This book traces the development of surfing along the



stretch of coast between Tofino and Ucluelet and Port Renfrew and Jordan River. It's an absorbing read, full of wild characters and events, written with the same verve and energy one would need to wade into the frigid surf in the first place.

My Dad the Rum Runner

Jim Stone, BA'48, MA'50

▣▣ Here is a book that pulls no punches. It's about west coast rum running, concentrating on the exploits of the author's father, Stuart Stone, who was one of the most important captains of mother ships delivering good whiskey to thirsty Americans from 1930 to 1933. Based on the personal recollection of the author and on personal experiences of the rum runner's second wife, who served on board the five-masted schooner, Malahat, the book provides a fascinating look at day-to-day life on a ship that had to deliver precious cargo, all the while being chased by American Coast Guard boats. A great read, guaranteed to send you off looking for a tot of rum. ♦



ILLUMINATING ACHIEVEMENT

AWARDS DINNER "A GREAT PARTY"

The 9th annual Alumni Association Achievement Awards Dinner held on November 20 came off without a hitch. Award recipients were properly feted, guests got to hear some inspiring words from president Martha Piper, and raffle balloon purchasers got to bet a few dollars on winning some great prizes. Oh, and the food was pretty good, too.

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of the first Placer Dome scholarship to Adam Millar, a 2nd year mining engineering student who had the highest entrance marks in the entire faculty of Applied Science. Presented by Jennifer Gordon, VP Human Resources for Placer Dome, the scholarship represents that company's commitment to training, and hiring, the best and brightest.

The raffle was also a big success. Balloons quickly sold out, raising about \$4,000 for student scholarships and bursaries. This year's prizes ranged from trips to Newfoundland (with a cruise around 'the rock') and Orlando, Florida, to evenings on the town in Vancouver and Victoria, golf packages, getaways, specialty chocolates and even some electric toothbrushes. Thanks to our generous donors.

The dinner was a sellout, with more than 400 satisfied guests. The dinner also raised more than \$10,000 for student programs.

Nominate UBC's Best and Brightest! Do you know a member of the UBC family who is deserving of special recognition? You can nominate that person (or persons) to be considered for next year's awards. Call our offices for details, or visit our website, <http://www.alumni.ubc.ca/programs/awards/> and download a nomination form.



9TH ANNUAL ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS WINNERS

Stewart Blusson BSC'60, DSC'99
Lifetime Achievement Award

Maurice Copithorne QC, BA'54, LLB'54,
LLD'02 Alumni Award of Distinction

George Hungerford, OC, BA'65, LLB'68
Alumni Award of Distinction

Michael Phelps OCC, BA, LLB, LLD, LLM
Honorary Alumnus

Alice Mui, BSC'86, PHD'92
Outstanding Young Alumna

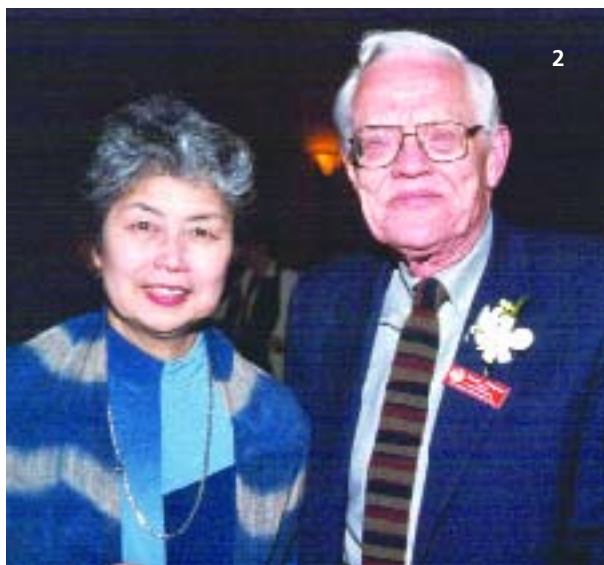
Martin Schechter, MA'75, PHD, MD, MSC
Alumni Award for Research

Romayne Gallagher BSC'79, MD'84, CCFP
Faculty Citation

Nadine Caron BSC, MD'97, MPH, FRCSC'03
Outstanding Student Award

Erfan Kazemi BSC'03
Outstanding





1 Lifetime achievement award winner Stewart Blusson, with wife Marilyn.

2 Award of distinction winner, Maurice Copithorne with wife Tama.

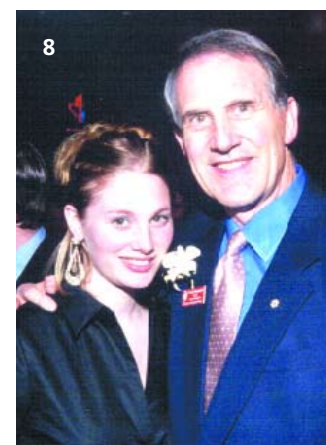
3 Nadine Caron, outstanding student award winner, and president Martha Piper.



4 Alice Mui, outstanding young alumna, centre, with her parents, Peter and Sue.

5 Master of Ceremonies, David Podmore with Raquel Hirsch, volunteer dinner chair.

6 Research award recipient Martin Schechter, with daughter Cynthia.



7 Romyne Gallagher, faculty citation community service award recipient, and husband Michael Baker.

8 George Hungerford, award of distinction recipient, and daughter Janie.

9 Outstanding student award recipient Erfan Kazemi, right, with parents Daryoush and Shideh.



ILLUMINATING ACHIEVEMENT



SPONSORS

PLATINUM

PLACER DOME INC.

