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Trek

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Dementia is a looming public health crisis. Are we any closer to understanding diseases of the brain?

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Q & A

THE LAST WORD: WITH JENNIFER GARDY, BSC'00

Q: What is your latest purchase?

A: A pile of new wardrobe items for an upcoming *The Nature of Things* shoot. Turns out my usual attire of cat-hair-covered black stuff doesn't translate well on TV.

Renewal

In April I received an invitation to a commemoration ceremony at Hillel House on campus to mark the 20th anniversary of the genocide in Rwanda. It came from Judy McLean, a professor of international nutrition who is running exceptionally successful programs to improve child nutrition in Africa (see page 26). A few days earlier, two Rwandan students about to complete their first year of studies at UBC had approached her with a request for help: they couldn't let the anniversary pass without organizing a ceremony in remembrance of the one million victims.

Patrick Munyurangabo and Arielle Uwonkunda were both infants when the genocide occurred, but like all Rwandans their lives have been permanently altered as a result of it. Patrick's mother survived the genocide, but his father, brother, uncles and aunts didn't. His mother ended up raising 25 children. Today, half of Rwanda's population is under 20 years old.

At the ceremony, we watched a video about the historical roots of the genocide, lit candles, and honoured the victims with a minute's silence. Patrick shared his story with attendees because it's too easy for people to detach from something that happened 20 years ago in another country. But we are all connected, he said, no matter where we live. The very least we can do is be aware of what's going on in the rest of the world and make it our business.

Yes, the ceremony was desperately sad, but it was also enlightening and hopeful. While Judy, Arielle and Patrick don't want anyone to forget the genocide – and for that reason will continue to mark its anniversary – they also encourage people to form some new associations when thinking about Rwanda.

Since her first visit to "the saddest place in the world" in 2006, Judy McLean has watched the country's transformation. "Now, when I'm in a village in Rwanda, I see laughter and joy," she says. "There is singing and dancing."

Patrick graduated as top student from his school in rural Rwanda, where most of his classmates were orphans. He is now studying at UBC in the Faculty of Land and Food Systems as part of the MasterCard Foundation Scholars Program at UBC. The program supports the further education of bright young Africans from economically disadvantaged areas, equipping them to return home and lead change in their communities. Patrick intends to return to Rwanda and apply new knowledge of sustainable ways to improve food security and nutrition. He will work with Judy in the International Nutrition program to achieve his goals.

Arielle is a top student at the Sauder School of Business and wants to be part of building Rwanda's economy. She says she loves her country and feels safe there. There is little corruption. Education up to elementary level is free and people have access to healthcare. The justice and reconciliation process has been ambitious and pervasive. Arielle doesn't know who is Tutsi and who is Hutu. "My home is magnificent," she told us.

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QUOTE, UNQUOTE

“Obamacare requires insurers to pay out 80 to 85 per cent of their premium income as benefits, which resulted in \$1.1 billion being returned to policyholders in 2012. Our numbers suggest that Canadians are getting a worse deal than Americans.”

Michael Law of UBC’s Centre for Health Services and Policy Research, who is lead author of a study that found spending by Canadians on private health insurance has more than doubled over the past 20 years, while insurers paid out a rapidly decreasing proportion as benefits. (*UBC News, March 24*)

“The number one myth is that international students take the spots of domestic students. This is not true. We are funded for a certain number of domestic spots and we actually admit more than that number every year. We are committed to not displacing domestic students. Another common misperception is the belief that some people get special access or special deals – like there is a way to use favour. I can assure you there are no strings to pull. UBC does not do favours for any applicant. Admissions works from approved Senate policies that are rooted in principles of integrity and fairness.”

UBC Registrar **Kate Ross** dispels a few admission myths. (*UBC News, April 17*)

“Honestly, the money’s great... and tuition is due in a month, but I would have done it if there was no money. The Sun Run is such a Vancouver event and I really wanted to win it one year.”

UBC master’s student **Rachel Cliff**, who came first in the womens’ race in the Vancouver Sun Run – pocketing \$3,000 for being the top woman and \$2,500 as top Canadian. (*The Vancouver Sun, April 28*)

“We need to talk to young people more. And listen. A lot of my research is about empowering youth, and unless we involve them with coming up with a solution to stop another Columbine, it’s going to fail.”

UBC education professor **Kimberly Schonert-Reichl** on being asked what we have learned from Columbine, 15 years on. She seeks to understand school violence by researching child and adolescent development. (*UBC News, April 14*)

“A generation ago it took about five years of full-time work for the typical 25 to 34 year old to save a 20 per cent down payment on a home in an average school district. Today, across the country, it now takes 10 years. In BC... it takes 15 years, and in Metro Vancouver? I’ve never calculated it, because when you start getting closer to 20 years it just gets sad.”

UBC political science professor **Paul Kershaw**, who founded the Gen Squeeze campaign to advocate for more government support for younger generations, whom he says are facing significant financial barriers to home ownership and even starting families. (*The National, April 20*)

“If employing more women lowers the rate of irresponsible risky investments, it can help prevent future financial collapse. The result could mean more stable economic markets and greater gender equity as well.”

PhD student **Hazel Hollingdale**, who is investigating the relationship between gender and risk in the male-dominated global financial industry. (*UBC media release, April 1*)

We don’t need cosmetic “solutions” to the complex problem of declining voter turnout; we need significant political, economic, and social structural reform. Give me a candidate and a party who’s after that. I’d vote in that election.

David Moscrop, PhD candidate in the department of Political Science, on the idea of introducing compulsory voting to counter poor turnouts. (*Ottawa Citizen, April 2014*)



TAKE NOTE

NEW FACES

UBC has appointed a new president and a new chancellor



Photo: Martin Dee

Dr. Arvind Gupta - a renowned expert in research and innovation policy who has forged close collaborations between universities, civil society and business - has been appointed the university's 13th President and Vice-Chancellor. Gupta is CEO and scientific director of Mitacs, a not-for-profit organization recognized internationally for nurturing the next generation of research and business-savvy innovators. He is also a UBC professor of computer science, and will retain this position during his term as president, which begins July 1.

"As a member of the UBC community, I know how great a responsibility and honour this is," says Gupta. "I have the privilege of taking the baton from Professor Toope, who has guided UBC to a strong position. We have exciting days ahead and I relish the opportunity."



Photo: Martin Dee

Business and community leader **Lindsay Gordon**, BA'73 (Economics), MBA'76, takes over as the university's 18th Chancellor on July 1. Since his graduation in 1976, Gordon has remained closely associated with UBC. He is co-chair of the *start an evolution* campaign, Canada's largest fundraising and alumni engagement effort.

The recently retired president and CEO of HSBC Bank Canada enjoyed a 25-year career with the bank, following 10 years in senior roles with Export Development Canada. He is a recipient of the 2010 B'nai Brith Canada Award of Merit and the 2012 Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, awarded to outstanding Canadians.

"As an alumnus, I am particularly honoured to be the next Chancellor of UBC, one of the world's leading universities, and to work with incoming president Arvind Gupta and his team," said Gordon. He will replace Sarah Morgan-Silvester, who steps down on June 30 after exemplary service to the university since 2008.

WOMEN ON WALL STREET

Could the global financial market meltdown of 2008 have been avoided if Wall Street had more women executives? That's the starting point of new UBC research that will investigate the relationship between gender and risk in the male-dominated global financial industry. Hazel Hollingdale, a PhD student in UBC's Department of Sociology, hopes her research can help prevent future market crashes, while providing a greater incentive for financial firms to hire more women in senior roles.

Hollingdale will track regulatory transgressions to determine whether firms that employ more women have fewer criminal financial violations. She will also interview top executives in financial firms to improve our understanding of how gender dynamics and organizational culture impact financial decisions. "If employing more women lowers the rate of irresponsible risky investments, it can help prevent future financial collapses," she says. "The result could mean more stable economic markets and greater gender equity as well."

The study explores the "Lehman Sisters" hypothesis - the theory that Lehman Brothers' devastating bankruptcy resulted in part from a macho "culture of risk." While previous studies have found that women are more risk-averse and fiscally responsible than men, Hollingdale wants to determine if these findings carry over to women who work in the financial industry. She also aims to confirm whether macho behaviours that are often rewarded in male-dominated sectors - such as taking unnecessary risks and being overly independent - can be found in the financial industry as well. The study will build on a growing body of research that suggests companies with women in senior roles make smarter financial decisions.

HEALTH INSURANCE:

SPENDING MORE, GETTING LESS

Spending by Canadians on private health insurance has more than doubled over the past 20 years, but insurers paid out a rapidly decreasing proportion as benefits, according to a study published this March in the Canadian Medical Association Journal. The study, by UBC and University of Toronto researchers, shows that overall Canadians paid \$6.8 billion more in premiums than they received in benefits in 2011.

Approximately 60 per cent of Canadians have private health insurance. Typically obtained as a benefit of employment or purchased by individuals, it usually covers prescription drugs, dental services and eye care costs not paid by public health care.

Over the past two decades, the gap between what insurers take in and what they pay out has increased threefold. While private insurers paid out 92 per cent of group plan insurance premiums as benefits in 1991, they paid only 74 per cent in 2011. Canadians who purchased individual plans fared even worse, with just 38 per cent of their premiums returned as benefits in 2011.

“Small businesses and individual entrepreneurs are the hardest hit – they end up paying far more for private health coverage,” says study lead author Michael Law, an assistant professor in UBC’s Centre for Health Services and Policy Research. “It’s essentially an extra health tax on one of our main economic drivers. Our findings suggest that private insurers are likely making greater profits, paying higher wages to their executives and employees, or spending more on marketing.”

The authors call for greater transparency from private insurers and for the federal government to introduce new regulations. “Obamacare requires insurers to pay out 80 to 85 per cent of their premium income as benefits, which resulted in \$1.1 billion being returned to policyholders in 2012,” says Law. “Our numbers suggest that Canadians are getting a worse deal than Americans.”

ROBOTS AND BODY LANGUAGE

Researchers are programming robots to communicate with people using human-like body language and cues – an important step toward bringing robots into homes. Past research has shown that people have difficulty figuring out when to reach out and take an object from a robot, for example, because robots fail to provide appropriate non-verbal cues. UBC researchers enlisted the help of a human-friendly robot named Charlie to study the simple task of handing an object to a person. “We hand things to other people multiple times a day and we do it seamlessly,” says AJung Moon, a PhD student in the Department of Mechanical Engineering. “Getting this to work between a robot and a person is really important if we want robots to be helpful in fetching us things in our homes or at work.”

Moon and her colleagues studied what people do with their heads, necks and eyes when they hand water bottles to one another. They then tested three variations of this interaction with Charlie and 102 study participants. They found that people reached out to take the water bottle sooner in scenarios where the robot moved its head to look at the area where it would hand over the water bottle, or looked to the handover location and then up at the person to make eye contact.

“We want the robot to communicate using the cues that people already recognize,” says Moon. “This is key to interacting with a robot in a safe and friendly manner.” The study won best paper at the International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction.

DESIGNER TREES

Researchers at UBC, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Michigan State University have genetically engineered trees that will be easier to break down to produce paper and biofuel.

“One of the largest impediments for the pulp and paper industry as well as the emerging biofuel industry is a polymer found in wood known as lignin,” says professor of wood science Shawn Mansfield. Lignin

makes up a substantial portion of the cell wall of most plants. Its removal currently requires chemicals and energy, and causes undesirable waste.

Researchers used genetic engineering to modify the lignin, making it easier to break down without adversely affecting the tree’s strength. “We’re designing trees to be processed with less energy and fewer chemicals, and ultimately recovering more wood carbohydrate than is currently possible,” says Mansfield.

Researchers had previously tried to tackle this problem by reducing the quantity of lignin in trees by suppressing genes, which often resulted in trees that were stunted in growth or were susceptible to wind, snow, pests and pathogens.

EYE IN THE SKY

Based at UBC’s Faculty of Forestry, the new Centre for Applied Earth Observation will use images from satellites, aircraft, and the International Space Station to monitor globally important environmental issues, such as changes in forestry activity and the amount of carbon sequestered in vegetation.

