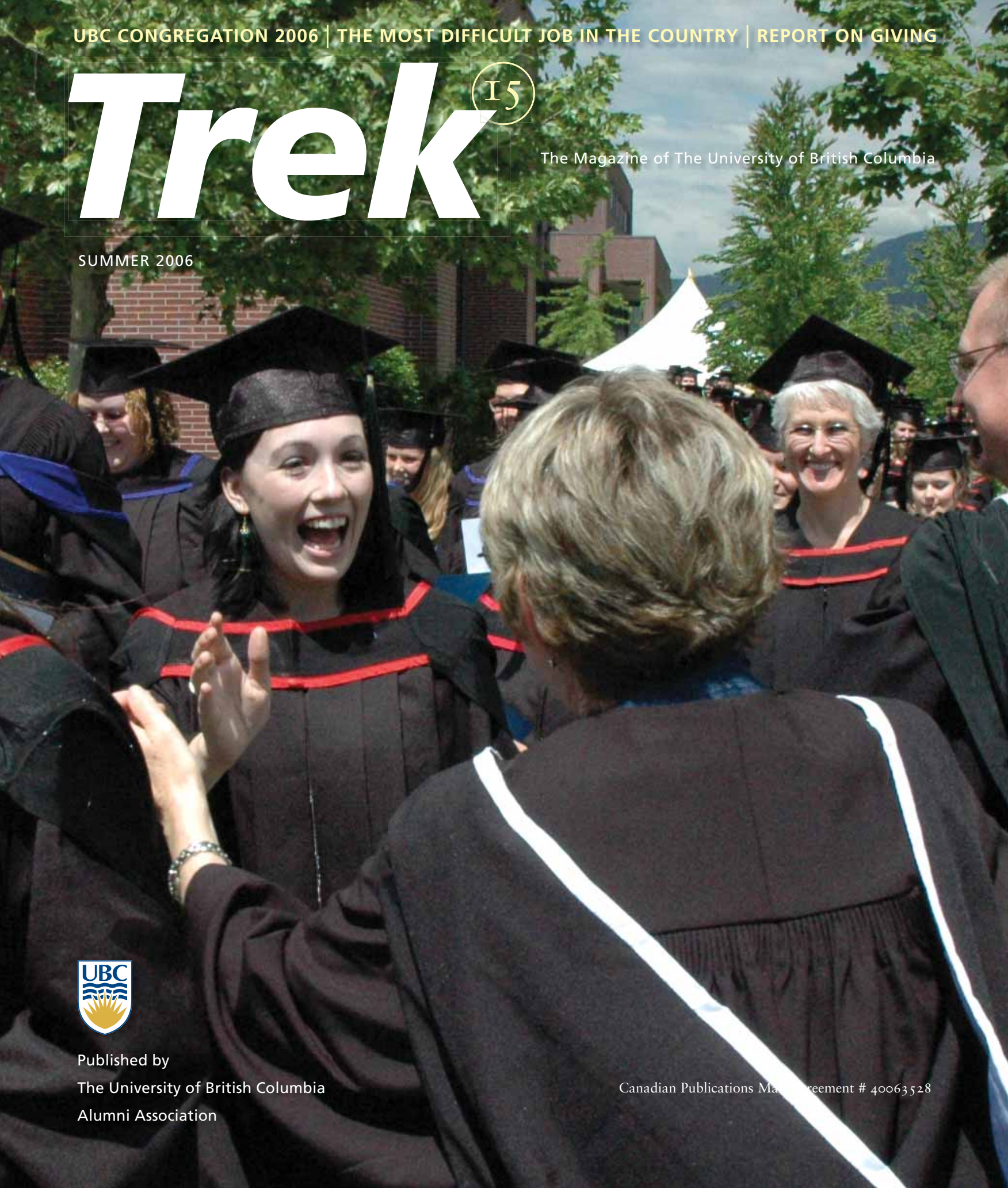


# Trek

I5

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The  
University  
of  
British  
Columbia

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Left: Martha Piper addresses graduates at this year's convocation ceremonies at the Point Grey campus. In her nine year term, Dr. Piper has officiated at nearly 300 grad ceremonies. Martin Dee photo.

Cover: UBC Okanagan graduate Amy Gyori, BSN'06, shows the joy and excitement of graduation. She's part of the first class to graduate from UBC Okanagan. Chris Petty photo.

# I5

## CONVOCATION, CONGREGATION, COMMENCEMENT AKA GRADUATION

DIFFERENT INSTITUTIONS call it different names: convocation implies the gathering together of persons involved in some similar pursuit; congregation implies entry into a select, existing group; and commencement implies the beginning of something new. It all boils down to one thing: graduation.

Travelling up to Kelowna for the ceremony to graduate the first class from UBC Okanagan was an odd and exhilarating experience. I used to visit Kelowna often as a child, so I've seen it change over the years. Time and development haven't been exactly kind to the city; it's grown quickly and prosperously but big box stores and sprawling developments give one the sense of a King-sway gone mad. But the setting is magnificent, and the area absolutely charming.

The addition of UBC Okanagan is, from this perspective, one of the best things to happen to Kelowna since Ogo-pogo. The graduation of the class of 2006 only puts an exclamation point on the whole project.

The campus sits perched above the valley like a medieval town, with views for miles. It buzzes with possibility, with new residences being built, floors added to existing buildings

and plans for expansion already in the works.

The graduation ceremonies – there were two to accommodate all 500 grads – were exciting and inspiring, the way graduation ceremonies should be. Martha Piper spoke eloquently and passionately, these being the last graduation ceremonies she would attend



New grad Cassandra Greenhough and dad, Terry, at UBC Okanagan.

as UBC's president.

But the real buzz was with the graduates. Lining up in the main square to make the procession to the auditorium, grads were literally jumping up and down in anticipation. There was an electricity in the air (and not just because thunderclouds threatened),

and a sense that something exceptional was about to happen.

But it wasn't just this year's grads who were jumping up and down. Terry Greenhough, DIP'94 (ART ED) was altogether as excited as his daughter, Cassandra, who was about to receive a BA in Psychology. Green-

hough, who teaches art education to Junior High students in Salmon Arm, was part of the "Wall of Welcome" UBC alumni living in the Valley formed to bring new grads into the fold. His pride in his daughter's accomplishment was palpable.

And who can blame him? Bright, attractive, full of hope and promise, Cassandra and her classmates have the world at their feet, and are equipped as well as any generation has been to deal with its troubles, its joys and its opportunities. Now, with a degree from her father's alma mater, Cassandra can join Terry at next year's "Wall of Welcome" to bring the Class of 2007 into the fold.

Commencement, indeed. UBC Okanagan's grad ceremonies give us all hope for new beginnings.

For more on UBC Okanagan's first graduation ceremony, see page 19.

*Chris Petty, MFA'86, editor*



## TAKE NOTE

### Nobel Laureate Champions Science Education

■ A Nobel Laureate in Physics and champion of science education has joined UBC from the University of Colorado (CU). His appointment heralds a commitment to dramatically improve the quality of science education at UBC, and \$12 million has been earmarked to accomplish this over the next five years.

Professor Carl E. Wieman was the 2004 United States Professor of the year, and now UBC students will be able to benefit from his insights. “I am joining UBC because I am excited to be a part of this initiative and hope that my expertise can help realize it,” he says. Wieman will be one of just two Nobel Laureates currently based at Canadian universities (the other is John C. Polanyi at uofT).

And it’s not just UBC students who stand to gain. Wieman is maintaining links with CU and other institutions and he hopes that the new standard he is developing will be widely adopted to the benefit of all students. Susan Avery, CU’s Executive Vice-Chancellor and Provost, said: “We are sad to see Carl go but also delighted that we will be able to leverage resources, build an international partnership in the sciences and develop tools, strategies, and assessments for enhancing undergraduate science education.”

Wieman is complimentary about existing UBC initiatives and looks forward to working with campus partners such as the Centre for Teaching and Academic Growth, the Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund, the Institute for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, the Student Horizons in Education project and the Science Centre for Learning and Teaching. He favours an evidence-based approach with an emphasis on the student experience.

Vice President Academic and Provost Lorne Whitehead said that the appointment and accompanying plans are “a pivotal investment in the future of all education. The project supports UBC’s Trek 2010 strategic plan by providing our students with the best possible educational experience. Although this pilot project focuses mainly on science, it also includes immediate efforts to build support



**Carl Wieman, Nobel Laureate, will focus on undergraduate science education at UBC.**

## Huntington's Disease Cure in Mice

Huntington Disease (HD) directly affects one in 10,000 Canadians. It causes the degeneration of neurons, adversely affecting brain function relating to movement, intellectual faculty, and emotional state. To date, there is no cure or prevention for the disease, which also has a huge impact on caregivers, family members and persons at risk.

A UBC research team exploring the nature of HD by studying mice with the condition has recently experienced a major breakthrough. Led by Dr. Michael Hayden and based in UBC's Centre for Molecular Medicine and Therapeutics, the researchers have demonstrated for the first time a convincing cure for the disease in mice that they hope will eventually translate into a treatment for humans.

A hypothesis began to emerge 10 years ago when the team discovered that cleavage of a mutant protein – the huntingtin protein that causes HD in a mouse model – might be a major cause behind the onset of HD. To test the hypothesis, the researchers created an animal model for HD that closely resembles the disease as it appears in humans, especially with regard to the human HD gene. This allowed them to accurately track the development of the disease and to determine that cleavage of the huntingtin protein is triggered by the enzyme known as caspase-6. When the action of this enzyme was blocked, the mice did not go on to develop the symptoms of HD and their brain functioning remained normal. The researchers (including lead author, Dr. Rona Graham) are now testing their model of prevention in mice using drug inhibitors.

Dr. Marian DiFiglia professor of Neurology at Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School, is considered a leading world expert on HD. “Dr. Hayden and his team have shown in convincing fashion that many of the changes seen in HD patients can be erased in HD mice simply by engineering a mutation into the disease gene that prevents the protein from getting cleaved at a specific site,” she says. “Patients of this disease should know that this is a research milestone for all and that this work brings the field closer to finding effective treatment for a devastating disorder.”

Dr. Hayden holds a Canada Research Chair in Human Genetics and Molecular Science. Funding for the research was provided by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Hereditary Disease Foundation, the Huntington Disease Society of America, the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research, the High Q Foundation, Merck Frosst, and the Child and Family Research Institute of BC.

## TAKE NOTE

in other areas of education. To have a world-class researcher engaging not only undergraduate and graduate students but also helping provide instructional tools to our faculty is nothing less than remarkable.”

### If You Can't Beat 'Em...

■ Influenza, HIV, Ebola, the common cold . . . viruses are one of the scariest challenges to health that we face today. Traditionally researchers have tried to combat deadly viral characteristics, but now a UBC research group is working on harnessing one to work for the good. Viruses are adept at targeting specific cell types and transferring to them their own genetic information. Researchers are hoping to capitalize on this characteristic by removing the virus' own genetic code and replacing it with different genetic information that will treat or even cure a condition.

Associate Professor Timothy Kieffer is a UBC researcher who specializes in diabetes, which occurs when the pancreas is unable to produce enough insulin to regulate blood sugar levels. Described as epidemic by the World Health Organization, diabetes affects 177 million people worldwide, many of whom are treated with insulin injections. Kieffer and his team hope that their research will lead to the elimination of injections by introducing genetic information to a diseased pancreas that will prompt it to start producing its own supply. To this end, the team aims to develop a viral vector over the next five years. “Helping the body to regenerate its own cells would take us beyond treatment to a cure,” says Kieffer, whose research colleagues are assistant professor Jim Johnson of UBC's Life Sciences Institute, and associate professors Bruce Verchere and Rusung Tan from Vancouver's Child and Family Research Institute.

The group has a research link with the University of Pittsburgh's Paul D. Robbins, an expert in transporting genes to specific cell types. In the case of diabetes, the new genetic material must be introduced to the pancreatic beta cells responsible for producing insulin. These are few in number and spread out around the organ, but exploiting a viral capacity for pinpointing cell types may hold the key to success. The precision involved also means less likelihood of the treatment impinging negatively elsewhere in the body.

The research is still young, but viral vectors have the potential to be used as tools in combating a variety of conditions such as cancer and narrowing of the arteries. Research is still at an early stage and Kieffer estimates a therapy for diabetes is still at least 10 years away.

### Good Cholesterol, Bad Cholesterol

■ Researchers in UBC's Centre for Molecular Medicine and Therapeutics have made a discovery about cholesterol that will have implications for future research directions as well as current treatments. Dr. Michael Hayden and his team were able to prove that almost all of a body's good cholesterol – or high-density lipoprotein (HDL), as it is known to the experts – is produced by the intestine and liver.

These findings weren't entirely expected, and the focus of future research attention will likely change in response. “These results alter our understanding of how HDL is produced in the body and demon-



UNIVERSITIES TEND TO TAKE ON the personalities of their presidents, especially when those presidents are remarkable individuals. From her initial impact on the public – “Think About It” hats were in high demand across the province – Martha Piper became the personification of UBC as an institution.

Over the next few years she redefined UBC’s overall mission with *Trek 2000*, a specific and wide-ranging

document that focused on UBC’s strengths internationally, and on its research capabilities at home. *Trek 2000* would have become just another public relations piece had it not been for Martha’s insistence that its preparation involve faculty, staff, students and alumni, and that it reflect ideals held by a majority of UBC’s constituents. *Trek 2000* became part of UBC’s fabric.

*Trek 2010*, the follow-up to *Trek 2000*, was equally as impressive. Again, using input from every university group, she crafted a document that accepted the gains and challenges of the past and produced a vision of UBC that made sense, that advanced the institution, and that was possible to accomplish. She introduced grand ideas that stated UBC “will prepare students to become exceptional global citizens,” and “promote the values of a civil and sustainable society,” and made us believe them. Exceptional leaders bring out the exceptional in those they lead.

Martha also had a lasting impact on students and alumni. Improving the student experience became one of her most important goals, and she created the Vice President, Students position to implement change. And, three years ago, she signed an agreement between the university and the Alumni Association to share the financial and human resource costs of providing first-class services to UBC’s graduates.

Martha Piper has left an impressive legacy. As a fundraiser, she has increased the university’s endowment to make it the fourth largest in the country. As an administrator, she has built a broad consensus among faculties and departments. As a planner, her commitment to University Town will transform daily life at UBC to make it a vibrant, year-round community. And, as an educational leader, she has raised our nation’s consciousness about the need to support post-secondary education and research.

We are all excited about the prospect of Stephen Toope taking on the leadership of UBC, and look forward to the unique skills and vision he brings to the job ahead.

But for now we want to thank Martha Piper for her leadership, her vision and her dedication, and wish her well for the future.

**Martin Ertl**, BSc ’93, Chair, UBC Alumni Association

strate the importance of the intestine in developing new therapeutic approaches for raising HDL levels in the body,” said Hayden. The discovery will also have bearing on cardiovascular disease, which claims more lives in Canada than any other disease. In coronary heart disease, for example, low levels of HDL are a common factor.

The team used animal models for its research. It was already known that the gene ABCA1 (found in many areas of the human body) is associated with the production of HDL. What wasn’t known is where in the body this production occurs, and so the team developed animal models lacking the ABCA1 gene in the intestines, and models lacking it in both the liver and intestines. When the gene was removed from just the intestines, HDL concentrations were found to be about one third lower than in normal mice. When the gene was removed from both intestine and liver, concentrations were at 90% less than normal.

The team is now looking at methods, including dietary, for increasing levels of HDL in the intestines. Collaborators on the project include Groningen University in the Netherlands, the State University of New York and the Pasteur Institute in France.

## Power without Pollution

■ The commercialization of research often means that people can start benefiting from new knowledge and discoveries sooner rather than later. Announced by the federal government in 2002, the BC Hydrogen Highway™ program is designed to model the efficiencies of hydrogen and fuel cell technologies in a bid to catalyze their commercialization and common usage. Hydrogen fuel cells can generate power without producing the pollution attributed to internal combustion engines. The technology involves a combustion-free reaction between hydrogen and oxygen that produces heat and water, but very little noise, vibration or greenhouse gas. The fuel cell can be used with great efficiency for varying power requirements and the program will showcase many applications from vehicles to cell phones and walkie-talkies.

With a major tenet of UBC’s vision being the promotion of a sustainable society, the university is involved as one of the test sites (also included are Victoria, Surrey, North Vancouver, and Vancouver Airport to Whistler). Very much at the forefront of activities is the Campus Sustainability Office (CSO), which has proposed \$10 million worth of projects for testing and demonstrating the technologies. “Our role is to integrate fuel cell technology into our plans for a sustainable campus,” says CSO energy manager Jorge Marques. “We want to explore community-oriented applications for hydrogen technology.”

Irfan Rehmanji, project coordinator for the UBC test site says: “We want the UBC community to experience concepts they may have only read about or seen on tv. The UBC node will integrate a number of concepts that affect our daily life and will be a phenomenal outreach and social marketing tool.”

Fuel cells for larger projects like campus transport will be provided by Ballard Power Systems and micro cells for smaller applications like bicycle lights will be provided by Angstrom Power. Westport Innovation, Dynasty Motors, Delta-q Technologies, TransLink, and many government bodies are also involved. There is already a hydrogen fuelling station based on campus at the National Research Council’s Institute for Fuel Cell Innovation.

One of the main challenges to be examined during the project is the clean production and economic storage of hydrogen. Although it

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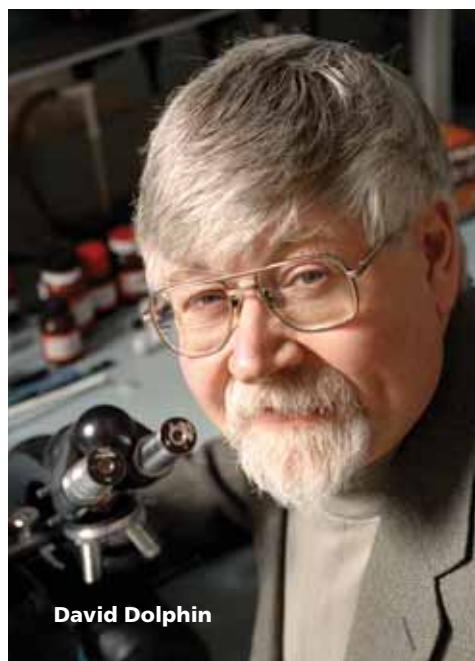
can be produced from natural substances like methane, the process isn't clean. But hydrogen can also be produced via renewable energy sources like solar or wind and BC Hydrogen Highway™ project manager Alison Grigg points out that alternative sources of hydrogen are frequently being discovered.

### A Liberal Helping of Math

■ At school, many of the arts-inclined found math to be about as interesting as cardboard. And there was little incentive for the numerically challenged to conquer their ignorance. Even those traditional word puzzles that gave context and application to the numbers, like how many tennis balls can you fit into your school gymnasium, failed to pique any curiosity and left a lot of us thinking: Why would I want to know?

“Many life choices are shut down to those who are fearful of math,” says Education assistant professor Susan Gerofsky. “I feel it's vital we open our minds to what mathematics is and how we teach it. Besides, math gives us an incredible way to understand and appreciate the universe.” With her linguistics background, Gerofsky is interested in the use of language – stories – to pose and help conceptualize math problems. She has written a book exploring this stalwart teaching method called *A Man Left Albuquerque Heading East: Word Problems as Genre in Mathematics Education*.

While she thinks that teaching young children using word stories can be engaging for them, older children know better: “Students realize they're math calculations dressed up as a story. It doesn't matter whether it appears to be about two trains, a camel, birds or an emissary of the pope, their task is to strip the story down and solve the problem embedded there.” But rather than dispense with math stories as a teaching genre, she thinks they could be presented in a more interesting way, and not simply as “real-life” examples of math applications. “Teachers can use the vivid imagery to help kids remember certain ideas and principles they can draw upon later. Sometimes these images are most memorable when the stories are nonsensical. For example, given a calculus problem that involves quadratic func-



tions, it may help to say, ‘this is just like that story about shooting an arrow on the moon!’”

Gerofsky thinks that stories and methods like them are important for nurturing an appreciation of math in those without a natural bent for or interest in the subject. “Math concepts are taught as if they exist in a void. They're presented as fully formed, like a cold and distant crystal, as if this knowledge didn't come through people living and struggling. Wouldn't it be interesting to say to students, here's something that came from an ancient Egyptian papyrus manuscript or a Babylonian clay tablet? Give the history – explain that scribes were being taught this to help them feed the workers that built the pyramids.”