LEAD SPONSOR Placer Dome came on board early with a \$10,000 sponsorship. During the dinner, Placer Dome Vice President, Human Resources **Jennifer Gordon** presented a \$5,000 scholarship to **Adam Millar**, a second-year Applied Science student in the mining department. Adam received the scholarship because he had the highest entrance marks in the department, averaging over 85 per cent for 37 credits. Adam's parents Alice and Don Millar, both UBC grads, were on hand to watch.



The 9th Annual Alumni Achievement Awards Dinner

GOLD



SILVER



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The benefits begin with graduation

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

Alumni *A^{ms}* partners offer you more value

The Alumni *A^{ms}* \$30 per year (plus GST).

UBC Community Borrower Library Card

Your *A^{ms}* entitles you to a UBC Community borrower library card at no additional cost.

Working downtown? The *A^{ms}* is now available at the library at Robson Square.

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A^{ms} holders receive 20% off adult single tickets (max 2) for individual events when the card is presented at the Chan ticket office. The Chan's new season starts in October. Call 604.822.2697 or visit www.chancentre.com for program details.

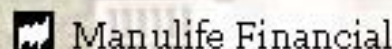
Vancouver Symphony Orchestra

A^{ms} holders receive the 15% subscribers' discount for the 2003/04 season (September - June), excluding special concerts, when card is presented at the VSO box office.



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E-mail: alumniinfo@alumni.ubc.ca

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2003/4 Alumni Travel

Education, exploration and adventure



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Jan. 25-Feb. 7, 2004

Explore New Zealand's North & South Islands aboard the luxurious 128 passenger Clipper Odyssey

Cortona, In Romantic Tuscany

April 7-15, 2004

This exciting program takes you to Cortona, nestled in the heart of Italy's Tuscany region

Provence, Aix-en-Provence

April 27-May 5, 2004

Springtime in France: art, architecture, history, food and wine.

Newfoundland and Labrador

June 4-12, 2004

Set out aboard the 106-guest Orion to explore Labrador and The Rock on this unusual voyage.

Holland and Germany

July 5-18, 2004

Continental passage, cruises the Rhine, Moselle, Main, Main-Danube Canal and Danube waterways. Two weeks of the history and beauty of Europe.

Ireland, Ennis

July 20-28, 2004

Alumni Campus Abroad: Excursions, lectures and 'meet the people' exchanges. Architectural treasures and astounding natural beauty.

For more information call
604.822.9629
toll free 800.883.3088
www.alumni.ubc.ca

ALUMNI NEWS

TODAY'S STUDENTS NEED YOUR HELP

Remember what it was like looking for that first job after graduation? Ever wish you knew then what you know now? We are looking for alumni who graduated in Arts subjects to come and speak to current students about their career paths and help them see what can be achieved with an Arts degree. *Beyond the BA* and *Arts Career Expo* are two events that attract nearly 500 Arts students and they are eager to hear what you have to say about the world of work. We have events for other faculties throughout the year as well. If you are interested in participating, please call Dianna at 604-822-8917 or email yamentor@alumni.ubc.ca.

YOUNG ALUMNI NETWORK EVENT REPORTS

The past three months have been exciting and busy for the UBC Young Alumni Network. YA held its second annual BBQ at Locarno Beach in August. October's Career Seminar was sold out, with young alumni coming out to listen to Marlene Delanghe from UBC Career Services giving tips and techniques to help with networking and dis-

Learning to Ride Members of the Education class of '78 met in Victoria and celebrated their 25th anniversary reunion at the Grand Pacific Hotel, October 24-26. A hardy group donned helmets and took to the bikepaths, making sure each other behaved appropriately. No detentions were necessary.



covering the hidden job market. November saw the long-awaited follow-up to the May Networking Night at Opus Bar in Yaletown. More than 45 alumni came out to meet some new people and connect with old friends in this trendy spot.

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 16: Alumni Night at the Vancouver Ravens. Join UBC, SFU and BCIT alumni at this Lacrosse game at GM Place. Tickets are only \$15 (regular \$24) and include a chance to win some really great prizes.

February: *For the Love of Money* workshop.

Come out and learn tax tips and investment advice that all young alumni should know. We will also have a speaker to cover what you need to know about insurance. \$15 – check website for details and to RSVP (www.alumni.ubc.ca/youngalumni).

There are many more events yet to be confirmed. Please keep checking our website for updates and details. And while you're there, why not sign up for our bi-monthly e-newsletter?

REGIONAL NETWORKS

Relocating? If you're moving to a new city or have already landed and are now looking to settle in, be sure to connect with the regional UBC alumni network in your region. Alumni coordinate regular social and business networking events as well as speaker series and outings to sporting events. Visit the Alumni Association website at www.alumni.ubc.ca or contact Tanya Walker at twalker@alumni.ubc.ca for a list of regional contacts. If you don't see a contact for your area and are interested in getting involved, she'll be pleased to hear from you. Many of the existing networks could also use your help and ideas.

Our networks are expanding! We're pleased to welcome four new networks in the USA and Europe:

Gothenburg, Sweden

Jacqueline Relova, BSc'98

Email: anne-jacqueline.relova@medkem.gu.se

Phone: 46705877612

Scottsdale, Arizona

REUNIONS 2004

This year, Reunion Weekend will be held from October 1 - 3. We are currently seeking class reps from '54, '79 and '94 to help organize reunions and events.

REUNION	DATE	DETAILS
Pharm '84	Oct 1-3	Harrison Hot Springs Resort
Law '74	Oct 22-24	Harrison Hot Springs Resort
Law '59	May 8	RVYC (TBC)
Med '54	June 1-4	On campus for convocation, then to Manteo Resort, Kelowna, BC
BASC'54	Oct 1-2	Friday Lunch at CGP, Sat Kick-Off followed by reception & tours of Engineering Bldgs

The following reunions are in the planning stages:

Pharmacy '94, Medicine '94, Micro Biology '93/'94, Nursing '89, Medicine '84, Law '84, Mechanical '84, Forestry '84, Law '79, Science '74, Home Ec '69, Chemical '69, Medicine '64, Pharmacy '64, Civil '64, Home Ec '64, Law '54, Mechanical '54, BASC'64, BASC'74, Mech'74. Please contact Jane Merling at 604.822.8918 or merling@alumni.ubc.ca for mor information or to help with reunion planning.