In forestry, satellite imaging could help detect wildfires, deforestation, and insect infestations, as well as support mapping of forest resources and the planning of future logging. The centre will also explore possibilities for other mapping applications, carbon credit verification, and urban planning.

“We’re streaming space observation right to our computers,” says John Innes, Dean of Forestry. “For industries like forestry, this is about embracing a new high-tech frontier that will provide rapid access to the information we need to manage our resources sustainably.”

The centre brings together researchers, potential users and western Canada’s earth observation industry. A think tank will be created to make greater use of the remote sensing data and develop new projects. UBC graduate students will also get to work with the top satellite imaging providers in the world. Centre staff are planning a first multi-sector conference called Virtual Constellations, which will be sponsored by industry partners and held in late 2014.

BRAIN BREAKTHROUGH

Scientists have uncovered how inflammation and lack of oxygen conspire to cause brain damage in conditions such as stroke and Alzheimer’s disease. Chronic inflammation and hypoxia, or oxygen deficiency, are hallmarks of several brain diseases, but little was known about how they contribute to symptoms such as memory loss.

The study used state-of-the-art techniques that reveal the movements of microglia, the brain’s resident immune cells. Brain researcher Brian MacVicar had previously captured how they moved to areas of injury to repair brain damage.

The new study shows that the combination of inflammation and hypoxia activates microglia in a way that persistently weakens the connection between neurons. The phenomenon, known as long-term depression, has been shown to contribute to cognitive impairment in Alzheimer’s disease.

“This is a never-before-seen mechanism among three key players in the brain that interact together in neurodegenerative disorders,” says MacVicar, of the Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health at UBC (see page 18) and Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute. “Now we can use this knowledge to start identifying new potential targets for therapy.”



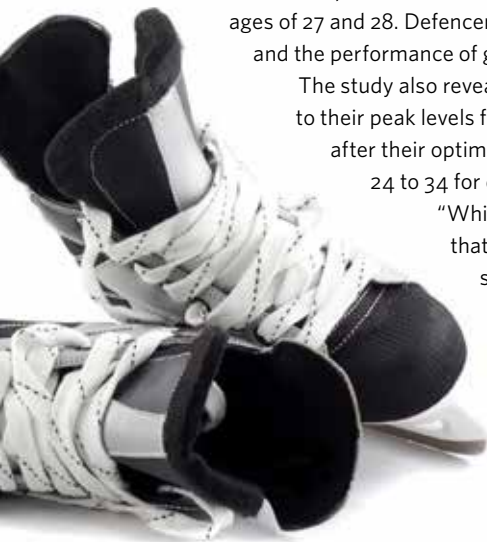
PEAK PERFORMANCE

A new UBC study identifies when the clock runs out on an NHL player's peak performance, giving team executives insight into how best to build a roster.

The study by Sauder School of Business professor James Brander found that the performance of forwards peaks between the ages of 27 and 28. Defencemen are best between 28 and 29, and the performance of goaltenders varies little by age.

The study also reveals that players performed close to their peak levels for a number of years before and after their optimal peak: 24 to 32 for forwards and 24 to 34 for defencemen.

"While confirming conventional wisdom that players peak in their late 20s, the study proves it is wishful thinking for managers to expect a player in his mid-20s to continue improving significantly," says Brander, an economist. "The vast majority of players are at 90 per cent of their best by age 24, although there are a few late bloomers."



POND SCUM

A genomic investigation by UBC researchers has revealed that a lethal parasite infecting a wide range of insects actually originated from pond scum, but has completely shed its green past on its evolutionary journey.

A team led by UBC Botany professor Patrick Keeling sequenced the genome of *Helicosporidium* – an intracellular parasite that can kill juvenile blackflies, caterpillars, beetles and mosquitoes – and found it evolved from algae like another notorious pathogen: malaria.

Keeling and colleagues had previously reported that malaria shared a common evolutionary lineage with the algae responsible for toxic red tides. Their latest study shows that *Helicosporidium* evolved from green alga but, unlike malaria, preserved virtually all its genes except those required for photosynthesis.

"Both malaria and *Helicosporidium* started out as alga and ended up as intracellular parasites preying on animals, but they have done it in very different ways," says Keeling, director of the Centre for Microbial Diversity and Evolution at UBC and a senior fellow of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research.

"Malaria drastically reduced its genome and became very dependent on its host for nutrients. *Helicosporidium*, on the other hand, lost almost nothing except those genes required for photosynthesis, which it no longer needs as a parasite.

"It's as if photosynthesis has been surgically removed from its genome."

The discovery, done in collaboration with scientists at the universities of Rhode Island and Florida, will allow researchers to compare how parasites evolve at the molecular level in these two distantly related lineages. It also provides the first insights into their origins, development, and methods of infection, which are key to controlling the population of pest-insect hosts.

80-FOOT AIRPORT MURAL

UBC's Okanagan campus has a story to tell – actually plenty of them – and several compelling stories about students are now featured on an 80-foot-long mural at Kelowna International Airport.

The mural graces the pedway that brings visitors from arriving flights into the airport terminal. Seven exceptional students, one representing each of UBC's Okanagan faculties, are featured in photo arrays.

Called *Our Stories*, it is the largest graphic illustration about UBC ever created in the Okanagan, spanning more than 80 feet in length by six feet in height. Months in the making, with two additional stand-alone panels the mural snakes out to more than 100 feet.

The installation draws attention to a supporting website – ourstories.ok.ubc.ca – which tells long-form narratives about a variety of exceptional UBC Okanagan students.

Storytelling and artistic expression are vital ways to communicate achievements and cultural values, and to provide a sense of place and history, says Robert Eggleston, associate professor of English and Associate Dean of UBC's Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies.

"The great thing about this mural is that it is more than an installation, it's an art piece," he says. Up to 750,000 travellers a year arrive in the Okanagan through Kelowna International Airport, so the mural, developed by UBC designer Margo Yacheshyn, is expected to draw plenty of attention.

DEFENCE AGAINST VIRUSES

Viral pandemics, such as the coronavirus that caused the deadly SARS outbreak in 2002, have caused hundreds of deaths in Canada, yet effective anti-viral drugs are rare.


UBC scientists have recently uncovered an intricate chain reaction in the body's immune system and have used the knowledge to develop a new treatment against harmful viruses.

A key element to this natural immune response is an antiviral protein in the blood called Interferon alpha. Like soldiers, Interferon alpha is quickly deployed by the body to fight viruses and removed just as quickly to restore equilibrium.

The UBC team discovered that an enzyme called MMP12 serves double-duty in the deployment of the critical antiviral protein: it first enters the infected cell to activate Interferon alpha and then sends it outside the cell membrane to fight viruses. After the job of Interferon alpha is done, MMP12 dissolves the protein during the healing process.

Published in the prestigious journal *Nature Medicine*, the study was led by Drs. Chris Overall from UBC's Department of Oral Biological and Medical Sciences, Bruce McManus from UBC's Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine and David Marchant from the University of Alberta.

Overall has developed a new antiviral drug that blocks MMP12 from dissolving Interferon alpha outside the cell, giving the immune system an added boost by keeping levels of the protein high in the bloodstream. The drug cannot penetrate cell membranes, making it unable to interfere with the beneficial work inside the cell. The drug has been shown to effectively treat viral infections in mice models and holds promise as a new broad-spectrum antiviral treatment.

"Because the drug isn't virus-strain specific and boosts the body's own immune response to fight infections, it could be effective for even emergent, unknown viruses and eliminate the lag time required to first identify and sequence the virus genetic material before we can treat it," says Overall. 

By **Portia Prieger**, BFA'05, MFA'12

A monumental mural by **Jack Shadbolt**, one of British Columbia's most important artists, faced an uncertain future when the Vancouver movie theatre where it had been displayed for more than two decades was slated for sale - and possibly even demolition.

But when art lover **Pauline Boyle** and **Stew Turcotte**, owner of Hambleton Galleries in Kelowna, got wind of the problem, they enlisted UBC, along with alumnus **Luigi Rossi**, a doctor from Smithers who graduated in 1981. Together, they were able to plant *Tree of Life*, an exuberant work composed of multiple facets of energetic colour, in a new home in the Reichwald Health Sciences Centre on UBC's Okanagan campus.

Rossi donated funds to purchase the piece (at a price skilfully negotiated by Boyle), while **Susan Belton**, the curator of the campus art collection, worked behind the scenes to find a wall large enough to accommodate it - no small feat, considering the piece is some 28 feet tall. Turcotte believes *Tree of Life* escaped a near-death experience. "If this had gone into storage for 10 or 15 years, it would have been ruined," says Turcotte, who studied fine arts at UBC. "It just wouldn't have been looked after. So this way, we saved it."

Originally commissioned for the Cineplex Odeon art collection, *Tree of Life* is a surreal jungle of organic forms built in a series of layers, some up to four inches thick. Shadbolt, in choosing a title that alludes to foundational stories of myth and religion, said he was representing the "irrepressible force of natural growth."

Unveiled in 1987 by Toronto entertainment producer **Garth Drabinsky**, it was an impressive accomplishment for Shadbolt, then 78. "It is just so massive," says Belton. "Your response is demanded. But it is also so lively and colourful, one must fall in love. Art often draws opinions and criticism, but this work seems to touch everyone who sees it."

Shadbolt, who died in 1998, was one of the province's earliest abstract artists. He had some 70 solo exhibitions, including retrospectives at the Vancouver Art Gallery and the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa. He was made an officer of the Order of Canada in 1972 and his other laurels include an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from UBC in 1978. **■**

TREE OF LIFE

Jack Shadbolt, *Tree of Life*,
1987, acrylic on wood, 28.5 x 17.5 ft.
Photo: Yuri Akuney

Open to Interpretation

A UBC prof. hopes to reduce violence against women in the Muslim community by exploring various interpretations of a verse of the Qur'an.

Verse 4:34 of the Qur'an has traditionally been understood to allow husbands to hit their wives. In the new book, *Domestic Violence and the Islamic Tradition*, UBC professor Ayesha S. Chaudhry offers non-violent readings of the complex passage and aims to reduce gender violence in the Muslim community.



Photo: Jesse Weiner Photography

What inspired you to explore this topic?

Growing up as a young Muslim girl in Toronto, I struggled with verse Q. 4:34 for obvious reasons. It appeared to say that husbands could hit their wives if they were disobedient. Later, when I learned of Muslim scholars who interpreted this verse in ways that do not condone violence or inequality, I was puzzled as to why these interpretations were considered by some to be outside the Islamic tradition. My book traces the many interpretations of this verse, and argues that Muslim communities have the ability to embrace non-violent interpretations, because religious texts mean what religious communities say they mean.

How does this verse affect Muslims?

Domestic violence is a problem in every community. Each community must address this problem in its own way. For Muslims trying to address domestic violence, this passage of the Qur'an could be a hurdle if it is

interpreted as saying that husbands are allowed to hit their wives, or it could be helpful by condemning domestic violence as an un-Islamic practice.

Is it possible to read 4:34 of the Qur'an in gender-equal terms?

Yes. For example, the first sentence of Q. 4:34 can be translated as "men are in authority over women." However, if we see this statement as describing life in 7th-century Arabia when the Qur'an was revealed, rather than necessarily prescribing what must happen for eternity, gender-equal interpretations become possible. This line can be re-read to mean that "men were the protectors/breadwinners of women" in 7th century Arabia and can be understood as a historical statement of how things were in the past rather than how they should be in the present. This allows the Qur'an to represent the past while also reflecting social changes that allow for greater gender equality.

What changes do you hope to come as a result of your book?

The fact is religious texts only mean what religious communities say they mean – and the meanings of these texts can change over time. The first goal of this book is to show that verse 4:34 can legitimately be read non-violently, and that the interpretation a Muslim chooses – violent or non-violent – says more about them than it does about the Qur'an. Muslims can and must hold themselves responsible and accountable for their interpretations.

The second goal is to give Muslims the interpretive tools to choose non-violent readings of this verse over readings that permit violence against women. It is only natural that modern Muslims look to our sacred text to protect women against gendered violence.