### Dolphin Wins Gold

■ A UBC Chemistry professor who developed a drug to counter the most common type of blindness has received one of the country's most prestigious awards for science research. Professor David Dolphin was presented with the 2005 Gerhard Herzberg Canada Gold Medal for Science and Engineering, which comes with \$1 million of research funding over the next five years.

Called Visudyne, the drug he developed was based on his pioneering studies of light-activated compounds called porphyrins and it is the first effective treatment for age-related macular degeneration. In the 1980s, Dolphin and colleague Professor Julia Levy established

a spin-off company, QLT Inc., to produce and commercialize the treatment. Visudyne is now a top-selling product and has been used to treat more than 500,000 people in 70 countries since 2000. A member of the Royal Society of London and the Royal Society of Canada, Professor Dolphin has had a very productive career, authoring 18 books and more than 400 papers.

He has received many awards in recognition of his work, including the *Prix Galien* (one of the pharmaceutical industry's most respected awards) and Hero of Chemistry status, the highest honour that can be bestowed on an industrial chemist by the American Chemical Society. Dolphin joined UBC from Harvard in 1974.

### One Person's Trash...

■ In the summer of 2004, UBC Waste Management installed an in-vessel composting facility on South Campus at Point Grey, the first of its kind at a Canadian university, as part of a program to divert some of the many tonnes of organic waste produced away from the landfill. At the time, there was some localized small scale composting, but no effective way to deal with the high volumes produced by restaurants and other sources of food waste on campus. With more than 55,000 students, faculty and staff at UBC, that's a lot of waste slowly decomposing in the landfill, contributing to toxic leachate and methane gas.

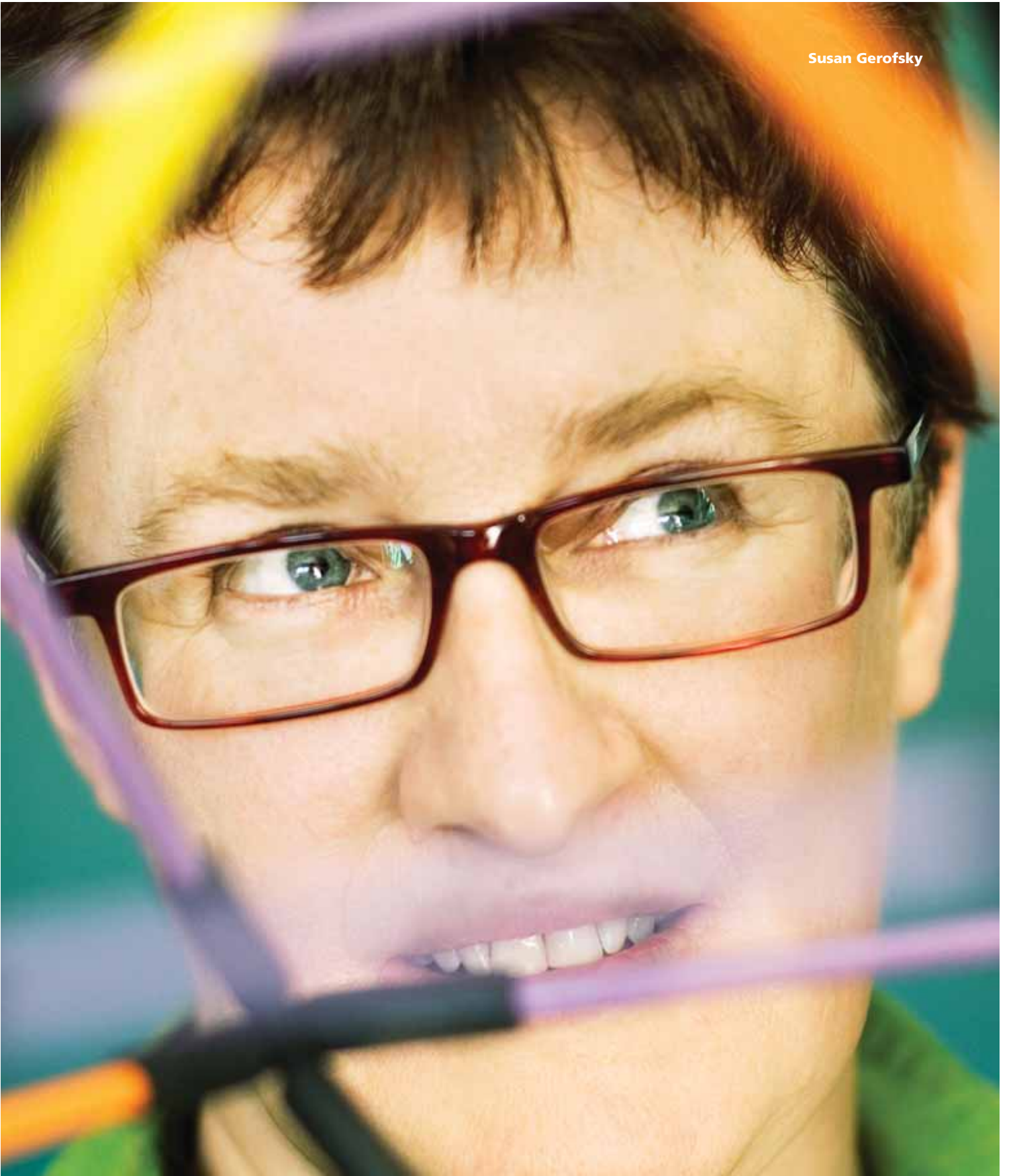
Enter the In-Vessel Composting Facility and the Organics Collection Program. Food collection bins are placed at various food outlets, office buildings and residences across campus, which Waste Management regularly picks up and takes to the south campus facility for composting. Unlike conventional composting methods, the in-vessel composter keeps the temperature, oxygen, and moisture at optimal levels for microbial activity, enabling the facility to process meat and bones, paper cups and plates, dairy products and other waste that conventional systems can't handle. This is augmented by yard waste from campus landscape crews.

This self-contained facility can take in up to 5 tonnes of waste per day, with a two-week cycle from food waste to compost. The waste is pushed along a moving floor through a series of sections containing spinners, exhaust fans, sprinklers, sensors, and other controls, coming out of the other side ready to use in landscaping. Leachates are recycled back into the process, and the air is run through a bio-filter system to eliminate odours.

The program has been a great success, composting 97.5 tonnes of food waste and more than 200 tonnes of yard waste in the last year. In addi-

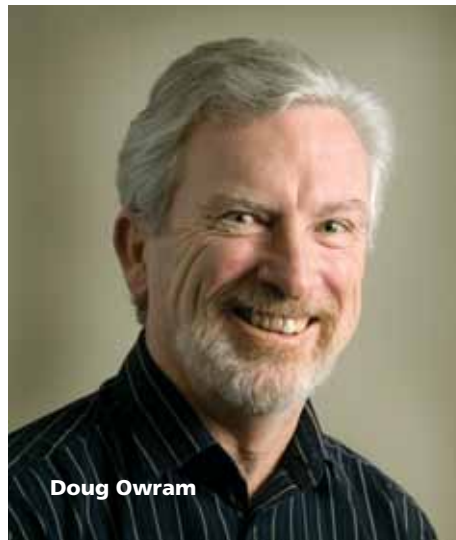


Susan Gerofsky



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tion, Waste Management composts waste from Quest Outreach Society, a local organization that arranges hot meals and fresh food distribution to those in need, and whose goal is zero bio-waste going into our landfills. UBC's facility has composted 91 tonnes of material for Quest in the last year. With that much compost being produced on campus, the amount of bark mulch needed for landscaping has been reduced by 57%. Faculty and students have also found it useful for education and research, and as people discover the program it will continue to expand. There have been some setbacks, mainly to do with non-or-



Doug Owram

ganic waste (cutlery, glass, plastic) going into the public collection bins, but as the program expands and education and outreach continues, these issues can be addressed.

In recognition of the innovative nature of the program and its great success, APPA (the Association of Higher Facilities Officers) will be presenting UBC Waste Management with the Effective and Innovative Practices Award this July. This will be the second year in a row that a UBC office has been so honoured by this international organization. The Sustainability Coordinator program was recognized in 2005.

### UBC Okanagan Selects New Leader

■ The highest administrative position at UBC Okanagan – Deputy Vice Chancellor (DVC) – has been filled by Dr. Doug Owram, who will commence work at the Kelowna campus in July. The selection process began last year and produced many well-qualified candidates for the selection committee to choose from. Owram replaces Dr. Barry McBride, who retired from the position earlier than anticipated due to ill health, and Dr. Richard Tees who has been acting DVC since January.

“Dr. Owram brings a wealth of experience in both academic and administrative roles, including serving as the University of Alberta’s most senior academic officer. UBC Okanagan is very much in its formative days, and I believe his experience and guidance will help shape the future of this unique and energetic Okanagan campus,” said President Martha Piper during the announcement in Kelowna in mid-April.

Owram is a professor of History, a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, and the author of numerous books including *Born at the Right Time: A History of the Baby Boom Generation and Promise of Eden: the Canadian Expansionist Movement and the Idea of the West 1856-1900*. Currently based in Edmonton, he owns a holiday home in Kelowna and is no stranger to the area – appreciating all it has to offer.

### Basketball Bonanza

■ Basketball BC’s latest Hall of Fame inductees include UBC’s 1945-6 men’s team, along with individual players Ken Shields BPE’69, Ken Winslade BPE’60, MPE’63, and the late Ron Thorsen BPE’72, MPE’73. The 1945-6 team included UBC Alzheimer’s researcher Professor Emeritus Pat McGeer, OC, BA’48, MD’58, DSC(HON)’00.

Basketball BC recognized its 2006 award winners at a dinner in April. Awards for Coach-

## How Can YOU Connect with a UBC Student?



**By picking up the phone.** Working at the UBC Call Centre, international student Fernando Rosa has learned that donations from alumni and friends are vital to awards, the library, and numerous other projects. And when he talks with alumni, he forges connections with them based on the fact that they were once students too.

“I think it’s really great that UBC can call on their alumni to help current students,” he says. “It gives a sense of tradition and meaning to where we’re going.”

To find out more about supporting students like Fernando, contact UBC Annual Giving. Tel: 604.827.4111 Email: [annual.giving@ubc.ca](mailto:annual.giving@ubc.ca)

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

ing Excellence went to both the men's and women's coaches, Kevin Hanson and Deb Huband. Kelsey Blair took the award for top female university basketball player. Not surprising, then, that the women's basketball team won the National Championships this year – their second victory in the last three years.

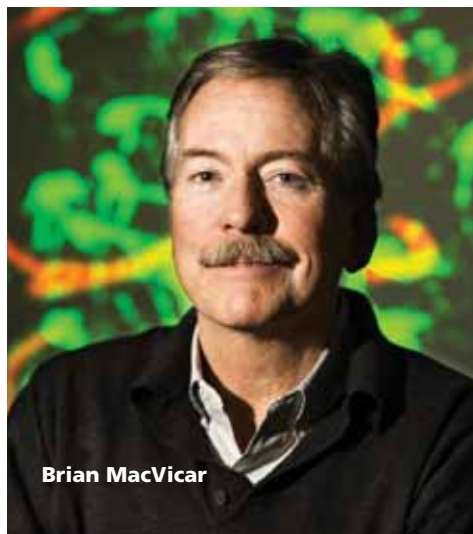
And basketball success is very much a part of UBC history. The university's 1929-30 women's basketball team has been recognized at the national level with induction into Canada's Basketball Hall of Fame. In 1930, the team travelled to Prague to represent Canada in the Women's International Games, beating France in the final. The two surviving team members are Lois (Tourtellote) Fisher, BA'31, and Mary Campbell, BA'30. Now in her 90s, Mary is a keen supporter of Athletics department and still attends Thunderbirds basketball games and events. She was the first president of the women's Big Block Club formed 1930-31 and a UBC Athletics Award in her name was recently created.

### Blood Relationship

■ Despite accounting for only 2% of body weight, the brain is a high-maintenance organ that accounts for 20% of the resting body's energy use. This energy is provided by the flow of blood to the brain and researchers are now trying to understand how blood flow and brain activity are related. "It's an area that's still not understood despite its high impact for both basic and applied neuroscience," says Psychology Professor Brian MacVicar, Canadian Research Chair in Neuroscience.

When blood flow to the brain is adversely affected, the organ can malfunction or suffer damage. Strokes can cause brain cells to die and narrowed arteries are associated with the onset of vascular dementia. The researchers hope their work will help them understand how to restore blood flow in patients with such conditions. Another condition for which treatment might be improved is asphyxia in newborns, which can result in permanent brain damage to a child.

One key is finding out exactly how blood flow is regulated. "Now we're finally getting answers to the hundred-year-old question of how brain cell activity relates to blood flow and how the 'control dial' works," says MacVicar, who is a member of the Brain Research Centre based at UBC Hospital and the Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute.



Brian MacVicar

Previous research he has conducted (with post-doctoral fellow Sean Mulligan) threw light on the role of astrocyte cells in brain blood flow. It showed that when a calcium signal reaches the cells, vessels constrict to slow down the flow. In this current project, MacVicar wants to find out if astrocytes also have bearing on the dilation of vessels. "If astrocytes prove to be triggers that dictate flow, we may be able to modify the signals and control the flow to prevent brain damage and loss

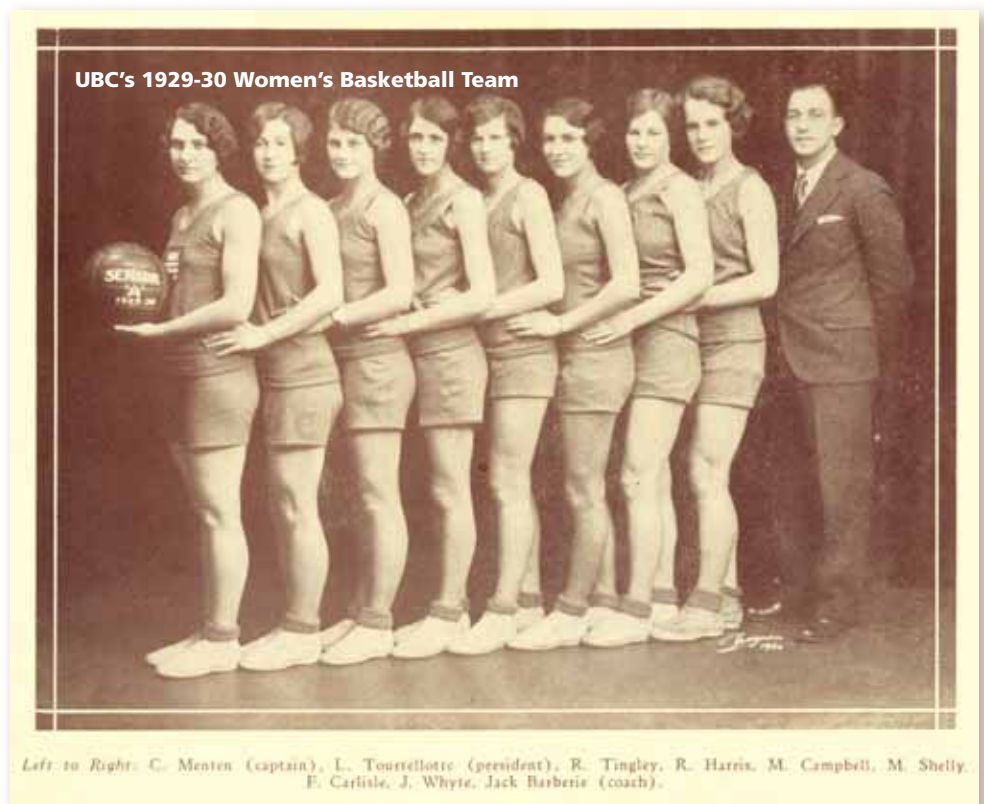
of function." His collaborator on the project is Kai Kaila from the University of Helsinki. Kaila's group has identified that interplay between brain and astrocyte cells gives rise to carbon dioxide, a chemical trigger known to affect blood flow in the brain.

The project is funded by bodies in both countries: The Academy of Finland and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Institute of Neurosciences, Mental Health and Addiction).

### Sticking it to Parking Meters

■ How many times have you pulled over into a metered parking spot only to find that the meter eats up your only coins without giving you any time in return? And then, to add insult to injury, you receive a ticket saying you haven't paid? It's guaranteed to drive a saint to bicycles. Similarly antagonized UBC students have come up with an antidote that's sure to redress the karma balance.

The Electrical and Computer Engineering students had been challenged by their instructor to build a device that solved a real-world problem with a budget of just \$400. Faulty parking meters and the hassle of having to find change presented a problem that everyone in the group could relate to, and so they



Left to Right: C. Menten (captain), L. Tourtellote (president), R. Tingley, R. Harris, M. Campbell, M. Shelly, F. Carlisle, J. Whyte, Jack Barberis (coach).



Exams in the Armouries, April 1990

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## TAKE NOTE

set out to find a solution. What they came up with is a parking meter system that does not require on-the-spot payment (and consequently dispenses with the need to empty the meters of coins). The new meter design features a magnetic sensor buried under the parking spot that is able to detect when a vehicle enters it. “When a vehicle occupies the space, its bulk distorts the earth’s natural magnetic field and triggers a signal to activate the parking meter and begin the transaction,” says third-year student Owen Kirby. The driver identifies him or herself by waving a Radio Frequency Tag at the meter. The driver’s account is verified via a wireless Internet connection to a mainframe network and is billed. The computer program allows for easy administration and for accurate detection and more speedy response to parking violations.

The only downside they’ve found with the invention is that drivers would no longer have any leftover time from previous occupants – any good karma generated by parking meters is destroyed along with the bad.

Because the design takes advantage of existing technologies, it would be cheap to realize. “We chose radio frequency identity – or RFID – tags like the ESSO stick because it’s widely available and costs less than 40 cents,”

says student Erik Schortinghuis, referring to a short plastic tube that ESSO customers can use to access their accounts. But because it uses existing technologies in an innovative way, the invention may be patentable, and the students have already approached UBC’s University Industry Liaison Office. As well as Kirby and Schortinghuis, others involved in the project are Jasmin Tariq, Aman Mangat, Gagan Deep and Shane Wang.

### UBC’s Year in Review

■ 2005/06 was a banner year for UBC. Ranked again among the top 40 universities of the world, UBC’s faculty and students earned international media attention for research and teaching milestones. A new, annual publication from UBC’s Public Affairs office (left) presents highlights of the year’s top stories which, in addition to major research findings and international achievements, includes the opening of UBC Okanagan and the appointment of a new president. Go to this link, [www.ubc.ca/yirnews](http://www.ubc.ca/yirnews) to learn more.

### Ecologically Friendly Campus

■ “I was pretty depressed about the world and I was doing my bit to reuse plastic bags and turn off lights, but it didn’t feel like I was making an impact,” says Freda Pagani, reflecting on life a few years ago before she became head of the university’s Campus Sustainability Office. Nowadays, Pagani is a major thrust behind UBC’s efforts to adopt environmentally sustainable practices and policies and one of the reasons these efforts have paid off well so far.

Since the Sustainability Office was established in 1998, the first in a Canadian university, greenhouse gas emissions, and water and energy use have decreased significantly. The office has been able to fund its activities from the millions of dollars in energy savings. This is despite a 24% increase in student population since 1999.

A number of programs initiated by the CSO and other campus units are responsible for encouraging figures, and ongoing programs and policies are in place to ensure the momentum continues. The u-Pass program, for example, involved the Alma Mater Society, UBC’s transportation planning department and TransLink. In 2003 it provided affordable monthly transit passes to students and is largely responsible for



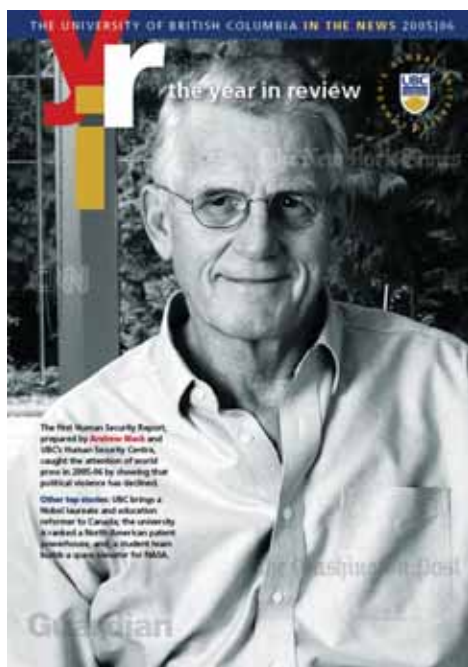
Freda Pagani

a 140% increase in transit use and a sizeable decrease in single-occupant vehicle use. To minimize commuting, plans to create residential neighbourhoods around the university include a stipulation that half of the households must include at least one person who works or studies at UBC.