Hallowe'en in Hong Kong Grads from UBC, Simon Fraser and UVic scared each other silly at Hallowe'en Happy Hour on October 29, 2003, at Ruums. Peggy Wai BCOM'97 (the woman in the middle with the short-sleeved blue blouse) was social convenor for the event.



Andrew Rooker
Email: trooker@cox.net
Phone: 480-513-9705 or 480-661-2445

Minneapolis/Twin Cities, Minnesota
Mike Peplinski
E-mail: mikepep@comcast.net
Phone: 651-733-2340 or 651-260-6699

Bowling Green, Ohio
Tlell Elviss
Email: telviss@bgnet.bgsu.edu
Phone: 419-352-3351

Reports from Regional Networks:
President Martha Piper and vp Research Dr. Indira Samarasekera have both been out on the road meeting UBC alumni. Dr. Piper began her road trip in Singapore and later in the fall she met with alumni in Victoria and Calgary. Dr. Samarasekera provided a snapshot of research initiatives at this year's annual reception in Toronto. (Did you know that UBC researchers were the first in the world to describe the genome sequence of the SARS Corona Virus?) Our regional networks have also been busy organizing festive gatherings, monthly brunches, and pub nights as well as getting involved at education fairs and with other groups such as Club Canada in Beijing, Canadians Abroad in Los Angeles, the Canadian Society in New York and the Canadian Alumni Network in Shanghai.

Upcoming Regional Network Events

Here's a list of just a few upcoming regional events. Visit www.alumni.ubc.ca for a complete calendar of events, regularly updated.

Hockey Night in LA
Friday, January 9
All BC Universities (UBC, SFU and uvic)
Pre-game dinner at JT Schmid's and then watch the Vancouver Canucks barbeque the Anaheim Mighty Ducks
5:30 pm dinner

London, UK Pub Night
Thursday, January 22
Maple Leaf Pub
6:30 pm onwards

Toronto Sunday Brunch
Sunday, January 26
Korean Grill House
Noon

Phoenix Fiesta
Thursday, February 5
All-Canadian Alumni Social Gathering hosted by Queen's Sonora Brewhouse
6:00 – 8:00 pm

Toronto Sunday Brunch
Sunday, February 29
Dhaba
Noon

Martha Piper in Ottawa

Pub Night in Tokyo It's 'thumbs up' and 'peace, man' from Paddy Foley's Pub in Tokyo. Grads gather often for news from home, networking and a couple of pints.

Graduating Again At each Fall convocation the class celebrating its 60th anniversary gets to do it all over again. They gown up, cross the stage, get tapped on the head by the Chancellor and get their name announced. This year, the class of '43 got its turn. **Above** Later, at the party at Cecil Green Park, Joy (Walker) Huntley, BSA'43, left, and Mary (Mulvin) Dennis, BSA'43, MSA'52, look over the wartime version of the Totem yearbook, and shared some memories.

February Wednesday, February 8
Alumni and friends reception with President Martha Piper
Visit the website for more details

New York Reception
February/March TBC
Alumni and friends reception with Martin Glynn (President HSBC Bank USA) and greetings from Consul General Pamela Wallin.
Visit the website for more details.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The UBC Alumni Association will elect 3 members-at-large for the 2004-06 term. Please call our offices to obtain nomination forms 604.822.3313. ♦

CLASS ACTS

Class Acts are submitted by UBC alumni of all years who want to stay in touch with former classmates. Send your info to vanessac@alumni.ubc.ca or mail it to our offices (see page 2 for the address). Include photos if you can, and remember, we'll edit for space.

40s

Roger Bibace BA'49 is a professor in the department of Psychology at Clark University in Massachusetts. His research focus is on health psychology (clinical and developmental). He has also been appointed as faculty in the departments of Family Medicine and Community Health (1976-present); Obstetrics and Gynecology (1989-99) at the University of Massachusetts Medical School; and the department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the New England Medical Center/Tufts University Medical School (1999-present) ... **Garde Gardom** QC, BA'49, LLB'49, LL.D'02 received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from UVic at Spring Convocation ... **Dr. Colin B. Mackay** LLB'49, will receive an honorary degree from the University of Kenya. He is a former president of the University of New Brunswick.

50s

Lois Carley BA'57 has two daughters, both of whom are members of faculty at UBC: Dr. Susan Cadell teaches in the school of Social Work and Meryn Cadell teaches Lyrics and Libretto, a new course in the creative writing department ... **Peter Miller** BASC(CHEM)'52 and **Naomi Miller** (Allsebrook) BSN'51 had a busy summer celebrating their fiftieth wedding anniversary in Wasa, BC, on May 27, 2003, and again with visits from the families of daughters **Verle** BSC(PHARM)'78, **Heather** BSC'77, **Barbara** BA'80, Joy, and Ruth, and son **Murray** BASC(GEOL)'86 ... **M. Roma**



Miss World Canada Crowned in Toronto earlier this year, **Nazanin Afshin-Jam** BA'02 has set international journalism as her career goal. She placed second in Miss World competition in China in December.