Finally, I hope that Muslims will see the relationship between the Islamic tradition and today's Muslim scholarship as more harmonious, so that modern conversations enrich and carry on the Islamic tradition.

Photo: Patty Wellborn



The Northern Gateway Pipeline Thought Map

The Northern Gateway Pipeline could be a social and economic game-changer for British Columbia, and it's already the subject of a lively debate. That's why Andrew Barton, a fourth-year geography student with UBC's Irving K. Barber School of Arts and Sciences, devised an interactive map for people to add their own photos and experiences along the proposed pipeline route. "I wanted to do something positive for the environment and the places that I love," says Barton.

In 2012, a federal Joint Review Panel conducted public hearings in communities across BC and Alberta as part of the pipeline's environmental review process. Barton, with the help of a \$6,500 Irving K. Barber School of Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Research Award, reviewed the hearing transcripts and spent three weeks travelling the proposed pipeline route, taking copious notes and photos to build the foundation of his interactive map, now ready for public use.

Using GeoLive technology, developed by UBC Okanagan campus geography associate professor Jon Corbett and graduate student Nick Blackwell, Barton's interactive *Place and Pipelines* map project includes photos, excerpts from the hearings, and various links. It also offers users the chance to add their own photos and thoughts, whether they are for or against the project.

"This allows the content of the map to grow, based on input from people other than me, which enables a broader and deeper narrative," says Barton, whose focus of study at UBC is a combination of earth sciences, social sciences, and humanities. "It is my hope that this site will become a resource for everyone who is interested in the issues surrounding the Northern Gateway Project, and will create a record of the events that transpire over time."

The *Place and Pipelines* map starts at Bruderheim, Alberta – where pumpjacks are as common as house sparrows – and stretches across BC to the port of Kitimat and on to Haida Gwaii. The idea, says Barton, is to get many different voices heard.

"The issue of the Northern Gateway pipeline will not go away and it has become a very polarizing topic," he says. "It is a time of conflict in this area and people are debating which is more important – the economy or the environment?"

Along with the interactive map, Barton has also produced an e-book about his journey and a 12-minute documentary video. The interactive map, his book, and documentary can be found at gateway.geolive.ca

China 2.0: The New Digital Superpower

With apps like WeChat registering more than 78.6 million users, China represents one of the fastest growing digital landscapes on our planet. Journalist and visiting professor from Hong Kong University, Ying Chan, offers insights into China's digital future.

Do you see China emerging as the new world digital superpower?

China is already a digital superpower. The sheer size of the Chinese digital economy has made the country a leading producer and consumer of digital products. At the end of 2013, Chinese Internet users numbered 618 million – more than 45 per cent of the population. About 500 million people use some form of social media as many leapfrog to access the Internet via mobile devices, bypassing desktop and laptop computers.

With so many users, how is social media changing the journalism landscape in China?

Social media, while heavily censored, have created space for public expression and a platform for the creation of independent online media. In China, reporters and editors could be fired or jailed for doing their job and telling the truth. According to the New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists, China remains one of the world's worst jailers of journalists. As of December 1, 2013, 32 journalists were in jail in China.

Will we continue to see a growing number of Internet users and emerging digital platforms? What will this mean for journalists? What will this mean for businesses in the West?

In 2014, mobile media will take centre stage as the platform for journalism innovation and experimentation. For Chinese media, the debate on print vs. digital will finally be put to rest as media owners and managers scramble to find ways to transform legacy, or traditional, media and expand digital.

While the government will continue to clamp down on expression and dissent, journalists and the public will find smart ways to cope. Digital tools and outlets will multiply, offering an ever-growing space for expression. Internet behemoths like Tencent and Alibaba will expand outside China along with state-owned party media. Opportunities are opening up for those who are bold enough to take on the high risks of investing in China's media.

You have been a journalist for over three decades – what is the one story you are proudest of?

In 1996, I collaborated with a journalist in Taiwan to report on proposed illegal contributions from Taiwan to former US President Bill Clinton's election campaign.


After our story appeared in a Hong Kong weekly news magazine, we were sued for criminal libel by the Kuomintang, Taiwan's then-ruling party. I organized a campaign against the suit and won with the help of supporters around the globe. The court's decision has set a precedent for Taiwan by establishing that journalists would not be at risk for libel if they could prove "good intent" in their reporting. 



Photo: AJ Libunao

EVENTS

UBC DIALOGUES: Who should BC Ferries serve?

Victoria - June 5, 2014

Fares are rising while service is being cut. Ridership is down on high-volume routes. BC has maintained a high level of ferry service, but many vessels need replacing and operating costs are rising. Business as usual is no longer enough so what should be done to steer this ship?

UBC Bound!

Summer 2014

This summer, grads in cities across Asia will introduce incoming students to the global alumni UBC community at UBC Bound! regional welcome events.

UBC Medical Alumni & Friends Golf Tournament

June 19, 2014

An enjoyable day with 18 holes of golf, contests, dinner, and prizes!

Okanagan Days SummerFest

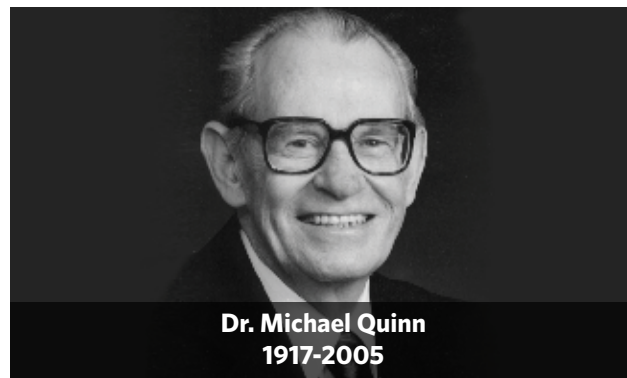
July 18, 2014

This fun-filled evening event at the Okanagan campus includes a food truck rally, arcade games, DJ, beer garden, and an outdoor screening of the classic movie Indiana Jones and the Raiders of the Lost Ark.

ALUMNI.UBC.CA/EVENTS



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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



Building UBC's reputation, one graduate at a time

Stephen J. Toope

President and Vice-Chancellor, UBC

Last week a third-year student from Bangladesh stopped me as I was striding down the Main Mall at UBC Vancouver. He called out "Mr. President!" just behind me. I turned, and he gushed: "I just want to thank you for giving me such an amazing experience at UBC." It turns out that he is one of our "International Leaders of Tomorrow" scholars, a program that enables gifted students from around the world to come to our university.

As I reflect back on my eight years as President of UBC, it's moments like these that make the work seem much more than "worthwhile." These moments remind me how privileged I am to, in a sense, embody UBC for so many wonderful students. In thanking me, that young Bangladeshi was really thanking scores of professors and teaching assistants, hundreds of fellow students and many staff members who have helped him along his voyage of discovery and achievement.

What may be less obvious is that he was also thanking you, our remarkable graduates. Amongst the reasons that my Bangladeshi student chose to come to UBC is our reputation, which continues to grow around the world. Some of that reputational boost comes from global rankings that reflect the growing impact and influence of UBC research. But our reputation is also built one graduate at

a time. As you go out into the world and do great things for our local and global society, UBC's name is strengthened. For a glimpse into what some of your fellow graduates are doing, take a look at yourevolution.ubc.ca, a new website where they are connecting with other alumni around their personal volunteer projects.

What you do matters to the future of your university, because you will always be our representative, whether or not you mean to be. And the support that you continue to give to UBC – through volunteering, mentoring current students, donating your money, and participating in the ever growing number of programs we develop especially for you – builds our reputation and enables UBC to welcome ambitious and talented students from BC of course, but also from across Canada and indeed, the world.

It has been a great honour to serve as the President of UBC. One of the evolutions that has given me most joy is to see the very idea of the "university community" expand, so that now we always talk of "students, faculty, staff and alumni." So let me join that young Leader of Tomorrow in thanking you, as part of our community, for helping to make his UBC experience so powerful.

YOU'RE INVITED!

UBC Alumni Association 2014 Annual General Meeting

Strength in numbers is the theme this year, so come join hundreds of other alumni and learn first-hand about the impact of *alumni UBC*, your Alumni Association. You will also meet UBC's new President, Dr. Arvind Gupta, and the Association's new Board of Directors.

Tuesday September 16, 2014

5:30 pm AGM

6:30 pm Reception

**The Fairmont Waterfront Hotel, Waterfront Ballroom,
900 Canada Place Way, Vancouver**

RSVP details will be on our website soon.

If you wish to pre-register please contact berkley.weiler@ubc.ca

GOVERNANCE/NOMINATING COMMITTEE SEEKS RECOMMENDATIONS

The *alumni UBC* Governance/Nominating Committee is seeking recommendations for alumni nominees to serve on the organization's Board of Directors. In particular, the committee seeks candidates who have the skill sets and experience necessary to effectively set strategic direction, develop appropriate policies, and ensure *alumni UBC* has the resources necessary to effectively fulfill its mission and vision. Please send suggestions to *Faye Wightman, chair - Governance/Nominating Committee, c/o Sandra Girard, manager, Board Relations, 6251 Cecil Green Road, Vancouver BC V6T 1Z1 email: sandra.girard@ubc.ca* no later than June 15, 2014.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Great Canadian Citizens

Jeff Todd

Executive Director, alumni UBC/AVP Alumni

On page 12 of this issue, you can read an article that reflects on the impressive tenure of outgoing UBC President Stephen Toope. Asked to identify his highest priorities or proudest legacy, Professor Toope pointed to the efforts that have gone into enriching the undergraduate experience. His column on the adjacent page reiterates this, and also emphasizes the role alumni play in improving students' experience of university.

Stephen Toope's successor, computer science professor Arvind Gupta, has indicated his intention to honour that legacy. He describes his own students as being curious, driven and energetic about what they do and says they give him hope for the future. Professor Gupta (two of whose three daughters attend UBC) wants to ensure students leave UBC prepared to fully participate in and contribute to the world.

"UBC plays a vital role in creating the next generation of great Canadian citizens," he said. "They have to be engaged and able to thrive in an evolving world."

A university's graduates are a reflection of how successful it has been in providing an enriching and relevant student experience. And if part of UBC's vision is to advance a civil and sustainable society, then its graduate body represents significant potential.

The *your evolution* initiative that Professor Toope mentions in his column is a good indicator of that potential. A few weeks ago, we invited you to tell us about the socially beneficial projects you are involved in – both through partnership with UBC and out in the broader community. A new website was built, supported and extended through social media. Participants could upload information about their projects, seek volunteers from among other alumni, and gain awareness for their cause (plus they stood to win a professionally produced promotional video).

If we built it, would you come? Yes you would! So far, more than 100 alumni projects have been uploaded – dealing with everything from children's literacy to food security. Clearly, *alumni UBC* has some highly motivated members who are passionate about their causes. Although the video competition is now closed, the website is still active and I encourage you to visit it at yourevolution.ubc.ca. There will be more chances to win prizes and gain exposure for your projects in the coming months.

The vision of *alumni UBC* is to realize the promise of a global community with shared ambition for a better world and an exceptional UBC. *Your evolution*, while just a small sampling of how alumni are making a difference, provides an opportunity for us to celebrate them for their contributions to society and as role models for our students.

CHAIR'S MESSAGE



A Champion Chancellor

Judy Rogers, BRE'71

Chair, alumni UBC

Back in 2008, **Sarah Morgan-Silvester, BCom'82**, became the youngest person to be elected Chancellor in the history of the university. I was already a big fan of Sarah – knowing her through the local business community and the various organizations in which we were both active. Along with many others who were similarly impressed with her credentials and community focus, I was delighted to support her appointment.

At that time, it was crucial to secure the sort of leadership that could propel the university forward despite a particularly challenging financial landscape and a context in which the business of delivering quality education was in a continual state of flux.