Many newer campus constructions, like the Life Sciences Centre, take advantage of green building design and technologies, and the CSO initiated a major \$35 million program to retrofit older campus buildings resulting in large energy savings and decreased CO2 emissions in spite of campus expansion. The CSO has also involved community members wherever possible, aiming for at least one CSO rep in every department to encourage good practices such as double-sided printing and turning computers off at the end of the work day. Pagani believes that one of the main duties of the CSO is to make participation in such activities easy and fun.

A vital part of UBC’s vision is the promotion of a sustainable society, and the campus aims to be a model for good practices. UBC is Canada’s first and only university to receive Green Campus Recognition from the USA’s National Wildlife Federation.

*Take Note pieces are edited from various sources, including UBC Reports. Thanks to those reporters and to Public Affairs for allowing us to use their material.*





# The Most Difficult Job in the Country *or*

## How Martha Piper became Canada's most influential university president

IN 1997, the University of British Columbia was just winding up 12 years of growth and change under the leadership of President David Strangway. It had been a period of great success and great struggle.

Dr. Strangway had raised \$400 million – more than all the previous presidents of UBC combined – and fabulous new buildings like the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts stood as evidence of that achievement. Dr. Strangway had also launched the first stage of a massive market housing development on the UBC campus. The sale of properties in Hampton Place had raised between \$80 and \$100 million for the UBC endowment, although it shook many people's vision of what the UBC campus should be and set the university at odds with neighbours in Vancouver and with planners at the Greater Vancouver Regional District.

To make things even more difficult, the late '80s and early '90s had been a time of government restraint, of frozen budgets and, ultimately, frozen tuitions. Dr. Strangway left office complaining that every year he had struggled with more students – and fewer dollars per student – than the year before.

Nevertheless, as president, Dr. Strangway had always been a man with a plan. In fact, thanks to his training at the National Aero-

nautics and Space Administration, where he had been recruited as a young scholar to manage the moon rocks program, Dr. Strangway always had a plan, a back-up plan, and a precise schedule as to when he would default from one to the other. You always knew where he was going, even if it was sometimes bruising to stand in his way.

INTO THIS VORTEX came Dr. Martha Piper, a woman of significant accomplishment, but one who was little known on the West Coast. As VP Research and External Affairs at the University of Alberta, however, Dr. Piper had already made an impression on the national academic scene.

“Martha had a genius for promoting her institution and for the people in it,” says McGill Principal Heather Munro-Blum. Then the VP Research at the University of Toronto, Dr. Munro-Blum recognized early “Martha's wonderful promotional talent.”

“At a time when no one else had done this kind of thing, Martha launched a campaign that said: ‘Research Makes Sense.’ It wasn't long before everyone in

academic research was walking around with one of Martha's buttons.”

That instinct for an effective slogan surfaced again immediately after Dr. Piper arrived at UBC. In her inaugural speech – a thoughtful and far-ranging look at UBC's history and traditions, as well as its challenges and potential – she concluded with a call to action. She said: “I invite all of you to join the University of British Columbia in thinking – in thinking about the issues that affect us all, in thinking about our past and what we have learned about ourselves, in thinking about our present and the issues we face, and in thinking about our future and what we aspire to achieve.”

Then, the brand new president had the temerity, the nerve – or perhaps just the sense of fun – to put on a baseball cap with the words “UBC” and “Think About it” embroidered over the brim. And she offered identical hats to all assembled.

THE EFFECT WAS ELECTRIC. The media loved it. The students loved it. A significant group of faculty and staff cheered the new direction. And the campus curmudgeons

by Richard Littlemore

recoiled in amazement. As UBC's Planning and Institutional Research Director Walter Sudmant tells it, there are "some people who think that the president's speeches should be quite dour and a little opaque." Those people were not at all confident about going from the man with the plan to the woman with the hat.

SOON ENOUGH, HOWEVER, Dr. Piper had a plan of her own, an audacious document that catalyzed all of her ambitions for UBC, and all of UBC's ambitions for itself. The strategic plan, *Trek 2000*, was the result of an unprecedented round of campus consultation, and in the words of University of Alberta President (and former UBC VP Research) Indira Samarasekera, "*Trek 2000* was brilliant: inspiring for many and a model for how you craft a strategic vision for a university: think big, and then deliver on the resources."

The plan rested on a single, assertive vision statement: "The University of British Columbia, aspiring to be Canada's best university, will provide students with an outstanding and distinctive education, and conduct leading research to serve the people of British Columbia, Canada and the world."

Two things about this statement stood out. First, when *Trek 2000* was written, UBC was sitting in eighth place on the annual Maclean's university survey, and the dominance of at least one other university seemed inviolable. Still, even if being "the best" seemed a stretch, it was clear that Martha Piper was not going to countenance a "vision" that urged UBC students, faculty and staff to work really, really hard to be number two.

*Trek 2000*'s second distinguishing factor was the inclusion of the word "students," something that seems obvious until you realize that no other university vision statement had previously mentioned those most crucial constituents. The concentration on students was also evident as "Martha" (the more formal "President Piper" having fallen completely from use) reorganized the executive offices, most particularly renaming the Vice President of Student Services to the Vice President, Students.

"This was a fundamental change," says Sudmant. "It meant that the position was no longer about peripheral services. It meant, for the first time, that there was some one at the executive table who would speak exclusively for students."

That someone is Brian Sullivan, who was tempted from his position as the Chief Student Affairs Officer at the University of Guelph to come to work at what he considers, unequivocally,

to be "the best university in the country." He's also proud that UBC led the way in establishing a position that embraces enrolment, student development, housing and alumni, something that has been copied by the universities of Winnipeg and York and is increasingly "intriguing to my colleagues in the States."

WHEN IT CAME TIME to find the resources to propel the *Trek 2000* vision forward, Martha engaged on multiple fronts. Provincially, she was instrumental in convincing the government to lift tuition freezes, to take a bigger role in matching federal research investments, to increase direct funding and to make specific investments in major capital, such as the \$197-million Life Sciences Building and in programs, including the expansion of medicine and engineering.

Federally, pretty much everyone agrees that Martha was the most influential university president in the country ("everyone" including insiders like Eddie Goldenberg, who was chief of staff under Prime Minister Jean Chretien, and competitors like Bob Birgenau, who was president of the University of Toronto before becoming chancellor at the University of California at Berkeley). Prime Minister Chretien personally credited Martha when he announced the creation of the Canada Research Chairs program, and she was similarly instrumental in other major federal initiatives, such as the funding of indirect costs of research and the Canada Foundation for Innovation, not to mention the reorganization and expansion of the three main granting councils, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), the Social Science and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) and the Natural Science and Engineering Research Council (NSERC).

With the help of a research office reorganized under the leadership of Indira Samarasekera, Martha also led UBC in capturing an unprecedented amount of the funding that came from those agencies and from the Canada Foundation for Innovation. UBC's annual research funding shot up from less than \$150 million in 1997 to more than \$400 million in the last academic year.

FINALLY, she shifted the now well-established UBC Development Office from "campaign" footing, in which they would launch intense but finite fundraising campaigns, to focus instead on continuous giving, as a result of which, UBC raised \$700 million during Martha's nine-year presidency.

Given the breadth of the university's activities and the extent of Martha's energy, it is impossible to assemble an exhaustive list of her other accomplishments. There were initiatives, such as the establishment of a downtown campus at Robson Square, that were huge at the time and now blend seamlessly into the fabric of the university. There was the shift in focus from trying to be "Canada's best university" to being "one of the world's best," a goal that the most reputable survey organizations say that UBC has already achieved.

But two Martha initiatives will likely stand out in her legacy. The first is the establishment of UBC Okanagan, a project that Martha describes as the biggest thing UBC has done since trekking from downtown to the Point Grey campus in 1922. Brad Bennett, chair of the Board of Governors adds that it is "the best thing that ever happened to the Okanagan Valley." Both point to UBC Okanagan's potential to offer an intimate undergraduate experience in the heart of a world class research institution, the kind of experience that, until now, was only available in places like Princeton or the University of Chicago.

The other, truly defining Martha initiative was set out in the strategic plan update, *Trek 2010*, which now reads: "The University of British Columbia, aspiring to be one of the world's best universities, will prepare students to become exceptional global citizens, promote the values of a civil and sustainable society, and conduct outstanding research to serve the people of British Columbia, Canada and the world."

In calling on the university to take seriously its role as a social change agent, "Martha has led UBC into a new territory," says Margo Fryer, director of the UBC Downtown Eastside Learning Exchange. "She has provided a new definition of what is possible and necessary for UBC to be."

For a last word, an expression of sentiment that, in Martha's case, is shared almost unanimously goes to one of her most ardent fans, *Globe and Mail* columnist Jeffrey Simpson, who says, "The most difficult job in the country, except the prime minister's, is to be the president of a university. There are so many constituencies. The faculty are cranky, government is labyrinthine, students are ephemeral and alumni are scattered. So, anyone who wants to take it on has my great admiration."

Hear, hear.

*Richard Littlemore is a Vancouver Island writer.*



## DR. STEPHEN TOOPE | UBC'S 12TH PRESIDENT

Dr. Stephen J. Toope prepares to take over as president and vice-chancellor of UBC emanating a sense that he can hardly believe his luck.

"I am deeply honoured by the appointment," says the founding president of the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation. "UBC is a strong institution that is poised to get even stronger. The first thing that struck me was the very hard work that people had already done, especially on (the strategic plan) *Trek 2010*. This is not just rhetorical flourish. I have never seen anything approaching the sophistication of that plan in getting down to the next level, in setting out how to achieve the goals.

"The second thing that really excited me was UBC's capacity to be a global university." Again, Dr. Toope says, this is not just rhetoric. UBC is building on strong traditions – on a reputation for research that is among the best in the world. The university is also fortuitously sited in a diverse cultural community and on the edge of the Pacific Rim.

"Looking to Asia, it is increasingly important that we engage on a whole range of issues. It's hard to imagine *any* issue today that can be constrained by national borders, and UBC is particularly well-placed to make those connections."

The third thing that "really gave me a lot of confidence (about UBC) was the degree of professionalism shown by the people with whom I've dealt so far. It's obvious there is a really strong team in place."

This, Dr. Toope says, flies in the face of "the myth of the West Coast as a place where people are laid back, perhaps a little too comfortable. I really sense a very strong ambition in



UBC to become even better, even more influential, to make a contribution ... in the world."

The president-designate is thoroughly familiar with the goals that can be achieved through hard work. He completed an undergraduate degree at Harvard on full scholarship. He studied law at McGill (during which time he also clerked for then-Supreme Court Chief Justice Brian Dickson), and he wrote a PhD at Cambridge, all before becoming the youngest dean of Law in the history of McGill.

Still, he gets suddenly cautious when talking about his goals for UBC. Before having a chance to delve into the details, he names just three:

First, "all great research universities have a challenge in having undergraduates experience research as a major contributor to their education. I am fundamentally committed to enhancing the undergraduate experience and to connecting it to research."

Second, "I'd like to recommit to graduate studies." There is currently an "imbalance" between undergrads and grad students, Dr. Toope says. "I am committed to attracting the best graduate students," and in larger numbers.

And third, Dr. Toope says you cannot overstate the importance of building and maintaining the connections between universities and their immediate city, province and country. "A university is at its best when it is deeply connected locally. That's what allows it the confidence to act globally. That's what gives it something clear to say."

*Trek Magazine* will feature a full profile of President Stephen J. Toope in the Fall 2006 issue.

– Richard Littlemore

# First Class

## GRADUATION IN KELOWNA



**Storm cells swirled around the valley like marauding valkyries** as students lined up, gowned and hooded for the afternoon ceremony, waiting to walk across campus to the auditorium and that exquisite rite of passage known as congregation. In a few moments, after the speeches, the welcomes and the historic traditions (if they weren't struck down by lightning first) they would cross the stage to shake President Martha Piper's hand and pass into the roles of UBC alumni, the first class to graduate from UBC Okanagan.

But before they entered the auditorium, students passed through the Wall of Welcome – a gamut of UBC graduates similarly gowned and hooded – who applauded their achievement and welcomed them into the alumni body.

The two first graduation ceremonies – a morning and an afternoon session on June 9, 2006 – were also the last graduation ceremonies for Martha Piper. UBC's president for nine years and the architect of UBC Okanagan, she would step down at the end of the month. In all, she has officiated at nearly 300 such ceremonies during her term, but the ones at UBC O were especially sweet.

"This is an historic moment in the life of UBC Okanagan," she said. "By participating in the ceremonies today, you are broadcasting to the world that UBC Okanagan has arrived."

The ceremonies embraced UBC traditions, from the ceremonial mace and Chancellor's chair to the academic procession of faculty and senior administrators. Unique to the UBC Okanagan ceremony was the Wall of Welcome by UBC grads and a greeting from the Okanagan Nation Alliance.

By the end of the two ceremonies, UBC's congregation grew by 490, bringing the total of living alumni up to just over 226,000, of whom 5,000 live in the Okanagan region.

Later in the evening, UBC's Alumni Affairs held a First Class Reception in a huge tent on the sports field for the Wall of Welcome participants and other grads and friends of UBC from the region, as well as the first class grads. Nearly 200 people mingled and schmoozed, then listened to presentations from UBC Board Chair Brad Bennett and local dignitaries. The highlight of the evening was the Smudge Ceremony by the Okanagan Nation Alliance, in which Martha Piper was made part of the Nation and presented with gifts. Her response – her final, formal presentation as UBC's president – was touching, emotional and heart-felt.

Participants then went on to "Classes without Quizzes," a collection of lectures by UBC Okanagan professors and, properly fed and taught, went away marvelling about the new university just north of town.

And the valkyries, in their wisdom, passed the campus by – except for a few impressive bolts of lightning – realizing, one supposes, that greater forces were at work on the ground.

Moms, Dads and other proud friends and relatives swarmed the UBC Okanagan campus to congratulate the first graduating class.

Top: UBC alumni formed a "Wall of Welcome" to show UBC O's new grads that they are part of a large family. Bottom right: Smudge ceremony for Dr. Piper performed by the Okanagan Nation. Bernie Marchand-Brown, right, performed the ceremony. Beside her is Ian Cull, AVP Students, UBC O; Andrew McGinnis, who also led the singing of the Okanagan Song; Dr Piper; and Maria LaBoucan, who presented Dr. Piper with the Metis sash. Bottom left: Proof that there are males at UBCO. With a ratio of 70 female students to 30 male, there's no need to wonder why this guy is smiling. Top left: Students primp while lining up for the convocation ceremony.



Two UBC grads knew about shopping and they knew about journalism. It seemed a natural conclusion: start a TV show.

# The Shopping Bags

Sunny California. Skateboard park. Two young women are sitting on the lip of a halfpipe bowl, while a helmeted skater zooms up the side and then rises, airborne, above their heads. The women's mouths are open in fear; one covers her eyes. And for good reason: in a few moments, they're going to try it.

BY ELLEN SCHWARTZ

THE TWO WOMEN ARE UBC GRADS Anna Wallner and Kristina Maticic, hosts of a hit television show called "The Shopping Bags." In this segment, they, along with three expert skaters, are testing five different skateboards, comparing flexibility, durability and cost. We see the experts jump, spin in mid-air, slide along railings. We also see Maticic and Wallner take their first skateboard lesson. Outfitted with knee and elbow pads and helmets, they slide cautiously from side to side, arms outstretched. We see them push off... and fall... and laugh. They're having fun – and so are we.

The whole segment takes five minutes, and in that time, we learn what features to look for in a well-built skateboard, what price to expect and which style works best for each different skating application. The rest of the half-hour show covers face powder (pressed powder beat out loose powder), veggie burgers (most tasters preferred the grains-based brand) and anti-wrinkle cream (it didn't work and, in some cases, actually made the wrinkles worse).

## Cordless phones

Don't pay more for a phone with fancy gizmos like voice enhancement. However, illuminated buttons are a good feature if you tend to make calls late at night.

After receiving Bachelor of Arts degrees from UBC in the early 1990s, Anna Wallner

and Kristina Maticic went on to earn Master's degrees in journalism at different universities. A few years later, they both started working at Global TV's Vancouver station, where they met and – although competing for jobs – became fast friends.

Over tea one afternoon in 1999, the two women started tossing around ideas for something they could do together. "We knew about journalism – at that point we had both been working in the field for five years – and we knew about shopping," Wallner recalls. "We thought there wasn't enough information about shopping on TV that was presented in an entertaining and easy-to-digest way. So we decided to create a show that would do just that."

Not a shopping-channel-type show, though. "We didn't just want to push consumerism," Maticic says. "Nor did we want to replicate Consumer Reports, which can be dry and technical. We wanted to inject the fun of shopping into a magazine-style show, while providing solid consumer information. Our approach was: 'Whether you like shopping or not, you have to do it, so you might as well be smart about it.'"

The two journalists set out to research everything they could think of, from lip gloss to lawn furniture to luggage. They started calling professionals from every walk of life – estheticians, race car drivers, doctors, gardeners, even dog walkers – to ask about products. They tested dozens of prod-



Anna Wallner and Kristina Maticic

# SHOPPING COMMANDMENTS



HEREWITH, 10 essential guidelines to help you get what you want, get it for less, and be more informed about the things you buy, from *The Shopping Bags: Tips, Tricks and Inside Information to Make You a Savvy Shopper*, the companion book to “The Shopping Bags” television show.

1. **Negotiate.** Even if a product isn't on sale, ask for a discount anyway.
2. **Make a date.** Every line of merchandise has an end of season, so know the times of year to get the best deal.
3. **Know what you need.** Every toaster will make toast, but how many settings you require and how many you are willing to pay for depends on you.
4. **Don't be a sucker.** Don't waste money on brand names and “extra value” claims when generic products will do.
5. **Be a smarty-pants.** Do your homework, especially when making big purchases. Know what to look for and what questions to ask.
6. **Be nice.** You're more likely to get what you want if you're friendly and courteous to salespeople and other service staff.
7. **Kick the tires.** Before you take home a new product, make sure all the parts are in place, there's no damage and the entire item is in good working order.
8. **Stay on your game.** Resist sales pressure, up-selling (pressure to buy extras that you didn't need in the first place) and impulse buying.
9. **Keep your cool.** If service is poor, complain in person or write a letter – but stay calm and be clear about what you want.
10. **Wear comfortable clothes.** Treat shopping like an endurance sport: you need proper sustenance and the right gear if you're going to go the distance.

## THE SHOPPING BAGS

ucts themselves, figuring out a format of interviews and product demonstrations that would work on the small screen.

The two took the plunge, quitting their jobs even before “The Shopping Bags” was a sure thing. The show found a home on the Women's Network, where it airs several times daily. “The Shopping Bags” has won numerous Leo awards and two Gemini award nominations. Outside the show, Maticic and Wallner maintain an extensive website of consumer information ([www.theshoppingbags.com](http://www.theshoppingbags.com)) and are co-authors of the show's companion book, *The Shopping Bags: Tips, Tricks and Inside Information to Make You a Savvy Shopper* (Dutton 2005), which has become a bestseller in Canada and will be released in paperback this spring.

### Chocolate

For the best-quality chocolate, look for an ingredient label that shows a bar has 55 per cent cocoa solids. Bittersweet or dark chocolate has less fat than milk chocolate.

It can be jarring to meet someone you've only seen on television – often, the real-life person is a disappointment. But when I meet Anna Wallner and Kristina Maticic at a west-side café, they look just as natural and attractive as their screen personas, even though it's a Monday morning and they're dressed casually and are devoid of makeup. Wallner has a steady blue-eyed gaze, Maticic, a ready smile. As they sip tea (Anna) and an Americano (Kristina) and munch on scones, their camaraderie is evident from the way they finish one another's sentences and laugh at each other's quips.