Ranaghan Rowlands BSC(PHARM)'56 spent 10 days this spring in Guatemala as a member of a volunteer medical team of Docare International NFP, a medical outreach organization. The group flew to Poptun in northern Guatemala and provided basic medical and pharmaceutical care to the native Mayan Indians. A trip highlight was a visit to the excavated ruins of Tikal, which in 200 AD was a centre of culture and trade. Roma and husband Bob (BASC'59) live in Madison, Wisconsin. Bob is a professor of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Wisconsin and Roma, now retired, has been a homemaker and part-time pharmacist and, for the past 10 years, the pharmacist consultant for the Division of Health Care Financing, State of Wisconsin Medicaid program.

60s

James Archibald BSC'67 and wife **Patricia Archibald** (Beairsto) BA'67, BED'92 have just purchased the *Seniors Choice News Magazine*, distributed in the Okanagan and Thompson valleys in BC (www.seniorschoice.com) ... **Robert Amedee Cantin** BA'61 has retired after 40 years of service as an engineer and scientist in the southern California aerospace industry. He plans to volunteer at local Los Angeles private schools, teaching computer classes for students and seniors. (While working for his UBC degree, Rob taught science and math at four Manitoba high schools.) He lives with wife Judi in the Los Angeles area, five miles from the Pacific Ocean, LA International Airport, Marina Del Rey, Hollywood and Beverly Hills ... A few years ago, **C. Elaine McAndrew** BHE'62, MBA'74 moved to Salt Spring Island to care for her ailing father for the last five years of his life. She continued with her condominium consulting/

arbitration, property management business with a combination of telecommuting and regular trips to the mainland. She was instrumental in establishing a Salt Spring Island branch of the Canadian Federation of University Women. Elaine is now a grandmother and semi-retired. She enjoys painting, fabric design, duplicate bridge, gardening, and looks after a small herd of Chihuahuas. She is a member of the Chihuahua Rescue group and helps place dogs that have been abandoned or rescued from puppy mills. Elaine was alumni rep to the UBC Senate for six years and enjoyed participating in university activities. Her first chihuahua, Pepper, used to accompany her to senate meetings.

70s

Larry Beasley MA'76 has recently been appointed chairperson of the advisory committee on Planning, Design and Realty for Ottawa's National Capital Commission ... **Ben**

Lucas BSC (FORESTRY)'70, vice president and general manager for the Western Region of Stella-Jones Inc., and **Joyce Lucas** (Howarth) BED'72 are thrilled to announce the marriage of their son **Anthony Lucas** BSF'99 to **KimVersfeld** BSC'99 on July 27, 2003 at the Brock House Restaurant in Vancouver, BC. Tony and Kim reside in Toronto, Ontario. Tony is employed with Upper Canada Forest Products and Kim is a sales rep for Stem Cell Technologies Inc. ... **Daniel David Moses** MFA'77, prominent First Nations poet, playwright, editor and dramaturge, author of award-winning plays *The Dreaming Beauty* and *The Indian Medicine Shows* and co-editor of Oxford University Press' *An Anthology of Native Canadian Literature in English* (third edition due in 2004), has joined the department of Drama at Queen's as a Queen's National Scholar and assistant professor ... **Santo Sandhu** BED'78 has a new position after more than 16 years with the same firm. He is now an investment advisor with Wolverton Securities in Vancouver ... **Mark Satin** BA'72 is a journalist and attorney. His book, *The Radical Middle*, is about to be published by Westview Press/Perseus Books Group ... **Ron Willson** BA'71 has been selected for an award from the Professional Association of Foreign Service Officers. The selection was based on the strength of his exceptional career achievement over 27 years in the Foreign Service and more particularly for his outstanding work in extremely challenging circumstances in Zimbabwe from 1999 to 2002.

80s

David Greer BSC'80 and **Karalee Greer** (Craig) BSR'82 took a two-year break with their three children and cruised the Mediterranean. You can read about their travels at www.davidgreer.ca/cruise/news ... **Lucy J. Harrison** MLS'88 spent 12 years working as a librarian in Los Angeles – work punctuated by earthquakes, riots, floods, the O.J. Simpson trial, and, of course, fire. She returned to Canada imagining that she would grow old gracefully in beautiful British Columbia. However, retirement was a miserable experience, and she soon took up a position at Kai Nan University in Taiwan as an English teacher. "I love teaching English," says Lucy. "All my students are a joy to work with and, as with

any intercultural experience, sometimes it feels they are teaching me a great deal more than I am teaching them. They are even teaching me how to ride a motor scooter. Sure beats retirement!" ... **Michael Glenister** BED'89 married **Yvonne Grot-Glowcynski** on August 10, 2003 ... **John C. Johnson** BSF'81 has left Timberline Forest Inventory Consultants, where he was employed as an inventory forester and more recently as manager of Forest Ecology. He has moved from Prince George, BC, to Winnipeg, Manitoba, to study for an MA in Counselling and Psychology at Providence College and Seminary. He is also proud to announce the arrival of **Rowena** and **William**, a sister and brother for **Emily**, **Pat** and **Meg** ... **Kathleen Laird** BA'89 is living in Victoria with her two sons, **Cole** and **Quinn**. She started a small business called *Therapeutic Horticulture*, which focuses on offering specialized horticultural programs to seniors, hospitals, children and the disabled, as well as private garden restorations.