Sarah did not disappoint. Over the course of her two terms, she has provided thoughtful, quiet, steady leadership – and has used her connections and influence to facilitate rich linkages between UBC and the community. She is generous with her time. She listens. She is genuine. She knows when to ask the right questions and embraces diverse opinions. She became the voice of many stakeholders and has been particularly effective at establishing consensus.

After I became chair of the *alumni UBC* board of directors, I experienced her skilful negotiation first-hand and remain grateful for the guidance she has provided to our organization – as one of its most committed UBC volunteers. Under her and Stephen Toope's watch, *alumni UBC* and the university entered into a new phase of their partnership, with the aim of creating a stronger and mutually beneficial relationship between UBC and its grads. Grads can now take advantage of an ever-evolving menu of programs and services to enrich their lives and careers. In turn, UBC enjoys growing support and involvement from its alumni – whether it comes in the form of volunteering, providing work placements for students, making a donation to support research, or simply recommending UBC as the next stop for their friends' bright high school kids. In fact, more than 50,000 of you engaged with UBC in some way over the 2013-14 year.

After six years as UBC Chancellor, Sarah steps down from her role at the end of June. We cannot thank her enough for the great service she has provided to the university and to her fellow alumni. As chair of the committee tasked with finding her replacement, I knew we had our work cut out. But we have found a very worthy successor in **Lindsay Gordon, BA'73(Economics), MBA'76**. Mr. Gordon is a community and business leader with long-standing ties to UBC. In fact, he is co-chair for the university's *start an evolution* campaign. We're very lucky to have him as a colleague. I welcome him to his new role and look forward to another fruitful collaboration that will continue to strengthen both the university and the alumni experience.

A portrait of Stephen J. Toope, a middle-aged man with short grey hair and glasses, wearing a dark suit, light blue shirt, and patterned tie. He is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is a blurred bookshelf.

Photo: Martin Dee

THE TRIED-AND-TRUSTED TENURE OF STEPHEN J. TOOPE

U
UBC's outgoing president is described as outrageously smart, deeply principled, and highly personable. But his family won't let it go to his head.

BY RICHARD LITTLEMORE

It's late spring 2009 and a huge and luxurious bus has just pulled into the sprawling driveway at Norman Mackenzie House, the official residence of the President and Vice-Chancellor of the University of British Columbia. On this day, that president is Stephen J. Toope, and his wife, Paula Rosen, has been told to expect an advance team preparing for the coming visit of Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko of Japan. But while Rosen thought she was prepared, she is still surprised by the orderly army that is now disembarking the bus: "40 people in dark suits." Later, she will admit that she learned the hard way that the Japanese Emperor and Empress are "very, very handled." She'll say that the seasoned staffers at UBC Ceremonies have told her the Imperial visit involved "more of a rigmarole than there was for Queen Elizabeth." But on this day, Rosen is standing at her front door in a bit of a flap, trying to imagine what all these people might find behind the drapes and under the carpets of one of Vancouver's most elegant and storied homes.

At which moment, another vehicle pulls into the drive, quickly disgorging a bulky and bedraggled high schooler. Rosen and Toope's eldest and usually diminutive daughter, Hannah, is returning from a year-end school camping trip, much of which has occurred on a mountain glacier – a location that was both much colder and much sunnier than Hannah had expected. As a result, she is still wearing layer upon layer of clothing – every stitch that she had brought for the trip, even her pyjamas as long johns – and her face is radiating evidence of a nasty sunburn. Dragging her gear, picking her way through the legion of perfectly pressed Japanese protocol officers, she walks up to her mother and says, “Can we not just live in a normal house?”

Even in such a frustrating moment, Hannah Toope would have understood the question to be rhetorical. She is, after all, the daughter of President Toope, whom Wikipedia describes, too narrowly, as an “academic, lawyer, legal scholar and pedagogue.” But he’s also a dad, and for the past eight years, a small but influential group has depended upon him balancing his duties as a de facto mayor of the City of UBC (daytime population, 60,000) with his evening and weekend role as peacekeeper in a house full of adolescent children.

It’s a balance he appears to have maintained with aplomb. Straying for the time being from home life, reviews of the Toope presidency are uniformly warm, perhaps best encapsulated by Dr. Nassif Ghossoub, mathematics professor and, from 2008 to 2013, the faculty representative on the UBC Board of Governors. Ghossoub says simply: “Stephen Toope is a class act. He’s a man of great personal and professional ethics and someone who is genuinely interested in everyone he meets.”

This, from a mathematician, may be taken as the standard polite and politic description of an outgoing senior administrator. Indeed, Ghossoub admits his hard science bias when it comes to judging managerial potential, saying that he had been skeptical at first of a big-brained intellectual’s ability to serve as the CEO of an organization as complex as UBC. And yet, “It was astonishing how well (Stephen Toope) handled this part of the job.”

“We often think that only scientists or engineers have the capacity for analytical thinking,” Ghossoub says. “But we forget: lawyers are also very analytical.”

If you ask the president himself about his highest priorities or proudest legacy, he points to the efforts he made to enrich the undergraduate experience. For example, the quality of teaching is now included more strongly in assessments for tenure or promotion. The classroom experience has also been transformed.



The dignitaries Stephen Toope has met during his tenure include Queen Elizabeth II, the Emperor and Empress of Japan, and the Dalai Lama. Photo: Martin Dee

In an age when notes can be downloaded more easily than recorded in a lecture hall, more students are challenged to work together in class, to develop their critical thinking skills – to learn, in Toope’s words, “how to process information into knowledge, maybe even something you might call wisdom.”

But Ghossoub says that President Toope was equally engaged in a host of university issues that were “not glamorous, but essential.” There was the expansion of student housing. There were major investments in deferred maintenance and a complex program to upgrade the university’s district energy system.

“No one will remember Stephen Toope as the guy who converted (the energy system from) steam to hot water,” Ghossoub says. “But it was all part of a systematic, patient and purposeful effort to prepare the campus for the next 50 years. It was surprising that this intellectual thought leader has really concentrated on the nitty gritty.”

The apparent arts/science dichotomy comes up frequently in the way people describe the Toope approach and style. Ross Beaty, a mining entrepreneur and philanthropist who has donated close to \$20 million to UBC, describes the experience of working with a then-new President Toope to raise private-sector funding for the Earth Sciences Building. (They ultimately raised \$35 million, of which \$10 million came from Beaty, directly or through companies such as his Pan American Silver.) “I had also worked very closely with (presidential predecessors) David Strangway and Martha Piper,” Beaty says. “They were both scientists and they both had a black and white, firm set of objectives, with the outcomes always clearly identified. With Stephen, it was more about balance, more of a discussion leading to a conclusion.”

“Stephen is a very strong presence. He is outrageously smart and can be pretty intimidating. He also has an amazing level of preparation, notwithstanding the gazillion things he has to deal with.”

Although not in any way an acolyte of the late Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, Toope also incorporated a managerial style for which Trudeau was quite famous. Pascal Spothelfer, whom Toope recruited from the private sector to act as UBC's Vice President of Communications and Community Partnership, says that in meetings, Toope's approach was always the same: "He would let everyone else have their say before he made his comments. And then he would invite everyone to react." Spothelfer goes on: "Stephen is a very strong presence. He is outrageously smart and can be pretty intimidating. He also has an amazing level of preparation, notwithstanding the gazillion things he has to deal with." The consultative style seemed calculated to bring out the best from those around him.

Vancouver Fraser Port Authority Chair Sarah Morgan-Silvester mentions Toope's style as one of the things that convinced her to accept her role as UBC Chancellor. "It's not often that you find people who actually, truly do listen," she says. "Stephen always listened and then he asked really fantastic questions – not to demonstrate what he knew, but to probe."

The other trait on which people agree is Toope's deep integrity. "He is a very principled person," says Bijan Ahmadian, a former

After a long drought in new federal funding, Toope was instrumental in negotiating the Canada First Research Excellence Fund, in which the Harper government committed \$1.5 billion to post-secondary research in the coming decade.

president of the Alma Mater Society (2010-2011) who also served for a year in the President's Office as a research assistant. "When (Prof. Toope) made a promise, you knew he would deliver," Ahmadian says. "And it was easier to take a 'no' from Stephen, too, because you knew the decision was based in principle. People appreciate that in a leader."

It's thanks in part to Ahmadian that people also know Stephen Toope to be an incredibly good sport. In 2010, in a promotional effort to fill the

Chan Centre for the first iteration of a reality show called UBC's Got Talent, Ahmadian convinced Toope to join him in a duet if enough people bought tickets. The promotion worked and after sifting through half a dozen choices, the two decided to

attempt the old Eurythmics song, "Sweet Dreams." According to Ahmadian, "He's a much better singer than I am, but I am a much better dancer." The video evidence, which you can still find on Youtube, suggests that Ahmadian's review is, at best, relative. It's good they have day jobs.

Clearly, Toope is more at home on a provincial stage – or a federal one. Provincially, he represented UBC on the Research Universities' Council of BC (RUCBC), including five years as chair. The challenge, there, was

Campaign Update

startanevolution.ca

It has been a banner year for UBC's *start an evolution* campaign which is tracking ahead on both of its goals. *alumni UBC* reached – in fact exceeded – its alumni engagement goal for the campaign one year early with over 50,000 alumni involved annually in the life of the university in 2013. In the same year, \$204 million was raised to support student learning, research excellence and community engagement, bringing the campaign total to \$1.318 billion to date.

For more information on the campaign and the alumni and donors who are helping to make a positive impact on the world go to startanevolution.ca.

50,212
ALUMNI ENGAGED
WITH UBC

ENGAGEMENT

49.1%
RETENTION RATE
FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

6,661
GOT AN A-CARD
FOR THE FIRST TIME



4,788
ALUMNI WHO ADDED
THEIR VOICE TO THE
ORGANIZATION BY
RESPONDING TO SURVEYS

16,263
ALUMNI WHO ATTENDED
ONE OF OUR EVENTS

to represent the best interests of all members, including the University of Victoria, Simon Fraser University, the University of Northern BC, Thompson Rivers University and Royal Roads. "The amazing thing about Stephen is that he's not subjective," says RUCBC President Robin Ciceri. "He brings a huge component of rationality and objectivity and a unique ability to synthesize perspectives. He struck a perfect balance between being a leader and being an advocate for UBC, which garnered him a large amount of respect and regard from senior officials (on the council) and from politicians." Thanks again to his ethical framework, "people trust Stephen on a personal level."

That played equally well on the national stage, where Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada President Paul Davidson says Toope was seen, at first, to be carrying some troublesome political baggage. Although Toope points out that he has never been a political partisan, Davidson says the UBC president was still seen as "one of those Montreal Liberal elites."

He's unquestionably a Montrealer. He grew up there before heading to Harvard for his undergraduate degree, returned to study law at McGill University, and then returned again to teach at McGill after receiving a PhD from Cambridge. At age 34, he became the youngest Dean of Law in McGill history. As for being a Liberal, his most obvious association came when he was appointed as the first head of the Trudeau Foundation, which is non-partisan by policy, but which carries a name that is anathema to the current federal government.



Stephen Toope meeting Al Gore in 2006. Photo: Martin Dee

Yet, Davidson says, "Stephen quickly established himself as a national leader. He worked tirelessly to promote UBC - in the context of excellence for Canada." After a long drought in new federal funding, Toope, as Chair of the AUCC, was also instrumental in negotiating the Canada First Research Excellence Fund, in which the Harper government committed \$1.5 billion to post-secondary research in the coming decade. Davidson, who was party to much of the negotiation, says it was clear that the late federal Finance Minister Jim Flaherty "reached out to Stephen out of a strong sense of respect."

AS OF MARCH 31st,

OUR CAMPAIGN FUNDS RAISED TO DATE

\$1.3 BILLION

88% TOWARDS CAMPAIGN GOAL

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\$204,227,839



This year, 59% of our 17,804 donors were UBC Alumni.