Although the women are equal partners when it comes to deciding which products to investigate and developing each program's episodes, they do have distinct preferences and personalities. “Anna's more adventurous,” Maticic says. “She'll try anything. I like to say no.”

They make these differences work for them by taking on different roles in product testing. “When we did a segment on backpacks, for example, Kristina tried out a variety of backpacks in urban settings, while I tested other models by repeatedly hiking the Grouse Grind,” Wallner explains.

Maticic rolls her eyes. “She's crazy.” “It was fun,” Wallner insists. She grins. “Grueling, but fun.”

## Backpacks

Get a pack with a waist belt for extra support. You won't win any fashion awards, but it takes the weight off your shoulders and is better for your back. Look for hip padding that wraps completely around the hipbones.

It's clear from the humorous anecdotes they tell that Maticic and Wallner have fun working on "The Shopping Bags." On-air, they keep things light-hearted and friendly, avoiding the heavy tone of some consumer information programs. Still, the two women take their mission seriously and believe that "The Shopping Bags" fulfills an important function: to help people make educated

When the show was investigating mattresses, for instance, Wallner and Maticic had to sleep in a mattress store for a few nights – and they had to wake up in the middle of the night to switch beds so they could compare their reactions to the mattresses.

When it came to sofa beds, the action moved to Maticic's house. Every two days, movers brought in a new sofa bed; Maticic slept in it one night and Wallner, pyjamas and toothbrush in tow, came over and slept in it the next.

Another time, the topic was body washes. "I had broken my foot –" Wallner begins.

"Conveniently for you," Maticic puts in. Wallner grins. "So I couldn't get it wet."

doing research and asking questions," Maticic says. "But mostly they don't like shopping and just grab the first thing they see. Women, on the other hand, tend to be browsers. They're more into the process."

The solution: use the strengths of both. "We recommend that men and women shop as a team. Have 'the browser' go out first, check out the options and narrow the field down to three choices. Then bring in the 'kill shopper' to make the final choice."

As I chat with Anna Wallner and Kristina Maticic, I sense that they can scarcely believe their good fortune – that they have made a career out of their passion for journalism, their love of shopping and their desire to perform

**"In our culture, we don't think about asking for a better deal, but elsewhere it's the way of doing business. In fact, it's the fun of doing business. Don't take anything at face value. Ask for more. You'll usually get it."**

purchasing decisions in today's marketplace. Equal parts information and entertainment, the show not only compares and recommends specific products or brands, but also, and perhaps more important, shows consumers what to look for when choosing a product. "In a way, we're teaching people what questions to ask – of themselves and of the salesperson," Wallner says.

To do this requires extensive preparation. At planning sessions with program personnel, Wallner and Maticic choose which products will be profiled during the shooting season. Then a team of researchers digs up information on the products, scouts locations and identifies experts – the show regularly consults with several UBC pros – who can explain how a product works or why one is better than another. Scripts are written, with input from Wallner and Maticic, and then shooting takes place.

Most episodes are straightforward. For example, to test food processors, the duo interviewed a chef who wrote a book on cooking with a food processor and worked with a pizza chef to put several different models to the challenge of making pizza dough.

Other episodes are more complicated.

"So I had to roll in the mud and then test body washes on different parts of my body. . ."

"While I hosed her down," Wallner finishes with a laugh.

## Running shoes

Don't buy based on brand, and don't get caught up in pumps, air, gel, or flashy designs. Buy whatever shoe fits properly and gives you the best support. Shop at the end of the day, when your feet are at their largest.

The most common fallacy that people have about shopping, according to Maticic, is that they think it doesn't require skill. "To be a smart consumer, you have to prepare, do your research and ask lots of questions."

And the biggest mistake people make? "Failure to negotiate," Wallner asserts. "In our culture, we don't think about asking for a better deal, but elsewhere it's the way of doing business. In fact, it's the fun of doing business. Don't take anything at face value. Ask for more. You'll usually get it."

The Shopping Bags also have advice for the shopping-phobic, who are often, though not always, men. "When men are buying something they're interested in, they'll go to the trouble of

a public service. "On any given day we could be doing anything, from trying out lipsticks to testing espresso machines to sleeping in tents," Wallner says with a smile. "We work hard, but we have loads of fun."

## Cellulite creams

They don't work, so don't bother! Instead, spend your money on a pair of running shoes and take up exercise rather than looking for a quick fix.

Finally, a personal note. All winter, I had my eye on a pair of beautiful – and very expensive – boots in a downtown Vancouver store. I waited until they went on sale, hoping there would still be a pair in my size, then went in. There was one pair left. They fit. The sale price was affordable, though still high. Remembering The Shopping Bags' advice, I summoned my courage and, trying to act as though I did this all the time, asked the salesperson if he could do better. After barely a moment's thought, he offered me a further discount. "Sold!" I said. Thank you, Shopping Bags!

*Ellen Schwartz is a Vancouver writer.*

# Head First *to* Olympic Glory

Competing in the Skeleton is an exercise in speed, control and hanging on.

**Jeff Pain, BLA'94** combines the three to excel in a very fast sport.

by Vanessa Clarke

WHEN HE WAS A KID suffering from winter cabin fever, Jeff Pain used to go tobogganing down a hill around the corner from his house. "I used a metal saucer that spun around like crazy," he recalls. He never quite lost his fascination with sliding, but these days his sled is a little more streamlined and he uses it to hurtle at speeds of up to 135 km/hr down a frozen track. Pain competes in Skeleton – a head-first, front-down version of the luge – and earlier this year he represented Canada at the Winter Olympics in Turin.

You might be forgiven for never having heard of Skeleton before the Salt Lake City Games of 2002. Women's Skeleton had not featured as an Olympic event before then, and men's had been excluded since the 1948 games in St. Moritz. The sport originated in Switzerland, and in fact precedes both luge and bobsled. With the arrival of formal sliding competitions there in the late 1800s, the prone, head-first position was tried and soon widely adopted for the quicker runs it afforded.

There is some disagreement about the origins of the name Skeleton, but Pain believes the theory that the Norwegian word for sled ("Skele"), was anglicized and the name Skeleton came about. Others think the name comes from the framework style of the sleds.

Jeff Pain discovered Skeleton through a bobsledder friend he met while studying for a degree in Landscape Architecture at UBC. He was training for high-jump at the time, but his friend persuaded him to try his hand at bobsledding when back in their hometown of Calgary. Pain was soon a born-again slider,

but didn't find his true calling until he decided to try Skeleton. "I wasn't big enough, or strong enough, or fast enough for bobsled so I moved to something better for my body type," he says. And perhaps his temperament, too. "My first Skeleton run off the top of a track was in Calgary. I remember at the beginning asking the guys who were there to push me as fast as they could, whereas most people just get nudged. I had the benefit of having been on a bobsled, but I knew only a very tiny amount about what was going to happen." He survived this baptism by ice, and went back for more.

The speed and apparent risk involved in Skeleton lend it a certain cache (John F. Kennedy and Errol Flynn are both reputed to have braved the Cresta Run in St. Moritz). "I risk myself a little bit every time I throw myself down a hill," he says. But he is big on proper training, technique and safety and insists that statistically the sport is not that dangerous.

"It's probably safer than playing hockey or soccer. Our sleds are very heavy and our centre of gravity is very low. If we do flip over it's not for long and we just climb back on."

He almost sounds convincing that he's not crazy to do what he does, but then he adds: "At those speeds your body can get burned if it touches the ice. It's amazing how quickly you can get back on the sled if you come off."

Despite the risks, he has managed to avoid a major mishap over the years. "Every winter I have bruises on my arms but my worst injury was when I rolled my ankle and broke my foot warming up in the parking lot."

So what does it take to master Skeleton? "The two key elements are mental and visual,"





Jeff Pain starts his run at the 2006 Olympics in Turin

## OLYMPIC GLORY

says Pain. “Mentally, you have to be able to perform under pressure – think quickly, solve problems in a microsecond. One of the advantages I have is a very good ability for 3D visualization. I can see the track, I can see what I want to do, I can see how it works and why it will work, and how I need to do it. I take that brain ability and connect it to my visual ability. I have very bad eyesight, but I think my brain processes what I see very quickly. I think I have good peripheral vision, too, which helps a lot.”

Those skills helped him to Silver in Turin (having watched the video footage, he rates both his runs at 9.5), while teammate Duff Gibson, won Gold and another Canadian, Paul Boehm, placed fourth. Despite the elation, celebrations were postponed by the exhaustion of competition, immediately followed by drug-testing and media obligations. Pain finally sat down for dinner with his wife at 1:30 in the morning. But the medal ceremony later was a chance to make up.

“The nicest part was Duff’s gesture of



**Celebrating his silver performance in Turin at the 2006 Olympics**

**“At those speeds your body can get burned if it touches the ice.**

**It’s amazing how quickly you can get back on the sled if you come off.”**

allowing me up on the top step, and hearing the anthem – even though it wasn’t for me,” he says. “We’re as close as two competitors can be.” Duff Gibson won’t be participating in Vancouver in 2010, announcing his retirement after winning gold. At 39, he now holds the distinction of being the oldest individual event gold medal winner in the history of Winter Olympics. Pain is intent on competing in 2010, when he too will be 39, and eager to add a gold medal to his collection. He pretends to be cavalier about his silver medal: “Ummmm...where is it right now? I think it’s on top of my trophy case.” But his wife always jokes that he carries it around in his back pocket.

Pain is married with two young children. He is a landscape designer and has run his own residential design business for the past six years. A gruelling training schedule makes life hectic and he wishes there was more

support. “The Canadian Olympic Committee has set a goal of 35 medals for 2010. If there’s proper athlete support and the athletes can focus on what they need to and not worry about day-to-day stresses, if some of this stress can be taken off – not only through proper facilities and equipment but also through providing for life requirements so they’re not having to pull off eight-hour work days on top of the training – I think Canada can get 50 medals,” he says.

Private sponsorship is hard to come by. “It’s hard in Canada because we don’t have a culture of amateur sports, like Europe and Australia. In North America we’ve got our professional sports and focus on those, but the US does a much better job in promoting their amateur athletes,” says Pain. “Certain sports do well, like downhill skiing, which is done by hundreds of thousands of people around the world, but the smaller and more obscure the sport the harder it is.”

Pain is entrepreneurial in spirit. He has a friend he met through the Junior Chamber of Commerce in Calgary with whom he is planning a few business ventures in event promotion. He knows what an event like the winter Olympics could do for the profile of athletes like him in Canada, and is seeking sponsors to back him in his bid for gold in Vancouver. He feels that his maturity and winning potential, together with a greater awareness of Skeleton spawned by the last two Olympics, make him an excellent candidate. Besides his Olympic Silver, he’s won both the World Championships and the Overall World Championships twice.

“2010 might be an opportunity to shift the culture a little. There’s so much opportunity for worldwide exposure – either for a start-up or an existing company with something to show off to the world,” says Pain, who has plenty of showing off still to do himself.

*Vanessa Clarke is assistant editor of Trek Magazine.*

# Nursing Calls

*Swimmer, Highland dancer, student leader and valedictorian Heather Cook is part of the first class to graduate from UBC Okanagan. by Bud Mortenson*

It's first light, early one morning in 1988.

A five-year-old swimmer from Blueberry Creek, BC splashes into the water at the public pool in nearby Castlegar, churning up the lanes, learning what it takes to be a competitive swimmer.

Though Heather Cook didn't know it at the time, developing the discipline of an athlete would prepare her for a very busy and rewarding life ahead as a student leader, activist and nurse.

"I had to get up at 5:30 in the mornings, even back then," says Cook, now 23 and a new graduate of UBC Okanagan's Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program. "Sure, I complained about it a lot, but in hindsight it made me more focused and showed me what dedication means."

Cook stayed with swimming through her teens, competing at regional and provincial levels. Her 1991, 1994 and 1997 relay teams still hold the Castlegar Aquanauts' club records. Along the way, she also found provincial-level success in competitive Highland dancing. It takes unstinting commitment to stick with training, endure the travel and sacrifice the things a less-involved teen might enjoy. That's part of the gain for an athlete, win or lose.

"It has helped me thrive and cope in situations that are chaotic," Cook says, then adds, "I describe my life as organized chaos."

Her day is mapped out in a planning calendar, a folder she carries with her as she moves from one commitment to the next – after the interview she's off to the hospital for her next night shift as a student nurse.

To be sure, Cook has packed a lot of experiences into her four years as a nursing student in Kelowna.



After a couple of years living on campus in student residences, she became a senior residence adviser. She was a founder of the nursing course union, and served as the Student Union's vice president of student life, then as external coordinator – an oft-quoted student advocate and spokesperson.

"My main fight has been for better access to post-secondary education for students – tuition reductions and more federal and provincial funding," she says, seizing an opportunity to voice the message one more time.

As the UBC Okanagan Academic Plan was being shaped in early 2005, Cook volunteered on a committee charged with the task of "making student life great." She continued working on behalf of UBC Okanagan students through her final term in the BSN program – amid her courses, practicum work at Kelowna General Hospital, the nursing course union and student union, Cook was directly involved in UBC's big decisions as the Okanagan student representative on the Board of Governors.

"It has been a great experience seeing the big changes in the institution – especially changes that I know students have made," she says. "Being engaged in student politics allows you to have some impact on the institution and create a community. I've enjoyed seeing the issues at all levels – and putting students first." Cook has become an adept time manager, seeking and finding a balance between what she wants to do and what she can practically accomplish as one person.

"It's a matter of delegation, showing others how to do things and letting them do it," she says. "And it's about knowing my limits. I am fortunate because I've had the support of so many other students behind me. That's really helped."

With her degree in hand, Cook is excited about being a full-time nurse, hopefully in the Okanagan at Kelowna General Hospital, and ideally, in surgical nursing. But the future could take her in many directions, perhaps a master's degree in nursing or a nurse practitioner program, a relatively new education option she describes as "helping to bridge the gap between physicians and nurses."

Things have changed a bit since Cook's days back in Blueberry Creek, attending high school at Castlegar's Stanley Humphries Secondary with her sights set on becoming a physician.

"I was thinking about a bachelor of science degree and medicine," she recalls. "Then I saw the nursing program here. I really liked their caring attitude and the attention students received. You really get to know the faculty in this program."

"On the first day of classes, we went over the role of a nurse. It opened my eyes to all the options to help people – and there are many. I thought I wanted to be a doctor, but I found my calling in nursing."

*Bud Mortenson is Communications Coordinator for the office of Public Affairs, UBC Okanagan*



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## Baseball 'Birds reach a new peak

It was a season of firsts for UBC's baseball team in 2006. The Thunderbirds earned the right to host their first ever National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Super Regional playoff series on account of their 28-2 conference record and Region 1 playoff victories, then secured their first ever trip to the NAIA World Series with convincing wins over Concordia University of Irvine, California, at Nat Bailey Stadium.

Ultimately, the T-Birds fell just shy of their championship goal, winning their first two games at the World Series before dropping decisions to eventual finalist Cumberland of Tennessee, and the hosts and eventual champions from Lewis-Clark State College of Idaho. Still, it was an impressive run for a program that is just nine years in the making. Region 1 coach of the year Terry McKaig resurrected the baseball team from scratch in 1998, and the T-Birds only began competing in the NAIA in 2000. UBC's record of 49-14 overall was their best ever, and their No. 4 national ranking was also a milestone achievement.

Thirteen seniors played their final game as a 'Bird, including former Red Sox draft pick and three-time All-Region player Adam Campbell.

"This season really made people in the NAIA stand up and take notice of our program," said McKaig. "We showed that we can compete with anybody in this league and that's a big step."

Sophomore pitcher Shawn Schaefer, a Pitt Meadows native who came back to Canada this season from the US, was named a second team All-American along with senior outfielder Connor Janes. In mid-June, the Arizona Diamondbacks made Janes the 10th T-Bird ever taken in the Major League Baseball Draft, selecting the power hitter in the 27th round. Graduating first baseman Johnny Yiu received the Hank Burbridge Champion of Character award, an NAIA initiative to recognize those who exemplify respect, responsibility, integrity, leadership and sportsmanship.

## Mason leaps into record book; Hat trick for Huzzey

High jumper Mike Mason of Nanoose Bay made an indelible mark in his first NAIA championship, soaring higher than he ever has before to win gold for UBC.

A world-class transfer from the University of Kentucky, Mason posted a leap of 2.2 metres to win the event and erase the previous NAIA record of 2.21 set in 1995 by Lee Pool of Dallas Baptist. The jump was also Mason's personal best, improving on the 2.21-metre mark he recorded enroute to winning the men's high jump at the 2004 world junior track and field championships in Grosseto, Italy.

On the women's side, meanwhile, Megan Huzzey sped to her third consecutive NAIA racewalk title, winning the 3,000-metre event in 13:53.57, a personal best and her first effort under 14 minutes. She was followed by Virginia Intermont freshman Amanda Gorst in 14:15.54.



Johnny Yiu

## UBC Closing in on CIS Lead

The women's basketball crown was UBC's 66th Canadian Interuniversity Sport title all-time, second only to the University of Toronto, which UBC should catch in the next two years. Also bringing back CIS banners to the Point Grey campus in 2005-06 were men's and women's swimming, for a record ninth consecutive season, and men's soccer back in November. Men's rowing claimed the Canadian University Rowing Championships, while women's golf won their fourth straight RCGA Canadian University/College Championship in June.

## 'Birds of Summer

The varsity season has come to a close but that doesn't mean the action stops for UBC's student-athletes. Here's a look at the T-Birds and recent alumni representing Canada this summer.

In men's volleyball, current T-Birds Spencer Holowachuk and Kyle Bryce will represent Canada at the FIVB U21 World Beach Championships in Myslowice, Poland, Aug. 22-27, while standout rookie Kyle Duperron and top recruit Greg Niemantsverdriet have been invited to the junior men's selection camp in Edmonton.

Five current or recently graduated rowers are in the hunt to make Canadian national teams. Ben Rutledge and Kyle Hamilton are the second-fastest ranked pair in Canada following the Canadian Speed Order Regatta, which functions as a selection event for the world championships in London, England, the under-23 world championships in Scotland, and World University Rowing Championships in Latvia. Rob Weitemeyer was also chosen to attend the senior A camp, while Ben Dove was chosen to compete for a spot on the U-23 team and men's coxswain Julia MacDonald is in London, Ontario, trialing for a seat in the Canadian women's U-23 eight.

Thunderbirds are also making noise on the basketball front, starting with alumnae Sheila Townsend and Carrie Watson, who hope to stick with the senior national team for a second straight summer. The team

will tour Europe in preparation for the World Championships in Brazil in September. UBC newcomer Evans will be on the under-20 team that will compete at the world championship qualification tournament in Mexico City in August, while top recruits Lisson and Pinske are currently trying out for Canada's junior national team and are hoping to be selected for the U18 FIBA America World Championship Qualification Tournament in Colorado.

Women's rugby players Kim Donaldson and recent grad Lesley McKenzie have both made the senior national team and will play in a series of test matches this summer in preparation for the Women's World Cup of Rugby this September in Edmonton. Donaldson is also the captain of Canada's under-23 team.

Several swimmers will appear at the Pan Pacific Championships Aug. 17 in Victoria. Names to watch for include Brian Johns, Scott Dickens, Darryl Rudolf and Kelly Stefanyshyn, as well as Maya Beaudry and Matt Hawes. Trials for the Pan Pacs are in Montreal starting July 27. The team for the next world championships will be chosen from the Pan Pacs.

UBC women's soccer goalkeeper Jackie



**All Canadian** Tiffany Michaluk (above) and Laura Dowling will train with the senior national team this summer.

Dunnett is currently playing with the White-caps in the W-League and is a candidate for the Canadian under-20 team that will play in the U20 World Championships in Russia.

Track and field T-Birds Mason, Lauren Welch, Shannon Elmer and Cloe Hewitt will represent Canada at the North America, Central America, Caribbean U23 championships in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

### **Bob Philip Receives NACDA award**

Athletic director Bob Philip has received the AD of the Year Award, international division, at the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) annual convention.

Philip's programs have produced 37 CIS and NAIA titles since he came to UBC in 1992.

Under his guidance, UBC Athletics' endowments have increased significantly, as he helped raise \$3.9 million through the TELUS Millennium Scholarship Breakfast and more than \$10 million for other scholarships and facilities, including the John M.S. Lecky UBC Boathouse and the UBC Thunderbird Olympic Arena.