90s

Craig Holzschuh MFA'99 and **Amy Davison** BA'00, LLB'03, were married on August 2, 2003, in Surrey, BC. Craig is currently working as the artistic and managing director of *Theatre la Seizieme* in Vancouver as well as teaching in the UBC Theatre department. Amy is clerking at the BC Supreme Court until September 2004, when she will complete her articles at **Borden Ladner Gervais** ... **Shane P. Garbutt** BCOM'97 joined **Deloitte Touche** in 2002. His focus is on casino gaming, educational institutions and other private entities. He was recently promoted from senior accountant to the position of manager in the Louisiana practice ... **Jimmy Liu** BASC'91 wants to inform his classmates that, for the past five years, he has been working in the US for **Western Family Foods** as a Windows system administrator ... **Andrea Lister** BA'94 married **Darren Durupt** on September 13, 2003. The couple lives in Vancouver where Andrea



Convocation day at the University of Waterloo in June, 2003, saw the Hon. Mr. Justice Frank Iacobucci of the Supreme Court of Canada presented with an honorary Doctor of Laws degree. For three other UBC alumni at Waterloo, who gathered to celebrate both convocation and the conferment of the *honoris causa*, it was also a day of fond West Coast memories. Proud in their alma mater robes are (l-r) **Amit Chakma** PHD'87, VP Academic and Provost, **Mr. Justice Iacobucci** LL'D'89, **Gabriel Niccoli** PHD'83, chair of French and Italian Studies, and **Sheila Ager** PHD'89, associate dean of Arts for Undergraduate Studies

CLASS ACTS

as a communications manager for the software firm, ADP Dataphile ... **Dan Massey** MBA'93, along with wife **Donna Massey** (Savard) BSN'91 and five-year-old son Nicolas, is leaving Hong Kong for the Channel Islands. Dan is an international manager with the HSBC Group and will be taking on the position of senior manager, Global Funds and Insurance in Jersey. He was first posted to Hong Kong in 1996, was moved to Seoul for a couple of years, then back to Hong Kong in 2001 ... After graduation **John E. McClelland** BCOM'92 worked for a few years in a human resources capacity with a large grocery retailer, then worked with the family general construction business until 2001 when he joined Wal-Mart Canada. He has worked as an assistant manager in three locations, most recently in Courtenay, BC. John got married in 1996 to Nalan Uluorta and they now have two great girls (Erin, six, and Hannan, five) and a strapping boy (Isaac, two) ... **Michael Nyberg** BCOM'90 lives in the US and has had an interesting career, primarily in the oil and gas sector. He began as an intern at Westcoast Energy (now Duke Energy) in Vancouver, then joined the British Columbia Petroleum Corporation as a natural gas analyst. After that crown corporation was amalgamated into the Ministry of Energy, he transferred to Victoria and continued to work within the Ministry as an energy analyst. He met his wife while visiting Sacramento, California. After their marriage in 1995 he took up residence there and worked as a contractor at McClelland Air Force Base until landing his current position as an Energy Specialist with the California Energy Commission. He has two sons, Spencer and Liam ... **Roger Rizzo** BCOM'90, a corporate and commercial solicitor, has joined Bernard & Partners ... **Trang Vo** BCOM'99 has been awarded a Juris Doctor degree by the Thomas Jefferson School of Law in San Diego.

OOS

Jeanette Bardsley BED'00 married Gerard Murphy on July 6, 2002. She was escorted down the aisle by her father, **Bob Bardsley** MSC'71. Ring bearer **Jaimie Bardsley**



Are we having fun yet? **Andrea Lister** BA'94 and **Darren Durupt** can't believe their good fortune. They were married in September, 2003.



Motor Madness! **Lucy Harrison** MLS'88, left retirement to teach English in Taiwan.



Conference? What conference? During an Administrative Sciences Association of Canada conference in Halifax this June, a number of UBC alumni met up for their own mini-conference. (l-r) **Mallika Das** MBA'79, professor of marketing, Mt. St. Vincent University; **Moragh Kusy**; **Vernon Jones** MBA'70, PHD'75, associate dean of Commerce, U. of Calgary, **Hermann Schwind** PHD'79, Professor Emeritus, Saint Mary's U; **Baba Vishvanath** PHD'80, dean of Commerce, McMaster; **Martin Kusy** PHD'78, dean of Commerce, Brock; **Ruth Schwind** BA'76; **Hari Das** MSC'76, PHD'79, professor, department of Management, Saint Mary's.

BASC(MENG)'00 and flower girl **Sandy Noble** PHD'99 preceded the Murphys' three bridesmaids and three groomsmen ... **Trevor Franklin** BA'00 is studying for his MBA at the Atkinson Graduate School of Management at Willamette University in Salem, Oregon with the help of a J. Armand Bombardier fellowship ... **Jordana Heaton** MLIS'02 and **Jean Clermont** MA'00 were married on June 28, 2003. The couple relocated to Ottawa in 2002 and began careers in the federal public service ... Last spring, **Darren Lund** PHD'02 won an Outstanding Dissertation Award from the American Educational Research Association for his PHD dissertation, *Social Justice Pedagogy and Teacher-Student Activism: A Collaborative Study of School-Based Projects*. His work explored anti-racist activities by high school students and teachers in Alberta. He found that community activism among young people to address social problems was higher than media coverage, that typically focuses on youth crime, would suggest. He hopes to publish his findings in a book and expand his research into a pilot project that includes the development of an electronic anti-racism resource kit for teachers and students ... **Phil Schafran** MBA'01 is beginning a two-year Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) assignment as director of resource development in MCC British Columbia. He attends Northview Community Church in Abbotsford, BC. ♦

IN MEMORIAM

In Memoriam listings can be sent by post (see masthead), or email to vanessac@alumni.ubc.ca. If sending photographs electronically, please scan at 133 dpi.

Edward Marzocco BASC'47 on December 15, 2002, in Nanaimo ... **Michael Omelianiec** BCOM'59 on June 2, 2003 ... **Ruth Mary Webb** (Brandon) BA'37, born February 8, 1915, died April 13, 2003, from complications resulting from a fall ...