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SOURCES :



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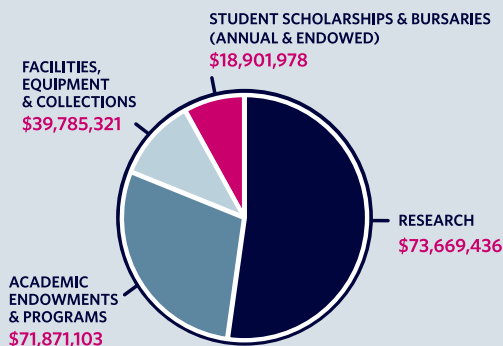


FRIENDS: \$42,939,782



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These gifts have allowed UBC to make significant investments in:



LEAVING A LEGACY
 UBC received a further \$24.7 million in planned bequests this year

The respect was mutual: Toope says Flaherty was “a gentleman who was genuinely interested in the role of universities.”

Even so, it was a surprise to Ottawa insiders when the ultra-partisan Tories invited Toope to the 2014 budget lock-up, and another surprise when Prime Minister Stephen Harper appointed Toope to act on the government’s behalf in resolving a dispute with military veterans who had launched a suit in protest of the federal clawback of military pensions.

These, apparently, are the rewards that accrue to someone who likes a challenge and isn’t afraid of failure. Indeed, failure seemed a reasonable possibility when the president kicked off the *start an evolution* campaign, which was, at the time, the most ambitious university fundraising campaign in Canadian history – and linked it, for good measure, to the most ambitious alumni engagement effort. Both of these categories came with numbers against which the president was sure to be measured: fundraising of an almost unimaginable \$1.5 billion and the engagement of more than 50,000 alumni in a single year – both goals to be reached by 2015. Toope steps down in the knowledge that the campaign has just crested the \$1.3 billion mark with a year left to go, and that over the past year the university has interacted with more than 50,000 alumni – through their participation in activities such as student mentoring, dialogue around issues affecting our communities, and making financial contributions towards research that addresses something they care about. Barbara Miles, VP, Development and Alumni Engagement, says: “We had done our homework, and our models showed that this was possible although there were many unknowns. But to reach these numbers this early is just remarkable and something Stephen has dedicated himself to throughout. It really is a landmark legacy for him and UBC.”

It’s also remarkable, in light of these many pursuits, that Toope the professor continued to find time to conduct research and write on issues of international law and justice. His most recent book, with University of Toronto Acting Dean of Law Jutta Brunnée, is *Legitimacy and Legality in International Law: An Interactional Account*, which won the American Society of International Law’s 2011 Certificate of Merit for Creative Scholarship.

Even more remarkable, he did all this while he and Paula Rosen were parenting the up-and-coming Toopes in the casual second living room of Norman Mackenzie House. Rosen, a speech pathologist and musician, might stand as the best evidence of Toope’s good judgment, a bright and vivacious foil to his more earnest persona. They met in Montreal on an evening when they had, by coincidence, each arranged to go to a movie with the same mutual friend. Toope says they stopped afterward for an ice cream “and Paula was doing impressions with a cow puppet; she is extremely funny.” It’s clear he was hooked in an instant.

“I can probably – sometimes – get overly serious,” Toope says, unable to get through even that sentence without making it judiciously conditional. “You could probably allow yourself to feel, ‘Here I am, this big, important guy – a university president.’” But no worries, “Paula makes fun of me.” And if she lets up, there are the kids. Although Hannah, now 21, has just returned to Canada from studying at the University of Edinburgh, Alex, 19, is at McGill and Rachel, 17, will be joining him there in the fall. So, when Stephen takes over the directorship of the University of Toronto’s Munk School of Global Affairs, he and Rosen will take up residence as empty nesters.

They leave behind a UBC that is, in the words of Research Vice President John Hepburn, “unambiguously a world-leading university.” This was not exclusively Toope’s doing, Hepburn says. “He was building on what Strangway and Piper had already done. But it became completely obvious during his time here that we are, without question, one of the leading universities in the world.”

His wife, Paula Rosen, a speech pathologist and musician, might stand as the best evidence of Toope’s good judgment, a bright and vivacious foil to his more earnest persona.



Paula Rosen and Stephen Toope in the living room of Norman Mackenzie House. Photo: Martin Dee



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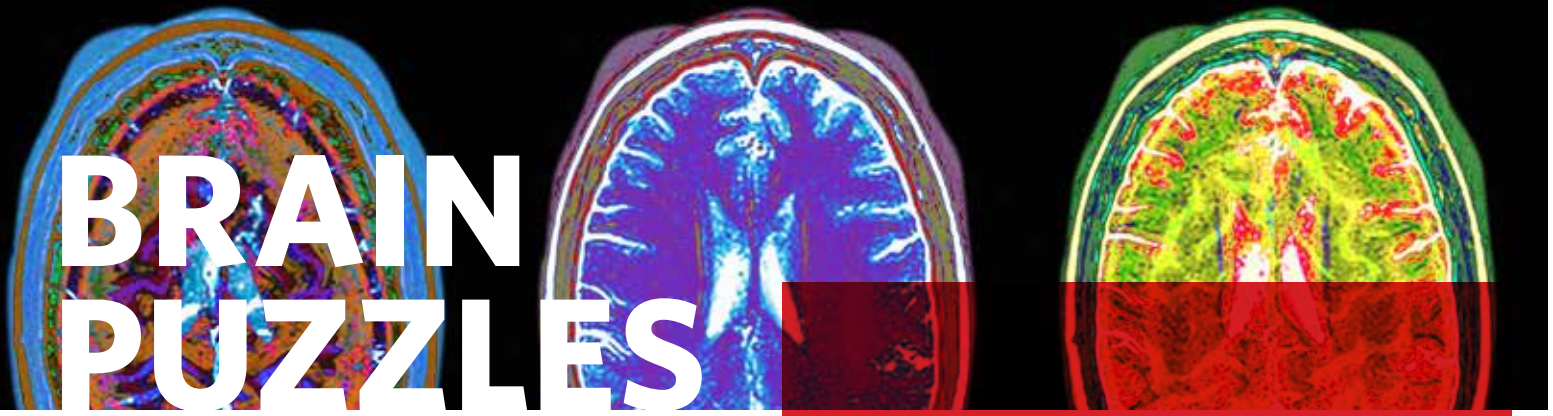
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It's February, and on the fifth floor of the brand new Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health the first few research scientists are settling in to their work stations, hooking up computers and monitors. "Come back in a month or two and there will be something like a hundred scientists here," says Dr. Max Cynader, director of brain research at UBC. "I can't wait till we're up and running."

The academic version of the Energizer bunny, Cynader is never still and talks a mile a minute. He is showing me through the striking and cleverly conceived building located on Westbrook Mall on UBC's Vancouver campus, and is plainly delighted and proud. The \$100-million Centre for Brain Health manifests a collective vision that he has been leading for several years. It unites the often disjointed approaches of psychiatry and neurology, bringing together under one roof the clinical and research resources dedicated to the study, diagnosis, and treatment of the major brain-related diseases: stroke, Parkinson's, multiple sclerosis, traumatic brain injury, and Alzheimer's.

Cynader has always been fascinated by the workings of the brain. "As a Jewish kid growing up in Montreal, I was told I could be an engineer, a lawyer, or doctor - choose one." He giggles gleefully, which is how he reacts to most things. "As a 16-year-old student at McGill, I went into psychology. The reason is sort of ridiculous. My middle name is Sigmund - obviously I was destined to become a therapist! I could see the shingle outside my office: M. Sigmund Cynader!

"I soon discovered I wasn't really interested in traditional psychology," he continues, ducking down a light-filled staircase to some wet labs on the fourth floor. "As an undergrad I had the good fortune to be taught by the legendary neuropsychologist D. O. Hebb. Neuropsychology teaches you that the brain ultimately determines your behavior - how you're going to think and act. I wanted to understand how neurons talk to each other, and what happens when this or that part of the brain was lost."

By the time he went off to MIT in Boston to do his PhD (his thesis was on vision and brain development), he was permanently smitten. "I've been doing brain research for 50 years and I've never wavered,

Dementia is a looming public health crisis. Are we any closer to understanding diseases of the brain? **Max Cynader** discusses the threat of Alzheimer's, the promise of the latest research approaches, and his hopes for the recently opened Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health.

BY GARY STEPHEN ROSS

never lost interest. It was fascinating then, and we're seeing ever more interest in diseases of the brain. The field keeps blossoming. It's never been more fun."

It's never been more relevant, either. By 2020, brain disease is projected to overtake heart disease and cancer as the leading cause of death and disability in Canada. Dementia in its various forms consumes much of the \$30 billion we spend annually treating brain dysfunction. Alzheimer's, Cynader points out as we pass the Alzheimer's clinic, is far and away the most prevalent expression of dementia.

At a summit in New York last December, Alzheimer's was described as "the world's most significant unaddressed health risk, as there is neither a cure nor a means of slowing its progression." It's a particularly cruel disease; memory is what makes us who we are, after all, and by denying people access to their memories, it robs them of their very humanity. Since rationality is built on memory, patients lose the ability to make the simplest decisions and so to live independent lives.

At the moment, something like 750,000 Canadians are afflicted, a number expected to double within a decade. The number of dollars we spend each year caring for people with dementia is also ballooning. In the media, Alzheimer's is often described in apocalyptic terms - an approaching catastrophe that, as populations age, threatens to bankrupt the world's health-care systems.

Is this the sort of tabloid hyperbole that can convince you, say, that killer bees will soon be on our doorstep? Is there really a looming crisis? "It's a crisis right now," says Cynader, whose academic honours, publications, and patents, if listed here, would fill the space for this article. "Ask me in five years and it will be a bigger crisis. Ask me in 10 and the word 'catastrophe' won't be inaccurate at all. I have no idea how countries like China and the United States are going to deal with this. Or Canada, for that matter."

Dr. Bob Cheyne, incoming president of the UBC Medical Alumni, can attest to the urgency of the situation. After three decades of family practice in White Rock, BC, he's seeing what he calls "a tsunami" of dementia cases. "Partly it's because life expectancy has increased so much. When I started out, average life expectancy was about 72 years. Now it's over 80. As the baby boomers hit old age, we can only see more of it."



Max Cynader
Photo: Martin Dee

Like most people in their 60s, Cheyne has seen the devastation at close hand. His mother, who's 92, was diagnosed with Alzheimer's three years ago. "She's still able to live at home in Vancouver thanks to round-the-clock care," he says. "Fortunately, we can afford it, but of course not everyone can. I think we need to change our approach to elder care. In some cultures, it's up to families to look after the older generation. I think we need to move in that direction, through education and public policy. We need to be giving tax breaks to families facing those challenges. I don't know how else we're going to address the tremendous costs of long-term care."

Cynader, too, has felt the sting of dementia. His mother, in the course of succumbing to brain cancer, suffered all the symptoms associated with Alzheimer's. And his mother-in-law, who lives in Cincinnati, was diagnosed with the disease many years ago. Her dementia has exacted a brutal financial and emotional toll. "It's a condition," he says, "that can tear families apart."

Alzheimer's is often described in apocalyptic terms – an approaching catastrophe that, as populations age, threatens to bankrupt the world's health-care systems.

What, exactly, is Alzheimer's? Dr. Howard Feldman, director of the Clinic for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders at the Centre for Brain Health, explains that afflicted people develop a progressive loss of cognitive abilities associated with abnormal deposits of proteins in the brain. These deposits form amyloid plaques and tau tangles. Neurons lose their capacity to function effectively. They progressively degenerate and die while their networks of connections through the brain's synapses fail. With damage to the hippocampus, memory is affected. As neurons die en masse, the brain noticeably shrinks.

Much of the research at the Centre for Brain Health is organized around three fundamental goals. The first is an improved understanding of the mechanisms that determine how and why particular brain cells die, and how this might be prevented. The second is the promotion of functional recovery – the re-growing of connections between cells that have been lost due to disease or injury. The third is the development of methods that will enable earlier diagnosis.

Daunting as the public-health numbers are, both Feldman and Cynader believe Alzheimer's is underreported. "By the time a patient gets diagnosed,"

Cynader explains, "he or she has typically had the disease for at least 10 years. Patients might be recorded as having died of pneumonia, when they were actually prone to such diseases because they'd had dementia for 20 years and been bedridden for the last five. Officially they died with Alzheimer's, not of it."