*Marc Weber*



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TRADITIONS

## The *Back Mac* Campaign



**Back Mac supporters** take to the streets to protest lack of money for UBC.

MOST PEOPLE THINK of the Great Trek as UBC's one big province-wide demonstration for higher education in BC. Not true. When post-secondary education in BC has been threatened, UBC students and alumni, ever-vigilant, have repeatedly gone to the people for support. And the government has had to listen.

In 1961, BC's post-secondary system consisted of UBC, Victoria College and a few unregulated private colleges. With the number of such colleges increasing and no plan in place for BC's educational future, people were getting concerned. The Okanagan Mainline Regional Planning Committee called for an immediate probe of higher education in BC. In July 1961 the UBC Alumni Association wrote to Social Credit premier W. A. C. Bennett, endorsing this recommendation, and supporting the establishment of a centrally regulated system of post-secondary institutions in the province. From UBC and from elsewhere, the pressure on the government was building, with retiring UBC president Norman MacKenzie reiterating the need for such a probe, and for more funding and a variety of educational options in BC.

When he became UBC's president in 1962, John B. MacDonald knew that his first priority was the development of a comprehensive post-secondary plan for BC. With a host of Baby Boomers coming and educational expectations

increasing, post-secondary enrolment would more than double by 1971 from 14,000 to an anticipated 35,000. As the only university in the province, UBC was not equipped to handle this massive influx, and the demand for professors would quickly outstrip supply without a more robust graduate studies program. He also saw that if BC were to remain competitive, it would have to get ahead of the scientific revolution by training professionals for the new economy rather than continuing to rely on natural resources. Indeed, the need to develop a plan was so urgent that there was no time for a Royal Commission – the study would need to be conducted immediately.

MacDonald convinced W.A.C. Bennett, and on August 29, 1962 the study to gauge BC's higher education needs was launched.

With MacDonald at the head, 12 top UBC officials travelled the province and examined

educational systems in Great Britain, New Zealand and the United States. Their recommendations, released the following January as *Higher Education in British Columbia and a Plan for the Future* but quickly known as the MacDonald Report, included a system of universities and four-year colleges, with several two-year junior colleges providing technical and vocational training, previously unknown in Canada.

It called for an immediate start on a university in Burnaby, and junior colleges in Vancouver, Kelowna and Castlegar by

1965. By 1971, junior colleges should be established in central Vancouver Island, Kamloops, Prince George and the eastern lower Fraser Valley, and the college in Kelowna should become a university. This would require a massive funding increase: implementing the plan was expected to cost about \$450 million over eight years, with the funding to come from the federal and provincial government, and (for the two-year colleges) municipal taxes.

Les Peterson, UBC grad, minister of education and, later, UBC's chancellor, initially rejected the plan, but quickly back-pedalled when Bennett endorsed it, promising to move on the recommendations immediately. In addition to establishing SFU, the government took steps to change Victoria College into a university and began work on the system of colleges. It looked like the provincial government was serious about funding higher education in BC.

by Elizabeth Elliott

## THE BACK MAC CAMPAIGN

Then came time for budget submissions. UBC's faculty had submitted budget requests to President MacDonald that called for a \$4.5 million increase from the previous year. MacDonald managed to whittle the increase down to \$2.6 million, the minimum needed to cover the increased demands on the university.

After MacDonald sent his request to government, the increase was further cut to \$1 million. MacDonald had already committed nearly that much to maintaining the status quo at UBC, leaving him with no increase for desperately needed expansion. The Board of Governors was used to receiving less than the budget request and didn't feel it was a good time to push the government further. MacDonald disagreed, and spoke out publicly against the budget cut while urging the federal government to take on responsibility for financing graduate and professional education. Several newspapers carried his comments, which reached a responsive audience.

UBC students were furious with the government's decision, especially in light of Bennett's endorsement of the MacDonald Report. They considered protests, strikes and marches, and quickly decided that the issue should be brought to the people of BC. They sacrificed their classes for Thursday afternoon and Friday (AMS President Doug Stewart made the distinction that this was not a boycott, but a sacrifice for a higher principle). The AMS hired buses and cars to carry 500 students throughout the province to collect signatures in support of increased funding for higher education in BC. At the same time, 600 students would march from Sunset Beach to downtown Vancouver, holding a mock class on the courthouse steps.

With the endorsement of the Faculty Association and the Alumni Association, the students took to the road, fanning out all over the province. They went to large towns and small, logging camps and backwaters, collecting signatures and distributing buttons declaring, "I Back Mac." Some people found this confusing; not having heard of MacDonald they declined the buttons – one man said he couldn't back Mac because he was a Diefenbaker man – and some communities were unhappy that their towns hadn't been chosen as college sites in the MacDonald report. To keep the focus on



**Back Mac** crusaders travelled the province to collect supporting signatures from as many British Columbians as possible. The baby, above, declined.

support for more and better post-secondary options in BC the students talked about the larger issues and made more buttons reading, "I support higher education." Everywhere, the determined scholars were given a warm welcome. Nuns in Kamloops pinned "I Back Mac" buttons to their habits. In McBride, 600 of its 800 citizens signed the petition. Many of the students went on little or no sleep for the whole weekend. When they returned to campus, the travellers were exhausted but triumphant: more than 232,000 of the province's 1.6 million residents had signed their support in just three days.

This the BC government could not ignore. After some negotiation, they agreed to a supplementary grant of \$370,000. The next year, UBC received the full grant request for the first time in its history. UBC's president had shown the way to our current province-wide system of post-secondary education, and UBC's students and alumni had shown that the people were behind it, forcing the government to keep their promise.

*Did you back Mac? If you were there, we'd love to hear your story. Contact the editor at [chris.petty@ubc.ca](mailto:chris.petty@ubc.ca)*



### MACDONALD'S VISION

John B. Macdonald's insight into the nature of higher education:

- Education is a vital part of the scientific revolution. If BC is to remain competitive, we can't continue to rely on natural resources at the expense of higher education
- Education is a public concern, funded by the public, for the benefit of the public, and as such is inseparable from politics. In order to make thoughtful, wise decisions about funding, the people must be informed

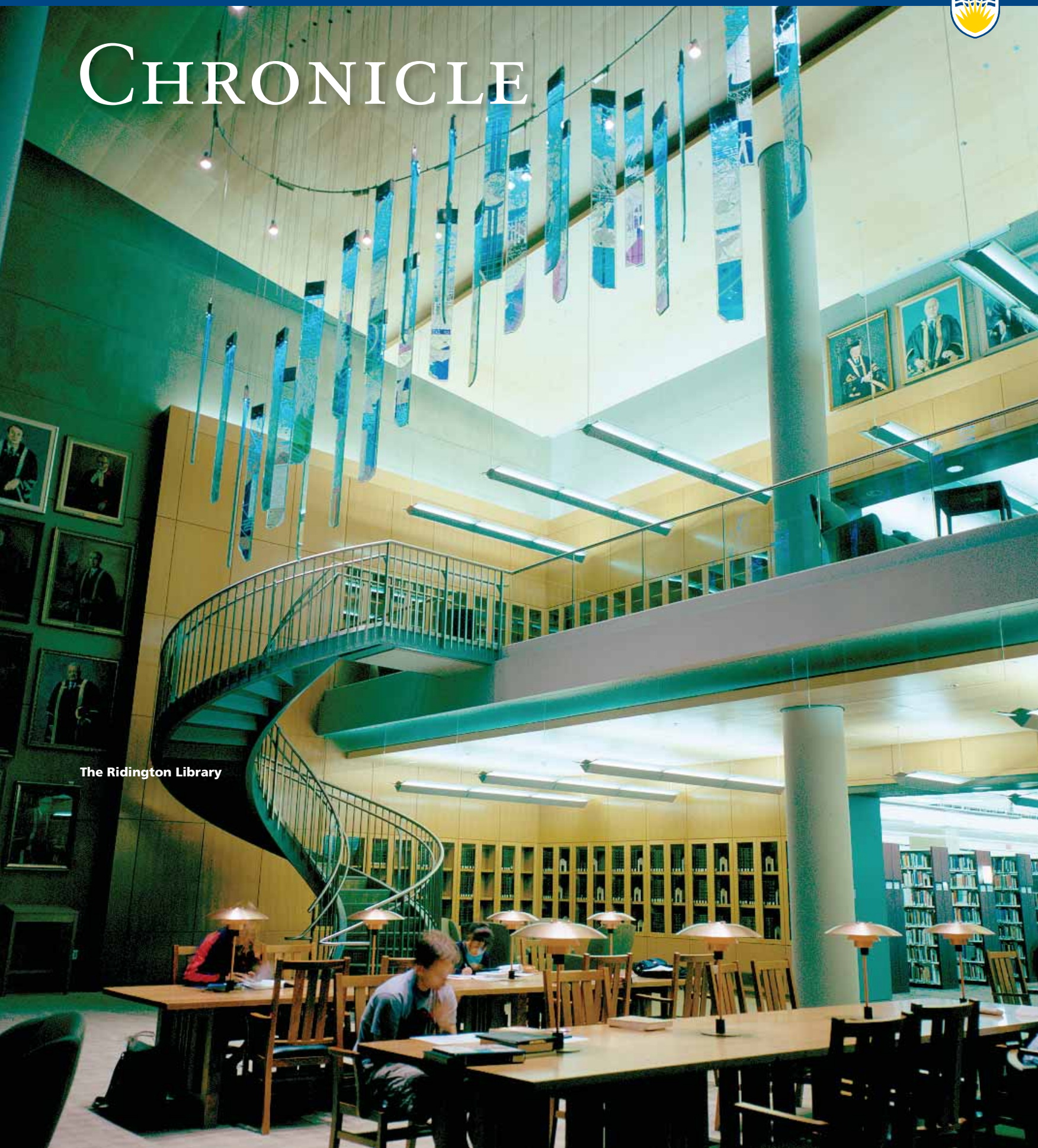
about the benefits of education.

- To build a great educational system, we must prepare by training the educators of the future. By expanding graduate studies programs, we also provide professionals and specialists for BC, Canada, and the world.
- Administration is inseparable from academia; the key to excellence in both is leadership at all levels. To allow for such leadership, deans and department heads must be given authority over their areas. Leadership does not equal dictatorship, however, so these leaders must be chosen carefully.



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# books

## A Small Dog Barking and other stories

Robert Strandquist MFA'86

Anvil Press, \$18

Don't let the slimness of this volume fool you: there is a lot of meat in these stories. Strandquist's prose is stark, immediate and dense with layers of meaning. He seems to write effortlessly, as if it all came out in a dream, like "Xanadu," except he remembered. And still, his descriptions surprise and delight with their absolute accuracy.

This collection moves through a wide range of settings and genres from the apocalyptic to the seemingly everyday, from science fiction to prose poetry. This is Strandquist's third work of fiction, following *The Inanimate World* (a collection of short fiction) and *The Dreamlife of Bridges* (a novel). In keeping with these others, *A Small Dog Barking* pushes literary boundaries as only he can.

## Jean Coulthard: A Life in Music

William Bruneau & David Gordon Duke

BMUS'71

Ronsdale Press \$22.95

This is the first biography of Canadian composer Jean Coulthard, DLIT'88 who, over a 70 year career, established herself as one of Canada's foremost composers. A member of UBC's School of Music from 1947-73, Coulthard mentored two generations of composers. Her much-acclaimed compositions spanned every genre of traditional classical music, drawing from her experiences studying under Bartók, Vaughan Williams and Schoenberg while retaining a distinctly Canadian sound. *Jean Coulthard: A Life in Music* examines the life of this exceptional woman, which is inextricably entwined with the story of Canadian art in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## Stealing Home

Ellen Schwartz MFA'88

Tundra Books, \$12.99

It's 1947, and the great Jackie Robinson is playing for the Brooklyn Dodgers, fighting his way through baseball's colour barrier. Meanwhile, nine year old Joey Sexton, recently orphaned, is sent to live with his mother's



estranged family in Brooklyn. Too dark for his Jewish relatives, too light for his black peers, Joey struggles for a place to belong, and tries to find a way into his grandfather's heart.

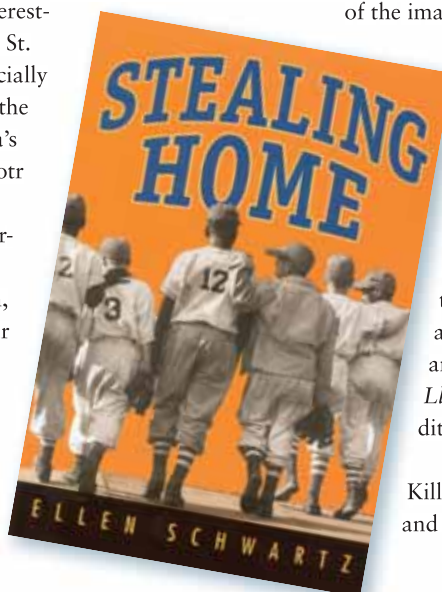
Set at the dawn of the civil rights movement, when the struggle for equality had come to America's favourite pastime, *Stealing Home* tells the story of that struggle through the eyes of a young mixed-race kid.

## Field of Mars

Stephen Miller MA'70

Viking Press, \$32

1913 was an interesting time to be in St. Petersburg, especially for an officer in the Okhrana, Russia's secret police. Pyotr Ryzhkov would prefer a less interesting life – his wife has left him, and he knows far too much about Russia's corruption. Then a child prostitute is thrown from the window of



an exclusive brothel. The evidence points to murder, but powerful forces want it covered up. As Ryzhkov delves further, he finds himself in the shadowy world of international politics, conspiracy and treason. Will his quest for the truth cost him his life?

Miller is better known for his acting, particularly for his portrayal of Lt. Zak McNab on *Da Vinci's Inquest*. This, his second novel (after *The Woman in the Yard*), shows him to be a skilled writer as well. His writing career will be worth watching.

## The End of Southern Exceptionalism: Class, Race, and Partisan Change in the Postwar South

Byron Shafer & Richard Johnston BA'70, PHD  
Harvard University Press

Ever since V.O. Key's book *Southern Politics*, general wisdom has held that the political shift in America's South from Democrat to Republican was a backlash against the rise of civil rights. Shafer and Johnston use hard evidence, including polling and election data, to convincingly posit that this major shift was not racially motivated, but was due to economic development after World War II. *The End of Southern Exceptionalism* shatters long-held myths around the nature of politics in the South, explaining the economic forces and consequent class shift that led to Republican dominance.

## Dream Helmet

William New BED'61, MA'63, PHD

Illustrations by Vivian Bevis MA'82

This whimsical collection of nonsense poetry will delight small children with its theme of the imaginative potential of dreaming.

Featuring a guitar-playing hippopotamus, a knock-kneed knight who won't get new tights, a flying calliope horse, and many other fantastic characters, *Dream Helmet* is beautifully illustrated by Vivian Bevis, whose watercolours bring each poem to life. This is the third children's book that Bevis and New have worked on together, and along with *Vanilla Gorilla* and *Llamas in the Laundry*, it is a fine addition to a small child's library.

William New is the University Killam Professor Emeritus of English and Canadian Literature at UBC.

*Selections from Margot Steward's journal, kept during her trip to the ancient byways.*

### Day 1

A quick visit to Athens before we set sail. We tramped all over the Acropolis site, then boarded the *Clipper Adventurer* in the afternoon. My travelling companion and I had sailed on this same ship to Antarctica the previous winter so boarding felt like a reunion with an old friend. We dashed up to the “pointy end” to check on the paint damage that had been sustained crossing the Drake Channel. All repaired and repainted and fun to recall that epic storm.

### Day 2

Woke at Delos, an island of 3rd and 2nd BC century ruins. We were loaded into zodiacs to explore the amazing mosaics and marble ruins, with the special treat of wildflowers underfoot. Our guide was raised on Mykonos, and has a PHD in Archeology with a post-doc at SFU, but we didn't hold that against him. He speaks five languages, works two days a week excavating, two days guiding and crafts unique silver jewelry in his spare time. Today we zodiacked to Mykonos, a favourite Greek Island holiday for gay guys. They know how to pick an island.

# The Ancient Byways

*Sailing the Greek Isles, Sicily and Tunisia, By Margot Steward, BA'62*



Margot Steward holds up a copy of *The Comox Valley Record*, while the ruins behind her hold up history.

### Day 3

Santorini, a popular tourist island. Beautiful villages perched on volcanic cliffs above black sand beaches. We took pity on the donkeys and walked back to the beach and read in the sun on the stern deck as we waited for cocktail hour.

Each location we visited was preceded by a lecture by one of seven specialists – archeologists, sociologists, biologists, art historians – who accompanied us by zodiac to each site.

### Day 4

Crete. We docked at Iraklio and bused to Knossos, the capitol of Minoan Crete, then later to Rethymnon, an old Venetian-Ottoman fortress. UBC threw a get-together cocktail party for us tonight and I was surprised and delighted to reconnect with an old friend from 40-plus years ago from geology class and residence. It's just

amazing how little we'd changed or so it seemed with a drink in our hand!

### Day 5

A day at sea, which I love. Lectures to prepare us for Sicily and champagne mimosas and hors d'oeuvres to while away the time...

### Day 6 and 7

Sicily. Took a walking tour of the old town of Ortigia, interesting because of our sociologist's lecture about family life in Sicily, based on her own family. Agrigento ruins with a valley full of Doric temples. My favourite day. After dinner the scientists prepared us for North Africa.

### Days 8, 9, 10 and 11

Tunisia! I can hardly believe I'm in North Africa! Bused to Bulla Regia, a Roman classical city,

built subterranean to escape the summer heat. Visited the Bardo Museau (gorgeous mosaics) and the Medina in Tunis with a Tunisian lunch complete with chunky belly dancers. Next, we saw the ruins of Carthage, which is now an upscale residential area with few ruins left, then a quick visit to the North African WWII cemetery. More impressive were the well-preserved ruins at Douga which overlook a lush wheat growing valley. No wonder the Romans settled there. We stopped at a picturesque blue and white Tunisian village for photographic possibilities and were swamped by aggressive vendors, the first we'd encountered. We visited the Muslim holy city of Kairouan and its mosque, with head, shoulders and legs covered out of respect although no one seemed to care how tourists dressed. Some of the indigenous ladies dressed in

colourful regional costumes for market day.

### Day 12

To Malta for disembarking, with a two day extension, finishing another wonderful trip with UBC alumni. New friends and old, wonderful scenery and photos to prove it. I've already signed up for the next *Clipper* trip with UBC! Who knew retirement could be this much fun!

*Margot Steward sailed the Greek Isles on one of our alumni cruises. To see more photos of Margot's trip, visit [www.alumni.ubc.ca](http://www.alumni.ubc.ca), click "Rewards" on the navigation bar, then select "Travel Program." Click on the photo gallery link on the right side of the page.*

*For more information on our Travel Program, contact Karen Kanigan, Member Services Manager, at 604.822.9629 or [karen.kanigan@ubc.ca](mailto:karen.kanigan@ubc.ca).*

# alumni**news**

## YOUNG ALUMNI

Spring Convocation saw the Young Alumni Network welcoming almost 7,000 new members, nearly 500 of them making up UBC Okanagan's first graduating class – an exciting addition to the celebrations. The Young Alumni Network is eager to serve alumni of both campuses who graduated within the last 10 years and are currently based in the Lower Mainland area. In the last couple of months alone the Young Alumni Network has facilitated a number of social events between alumni, current students and other friends of UBC.

In March, Young Alumni took advantage of several opportunities for hooking up with current students, sharing their post-UBC experiences and finding out what's been happening on campus since they left. A student leader recognition event was held at Sage Bistro where Young Alumni could chat with current student leaders over food and drinks in a casual atmosphere. President Martha Piper and VP Students Brian Sullivan addressed a gathering of more than 200 people. They stressed the important link that exists between alumni and students and pointed out that graduation is not the end of one's relationship with UBC but the beginning of a new one.

Later the same week, the Grad Class Council hosted its year-end wine and cheese for graduating students. Judging by how long people stuck around, those young alumni that attended thoroughly enjoyed themselves. It was a great chance to hear about the immediate plans of new graduates and their hopes for the future.