John Collison BSC'69

John and two companions were killed when his plane crashed 14 km northeast of Penticton, August 29, 2003. He was president of Madison Publishing, which owned community papers in Whistler, Squamish, Lillooet, Powell River and the Sunshine Coast. Prior to that, he was president of Lower Mainland Publishing, overseeing more than 800 employees. "He was one of those people who had tremendous intellect but who gave people who worked with him the opportunity to flourish. Most of the people who worked closely with him are intensely loyal to him," says colleague Sam Grippo. Though very hard working John also had a playful, adventurous side and enjoyed scuba diving, riding his Harley, and flying. He was part-owner of a flying school. His dream was to live on a boat that could accommodate his plane. "He didn't live to see that dream fulfilled, but he did live long enough to enjoy the fruits of many years' hard work. He died doing what he loved," says colleague Peter Ladner.

Charles J. Connaghan BA'59, MA'60



Charles Connaghan

Chuck was born on February 14, 1932 on the Island of Arranmore, off the coast of Donegal, Ireland. He died on October 25, 2003. His association with UBC went far beyond studying. Among many other involvements, he

was president of the Alma Mater Society ('58-'59) during which time he was involved in setting the groundwork for establishing the Student Union Building. In 1984, he was the recipient of the annual Great Trekker Award, joining the likes of John Turner and Pierre Burton. He was vice president of Administrative Services at UBC ('75 - '80), a member of the UBC Senate ('70-'75), a member of the university's board of governors ('72-'75), and he sat on the Alumni Association's board of directors ('60-'61). He also met his wife on campus and all three of his children were educated at UBC.

His career off campus also shone and was rewarded with much public recognition, including the Order of Canada in 2000 and the Queen's Jubilee Medal. "From the cradle, it was instilled in me that my purpose was to serve, not be served, and to help wherever I can in the community," he said at the time. Organizations he has served include the Canada-Japan Society of Vancouver, the Canadian Club, the Council for Canadian Unity, the Business Council of BC, St. Vincent and St. Paul's hospitals, the BC Round Table on the Environment and the Economy, and the World Wildlife Fund. He was an honorary member of the Boys and Girls Club of Canada and a director of the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Chuck was a respected industrial relations consultant and held many senior management positions during his career.

Margaret Winton Creelman

BA'31

Margaret was born in Calgary, Alberta, on March 17, 1910 and died on July 19, 2003, in Vancouver. During the war she served in the WRNS as a librarian. After UBC, she attended McGill then Columbia. She spent her working life as a librarian with the Vancouver Public Library.

Norman Gareth Dent BA'56, LLB'57

Norman went home to be with the Lord peacefully on Monday, May 19, 2003,



Norman Dent

after a brief illness. He was born in Limerick, Saskatchewan, on February 15, 1929, but spent most of his adult life in Vancouver and Prince George. Norman is survived by his wife of 46 years, Madeline (DeLuca), son Daniel (Georgia), and two grandsons Josh and Andrew. During his years at UBC he appeared in the Musical Society Productions *The Student Prince* ('52) and later in *Bonanza* ('55) under his stage name of Rick Conway. He was

also involved in founding the United Nations Club. The UBC motto *Tuum Est* was a living motto for him and in later years he would often recite it to his sons and grandson when they needed inspiration.

Dr. Reid George

Fordyce BASC'35, MASC'36

Reid Fordyce of Gig Harbor, Washington, passed away on July 4, aged 89, following a mercifully brief battle with liver cancer. He had fond memories of his time at UBC and his youth in Vancouver. Although he had lived in the US for more than 60 years, Vancouver was always home to him.

After receiving his PhD from McGill in 1939, he joined the Monsanto Company, working in technical and administrative posts in several locations throughout the US. He and wife Alice retired to Gig Harbor in 1981, where gardening, sailing and golf replaced organic chemical engineering as his primary interests. He is survived by Alice, his brother David, children Duncan, Meredith, Alastair, Wendy Kyle, grandchildren Abigail Francis, Alexandra Flowers, Alexander and Sion, and great-grandson Ethan Flowers.

Dr. Michael William Gardner, BSC, MSC'93, PHD'00

Dr. Gardner was born in the Royal Columbian

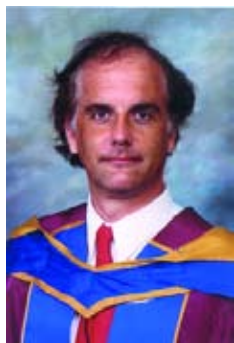


Reid Fordyce



Margaret Creelman

IN MEMORIAM



Michael Gardner

Hospital in New Westminster, BC, on April 15, 1961. He died on September 14, 2003, in London, England, aged 41. He had moved to London to pursue his career as a doctor of physics. He was a talented man with a great sense of humour and was popular with colleagues. He will be sadly missed by his parents William and Eveline Gardner. They can be contacted at 604-

540-9770.

Dr. Todd Garrett BASC'58, MASC'60

Todd died in the early hours of September 12, 2003, as a result of a severe stroke and brain embolism. He was surrounded by his family in his passing and will be dearly missed. He cherished his time at UBC and his association



Todd Garrett

with the university.

William Osborne Hudson BEM, BED'38, BA'52

Born July 12, 1912, Bill passed this life peacefully on November 5, 2003 aged 91 years. Bill is survived by his loving wife of 57 years, Kate Hudson; son Donald and wife Frances; grandchildren, David, Erin, Sean; and son David (BASC'73, Electrical) and wife Anne.

Bill graduated from high school in New Westminster in 1927 and from UBC Normal School with Distinction in 1932. He served the New Westminster School system as Teacher, Vice Principal and Principal from 1933 to 1976. Bill received his BA in 1938 and BED in 1952, both from UBC. Bill played the violin and was a member of the New Westminster Symphony Orchestra.

Bill was a Mason and a member of the BPOE New Westminster. He served his country in the RCAF from 1940 to 1945 and was awarded the British Empire Medal (Military Division) in 1945, pre-

sented in Winnipeg by the Earl of Athlone.