Most Alzheimer's diagnoses are made when patients are in their 60s, although people with inherited forms can present much earlier. Cynader has a friend whose wife was diagnosed in her 30s – "heartbreaking," he says. People with Down syndrome, too, are susceptible. They have an extra chromosome that produces amyloid – the destructive, fibrous, protein aggregates – and almost all develop the disease in their 30s or 40s.

Are we any closer to understanding brain-related diseases, and Alzheimer's in particular? Brain science has benefitted tremendously from the tech revolution, says Cynader, especially in the area of neuro-imaging. "Historically, we'd observe the effects of accidents and trauma, then work back from there. That's a bit like putting a bullet through your computer and seeing if and how it still works."

Multiphoton microscopy – a hundred times more powerful than magnetic resonance imaging – lets scientists see right down to the atomic units of connectivity in the brain. "Your brain has about 100 billion neurons," he explains. "Each neuron only connects with about 10,000 other neurons. Not so different from human society, really – there are 7 billion people, but only about 150 of them are your friends. You can think of a neuron as seeking answers to the same questions people ask: Who shall I talk to? Who can I talk to? Who will listen to me? The ones that don't integrate into a network don't survive."

BRAIN FACTS

A typical brain weighs about **2% OF THE TOTAL BODY WEIGHT** BUT USES BETWEEN **20-25% OF THE BODY'S OXYGEN** and a substantial amount of the **CALORIES WE CONSUME** IN THE **BLOOD SUGAR FORM OF THE GLUCOSE**

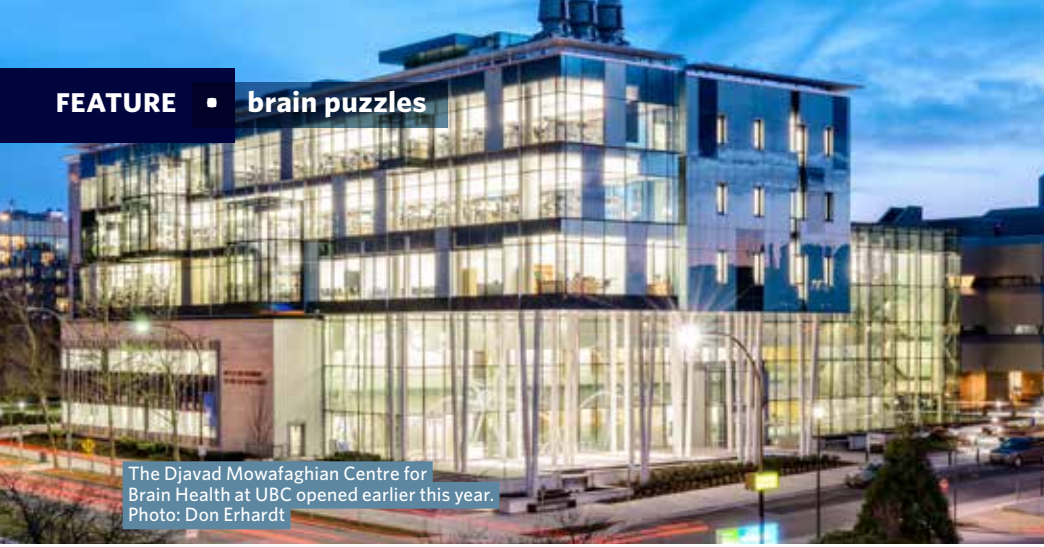
The brain is made up of **100 BILLION NEURONS** that communicate with each other primarily through **BIOCHEMICAL SIGNALS** TRAVELLING AT SPEEDS OF UP TO **220 MPH** ALONG A NETWORK THAT INVOLVES TRILLIONS OF **SYNAPTIC CONNECTIONS**

THE **HUMAN BRAIN** is approximately **75% WATER**

The brain consumes approximately THE SAME AMOUNT OF ENERGY OVER TIME AS AN **ENERGY-SAVING LIGHT BULB.** In terms of what it is able to do, it is **FAR MORE EFFICIENT.**

THERE ARE MORE THAN **1 0 0 0** diseases, disorders & injuries affecting the **BRAIN, SPINAL CORD & NERVOUS SYSTEM.**

Source: Neuroscience Canada



The Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health at UBC opened earlier this year. Photo: Don Erhardt

“Today I can put you in a scanner and see what parts of the brain are working in different circumstances. Say you have a fear of spiders. We can show you a spider, then bring it closer and see what parts of your brain get active. We can observe the differences in brain activity when you think of your grandmother, versus your grandfather. Or when you listen to Mozart, versus Shostakovich. We can see what’s wired together, exactly which brain cells are talking to each other. Being able to see all this in real time was unthinkable even 20 years ago.”

Positron emission tomography – the PET scan – uses nuclear medicine imaging to produce three-dimensional, color depictions of the functional processes within the brain – “a huge advance,” says Cynader. “Confocal and multifocal microscopy lets us put brain cells in a culture dish and watch as they form connections, develop synapses.”

Another major advance has been the genome project. Humans, we’ve learned, have about 20,000 genes (a gene being a piece of DNA that will eventually make a protein). “Fewer than we thought,” says Cynader. “In fact, we only have about half as many genes as rice.” More laughter.

“Roughly two-thirds of those 20,000 genes are used to either grow your brain, or to operate it. It takes more genetic horsepower to make the brain than to make everything else in the body combined. In other words, most of genetics is actually neuroscience. I joke with my geneticist colleagues: ‘Oh, by the way, you’re working for us now!’”

We can observe the differences in brain activity when you think of your grandmother, versus your grandfather. Or when you listen to Mozart, versus Shostakovich.

Technology is not the only thing that has evolved. Since the Brain Research Centre was established in 2000, its multi-disciplinary approach has given scientists from diverse fields unprecedented opportunities to work together. The new Centre for Brain Health takes the philosophy even further. The juxtaposition of research and clinical facilities encourages patients to become, in effect, collaborators. It provides novel learning opportunities for the next generation of brain scientists. And it creates an integrated environment in which research outcomes can be translated more quickly into therapies and treatments.

Has all this progress given rise to hope for Alzheimer’s patients, present and future? In the quest to define the underlying mechanisms of the disease, and to develop new diagnostic markers and drug therapies, are we slowing the tsunami? I put those questions to Howard Feldman.

“The epidemiology literature indicates that the prevalence and incidence rates of Alzheimer’s are actually decreasing,” he says, “as they are with stroke. Perhaps people are paying more attention to the factors that promote well-being than the last generation did. But that’s just a small offset against the greying of the population.”

Disease modelling suggests that if we can delay the onset of Alzheimer’s by five years, Feldman adds, we could cut the prevalence by 50 per cent. Delay it by one year and we’d cut it by 10 per cent. “Ten per cent may not sound like much, but it would make a huge public health difference.”



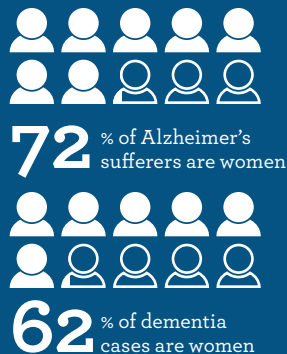
DR. ALOIS ALZHEIMER
1906 Alzheimer’s disease, the most common form of dementia, is named after the German physician, Dr. Alois Alzheimer, who first described it in 1906.

According to the World Health Organization, approximately 35.6 million people around the globe are currently living with dementia. This number is expected to double by 2030 and more than triple by 2050.



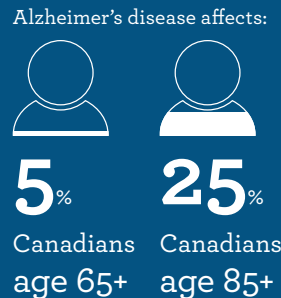
2011
747,000
 Canadians were living with Alzheimer’s or related dementias

GENDER GAP



2031
1.4 million
 Canadians are expected to have the disease

AGE IS A RISK FACTOR

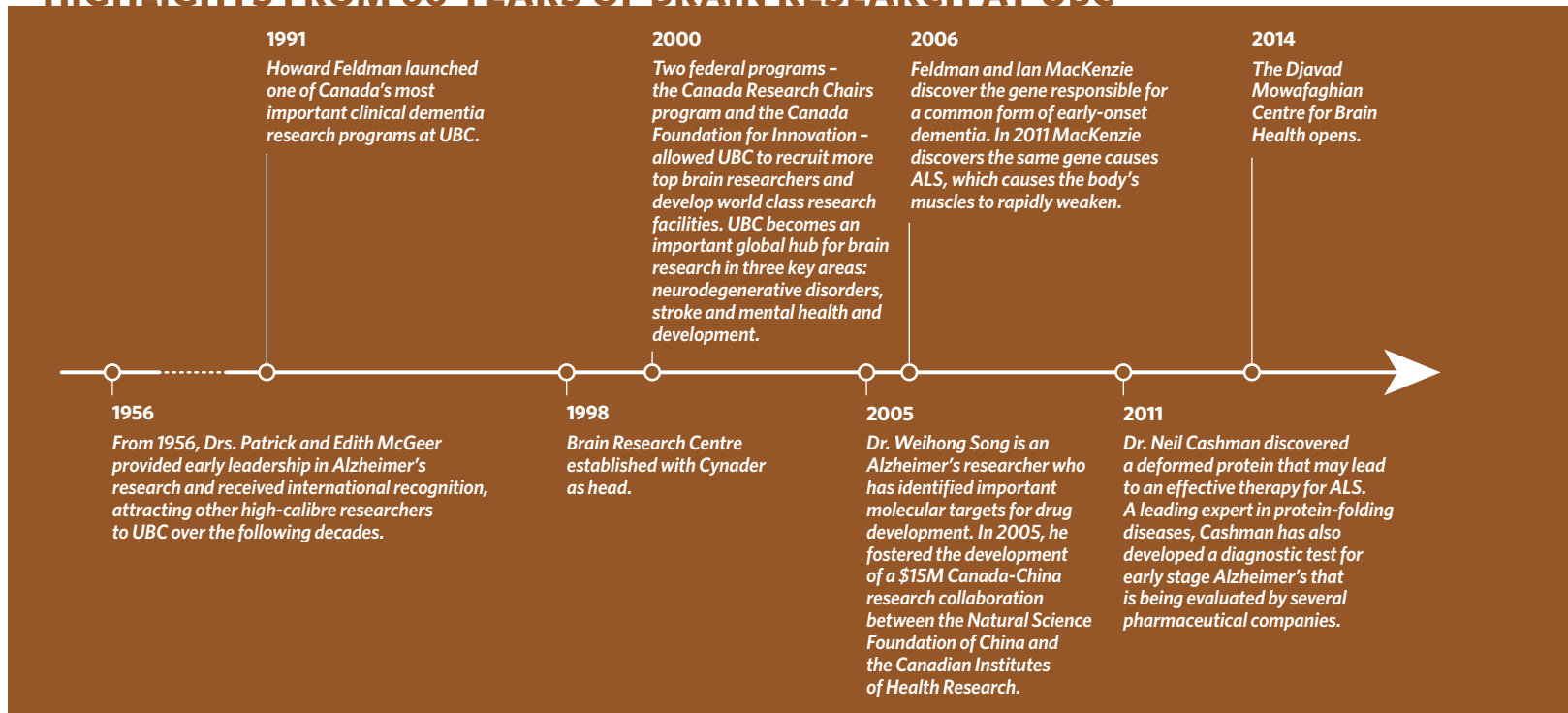


ECONOMIC COST OF DEMENTIA



Source: Canadian Institutes of Health Research

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 60 YEARS OF BRAIN RESEARCH AT UBC




How do we get there? "We need to mobilize around a national plan that centers on prevention and care. Fourteen countries now have an overarching national plan, but Canada is not one of them. We need a system that's flexible and full of good ideas, but we're hamstrung by political considerations. Instead of putting a call out for big ideas and bold thinking, we tend to be limited by considerations of governance and administration. A national plan needs to override health mandates being a provincial matter."