Looking to the future, the Young Alumni executives went on a planning retreat and established an annual planning calendar to help them organize new events for the coming year. Young Alumni can expect a range of events catering to a wide variety of interests including lecture series, participation in community literacy programs, arts and cultural evenings, financial seminars, activities with current students and perhaps even a Day of the Longboat alumni team! The executive are open to new ideas and would love to hear from other Young Alumni who want to get involved.

This time of year also marks a change-over



## Congregation 2006

Between May 24 and May 30, more than 5,000 men and women crossed the stage at the Chan Centre to become alumni of UBC. The ceremonies, 22 in all, were led by Martha Piper who has the knack for delivering the 22<sup>nd</sup> graduation speech with as much passion and conviction as she does the first. In her nine year tour of duty at UBC, we estimate that she has officiated at nearly 300 graduation ceremonies.

The most compelling images of graduation are the ones that capture something of the joy, relief, anticipation and sense of occasion people feel when they flip their tassels, and some of the mixed feelings of their parents.



# alumninews

in the executive. The outgoing executives have been brilliant in carrying on the Young Alumni tradition with energy and enthusiasm, and the university and Alumni Affairs are thankful for their leadership. A new crew is in place, and their dedication and spirit is already in evidence. There are still a few positions open. If you are interested in filling one, or joining one of the many committees, please get in touch. For more information on joining the executive or about upcoming events, e-mail [ya@alumni.ubc.ca](mailto:ya@alumni.ubc.ca).

## REGIONAL NETWORKS

What is a network?

**Network** - A network: an interconnected or interrelated group of people with similar interests or concerns who interact and remain in informal contact for mutual assistance or support. (Webster's Collegiate Dictionary)

Where are they?

No matter where you go, either to travel or live, UBC has more than 50 networks to keep you connected with one another, keep the communication line open to your alma mater and

help you get established in your area. From San Francisco to Kuala Lumpur to Prince George, the groups are led by your fellow grads – enthusiastic alumni – who organize events and activities. There are always chances for you to get involved and share your event ideas and input. Check out Connect at [www.alumni.ubc.ca/](http://www.alumni.ubc.ca/) or contact your Alumni Relations Manager to locate your local representative.

## NEW CONTACTS

**Ottawa** – new reps Heather Cole, BSC'91 and Ryan Flewelling, BA'99. Email either [hcole@rogers.com](mailto:hcole@rogers.com) or [rlewelling5493@rogers.com](mailto:rlewelling5493@rogers.com).

**Shanghai** – Anny Kwok, BCOM'00. Email [shanghai@alumni.ubc.ca](mailto:shanghai@alumni.ubc.ca)

**Hong Kong** – Michael Mak, BCOM'97 took over the reigns as president at the recent AGM. He can be reached at [hongkong@alumni.ubc.ca](mailto:hongkong@alumni.ubc.ca).

**Indonesia** – contact new reps, Joanita Tjandrawinata, BA'04 or Jimmy Sunaryo, BASC'05 at [Jakarta@alumni.ubc.ca](mailto:Jakarta@alumni.ubc.ca).

**Tokyo** – There's a new rep on board. Kozue Saito, MED'03 can be reached at [Tokyo@alumni.ubc.ca](mailto:Tokyo@alumni.ubc.ca).

## WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Dr. Piper's final year as UBC President has been a busy one with visits to Calgary, Singapore, Seoul, Seattle, San Francisco, Ottawa, Toronto, London, and Kelowna. Regional networks held speaker events, pub nights, spring hikes and more. Want to know what's happening in your neck of the woods? Get the latest on the calendar of events at [www.alumni.ubc.ca/events/index.php](http://www.alumni.ubc.ca/events/index.php).

## SUMMER ACTIVITIES

The Class of 2010 is entering UBC this fall! Send the new UBC students in your hometown off to campus in the know. Stay tuned for send-off events in your city this summer. Network reps will be planning informal gatherings before the students leave for UBC. Share your university experiences and help answer some of the students' questions about campus life.

For more information visit the website or contact one of your Alumni Relations Managers: **Shawn Swallow**, UBC Okanagan  
205-807-9223 or [Shawn.swallow@ubc.ca](mailto:Shawn.swallow@ubc.ca)  
**Valerie Tse**, UBC Asia Pacific Regional Office, Hong Kong, 852-2111-4400  
[Valerie.tse@apro.ubc.ca](mailto:Valerie.tse@apro.ubc.ca)  
**Tanya Walker**, UBC Vancouver  
604-822-8643 (1-800-883-3088 – toll free in Canada and the US) or [Tanya.walker@ubc.ca](mailto:Tanya.walker@ubc.ca)

## REUNIONS 2006

Unless otherwise stated, please contact Marguerite Collins at [marguerite.collins@ubc.ca](mailto:marguerite.collins@ubc.ca) or at 604-827-3294 for more information on reunions.

We're organizing reunions for 10, 25 and 50 year anniversary classes. Please contact Marguerite to plan your class reunion.

## CLASS OF '46 ~ 60<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY REUNION

Join us for celebrations on Thursday Nov. 23. The day starts with brunch at Cecil Green Park followed by a special convocation ceremony at the Chan Centre, when you will receive your 60th anniversary pin from incoming President Stephen Toope. Join us for tea after at CGP.

The Class of 1946 established an entrance scholarship at its 50 year reunion. The award goes to an outstanding student entering UBC from secondary school. Ten years later, class members continue to raise funds. If you have immediate questions regarding this scholarship or are interested in making a donation, please



### Day of the Longboat, October 1, 2006

Canoes, water, paddles, sore muscles and a great time. Put together a team and be part of the largest voyageur canoe race in North America. Join one of the 300 ten-person teams as they paddle a two kilometre course off Jericho Sailing Centre. Beach start, a cone pickup, and three big turns. To put an alumni team together, contact Marguerite Collins at [marguerite.collins@ubc.ca](mailto:marguerite.collins@ubc.ca) or at 604-827-3294 for more information.

contact Michelle Orr at 604-822-8904 or michelle.orr@ubc.ca

## REUNIONS DURING ALUMNI WEEKEND SEPT. 29 ~ OCT. 1

### Nursing All Years

Lunch at Cecil Green Park House. Wanting to organize your 10-, 25-, 30- or 50-year anniversary Nursing Reunion? Have your class reunion at our lunch! Contact Cathy Ebbehoj, BSN'75, MSN'99 for details at 604-822-7468 or ebbehoj@nursing.ubc.ca.

### Home Ec '56

Lunch at the Botanical Garden. For more information, please contact Sue Girling at suzoos@shaw.ca.

### Arts & Science '56

Lunch at Green College Great Hall.

### Physical Education '51

Sunday from noon onwards at Bill Ross' house in Surrey, 14732 16A Ave, Surrey, V4A 5M7. Snacks in the afternoon and a BBQ on the covered deck at 5:00 pm. Please contact Ken Hodgert for more information at ka-hodgert@shaw.ca or 403-686-4533.

### Pharmacy '56

For more details, please contact Murray Dykeman at jmdykeman@shaw.ca or 604-988-0901; or Eric Seto at 604-525-1206.

### Pharmacy '66

Contact Chuck Willett at 604-922-3429 or email him c\_willett@shaw.ca.

### Pharmacy '86

Contact Juliette Hum for more information at juliette.hum@novartis.com.

### Imagine 10 Year Reunion

IMAGINE has been around ten years! We're gathering together all those student, staff and faculty leaders who helped bring IMAGINE to life. Come join us to celebrate ten years of great success. Call Marguerite Collins at marguerite.collins@ubc.ca for more info.

### Med'86

September 30 – reception at the Pan Pacific Hotel. Please contact Marguerite Collins at marguerite.collins@ubc.ca or Dr. Steve Larigakis at slarigakis@shaw.ca for details.

### Applied Science '56 & '76

Contact our offices for details.

### Applied Science '66

September 30 – evening reception in the Faculty and Staff lounge in the CEME building

## YEAR-ROUND CLASS REUNIONS

**Geography '80-'85, MA and PHD graduates.** Reunion dinner on May 27. Please contact Gary Barrett at gary\_barrett@telus.net or Colin Wolfe at colin.wolfe@cec.eu.int

### Pharmacy '56

For more details, please contact Murray Dykeman at jmdykeman@shaw.ca or 604-988-0901; or Eric Seto at 604-525-1206.

### Pharmacy '66

Please contact Chuck Willett for more details at 604-922-3429 or email him at c\_willett@shaw.ca.

### Pharmacy '86

Please contact Juliette Hum for more information at juliette.hum@novartis.com.

### Sauder School of Business

For Sauder reunions, unless otherwise stated, contact Darline Beck, Alumni Relations Coordinator for Sauder School of Business, at darline.beck@sauder.ubc.ca or 604-822-6027. We currently need a reunion committee for the classes of MBA'81 and MBA'96

### BCom'76

September 22 at the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club in Kits.

## Volunteers are Blooming!

Right, bottom: Each year, the Alumni Affairs office recognizes UBC staffers who volunteer their time and talents to the university. This year, Kathy Ebbehoj received the Slonecker Award (presented here by Chuck and Jan Slonecker) at Cecil Green Park.

Top: Jane Bond, volunteer at the Museum of Anthropology, won the draw to have the honour of planting a hydrangea in the "Volunteers are Blooming" garden at Cecil Green Park.



Come home for  
Alumni Weekend  
with all new activities!  
**ALL ALUMNI WELCOME!**

Friday September 29 – Sunday October 1, 2006



## WEEKEND

EVERYONE IS WELCOME AT ALUMNI WEEKEND – and you won't need a class reunion to keep you occupied so no need to worry if you don't see one listed on these pages. This year, we're introducing a new program of activities for all grads and friends to attend. We'll keep adding events over the next months, so visit our website and make plans to come home to UBC this fall. For more information and to see a full listing of the activities planned to date, please visit our website at: [www.alumni.ubc.ca/events](http://www.alumni.ubc.ca/events).

If you aren't part of a class reunion this fall, but are thinking of attending Alumni Weekend, contact UBC Alumni Affairs and give us your current email address. We will send out invitations for Alumni Weekend *via email* during the summer. Please send your details to [marguerite.collins@ubc.ca](mailto:marguerite.collins@ubc.ca).

Here are some of the events we've planned so far:

### Friday September 29

BBQ for campus based alumni, Thunderbird's Football game.

### Saturday September 30

Breakfast with UBC's new president, Stephen Toope

Campus tours

Hard hat tour of the Museum of Anthropology

Tour of Botanical Garden

Lunch, complete with musical entertainment

Tour of the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre

Classes without Quizzes – presentations by faculty members renowned for their classroom abilities, telling you things you'll never forget.

Student Panels

Opening of the new UBC Boathouse

### Sunday General Activities:

Day of the Longboat

[www.alumni.ubc.ca/events](http://www.alumni.ubc.ca/events)

## alumninews

### BCom'81, BCom'96

25 year anniversary. Please contact Darline Beck, Alumni Relations Coordinator for Sauder School of Business, at [darline.beck@sauder.ubc.ca](mailto:darline.beck@sauder.ubc.ca) or phone 604-822-6027.

### Med'61, Med'71, Med'96

Details to come.

### Med'66

Contact Marguerite Collins at [marguerite.collins@ubc.ca](mailto:marguerite.collins@ubc.ca) or 604-827-3294.

### Med'67

Contact Patrick MacLeod for more details via email at [patrick.macleod@viha.ca](mailto:patrick.macleod@viha.ca).

### Med'81

October 13-15 at the Brentwood Bay Lodge and Spa. We've bought out the whole resort! Don't miss this weekend! Contact Dr. Penny Osborne for more information at [Penny.Osborne@vch.ca](mailto:Penny.Osborne@vch.ca).

**Applied Science** For details on Applied Science Reunions, please contact May Cordeiro, Alumni Relations Officer for Applied Science, at [mcordeiro@apsc.ubc.ca](mailto:mcordeiro@apsc.ubc.ca) or 604-822-9454.

### Chemical '56

Details to come.

### Chemical '66

September 9: Tour of department & cruise to Bowen Island; September 10: Brunch at Granville Island followed by golf.

### Civil '49, '56, '71

Details to come.

### Electrical & Computer '60-'00

Golf and a salmon barbecue. Details TBA.

**Electrical '56, Eng. Physics '56, Geological '86, Mechanical '76 & '81, Applied Science '46 (November)**

Details to come.

### Law '56, '71, '76, 96

Details to come.

### Law '81

September 27 at Cecil Green Park House. After 25 years it's time to reunite, check out the grey



hair, talk about our children (now themselves in university or beyond) and down some of the ol' plonk. Contact Ted Murchison at [tmurchison@murchisonthomson.com](mailto:tmurchison@murchisonthomson.com) or Marina Pratchett at [mpratchett@van.fasken.com](mailto:mpratchett@van.fasken.com) and volunteer to help, express your support or let us know how much you hate class reunions.

### OTHER GREAT EVENTS

Dentistry Alumni Tournament

Sunday, September 24, 2006

Shot gun start, 1:30pm, Morgan Creek, South Surrey. Students and alumni welcome. An *après* golf gourmet BBQ for all. Details on tickets coming soon. Contact: [dentalum@interchange.ubc.ca](mailto:dentalum@interchange.ubc.ca)



*TrekConnect* is our new online networking tool that lets you create your own specialized groups of UBC classmates. Build networks, join existing ones, post jobs or just get in touch with old classmates.

Go to [www.alumni.ubc.ca](http://www.alumni.ubc.ca) and click *TrekConnect* to signup. Use your student number to sign in. (It's on your *Trek Magazine* label.)

## UBC Alumni Association Annual General Meeting

September 13, 2006

6251 Cecil Green Park Rd.

UBC Campus

Call 604.822.3313 for more information or check the website [www.alumni.ubc.ca](http://www.alumni.ubc.ca)

# 2006 ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS



### ILLUMINATING ACHIEVEMENT

Join us to honour UBC's highest achievers and to support the Global Service Learning Endowment.

**NOVEMBER 2, 2006**  
**THE ATRIUM**  
**UBC LIFE SCIENCES CENTRE**

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ALUMNI AFFAIRS HAS A NEW LOOK ON THE WEB. CHECK OUT OUR NEW AND IMPROVED WEBSITE FEATURING UBC NEWS, INFO, EVENTS, AND MORE.





# THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

AT UBC ALUMNI AFFAIRS, WE ARE IN THE BUSINESS OF HELPING YOU, UBC'S GRADUATES, STAY IN TOUCH WITH FRIENDS and with the university. Part of our job is also to provide you with opportunities to enhance the value of your UBC parchment. With more than 225,000 members, we are able to offer preferred group rates on special services that will help you save money and support the activities of the Association. These include networking and educational events; student/alumni athletics and arts programs; alumni achievement awards; volunteer programs; and more. To learn more about these great offers, call us at (604) 822.3313 or toll-free at 1.800.883.3088, or send an email to [alumni.association@ubc.ca](mailto:alumni.association@ubc.ca).



## CLEAR SIGHT WEALTH MANAGEMENT

Our newest affinity partner offers full-service retirement planning with exceptional benefits: lower fees, professional advice and a wide selection of products.

## MANULIFE FINANCIAL

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

## MBNA

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

## MELOCHE MONNEX

Home and auto insurance with preferred group rates and features designed for our grads. Travel and micro-enterprise insurance also available.

## ALUMNI A<sup>card</sup>

The Alumni A<sup>card</sup> costs \$30 per year (plus GST) and will entitle you to these UBC Alumni deals:

- UBC Community borrower library card, a \$100 value
- Receive a 25% discount on regular room rental rates at UBC Robson Square
- Special rates at the University Golf Club
- Receive 4-6% off select vacation packages at Jubilee Travel
- 2-for-1 admission at the Museum of Anthropology
- First-time A<sup>card</sup> holders receive a 20% discount on selected merchandise at the UBC Bookstore
- Save on regular adult tickets for staged productions on Theatre at UBC
- UBC Botanical and Nitobe Gardens 2-for-1 admission
- Deals on UBC Athletics events and Aquatic Centre
- Business In Vancouver subscription savings

Working downtown? The A<sup>card</sup> is available at the library at Robson Square.

Find your rewards at

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

# class ACTS

*We depend on our readers to send us notices for Class Acts and In Memoriam. Please direct your information to [vanessa.clarke@ubc.ca](mailto:vanessa.clarke@ubc.ca), or to our mailing address (see page 3). Digital photos must be 150 dpi or better to be included in the magazine. Please note that Trek Magazine is also posted on our website.*

## 50s

**Harvey Buckmaster** MA'52, PHD'56 has been elected a Fellow of the International EPR/ESR Society for his outstanding contributions to Electron Paramagnetic Resonance Spectroscopy. The citation says that Harvey "is a pioneer EPR spectroscopist. His PHD thesis at UBC involved the first construction of both an EPR spectrometer in Canada in 1953 and a high-frequency magnetic field modulation version that achieved a significant improvement in spectrometer sensitivity by 1955.

After an NRC Overseas Postdoctoral Fellowship in radio astronomy at Cambridge, he resumed his EPR research at the University of Alberta. In 1960, he moved to the University of Calgary, retiring as a professor emeritus of Physics in 1993. He then moved to the University of Victoria as an adjunct professor to do EPR research for another six years.

His research involved the introduction of synchronous signal processing and noise suppression techniques to the design of EPR spectrometers and their incorporation into the design and early construction of a broadband 1-2 GHz CW ad pulse EPR spectrometer in 1992. He made early contributions to the tensor operator formulation of spin-Hamiltonians and the application of computers to fit EPR spectra to spin-Hamiltonians.

His experimental EPR research included studies of S-state impurity ion host lattice effects, in situ combustion of coals, impurity ions in coals, radiation effects in biological tissue, and medical biophysics studies of hemoglobin and malignant hyperthermia. He has published over 180 scientific publications..."



**MIRA RAY** PHD'04 is involved in an exciting new initiative called CRAM Science, the first on-line science magazine for Canadian teens

## 60s

**John Diggins** BSC'68, DMD'72 has received an Honoured Member Award from the College of Dental surgeons for his outstanding and long-standing service to the profession. John is a past president of the Alumni Association ... **Jack Hodgins** BED'62, DLIT'95 has won the Lieutenant Governor's Award for Literary Excellence. His body of work includes *The Resurrection of Joseph Bourne*, winner of the Governor General's Award for English-language fiction in 1979 ... Now retired and living on Gabriola Island, **Roy Innes** MD'64 has become a published writer. His mystery novel, *Murder in the Monashees*, is set in BC and is now in its second printing. A review published in the *Midwest Review of Books* said: "Roy Innes obeys all the rules in turning out the perfect mystery. The murderer is there in the background; pertinent clues abound; and the police have their problems tracking their man. He includes a captivating love story, his characters are ordinary people just trying to get by, and the killer has a human face. There is no shortage of action, and the book reads easily and has a refreshing twist. Innes is a mystery talent who should keep cranking out his product. An excellent read!" The book was listed in the *Edmonton Journal* as a Christmas best buy and has been submitted by NeWest Press for an Arthur Award. He has recently completed a mystery novel for juveniles that he hopes will be published this fall and is finishing up a sequel to *Murder in the Monashees* ... **Nancy Macey** BSR'68 (Rehab Med) worked at Lions Gate Hospital for a short time after graduation, then spent the next 20 years caring for her two children. When they were adults, she once again turned her attention to medicine. She perceived a shortage of hospice care in Delta, and established a hospice organization out of her own home there.



**DELWEN STANDER** BA'85

She has been growing the Delta Hospice Society ever since. It is a self-sustaining, volunteer-run organization and, according to daughter-in-law Sarah Macey, the best non-profit in Delta. It consists of the Family Hospice Care Center (which houses offices for volunteer coordination, counseling, and meetings) and the now famous Hospice Cottage Thrift Store – a booming success! Nancy dreams of a free-standing hospice in Delta that provides training as well as high standards of care. She recently received accreditation, and has met with the Premier and members of the Health Ministry to discuss her vision. When she is not working, she can be found running the golf course in Whistler with her favorite boy – her dog Zack! (Her other favourite boy, of course, is Alan, her husband of more than 40 years) ... **Matthew Panar** DMD'69 received an Award of Merit from the College of Dental Surgeons for his contributions to the field.