Educator, musician, builder, artist, poet, fisherman, pilot, writer, raconteur, chess-player, husband, father, friend – the world is a richer place for his having lived. Bill will be sadly missed by his family and friends.

James August Moore BA'32, BED'34 MA'39

Jim passed away on June 22, 2003, in his ninety-second year, from the complications of Parkinson's Disease with which he was challenged and lived courageously for over 20 years. He is survived by his devoted wife, Donna-Mae, who wishes to thank the many friends and health care professionals who helped throughout the years.

Jim will be remembered professionally for his commitment to education in British Columbia, including his contribution to developing and implementing the community college concept provincially in the 1960s. He was appointed chair of Mathematics and Sciences at Langara campus, where he retired in 1974.

A memorial service was held at 2:00 pm on July, 2003, in the Chapel of Purdy Extended Care Pavilion, UBC Hospital. In lieu of other tributes, donations would be appreciated by the charity of your choice, or by The Vancouver Foundation for the James A. and Donna-Mae Moore Endowment for Humanity. The Moore Endowment is dedicated to the relief of suffering through its support of international humanitarian work and biomedical research conducted into Parkinson's Disease and related neurodegenerative and movement disorders. (Vancouver Foundation: 604-688-2204)



James Moore and Gypsy

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PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Nadine taught in Delta, Vancouver and Surrey for more than 30 years. She worked with the Ministry of Education on resource materials, co-authored a book on education, taught courses for UBC and delivered workshops throughout the Lower Mainland and in Ontario and the US.

She was an extraordinary educator in the public school system. She was an inspirational teacher, beloved by the children she taught, and respected and supported by her peers and her students' parents. She was an administrator in Surrey for the last 13 years and was regarded as a creative and inspirational leader. Her work with "whole language" was innovative and the programs that she piloted were inspiring. Nadine had a holistic approach to education that helped change the direction of education wherever she went. She was kind, compassionate and an eloquent speaker who brought out the skills and talents in the teachers with whom she worked. Nadine loved to dance, garden, ski and was a hostess par excellence. Nadine and Raymond were married for 29 years and Raymond will miss his beloved Nadine more than words can express. Nadine was totally dedicated and devoted to her children and will be sorely missed by them. Through her ordeal with cancer, she had provided a strong example of courage and strength in the face of adversity to all who knew her. On the occasion of her passing, and in recognition of her significant contribution to education, the flag above UBC's Rose Garden was lowered to half-mast on July 10, 2003.

William Hodgetts (Buzz) Tisdall B.A.S.C.'51

Born 1917, died 2003. Buzz Tisdall was a Vancouver son born at the family home on Georgia Street. He attended Vancouver schools, graduating from Prince of Wales. After high school he worked for the Canadian Bank of Commerce in Vernon and in Victoria for four years and was a member of the Vancouver Rowing Club. He signed with the Seaforth's of Canada as a private for the duration of hostilities in September, 1939.



Nadine Pelland

He fought in Italy and Holland as a line soldier and ended the war unwounded as a lieutenant. He attended UBC from 1948 until 1951 on his war credits and various jobs, and graduated with a degree in Geological Engineering. He moved to Calgary and worked for Sun Oil and subsidiaries Cordera Mining and Great Canadian Oil Sands in both conventional and nonconventional oil exploration. In 1972 he became a contract engineer as WH Tisdall Resources in Calgary. He was working on his 2003 summer drilling program when he died after a short illness.

He was a cub scout leader for 10 years, president of the local PTA for ten years, a member of the Legion, a Mason and a photographer. He greeted everyone with an inviting smile and was genuinely interested in people and was always prepared to help in any way. Curious about a wide range of subjects he never threw a book away, but his primary interest was military history. He attended three celebrations for the liberation of Amsterdam as a guest of the Dutch government and never realized until that time what a contribution the Canadian troops had made. He climbed the mountains around Calgary every weekend and took up roller blading when he was 79 years old. The week before his death he could do the same number of situps as his age, 86. He leaves his wife, Phyllis (Milligan) B.A.'43, at the family home; sister Frances Ruth Ford, B.A.'35, Vancouver; a daughter, Barbara Groves, RN of Calgary; and two sons, Dr. Phillip Tisdall of New Hampshire and Dr. Robbie Tisdall of Bellingham, WA, seven grandsons and two grand daughters.



Buzz Tisdall

Anne Barbara Underhill B.A.'42, M.A.'44, PH.D., D.S.C.(HON)'92

Dr. Anne Underhill died on July 3, 2003. In 1992, UBC recognized her achievements during her 40-year career as a research scientist in the field of Astronomy by awarding her an Honorary Doctor of Science degree. The citation noted her international renown and copious amounts of published research. It

recognized her role in our understanding of hot, blue stars: "Among the newest objects discovered in the universe, these stars not only fascinate astronomers but their analysis and interpretation require an understanding of a wide range of theoretical physics. Anne Underhill has pioneered many of the very sophisticated techniques now used in the analysis of these stars."

Positions she held include physicist with the National Research Council of Canada, professor of Astrophysics at the State University of Utrecht (Netherlands), and chief, then senior scientist, of the Laboratory for Optical Astronomy. Other honours bestowed on Anne include a National Research Council Fellowship and Fellowship of the Royal Society of Canada.



Anne Underhill

Peter Vajda

Peter slipped away peacefully in his sleep on Sunday, August 10, 2003, in Sidney, BC. He is predeceased by first wife Frances (1993) and survived by second wife Bettie; children Andrée (Bill), Chris (Jody) and Stephen (Joni); grandchildren Britt, Shane, Michael, Danna, Stephanie, Lexi and Adam; sister Eva; and Bettie's loving family.