It's not just a public policy issue, of course. Individuals can modify their behaviour to lower their chances of developing dementia, or at least to delay its onset. How? Max Cynader offers this practical advice: "Stay active. Exercise regularly. Eat well – put lots of different colours on your plate – and don't overeat. Though the brain weighs only about 1.5 kilograms, it requires 20 per cent of the blood supply. Anything that's bad for the heart is bad for the brain. A drink or two of alcohol appears to be salutary, but 10 or 20 drinks are not."

We've made our way through the patient care and assessment facilities on the second and first floors, and I've just been shown the subterranean room where brains are removed from cadavers. Here in the spacious lobby on the ground floor, beneath gigantic, stylized neurons on the huge walls of glass, our tour comes to an end.

Cynader, now 66, is stepping down as director in June. The centre is a reality at last, much of his time in recent years been devoted to fundraising and administration, and he's eager to get back to his first love: research.

Taking my leave, slapping my pockets, I joke that lately I keep forgetting where I've left my keys.

"Not remembering where your keys are happens to everybody," says Max Cynader. "If you can't remember what they are" – laughter again – "it's time to come back and see us." 

Though the brain weighs only about 1.5 kilograms, it requires 20 per cent of the blood supply. Anything that's bad for the heart is bad for the brain.

The Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health is Canada's largest integrated brain centre. Powered by a dream team of clinicians, care providers and researchers, the DMCBH is a partnership between UBC and the Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute and was named for its principal funder, Djavad Mowafaghian, who donated \$15M as part of UBC's start an evolution fundraising and alumni engagement campaign.



Djavad Mowafaghian



Photo: Martin Dee

CALL ME BOB

The affable and universally popular **Robert H. Lee**, *CM, OBC, BCom'56, LLD'96*, has been lending his support and business expertise to UBC for 30 years. So when it came to choosing an honouree for the naming of the university's new Alumni Centre, the decision was easy.

BY DON WELLS

Seated in a boardroom chair at his downtown office, Bob Lee appears relaxed and tanned after his recent return from Palm Springs. But he sits straight up and wide-eyed when the subject of conversation turns to his university. Even after some 30 years of volunteer activity and leadership, UBC is still one of his favourite topics.

The former chancellor, governor, and founder of UBC Properties Trust is noticeably enthused about a lot of things at UBC today, including how the endowment generated from the university's real estate assets now totals over \$850 million in value. He is also enthused by the manner in which the "commuter campus" of earlier years has been transformed into a thriving and sustainable 24-hour community. And he is pleased to know that the real estate development strategy that he first broached to initially skeptical Board colleagues in 1987 has contributed materially to UBC's evolution into one of the world's most revered institutions of learning and research.

"The most important thing we did was to sell the land as leasehold rather than freehold," explains Lee, who is founder and chairman of the Prospero Group real estate company. "That means the university still owns the land and can sell it again when the (99-year) lease is up. I feel this made a difference, but it may take another 80 years before anyone knows it," he laughs.

But in truth it won't be another 80 years before the wider community understands the magnitude of Bob Lee's contributions to UBC. That is because the university has taken steps to honour his legacy in the here and now by announcing that the new and long-awaited Alumni Centre on the Vancouver campus will bear his name. Currently under construction and slated for opening in the spring of 2015, the Robert H. Lee Alumni Centre will serve as a hub of connectivity for alumni and students, and as a lasting tribute to one of UBC's most committed and far-sighted alumni leaders.

"I can't think of a more appropriate and deserving person to honour in this way than Bob Lee," says Judy Rogers, chair of the UBC Alumni Association. "The depth and duration of his involvement in the affairs of his university are remarkable to say the least, and the results of his efforts will be evident for generations to come."

The official naming, Rogers emphasizes, is a means to publicly recognize the 1956 Commerce graduate for three decades of service that has had far-reaching effects. "More than anything else, it's simply to acknowledge his generosity of spirit, which I think is perhaps the most extraordinary aspect of his character."

Lee says that he learned about generosity from his father, Bick Lee (born Yat Yee Lee), who in 1911 received financial support from fellow

villagers in Guangdong, China to start a new life in Canada. After first settling in Victoria, he moved to Vancouver's Chinatown in 1916, where hard toil while helping to raise seven children enabled him to establish a thriving import company and become active in community politics and philanthropy. "He raised a lot of money for the Vancouver Chinese Public School and served as its chairman for about 30 years," says Lee. "And every year he sent money back to the people in his village as payback for helping him."

He went to work for his father after graduating, but a subsequent venture into the largely unexploited field of commercial real estate sales proved prudent, thanks in part to an influx of wealthy Hong Kong residents who feared a Chinese government takeover in the early 1960s. A number of bankers who knew Bick Lee's affable and hard-working son advised prospective Hong Kong investors that they would be well served by the young Cantonese speaking salesman. "The first building I sold was the biggest apartment building in the West End; it had 263 suites," he says. "I showed my father my commission cheque. It was ten times my annual salary, and he said, 'you are in the right business.'"

His escalating success enabled him to eventually emulate the community service and generosity for which Bick Lee, who passed away in 1994 at the age of 104, was well admired. But his attention was irrevocably attracted to UBC in 1984 when Board of Governors chair David McLean enticed him to take a seat at the table. In spite of planning to serve only a couple of terms on the UBC Board, Lee never really left, saying that the people he interacted with were far too extraordinary, as were the prospects for enriching the university's endowments through the leasing of land assets.

Not only that, but his relationship with his university had also become meaningful on a personal level. He met his wife, Lily, BSN'56, while they both were students and, one by one, each of their four children eventually followed in their parents' footsteps across the graduation platform at UBC (Carol, BCom'81; Derek, BCom'82; Leslie, B'Com'84; and Graham, BCom'87). So rewarding were his experiences with the family's alma mater that Lee agreed to countless more volunteer hours as chancellor from 1993 to 1996, and he remained as chair of UBC Properties Trust until 2011. Today, he continues to serve as a chairman emeritus of UBC Properties and honorary chair of UBC's \$1.5 billion *start an evolution* campaign. He

Although he still keeps a full schedule, Lee finds as much time as possible to accommodate frequent meeting requests from admiring Sauder School students, thereby exemplifying his belief in the kind of interaction that will be a cornerstone of activity at the Robert H. Lee Alumni Centre.

was awarded an honorary doctorate degree in 1996, and in 2006 he made a personal gift on behalf of the family to establish the Robert H. Lee Graduate School at the Sauder School of Business. "The graduates of the MBA program at UBC are our future leaders," he says.

"We rely on these people to be the best so that Canada will grow with them."

Although he still keeps a full schedule, Lee finds as much time as possible to accommodate frequent meeting requests from admiring Sauder School students, thereby exemplifying his belief in the kind of interaction that will be a cornerstone of activity at the Robert H. Lee Alumni Centre.

Relaxing once more in his chair, he reflects a bit longer on UBC matters, including his gratitude for the naming of the Alumni Centre and its inherent value to

both students and graduates, his admiration for each of the three UBC presidents with whom he worked, and the fundamental importance of learning and research to future generations.

"I have three grandchildren attending UBC now too," he says with an elder's twinkle. "I'm very happy with how things have turned out." **T**

The Robert H. Lee Alumni Centre will be opening in 2015, UBC's Centennial year. The first of its kind in Canada, the centre will be a visible, permanent commitment by UBC and alumni UBC to 300,000 graduates around the globe. It will be a place for connection, collaboration and life-long learning – as well as a showcase for the exceptional accomplishments and aspirations of our alumni.



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Photo: Martin Dee

GOOD THINGS IN SMALL PACKAGES

UBC prof **Judy McLean** wages war on nutritional deficiencies in Rwanda - with the help of a Canadian invention called Sprinkles.

BY ROSEMARY ANDERSON, BA'74

The class in International Nutrition won't begin for several minutes, but assistant professor Judy McLean has already set the tone. The room in the Woodward building reverberates with upbeat music, and a video shows villagers dancing on the red, hard-packed soil of rural Rwanda. You'd think they hadn't a care in the world.

It's hard to reconcile this picture with the horrific images from the genocide just 20 years ago, when 800,000 Rwandans were slaughtered. Even as recently as 2006, when McLean first went to Rwanda, she felt it was "the saddest place on earth," and to this day millions of survivors bear physical and psychological scars. Yet, in a remarkable paradox, the determination to recover from the deep tragedy of the genocide has pulled Rwandans together so powerfully that Rwanda is now one of the safest countries on the continent - Transparency International's 2013 Corruption Perception Index ranks it as the second least corrupt country in Africa after Botswana. And, under the leadership of President Paul Kagame, many innovations have been introduced, such as effective reconciliation programs, empowerment of women, and bold public health initiatives.

"Everyone should leave UBC knowing a little bit more about what the rest of the world experiences," says McLean. It's the reason she has let the class get so big. She wants students to know, for example, that malnutrition isn't caused by a global shortage of food, but rather is intertwined with politics, gender disparity, and other factors. To date, McLean has taught International Nutrition (FNH 355) to more than 12,000 UBC students.



Judy McLean has been going to Rwanda since 2006.

Such atrocities have been followed by extraordinary acts of forgiveness. A lot of genocidaires are being released from prison. For reconciliation, they are encouraged to go to the survivors of their crimes and tell them who they are and ask forgiveness. One man, who had murdered an INATEK Nutrition student's entire family, came to the student and asked not only for forgiveness but also for help to feed his starving family. The student agreed to let the man farm his land free of charge. "If I'm not to help this individual," he said, "then I'm no better than he was."

A while back, McLean was enjoying a brief break at Mahoney's, a UBC campus bar, when she ran into a familiar-looking student. "I was in your class but I dropped it," he said. "I thought it was going to be too sad and too upsetting, seeing all these terrible things."

The next day McLean took this up in class: "Boy, there's a message that I'm somehow not getting across here," she said. "When I'm in a village in Rwanda, I see laughter and joy and happiness. I can't even describe what it's like to see the women spontaneously dance when you come into a village. They sing - it'll be the middle of the day, and people are singing and dancing with each other."

"I'm sad often when I come back here," she tells the class now, "because I don't see people even walking in my street, let alone dancing and singing, and I don't know who my neighbours are. That couldn't possibly happen in a village in rural Rwanda."

These days, McLean makes a point of seeking out good news to share with the class. And she doesn't have far to look: With the help of INATEK and UBC student teams and in partnership with the Rwandan government and UNICEF Rwanda, she is presently rolling out a massive program to combat iron deficiency in Rwandan babies.

A slight figure with very blonde hair, a ready smile and a magnetic personality, McLean is known for her tireless work ethic and remarkably positive attitude. Students who work closely with her say she works "three times as hard as any of us" and often puts in 18-hour days. She admits it's been years since she's had a real summer vacation, but there was a time when she and her family liked to holiday by the beach in Barbados. On one such holiday in the mid-1990s, the McLeans met the Zlotkins. Both families were sitting poolside and they struck up a conversation. Stan Zlotkin, it turned out, is a Toronto pediatrician and research scientist who, like McLean, has a PhD in nutrition. The friendship that ensued was to have an enormous impact on McLean's life and, through her, on the lives of hundreds of thousands - or, more likely, millions - of others.

It was a former FNH 355 student, Sara Elder, who first led McLean to Rwanda. In 2006, Elder was in Rwanda on a four month CIDA internship. She'd been asked to hire someone to teach nutrition at INATEK, the university in Kibungo, but it seemed everyone with upper-level nutrition degrees had either been killed or left the country. So she emailed McLean: Could she please pass the word around, help her find a suitable candidate? Familiar with the "heartbreaking, devastating story" of Rwanda, McLean leapt at the opportunity. "I will go," she emailed back. "I'll teach nutrition there."

The students in her class at INATEK would have been in their early teens when the genocide happened, McLean says. "They'd all seen family killed. I had a student who was digging his own grave when his mother was able to draw the killers away from where he was. She was killed in front of him and he managed to escape, partway through digging his grave. For every one of them, there was a story."