## 70s

Two of Vancouver's most respected planners have announced their retirements. **Larry Beasley** MA'76 and **Ann McAfee** BA'62, MA'67, PHD'75 shared responsibility for directing the city's rapid expansion into a widely respected model of what urban living could be. Larry intends to keep working on a number of development projects and Ann is involved in coordinating Vancouver's role in the World Urban Forum ... **Susan J. Crockford** BSC(Zoology)'76 announces the publication of her new book, *Rhythms of Life: Thyroid Hormone and the Origin of Species*. How did wolves become dogs and Homo become dwarfed? *Rhythms of Life* unveils in simple language Susan Crockford's revolutionary new concept of how thyroid hormone drives evolutionary change (including domestication) and controls your health. From resolving the origins of dogs (and the dwarfing of *Homo floresiensis*) to clarifying the primary cause of depression, this innovative approach makes evolution personal. Trafford Publishing, Victoria. 2006. ISBN 1-4120-6124-5 274 pgs. Available in paperback & digital (pdf), CD\$33.95, ebook US\$14.99. [www.rhythmsoflife.ca](http://www.rhythmsoflife.ca) & [www.trafford.com](http://www.trafford.com) ... Last November, **Peter A. J. Frinton** BSC'72 was re-elected by a healthy margin for three year terms as a municipal trustee for the Islands Trust and a councillor for the Bowen Island Municipality ... **Frederick L. Ringham** BSC'78 has been appointed director, Immigration Division of the Western Region of the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada ... **Thorold "Tory" Tronrud** BA'76, MA'77, PHD (U of Toronto)] has been appointed editor of the journal *Ontario History*. Tory continues as director/curator at the Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society where he's worked since 1983.

## 80s

**Mason Loh** QC, BCOM'82, LLB'83 has been presented the honorary title of Doctor of Traditional Chinese Medicine for his substantial contributions to the profession and the development of its regulatory college ... **Carolyn Myers** PHD'88 has been appointed president of Mylan Technologies Inc. She has more than 16 years experience in pharmaceutical brand management and has led a number of product launches in primary care and specialty markets. She joined Mylan in 2003 as VP of Branded Business Development and Strategic Marketing. Of her promotion she said she was "very excited to lead MTI in the pursuit of continued innovation and success in the rapidly growing transdermal market." As well as her UBC doctorate in Molecular Genetics, Carolyn holds an MBA from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey ... **Delwen Stander** BA'85, LLB'88 has left Sliman, Stander and Co. to form Stander and Co. and specialize in litigation and mediation solutions. Contact Delwen at [dstander@standerandcompany.ca](mailto:dstander@standerandcompany.ca) ... **Shelley Sweeney** BA(Latin)'81, MAS'85 was recently appointed secretary general of the Bureau of Canadian Archivists, representing both the Association of Canadian Archivists and the Association des Archivistes du Quebec internationally.

## 90s

**Evelyn McNee** DDHG'71, DMD'90 was presented with a Distinguished Service Award by the College of Dental Surgeons for contributions to the college and profession. UBC's Dean of Dentistry, **Edwin Yen**, received a Distinguished Service Award ... **David Ng** BSC(PHARM)'96, MBA'00 and **Julia Ng** BSC(PHARM)'96 would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Sharon, who was born on October 8, 2005, at 7:00 pm in Hong Kong. She weighed 7lb 9oz at birth and is now a very healthy and happy baby ... **Mario Sertic** BSC'90, BSC(Pharm)'94, DMD'99 and **Renate Simmons** DMD'99 are thrilled to announce the arrival of Nadia Claire Sertic, a little sister to join big brother Nikolas, who turned

two in February. She was born in Nanaimo on January 18, 2006 and weighed 6lbs 7oz ... **Sheldon Goldfarb** PHD'92, MAS'96 is an archivist-/researcher for the AMS. He has written a novel *Remember, Remember* (2005, UKA Press) that has been short-listed for an Arthur Ellis award for best Canadian juvenile mystery novel. To find out more see: [www.crimewriter-scanada.com/cwc/index.html](http://www.crimewriter-scanada.com/cwc/index.html)

## 00s

**Todd C. Harvey** LLB'01 has joined the Partnership of Baker Newby LLP in Chilliwack, practicing in the areas of corporate, commercial, real estate, and estate planning law ...

**Mira Ray** PHD'04 is involved in an exciting new initiative called CRAM Science that she developed with a colleague in London, Ontario. CRAM Science is the first on-line science magazine for Canadian teens, and is intended to spark interest in science among youth (age 13-17). The site presents engaging articles on science topics that relate to the activities and events teens are involved in – everything from the products they use to the sports they play. For more information, see [www.cramscience.ca](http://www.cramscience.ca). CRAM Science recently received its not-for-profit status, and has applied for registration as a charity. Since the website was launched about 3 month ago, it has had close to 30,000 visits.

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To create a legacy that supports students, research, or your area of interest, please contact UBC Gift & Estate Planning at 604.822.5373 or [heritage.circle@ubc.ca](mailto:heritage.circle@ubc.ca) and ask for your free information package.

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# Provincial health plans cover less than you think

*Barb Henderson  
 Product Manager  
 Manulife Financial*

The days when an employee remained with one company for a career span of 25-30 years are long gone. Self-employment is on the rise<sup>†</sup>. As a result, the loss of health benefits that corporations provide for employees and their families is leaving many Canadians without enough health and dental protection.

Most people assume they are covered sufficiently under their provincial health plan. What they don't realize is that provincial health plans cover less than they may think. To ensure your health and dental needs are covered, consider the Alumni Extended Health and Dental Plan.

Dental care, prescription drugs\*, alternative therapies (massage therapy, chiropractors, naturopaths, etc.) and vision benefits – these health care items and services are essential for the well-being of your family. Unfortunately, they are not covered under provincial health plans.

The Alumni Extended Health and Dental Plan features a variety of options to fit all needs and budgets. The value-added *ManuAssist*<sup>™</sup>, a 24-hour emergency travel assistance program, is included at no additional cost to you. ■

<sup>†</sup> As of January 2005, there were 2.47 million self-employed Canadians out of a total of 16.057 million in the labour force. There was also a 1.6% increase in self-employment from January 2004 to January 2005. Source: Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey, February 2005.

\* Not available to Québec residents.

## *in* MEMORIAM

**Alice Elmira (Gerow) MacMillan** BA'37 in Arnprior, on, on Sunday February 5, 2006. She was the wife of Patrick MacMillan, BASC'39, PENG, who survives her.

**Professor Ruth apRoberts** BA'41 Professor Emerita Ruth apRoberts died Sunday, March 26, after 35 years in the department of English at the University of California, Riverside. She was one of the most innovative and influential scholars of her time. She retired in 1990, but continued teaching on campus, and was often seen at lectures and concerts. "Beloved by students, respected by scholars and readers, and indelibly remembered by those who were fortunate enough to know her, Ruth apRoberts has bestowed an immense legacy on all who care about literature, culture, and humanistic thought," said UC Riverside Chancellor France A. Córdova.

Professor apRoberts was a great scholar of Victorian and religious literatures. Her work focused on nineteenth-century British literature as it intersected with philosophical issues and spiritual traditions. She wrote numerous important articles, including one on poetic form in the Hebrew Bible (published in the premier journal of literary study, *PMLA*), and another on Psalm 119 (published in *The Literary Imagination* in 2000).

Born in BC in November, 1919, her late husband was Robert apRoberts, also a UBC grad and a noted scholar of medieval literature who taught at California State University, Northridge. They had four children: Alison apRoberts, Lucy apRoberts, Mary Garnett West, and Evan apRoberts. Professor apRoberts received her master's degree from the University of California, Berkeley. After a hiatus, during which time she devoted herself to raising her family, she returned to university life, receiving her PhD in English from UCLA.

At UCR, Professor apRoberts held the positions of graduate advisor and chair of the English department. She taught courses in Victorian literature, the Aesthetic Movement, and the Bible as literature. She held a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1978-79, and she



RUTH APROBERTS

was awarded the UCR Distinguished Teaching Award in 1977 and the Distinguished Emeritus Award in 1995.

Professor Katherine Kinney, current chair of the department of English at UC Riverside, said "Ruth apRoberts helped shape the intellectual culture of our department. As a scholar of the highest reputation and accomplishment, she led by example. She was a generous colleague and committed teacher whose passion for literature and intellectual inquiry exemplified our shared mission." Students remember Professor apRoberts as the kind of teacher who might open a hymnal and lead singing in class, to study the poetry of the lyrics set to music. She always attended concerts on campus, even up until very recently before her death.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the UCR Foundation, Attention: Ruth apRoberts Fund, c/o Development Office, University of California at Riverside, Riverside, CA 92521. Memorial donations will benefit the Department of English.

**Michael McClean Ames** BA'56, PHD, CM, FRSC After a courageous battle with non-Hodgkin's

lymphoma, Michael passed away peacefully at the age of 72 on February 20, 2006, with his family at his side. He is deeply missed by his children Dan Ames (Beth McTaggart) and Kristin Ames, their mother Elinor Ames, sister Geraldine Young, sister-in-law Gillian Ames, dear friend David Jensen, nephews and nieces, cousins, and many close friends and colleagues. He is predeceased by brother John.

After receiving his BA(HONS) in Anthropology from UBC, he earned his PHD from Harvard. He conducted field work in Sri Lanka and post-doctoral work in South Asian Studies at the University of Chicago before returning to Canada to teach at McMaster University from 1962, and at UBC from 1964 onwards. He served as director of the UBC Museum of Anthropology from 1974 to 1997, and as acting director from 2002 to 2004 after he had retired. In that time, Michael was many things to many people: inspired teacher, beloved mentor, renowned scholar, demanding administrator, relentless innovator, and constant seeker of knowledge. His influence is felt worldwide through his books, articles, service to communities – both academic and cultural – and most of all through his students, many

## in MEMORIAM

of whom chose careers as anthropologists and museum professionals because of him.

Under his leadership the UBC Museum of Anthropology became Canada's largest teaching museum, internationally recognized for its experimental approaches to educating people about the diversity of cultures. One of Michael's major research interests was Museology. He published widely on the democratization of museums and their role in promoting collaboration with and cultural empowerment of indigenous peoples. He initiated one of the first consultations with the Aboriginal community regarding the appropriate handling of First Nations artifacts, their representation and access. The idea of "access" was instrumental in his participation shaping programs such as Humanities 101 and Musqueam 101, developed for residents of the Downtown Eastside and the Musqueam First Nation.

His book *Cannibal Tours and Glass Boxes: The Anthropology of Museums* influenced beliefs about the modern role of museums, and he was widely sought as a consultant to museums in Canada, the United States, New Zealand, and Australia. His work in applied anthropology included being a founding member of UBC's department of Anthropology and Sociology's Urban Field School, and co-instructor of a course on the anthropology of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. He conducted research on South Asia over many years, including studies of village Buddhism in Sri Lanka, industrial and community development in India, the South Asian Diaspora, and Sikhs in BC. He served as president of the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, and gave extensive professional service to many academic organizations.

Michael received many academic and service honours, holding a Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, being an elected Fellow of

both the Royal Society of Canada and the Canadian Museums Association, receiving the Werner-Tremblay Award for exceptional contributions to Canadian applied Anthropology, and the 2005 UBC Alumni Award of Distinction. In 1998 he was appointed Member of the Order of Canada in recognition of his reputation as an internationally known scholar, researcher, and author in Anthropology and Museology.

Michael's interests included running, photography, symphony, opera, and watching sports, especially his children's soccer games. He was an animal lover, a true gentleman, and a patient and caring father to his children, who were always his first priority.

The family wishes to thank Dr. Paul Galbraith and Holly Truchan, as well as the

Medical Short Stay and Palliative Care teams at St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver, for their excellent care of Michael. Memorial donations would be greatly appreciated and may be made to the Michael Ames Scholarship in Museum Studies, c/o UBC Museum of Anthropology, 6393 NW Marine Drive, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z2, or to a charity of your choice.

**Jack Bell** BASC'34, LLD'90  
Jack Bell, businessman and philanthropist, died aged 92 in Vancouver. UBC was one of the institutions that benefited from his generosity. Under David Strangway's

administration, he donated \$1 million to fund the First Nations House of Learning. It was the first of several millions he would give away from a fortune built on cranberry farming. He also endowed a chair in schizophrenia studies in UBC's School of Social Work, and the university later awarded him an honorary degree. His memorial service was held at the First Nations Longhouse on campus.

Vancouver General Hospital is another institution to have received his help, one of his legacies being the research centre that bears his name. The Friends of Schizophrenia Society, the Salvation Army, and the Downtown East Side Residents Society have also

benefited. The Jack Bell Foundation was founded in 1987 to advocate for dying with dignity and living wills. The foundation also started a ride-share program to combat pollution and congestion.

Jack Bell was born in Montreal in 1913. During WWII, he served with the Royal Canadian Air Force. Later, he ventured into cranberry farming, becoming the first commercial grower in the province.

Jack's generosity has been duly noted. He was named a Freeman of the City of Vancouver and appointed to the Order of BC and the Order of Canada. He is survived by his partner, Lorraine Tilson; children Caroline, John and Robin; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

**Gilbert J. Blair** BSC(AGR)'49

Former Richmond mayor Gil Blair died on February 1, 2006, aged 79, after a long illness. He is survived by wife Barbara and three of their four children.

He served Richmond as mayor during a period of great growth and activity between 1974 and 1990, starting with the opening of the Knight Street Bridge. His predecessors, Irish immigrants, arrived in Richmond in 1879. One of six children, Gil was born in 1926 to Mabel and Archibald Blair.

He was respected by friends and colleagues for his level of integrity and care for the community of Richmond. Gil was named a Freeman of the City in 1991. This honour was also enjoyed by his father Archie, who served on council for more than 20 years, and was a great inspiration to Gil.

During WWII, Gil served in the army. After graduating from UBC with a degree in Agriculture, he worked on the family farm.

**James Balfour Buchanan** BA'44, MA'46

James Buchanan died after a brief illness on January 24, 2006. He graduated with first class honours in Chemistry and as winner of The Lefevre Gold Medal and Scholarship (Chemistry). He continued at UBC, working with Dr. Harold Ure, and earned his MA, again with first class honours.

His colleagues in the Chemistry department at that time included Norman Bulman, Peter McGeer, and Roderick Robertson. Together with Physics colleagues such as Don Ivey and Arthur Johnson, they haunted the corridors of the old Science Building in



GILBERT BLAIR



the evenings as they worked on their theses. Jim's thesis project was *The Decomposition of Methane Induced by Free Radicals*.

In 1946 Jim enrolled in a PhD program at Cornell, and with that degree in hand he went to work in 1952 for E.I. DuPont de Nemours in Wilmington, Delaware. He spent his entire professional career as a research scientist in the Agricultural Chemicals Division of DuPont. The most striking and unexpected finding during this period was that amantidine was a preventative for influenza type A. Prior to this time it was believed there would never be an anti-viral pharmaceutical agent. Later it was discovered that amantidine was also effective against Parkinson's disease. It is still in use today for both these applications.

Upon retirement from DuPont, Jim returned to his native Vancouver. When he was at DuPont Jim was an avid sailor, concentrating on the Soling class. After he retired he took up archeology as an avocation. He participated on digs in many parts of the world, and his apartment was full of archeological artifacts that he had collected during these expeditions. Among other specialties, Jim became something of an expert on Mayan civilization. A consummate gentleman, Jim will be missed by his friends.

**Clarence Fulton BA'39, MA'42**

Clarence "Lunky" Fulton was born in Vernon



**JAMES BUCHANAN**

on March 10, 1913, and passed away peacefully on October 27, 2005, at Vernon Jubilee Hospital. He was predeceased by his dear wife Marjorie in 2000 and is survived by daughters Thekla Fulton (Doug Brown) and Linda Beaven (John), son Kim (Holly), seven grandchildren, three great grandchildren, sister Anna Cail, and three nieces and nephews.

Clarence was a graduate of Vancouver Normal School and earned his UBC degree in Bacteriology and Preventative Medicine. After graduation and during WWII he worked at the National Research Council in Ottawa helping develop improved methods for preserving eggs and bacon for overseas shipment.

Later, he worked for Montreal-based pharmaceutical companies and was involved in investigating the preparation of amino acids for nutritional use and in a two-year study of undulant fever. He was also associated with new antibiotics similar to penicillin and other drug products. Before returning to BC to join the province's Research Council, he was chief chemist for Krim Ko Corporation in Toronto.

But the family profession beckoned him and he began teaching school in Terrace, BC. He stayed there a year before joining Vernon Senior Secondary, where he stayed until retirement in 1978. Shortly before retiring, he received the Queen's Jubilee Medal of Excellence for worthy and devoted service to his profession.

This good natured gentleman was known by his family and friends for his wide range of interests and as a teller of many wonderful stories. He was dearly loved and will be missed. Memorial donations may be made to the BC Cancer Society or the Alzheimer's Society.

**Thomas Barton Howes BSC(AGR)'55**

It is with fond memories that the family of Thomas Barton announces his passing on Saturday, March 25 in Royal Inland Hospital, Kamloops, BC. He will be missed by his partner, Faye Wilson, and by his children, Ann, Matthew (Cassandra), David (Cindy), Andrew (Andrea), and Bruce. Also missing granddad will be Amanda, Erica, Vanessa, Devan, Rebecca, Megan, Nathan, Adam, and Lauren. Barton was predeceased by his father, James Garnet, mother Nellie Francis, and adopted daughter Carla.

Barton was born in Yorkton, SK, where he spent his early childhood before his family



**THOMAS HOWES**

moved to Victoria, BC. Barton's childhood and adolescent years found him involved in skating, hockey, Boy Scouts and music, playing both piano and saxophone in various school bands. Barton graduated from Victoria High and continued his education with stops at Victoria College and Veterinary School in Guelph. He obtained his BSC(AGR) at UBC with teacher training, and eventually gained his masters in Agriculture through Oregon State University. Barton was very proud of being the first person to run UBC's Oyster Valley Farm (experimental farm) at Comox, BC, from 1957 to '58.

Barton met a young lady from Oak Bay High by the name of Katharine and the two were married on June 1, 1957. The two young teachers set off for BC's north to Dawson Creek, where they started their teaching careers and family. Ann and Matt were born there. Barton taught at South Peace High School and coached the school hockey team. In the summer, he drove bus on the Alaska Highway. 1960 found the young family heading south to Merritt, BC. In Merritt, Barton built a beautiful Panabode house that would serve as the family home for years to come.

As the town of Merritt grew, so did the family with three more sons. Barton's career continued from teaching to administration and he was the vice principal at Merritt Secondary School for many years. He started many people's days off with "Good Morning.

## in MEMORIAM

Here are your announcements.” Barton’s love for agriculture meant having a greenhouse to start the new crop in the spring and tending and nurturing a very bountiful garden throughout the summer and on to harvest in the fall. Barton was also a hobby beekeeper with small backyard apiaries. At one time he had 22 hives that produced the best honey in town.

Not all his interests involved being outside. The kids and grandkids were recipients of hand-hooked rugs and handmade quilts that he worked on and assembled while keeping an eye on whatever hockey, football game or special event was being shown on CBC.

Barton was actively involved in the community as a parent and member of various organizations. These included clubs for hockey, curling, sailing, skiing, NV riding, soccer, tennis and also the church choir. On retirement, Barton became involved with the Cross Canada Cycle Tour Society. Barton’s passion for cycling and the CCCTS took him across Canada in 1993 and to his partner Faye. They shared many tours and times after that from the “Top of the World” – Dempster Highway, Pacific Coast, Baja, across America and multiple shorter tours in between. Barton and Faye shared the snowbird life, spending parts of the year in Mesa, AZ. They enjoyed the tennis, sunshine and social life of “The Park.”

Barton’s family would like to thank their Dad’s neighbours – Grace, Denny, Gordon and Brenda Curnow and Ken Boyko – for the many times they looked after Barton’s place while he was away. They would also like to thank the staff and people of The Merritt Adult Day Care, Nicola Meadows, and the nursing staff on 6N of RIH for the awesome care they provided.

### James Bruce Hutchinson BSC’43

Bruce was born in Saskatoon in 1922, the only surviving son of Hazel (Crosby) and J. L. S. Hutchinson, the owner of Saskatoon Hardware. Unfortunately his father died in 1927, so his mother sold the business and moved to Vancouver where she resided with her family until her death in 1954.