Born in Budapest on March 10, 1913, Peter's early classical Jesuit schooling contrasted with his later training as a mechanical engineer in Zurich. Peter came to America as a member of the Swiss University Ski Team in 1937. During that trip, he adventured to Banff to ski the Canadian Rockies. There in western Canada, he fell in love and stayed. Peter spent his early days in the Rockies as a mountain guide and ski instructor. He may be remembered from that period as a poster boy for alpine skiing in Banff. After working in Whitehorse and Ocean Falls, he settled in Vancouver and took a position at UBC as an instructor in Mechanical Engineering. He coached the university ski team and met many lasting friends. His career led to Columbia Engineering, where he helped develop technologies used in engineered wood products. He will be remembered as one of the "grandfathers of particle board," also as the designer of the original chairlifts

IN MEMORIAM

also as the designer of the original chairlifts on Grouse Mountain and for his professional guidance at Lake Louise, Silver Star and Whistler Mountain.

He will also be remembered as a friend, a teacher, a father and an adventurer. Godspeed on his next adventure. Many thanks for the outstanding and loving care at the Sidney Care Home. Donations in his memory can be made to Saanich Peninsula Hospital Foundation, 2166 Mount Newton Xroad, Saanich, BC, V8M 2B2

Dr. Bessie Viridi BSC (AGR)'69, MSC'71
Dr. Bessie Viridi was born in Rangoon, Burma, in 1945 and moved with her family to Brunei on the island of Borneo in 1950. She came to Canada to attend UBC in 1965. Bessie went to Tanzania as a CUSO volunteer, and taught biometrics and horticulture at the University of Morogoro from 1972-76. Back in Canada, she obtained her PHD in Plant Breeding at the University of Manitoba in 1982. Bessie returned to Africa with CIDA to head the Crop Production Department and manage the university farm at the University of Swaziland from 1983-86.

Her intense compassion for the less fortunate in developing countries led her to Carlton University in Ottawa, where she completed her MA in Development Administration in 1988. She then consulted with CIDA and various NGOs in the area of gender awareness and women's participation in agriculture. She continued this process in Bangladesh, working in Canadian and British aid projects from 1990-99.

Bessie became a Canadian citizen in 1979, was married in 1992 and retired with her husband to Canada in 1999. She passed away on September 1, 2003, after a brief battle with cancer. Her strength, determination, kindness and quiet insight have touched many and will be long remembered.

William John Zoellner BA'48, BED'56
After a long and full life, Bill Zoellner died in Kelowna on February 20, 2003, leaving his wife, Dorothy Jean, sons Garnet (Daryl)

and Reay (Debbi), nine grandchildren and a great grandson.

Born in 1923 in Prince Albert, SK, Bill grew up in Vancouver and was an RCAF officer during WWII. By 1948, Bill had completed his studies at UBC and began his 18-year teaching career in Grand Forks, using his lively musical and dramatic style in widespread and creative ways. To his great joy, he met and fell in love with a fellow teacher, Dorothy Jean Whitham. Bill and Dorothy Jean were married in 1953 and sons Garnet and Reay were born in the early years of their marriage. Bill later became principal of Grand Forks Secondary School, followed by a distinguished 17-year career as superintendent of three school districts: Northern Vancouver Island-Ocean Falls, Nelson and Kelowna (Central Okanagan). He retired from education in 1983 as director of examinations, BC Ministry of Education.

Following retirement, Bill began a third career as a community volunteer, serving with Crisis Line, welcoming patients at the Cancer Lodge, and helping out at Kelowna General Hospital in the Emergency department and the cancer clinic. Bill was fond of golf fairways in the warmer months and curling during the winter.

His grandchildren are thankful for the joyful memories of many summers spent at Opa and Oma's lake, and the family gives thanks to God for Bill's life and the enduring influence he has upon us. Donations may be made to the Southern Interior Cancer Lodge, 2251 Abbott St., Kelowna, BC V1Y 1E2.

Brahm Wiesman

Brahm Wiesman, former head of the School of Community and Regional Planning (SCARP), passed away peacefully on July 20, 2003, aged 77. He was one of the first professional city planners in Canada, renowned not only

for his positive influence on the practice of planning but also for creating other generations of insightful planners through his teaching.

His undergraduate degree (McGill) was in Architecture, at a time when urban planning was not a subject choice. He was, however, able to take a masters in Planning – the first time McGill had offered it.

He never forgot that cities are a human context and his planning philosophy evolved accordingly. The profession was a fledgling one but he developed an impressive career path for himself, strengthening and giving credence to the profession as he went. He became assistant director of Planning in Edmonton (where he met his wife, Madge) and some of the ingenuities he introduced to planning practice there still influence the way things are

done today. He went on to the position of director of Planning in Victoria, before moving to Vancouver. After working on the city's new planning board, he joined SCARP at UBC in 1967. His interests broadened to include the study of human settlements around the world. He and his wife loved to travel.

"He was soft-spoken, gentle, courageous, inclusive and a very sensible, practical guy who instinctively taught, because he knew what he was talking about," said colleague Peter Oberlander. "He engaged his students and they all truly responded. He was a natural teacher; that's why I asked him to join us."

Another colleague, Peter Boothroyd,

remembers his lucidity: "He was a very clear thinker, and an equally clear speaker. He had an economy of words. He did not speak at length on any topic, but what he said was always straight to the point and very persuasive and forceful." After retiring, Brahm continued to share his expertise in teaching and planning, especially with universities and cities in



Bill Zoellner



Brahm Wiesman

When Linda's husband died suddenly, she had to get a second job just to keep the house.



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** Statistics Canada, Death 1996 - Report MRO01005.

*** Investor Executive - The Household Balance Sheet Report - 2001 Edition.

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