After graduating in Mechanical Engineering, he took a position in Montreal at the Northern Electric Company (which later became Nortel Systems), first on the shop



BRUCE HUTCHINSON

floor and afterwards as supervisor in the Tool Room, a job he often said was one of his favourites among the company’s many positions. When Northern Electric decided to open up a new plant in Belleville in 1947 Bruce was sent to advise on engineering needs, and then sent back to Montreal in 1949 as a superintendent.

He met and married Catherine (Kay) Higgins in 1952, and they moved into a new bungalow in Dorval where children Martha and Douglas were born. After only nine months in their new home in Baie d’Urfé, he was moved to London, Ontario, in 1962 and became manager of the plant that at that time manufactured telephones for the Bell Telephone Company.

During his London years he became much involved in the local community, volunteering with the Chamber of Commerce, and serving as chairman of the Planning Board. He became a member of the advisory board of the University of Waterloo, advising on their innovative and successful work/study programs.

When Bruce returned to Montreal in 1965 he was promoted to assistant VP (Planning) for the Northern Electric Company. In this capacity he laid some of the foundations for the company’s future success: he promoted engineering research at the Bell-Northern labs in Ottawa, he played a major role in

introducing computers to Northern Electric, and he researched the land and negotiated the purchase of the company’s Brampton property, which became its head office. His final promotion was to VP (Engineering), which was his position when he took early retirement in 1974 after more than 30 years of service with Northern.

But Bruce was only 52 and his active mind was not yet ready for the quiet life. After a brief unsatisfactory period in Toronto in managerial consulting roles, Bruce was recruited to the newly established Insurance Corporation of British Columbia as its first VP (Administration). One of the attractions of this position was that it would provide his managerial mind with new public sector challenges; the other attraction was that it brought him back to Vancouver, where he could be united with his elder sister Keith Millar (UBC Commerce), his brother-in-law Jim Millar (UBC Commerce), and his younger sister Joy Marie (Boo) (UBC Agriculture) and his brother-in-law David Barker (UBC Commerce).

As the first VP (Administration) of ICBC, Bruce played a leading role in negotiating collective agreements with employee groups, setting up pension plans, organizing the non-insurance affairs of ICBC, and helping to set up its new head office in North Vancouver, working on the site selection and its successful building design.

Before he was 60 he retired a second time in 1981, having had two highly successful careers, in both the private and public sectors of the business world. This time Bruce was fully ready to retire, and he was in a position to return to one of the loves of his earlier life: the sea. The times spent on his cruiser Val II were among the happiest periods of his retirement life. He had travelled extensively during his working life, and also in retirement. However, after a stroke he suffered in Vienna in 1990, he kept closer to home and this marked the beginning of some years of weaker health. In 2000 he suffered two massive heart attacks and his final years were marked by failing health. He died in November, 2004.

As a manager, Bruce had a calm and friendly but tall and imposing presence, and quickly exerted leadership by virtue of his manifest intelligence. He often said that the most useful course he ever took at UBC was

the much despised mandatory English course that the engineering students protested having to take in each of their five years. Bruce said it helped him communicate effectively with others in the company, a far more important skill to him in the end than knowing engineering details.

After graduation from UBC, he carried on learning and teaching himself, taking evening classes in financial management and investment (from Stephen Jarislowsky) as well as leadership and administrative courses.

He is predeceased by his elder sister Keith (Millar) and survived by his younger sister Boo (Barker) as well as numerous nieces and nephews, and their children. He leaves his wife Kay, his daughter Martha, his son Douglas, his daughter-in-law Cathy, and his granddaughter Anna and grandson Silas.

**Archie Jones** BASC(CIVIL)'52

Archie Jones, husband of Midge Jones of Calgary, was born in Saskatoon on April



**ARCHIE JONES**

5, 1928, and died in Calgary on March 13, 2006, at the age of 77 years. Archie spent his childhood in Saskatoon until moving to Vancouver to attend UBC. After graduation, he went to Calgary in 1953 to start his career in the oil patch with Shell Canada, Dome Petroleum and Canadian Marine Drilling.

Archie retired in 1986. His retirement years were spent enjoying good friends and

good times in Shuswap in the summer and Calgary in the winter.

Throughout his life, Archie was involved in sports such as baseball, hunting, hockey, curling, skiing and golf. Playing bridge and gin were also passions. The last couple of years were sometimes taxing on Archie but he was always thankful for the good times he spent with his many friends.

Archie is survived by Midge, his wife of 52 years; three daughters Susan Jones (Bill McKay), Janice (Paul) Colborne and Leslie (Bill) Mitchell; one son Peter Jones (Alita Brown); and 11 grandchildren: Rachel, Morgan, Yaylor, Nyssa, Katie, Jamie, Sam, Lauren, Melissa, Joe and Claire. Archie was the rock of the family and best friend to many. He gave his family unconditional love and never sought anything in return. He will be missed.

**William Tierney Lane** BA'44, BCOM'47, LLB'48

William died November 24, 2005, aged 82. He was a member of the first UBC Law Class and practiced law for more than 50 years. His long-standing interest in the development of cities and land-use led him into the field of municipal and planning law, and he pioneered many developments in this area during his early years in private practice with Alex Manson, and then as Municipal Solicitor and District Prosecutor for Richmond, as Commissioner for Regional Development for the GVRD, and in private practice with Alexander Holburn Beaudin & Lang.

He made a major contribution to the preservation of agricultural land in BC as first chairman of the Agricultural Land Commission. He was closely associated with UBC, having lectured in the School of Community and Regional Planning (SCARP) for 23 years. He is remembered by a generation of planners for his enthusiasm and wit in conveying the importance of understanding the general principles of law in implementing planning ideas – all this in his Saturday morning lectures.

In his retirement he continued an active involvement with the university, serving as a member of the President's Advisory Committee on Campus Enhancement, as well as participating on UBC Reunion Committees. In addition to his professional and UBC activities, he served on many boards and committees that reflected his wide range of interests, which included archaeology, history, historic preservation, archives, and the planning of



**WILLIAM LANE**

better communities.

Following service with the army in WWII he was active with The British Columbia Regiment (DCO) where he served as commanding officer and honorary lieutenant-colonel. Bill is remembered by his family, friends and colleagues for his sense of humour, his creative mind, his love of travel and adventure, and his fund of stories. He is survived by his wife Elizabeth (Betsy), daughter Naomi (Todd) Constant, son Tom, and five grandchildren.

**Shirley Isabelle Mayse** BA'31, MA'35

Miss Mayse, one of UBC's most brilliant undergraduate students of Latin and English literature 75 years ago, died recently at the age of 94. At her request there was no memorial service and no public notice at the time of her death.

After graduation from UBC, Miss Mayse went on to a distinguished career as a teacher in the Vancouver public school system. She taught at Kerrisdale, Kitsilano, Lord Nelson, Selkirk, Magee, Vancouver Tech, King Edward, Lord Byng and Britannia. Her uncompromising academic standards made an indelible impression upon students who went on to success as writers, business leaders, scholars, lawyers, politicians and public servants. One of those she mentored became a judge on Canada's Supreme Court, another became a premier of BC.

## in MEMORIAM

She was born at home on the snowy night of April 13, 1911, in Neepawa, Manitoba, to Amos Mayse and Elizabeth Caswell. Amos was a Boer War veteran who had been severely wounded at Utrecht in the West Transvaal and on return had taken a post as a missionary to the Swampy Cree. He met Elizabeth Caswell of Lanark, Ontario, while preaching at a country church and they married in 1909. Miss Mayse came to British Columbia in 1920 when her father, who had been badly wounded again at the Battle of the Somme in the First World War, took positions as pastor at Maple Ridge, Haney, Port Hammond, Nanaimo and eventually Vancouver, where she attended Britannia High School.

She graduated from Britannia in 1927 with a Governor-General's Silver Medal and immediately enrolled at UBC, working in a bargain basement on East Hastings Street for \$1.50 a day to pay her tuition but still managing to take double first class honours in Latin and English. In 1931, she tied for top marks in the Faculty of Arts and Science and was awarded the Governor-General's Gold Medal. But when it was later determined that only one prize could be awarded, the results of a special meeting of the university senate dictated that the prize should go to the male science student and not the female arts student. Her grades were revised downward and her award was withdrawn. Sixty-four years later, the university formally apologized to Miss Mayse and expressed regret at its failure to properly acknowledge and recognize her achievements as an outstanding female undergraduate student.

Miss Mayse was predeceased in 1992 by her younger brother, Arthur William Mayse, who also graduated from Britannia and attended UBC where he wrote for the *Ubyssy* and won the Isabel Ecclestone Mackay Poetry Prize three consecutive times before leaving for a career as a journalist and writer of short stories, novels and screenplays.

### Dr. Edward Lambert Margetts BA'41

Professor E. L. (Ted) Margetts passed away recently. After attending UBC, he received his MD and Diploma in Psychiatry from Mc-



SHIRLEY MAYSE

Gill University. He pursued his clinical and academic activities in a number of settings in Canada and abroad including Nairobi, Kenya and Geneva, and Switzerland (WHO). He headed the Department of Psychiatry at Vancouver General Hospital, where he remained from 1972 - 1983.

Ted is fondly remembered by his trainees and subsequently accomplished colleagues. In a recent departmental newsletter, Bill Brown and Earl Hardin remembered him thus: "When Ted Margetts came to Vancouver in 1959 the UBC psychiatric training program had half a dozen residents based at VGH and Shaughnessy. Ted became our defacto director and mentor. He had spent much of his career in Montreal but had just returned to Canada from a sojourn at mental hospitals in Nairobi and participation in World Health Organization initiatives.

His easy-going style and immense clinical experience made our time with him productive and a pleasure, and he had wonderful stories of his work in Africa. We were both away for further training but when we came back to Vancouver in 1963 he was then acting head. He welcomed us to the staff at VGH and he continued to be a supporter and an inspiration as the years passed. During

the last decade there have been only a few encounters with Ted. He still had that comforting warmth. Always a voracious reader, he talked of new additions to his rare book collection. He was happy to assure us that he was still seeing patients. Memories of him will always be fond ones."

### Professor Geoffrey Vernon Parkinson

BASC(MECH)'46

Professor Geoff Parkinson, was a long-serving member of the department of Mechanical Engineering. He was an outstanding student at UBC, and went on to do graduate study at the California Institute of Technology, obtaining first an MSc degree in Aeronautics, and then a PhD in Aeronautics and Mathematics in 1951. Immediately afterwards, he was recruited back to UBC as an assistant professor teaching courses in fluid mechanics and aerodynamics. Geoff was soon promoted to associate professor, and then professor. He enjoyed occasional sabbaticals in England.

As there were no facilities at UBC for teaching or conducting research in aerodynamics at the time, one of Geoff's early accomplishments was the design and construction of a closed-circuit wind tunnel. This proved to be an effective research tool, and is still used today for both graduate and undergraduate experiments in fluid mechanics.

Following his retirement after 40 years at UBC a small ceremony was held, and Geoff was pleased to be invited to unveil a plaque officially naming this important facility the Parkinson Tunnel. After retiring as a full-time professor, Geoff was still active in the department and continued to supervise graduate students and teach a few graduate courses – he was still the recipient of a federal research grant.

Geoff had an international reputation for his outstanding research work in low-speed aerodynamics and fluid-structure interactions, and was often invited to give special lectures, including one to the Royal Society in 1970. He was also a dedicated and accomplished teacher, with more than 35 successful master's and doctoral students, and was one of the first recipients of the Walter Gage Master Teaching awards. Geoff had a very warm and engaging nature, was well-loved by his many graduate students and colleagues alike, and will be sorely missed in the department.

### R. J. “Bus” Phillips

UBC’s elder statesman and a true gentleman has passed away at 91. Bus Phillips, UBC’s director of Athletics from 1953 to 1980, left an important and lasting UBC legacy. Notably, his 27 years service as director of Athletics is the longest in the history of the position. As he guided UBC’s Athletics program towards the point where it could become the strongest in the country, he also taught Human Kinetics and coached Thunderbird Track and Field.

His youthful, soft voice was known across Western Canada during the time he served as Canada West’s Secretary Treasurer from its formative years until 1992, having been one of the founding fathers of the Canada West Conference and of the CIAU (GIS). Bus served university sports with class for almost 40 years.

He was “constantly reliable” and “possessed a personality of very high order” according to the late Bob Osbourne, with whom Bus worked very closely. This “builder of builders” and “kindest and most thoughtful man,” in the words of Marilyn Pomfret and Buzz Moore, was in 1993 an inaugural inductee as a builder in the UBC sports Hall of Fame.

### Stewart A. Schon BED’74

Stewart passed away peacefully at home on March 29, 2006, aged 54. He is survived by his wife, Katherine Town BREC’78 and children, Kim TownSchon BSC’06 and Tia TownSchon BA’06. He was the oldest son of Herb and Carol Schon of Winnipeg.

Stewart’s accomplishments were many: he taught in Surrey, and was on the executive of both the Surrey Teachers Association and the Exchange Teachers Association. As a life-long member of the Royal Life Saving Society, he taught, coached, tested and encouraged generations of lifeguards and had recently qualified as an international judge. He was the backbone of the Crescent Beach Lifeguard Corp.

Stewart played many roles in Scouting, from troop leader to jamboree participant. In his home community he served on the Crescent Beach Property Owners Association, sung in several choirs, and was active in the Association of Neighbourhood Houses, among other groups.

His focus was always on family and friends, and his was the first hand stretched out to those who needed help. He died at home surrounded by the love of family and friends. The Stewart Schon Memorial Scholarship will mark the memory of a warm and generous man who gave so much to all whose lives he touched. Donations will contribute to a scholarship for someone who is interested in becoming a teacher, and has experience in the areas that Stewart was so fond of – lifeguarding, scouting, and community service: Stewart Schon Memorial Scholarship, School District #36, 14225 56th Avenue, Surrey, BC V3X 3A3. (The School Board will issue a tax receipt.)

### Major Paul Jay Sykes Jr. BA(Physics)’48

UBC Physics Professor Emeritus Paul Sykes passed away peacefully at home on October 20, 2005, aged 87, his wife Dorothy having predeceased him in 2001. He is survived and deeply missed by his twin sisters, Virginia Reiffer (Mathew) and Diana Belhouse (Henry), nephew Randy Reiffer; son Richard of Boulder, Colorado; grandchildren Rebecca, Amy, Jean and David; and many friends.

He was born in Hummelstown, PA, on August 31, 1918, to Paul J. and Mary Virginia (Fox) Sykes. His father died in action in France in October 1918. Paul Jr. served with

distinction in the United States Air Corp during WWII. He served in the first photo-mapping squadron in the Amazon Basin and then as squadron navigator in many long-range missions against Japan. After the war he returned to his studies at UBC and completed a degree in Physics. He married Dorothy Winifred (Kendrick) in 1948. He attended the Oak Ridge School of Reactor Technology, and was then appointed as a lecturer and administrator in Physics at UBC, where he remained until he retired in 1983. Throughout his life he was active in the Royal Astronomical Society (Life Member), involved in local and provincial politics, and remained a talented pianist. He also had an interest in small boats and fishing.

Throughout his life he had a passion for astronomy. Sister Diane remembers listening (via a crystal set Paul had made) to a radio lecture he gave on the subject in the early 1930s, aged 14. He was still a teenager when first published – landing a monthly column on astronomy. During his life he amassed a huge library of books on Physics and Astronomy. He will be interred with Dorothy at the Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, DC, with full military honours. Memorial donations to the Canadian Cancer Society would be greatly appreciated by his family.

### Rudolph Vrba

Professor Emeritus of Pharmacology & Therapeutics Rudolph Vrba has died of cancer in Vancouver, aged 82. On April 7, 1944, he made history by carrying out the only successful escape from Auschwitz. It was Rudolph and fellow escapee Alfred Wetzler who told the rest of the world what was going on in the Nazi death camps.

Rudolph was born Walter Rosenberg in 1924 in Czechoslovakia, the son of Elias Rosenberg, owner of a steam saw-mill. At the age of fifteen he was excluded from the high school in Bratislava under the Slovak state’s version of the Nuremberg anti-Jewish laws. He worked as a labourer in until 1942.

In March 1942 he was arrested for being Jewish, and was deported first to Maidanek and then to Auschwitz. He remained Auschwitz prisoner #44070 for almost two years. After their escape from Auschwitz, he and Wetzler co-authored a report on Auschwitz, for which he used his *nom de guerre*, Rudolf Vrba. The report became known as the Vrba-



GEOFF PARKINSON

## in MEMORIAM

*Wetzler Report* or *Auschwitz Protocols*. It contains a description of the geography of the Auschwitz camp, the methodology of the mass murder in Auschwitz, and a history of the events that took place there. The *Vrba-Wetzler Report* reached allied governments in June 1944.

Vrba joined the Czechoslovak Partisan Units in September 1944 and fought until the end of the war. He was decorated with the Czechoslovak Medal for Bravery, the Order of Slovak National Insurrection and Order of Meritorious Fighter.

After Czechoslovakia was liberated from German occupation, the *nom de guerre* Rudolph Vrba was legalized. After WWII, Rudolph studied chemistry in Prague, graduating in 1949 and eventually receiving his doctorate in 1951, followed by a post-graduate degree from the Czechoslovak Academy of Science in 1956. Over the years, he became internationally known as the author of more than fifty original research papers on the chemistry of the brain, as well as for research work relevant to diabetes and cancer.

In 1951 and '52 he pursued biochemical research at the Czechoslovak Academy of Sci-



MARY YOUNG

ence, followed by five years of research work (1953-1958) at Charles University Medical School in Prague on the research team of Professor J. Teyssinger. Rudolph later worked as a biochemist at the Ministry of Agriculture in Israel for two years (1958-1960) before becoming a member of the Research Staff of the British Medical Research Council in London (1960-1967). He was appointed as Associate of the Medical Research Council of Canada (1967-1973), and he also worked for two years (1973-1975) in the United States as Lecturer and Research Fellow at Harvard Medical School. He joined UBC in 1976 as an associate professor teaching Pharmacology in the Faculty of Medicine.

Rudolf Vrba participated in a prominent way in the production of four films relevant to the history of the Holocaust and published in international journals several studies on aspects of the Holocaust and the German economy, military strategy and medicine. In 1998 the University of Haifa conferred to him the title of Doctor of Philosophy Honoris Causa.

Ruth Linn, dean of Education at Haifa University wrote a book about Rudolph's experiences called *Escaping Auschwitz: A Culture of Forgetting*. She said of him: "Dr. Vrba was an exemplary courageous hero and warrior, an independent thinker who had never feared confronting the establishment."

### Mary Margaret Young

Was born in Berkeley, California on June 9, 1923, and died in Vancouver on December 7, 2005.

She was the daughter of Earl B. Finning, the founder of Finning Tractor and Equipment Co. Ltd. She attended Pomona College before transferring to UBC in 1943, where she studied philosophy and met her husband, Maury. Mary's many community involvements included serving on the boards of the UBC Foundation, Lester B. Pearson College and the Institute of Global Ethics, and working with the Arts Umbrella, the Vancouver Library and the Vancouver Aquarium.

At UBC, Mary became involved in the lives and interests of many, including President Martha Piper, who considered her a dear friend. She shared Martha's vision for UBC, believing passionately in the impor-



RUDOLPH VRBA

tance of education, in the use of knowledge to benefit society, and in global citizenship. She created the Mary M. Young Global Citizen Award, given annually to an international student from Lester B. Pearson College who would otherwise be financially unable to pursue university studies in Canada.

One of those recipients, Brenda Ogembo, said of Mary, "The first time I met her I was struck by her energy and willingness to listen to me as a young person. It is this faith in the youth that has made me who I am today. Her generosity has inspired me to newer heights. She was truly a mentor and a treasure to me and to UBC."

Of the award, Mary said, "If we are going to change this world it will be done one person at a time, one step at a time," a comment that applies equally to her other UBC involvements, particularly with the Learning Exchange in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside that provides educational opportunities and training to marginalized members of society.

Mary also gave generously to establish the Mary and Maurice Young Professorship in Applied Ethics in memory of her husband, Maury. She frequently attended lectures at the Centre for Applied Ethics, and befriended several of its graduate students. She was also involved in the search for the Chair in Business Ethics, a position that works with both the Sauder School of Business and the Centre for Applied Ethics.

Mary is greatly missed by her family and friends. The legacy she has left at UBC creates many possibilities, including a university education for generations of international students, and life-changing community-service learning experiences for others.

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