Rwanda was a French-speaking country, and McLean doesn't speak French, so she recruited a French-speaking "front-row student" from her FNH 355 class to team-teach with her and serve as a support person. Thus began McLean's exceptionally successful practice of creating placements abroad for keen FNH 355 students. Many have worked on field studies in Rwanda, alongside Rwandan students from INATEK.

McLean and her bands of students from UBC have grown close to many survivors. One afternoon, McLean was driving one of these friends home so he could visit with his mother and sister. They passed a church, and the young man asked McLean if she'd like to stop and take a look. When they went in, he began describing what had happened to him there during the genocide, when he was 11 years old. His mother had fled to nearby Tanzania taking his little sister, he said, while he and his father and six older brothers sought refuge at the church, along with thousands of other Tutsis. Then the genocidaires came and there was no escape. "I was buried beneath the bodies of my brothers."

The murderers started using pepper spray to make survivors cough and splutter, so that they could find them and kill them. But before the killers got to where the boy was, soldiers arrived and the genocidaires took off.

McLean will never forget standing there, in that church, holding her friend's hand, listening to his story. He was one of only seven who survived.

"Everyone should leave UBC knowing a little bit more about what the rest of the world experiences."

Walking along the beach in Barbados, Zlotkin told McLean about the research he was working on to combat vitamin and mineral deficiencies, especially iron, in developing countries. All told, more than 2 billion people in the world are affected by micronutrient deficiencies, and most of them live in developing countries. Almost half of all children under five – that’s 300 million children worldwide – have anemia; half a million die each year from Vitamin A deficiency; another 400,000 die from inadequate zinc stores.

It used to be that deficiencies in iron, iodine, Vitamin A and Vitamin D were also common in North America but, in the 1930s, scientists began finding ways to fortify foods with vitamins and minerals. Store-bought milk, for example, is fortified with Vitamin D to prevent rickets and Vitamin A to prevent blindness, while table salt has iodine to prevent goiter and cretinism, to name just a couple of ways North Americans consume adequate amounts of these essential “micro” nutrients.

The problem is, people in developing countries, especially in rural areas, consume little if any store-bought food. Often, they rely on a single, home-grown staple for almost all their calories and nutrients. So Dr. Zlotkin came up with the idea of “home fortification” using a powdered formula of 15 important micronutrients including iron, iodine, Vitamin A, Vitamin D and Vitamin C.

It was several years before the product, which he called Sprinkles, was ready for market. Packaged in single-dose sachets that resemble little packets of sugar, Sprinkles is an amazing source of essential micronutrients that families can use to fortify their own foods.

“The iron is covered with a thin coating of soy lipid to mask its strong metallic taste,” McLean says, so mixing Sprinkles into a child or infant’s regular food doesn’t change the taste of the food. It also encourages mothers to feed their babies suitable foods at the right age in life, because Sprinkles should be combined with semi-solid foods that are not too hot.

Getting Sprinkles from the lab to the homes of the people who need it, however, is an extremely challenging process that is still in very early stages. As Zlotkin says, they have “barely scratched the surface” when it comes to making Sprinkles available where it is most needed.

When McLean saw the limited diet in Rwanda, the nutritional issues, and the poverty, she wanted to find a way to respond, beyond simply teaching her Community Nutrition class at INATEK. And right away she thought of Zlotkin, and knew that Sprinkles was the answer. “It was crystal clear to me,” she says.



Photo: Julie Carney

On a return visit to Rwanda, McLean met Kara Pecknold, a designer who was friends with Magnifique Nzaramba, a brother of Rwanda’s Minister of Health, Dr. Richard Sezibera. Nzaramba facilitated a meeting with Sezibera, and the minister supported McLean’s idea to introduce Sprinkles in Rwanda.

After that, McLean still had to knock on a lot of doors for financial backing. Ultimately UNICEF became the main partner, with about a million dollars coming from other organizations. Zlotkin had generously relinquished the patent for Sprinkles outside of North America, so they were able to have the product manufactured in India for just 2.5 cents a packet.

In order to succeed with such an intervention, it’s essential to understand the local culture, so the INATEK and FNH 355 students conducted focus groups and interviews in the villages. Pecknold designed mock-ups for country-specific Sprinkles packaging, and the mothers chose their favourite. They even coined a name for the product in Kinyarwanda, the local language.

To test out the acceptability and usability of the micronutrient powders at the household level, the students taught community health workers how to use the powders, and the health workers trained about 60 caregivers and sent them home with a 30-day supply to try out.

For the next step, they launched a one-year effectiveness program reaching tens of thousands of Rwandan children. Kristina Michaux and Allison Daniel, former FNH 355 students who worked together on

the project in 2012, say they experienced an exceptional compliance rate of nearly 100 per cent in Rwanda. In fact, the pilot project went so well that McLean was asked to do a major scale-up, beginning in May, to target 350,000 Rwandan

Seeing the impact of the Rwandan interventions, several other African nations approached McLean to establish micronutrient delivery programs in their own countries.

babies from six to 23 months of age. Daniel is thrilled at this success, and she’s especially excited about the “huge future” the program has in other countries.

Seeing the impact of the Rwandan interventions, several other African nations approached McLean to establish micronutrient delivery programs in their own countries. As a result, McLean and a number of her UBC students, together with in-country partners, have begun work on micronutrient projects in Zambia, Sierra Leone, Cameroon, Mozambique, Mali and Uganda.

Sometimes a country wants to forge ahead with an intervention, and skip the preliminary steps. “We know we need it and we know it works,” they say. But McLean is adamant that they follow all the preparatory and training steps. Micronutrient powder interventions have not always been successful, she points out. Compliance can be a huge challenge. In an emergency situation in a Somali refugee camp, for example,

packets of Sprinkles were given out without any sort of community training or pilot testing. Seeing the shiny foil that lined the packages, many mothers thought the packets were some sort of condom, and threw them away. Others took one look at the picture on the packets, in this case a couple and one child, and thought they were for birth control. "Nobody used them. It was a complete waste of money," McLean says.

Zach Daly, a UBC graduate student in Nutrition, has his own story to underscore the value of following the steps. Daly conducted field research for the program last year in Zambia, the second African country to launch a home fortification program with McLean's help. Daly loves his morning coffee, and takes it black. His 1-litre clear plastic Nalgene container seemed ideal for carting coffee around from site to site, till one morning a Zambian partner on his team told him there was a problem.

"In Zambia, there are a lot of beliefs around blood and Satanism," Daly says. Some of the villagers thought that his Nalgene container, with its black lid and white numbered markings down the side, was some sort of medical equipment, perhaps an IV bottle, and they wanted to know if the reddish black liquid in it was human blood. "Was Daly a Satanist?" they wondered, when they saw him drinking it. After that, Daly became extremely vigilant about keeping the flask in the car and out of sight, though he wasn't quite ready to give up his daily coffee.

This sort of unexpected obstacle can derail an entire intervention program if not caught early. It underscores the need for a country to follow the process McLean has established, if they are to build a program that will be sustainable over the long haul.

It's particularly poignant that Rwanda, which suffered such devastation 20 years ago, is the first country in Africa to roll out a full-scale micronutrient delivery program for infants in rural villages.

"It's a remarkable place," McLean says, "and to see the connectedness people have is very special. I've been able to watch such a dramatic change happen." She is hopeful that the home-fortification program can help keep that change going.

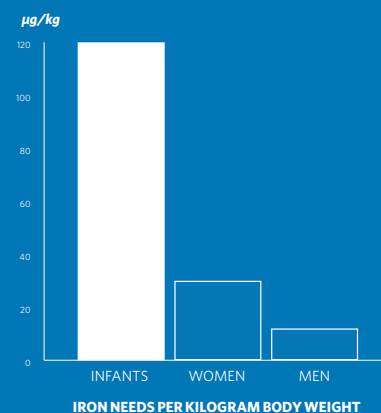
After all the years of preparation, it was profoundly moving for McLean to see her idea become a reality, when the mothers fortified their food with micronutrients for the first time and gave it to their children.

"For me," she says, "that was the defining moment - in a career, and a life." **T**

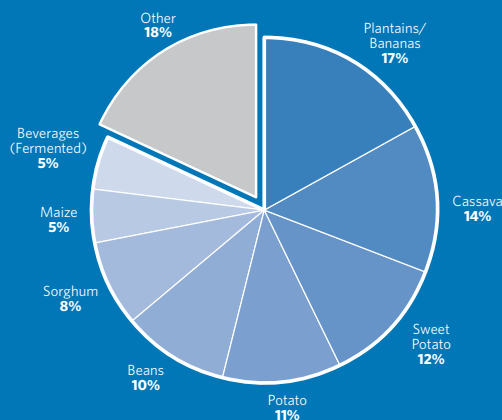
Almost half of all children under five – that's 300 million children worldwide – have anemia; half a million die each year from Vitamin A deficiency; another 400,000 die from inadequate zinc stores.



The Sprinkles packaging for Rwanda was designed by Kara Pecknold.



Because they grow so fast, young children have very high iron needs relative to their body weight – as much as eight times what an adult male typically needs.



In rural Rwanda, 77 percent of infants aged 6 to 9 months are anemic, their bodies unable to produce enough hemoglobin to supply adequate oxygen to major organs, such as the heart and brain. This can cause impaired physical and cognitive development, and even death.



THE SOCHI EXPERIENCE

Sports sociologist **Andrea Bundon** participated as a guide at this year's Paralympics.

BY MARCIE GOOD, BA'95

As she guided Canadian paralympic skier Margarita Gorbounova towards the finish of the 15km classic race at the Sochi Paralympics, UBC alumna Andrea Bundon - who was giving instructions to Gorbounova through a speaker - suddenly couldn't even hear her own voice. The fans had figured out that Gorbounova was a Russian native, and they were giving her a hero's welcome. It was like competing in front of a home crowd.

"I thought that racing in the Vancouver Paralympics was loud, but the Russian crowd was amazing," said Bundon. "They kind of adopted us. That first race, we were actually in last position, we're coming into the final stretch and the crowd was going crazy!"

Throughout each of their four races, which also included the 1km sprint, the 5km free, and the 12.5km biathlon, Russian coaches were yelling encouragement from the sidelines. After one of their races, a photographer yelled out Margarita's name, and it turned out he knew her father from St. Petersburg. "We did feel like we were getting an extra boost," said Bundon.

The entire two weeks was a fantastic experience for both of them. When they arrived on March 3, temperatures of 15°C had turned the snow on the race course into the consistency of mashed potatoes. But in the coming days the weather got colder, and the organizers worked to ensure that the course improved. While the fields were small, with only five countries sending athletes (Belarus, Ukraine, Russia, Canada and Germany), she and Gorbounova were very pleased with their races, especially the 5km freestyle. Gorbounova finished in eighth position and completed the course in 15:42.2, a personal best by several minutes. "Right from the gun we felt we were really zoned in," said Bundon. "We had a lot of fun in that race and we were really happy to go out on a high note."



Andrea Bundon guides Canadian Margarita Gorbounova in the Women's 1km Sprint at the 2014 Paralympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia. Photo: Matthew Murnaghan/Canadian Paralympic Committee

They also competed in the biathlon, which is included under the umbrella of paranordic skiing. Athletes in this event wear headphones equipped with a sonar device that produces a high-pitched beep, turning to a steady tone when their rifle is pointing at the target. In paranordic events, athletes with three levels of visual impairment compete together. Judges adjust the finishing times at the end. For example, those with between zero and five per cent vision have two per cent subtracted from their times, and those with no vision have 14 per cent subtracted. Gorbounova, with five to 10 per cent vision, is in the most sighted group and has no time subtracted.

For Bundon, a sports sociologist now completing postdoctoral research at Loughborough University in the UK, the competition was also a great chance for her to consider questions related to her work. She wonders why the number of women in the Paralympic Movement is not growing at the same rate as the women in the Olympic Movement. "I don't think anyone's investigated that yet," she said. "I'm curious to find out why."

Bundon has been involved in sport for most of her life, and her work naturally merges with her recreation. She grew up in Regina, and competed in rowing through high school and her undergraduate degree at the University of Calgary. When she came to UBC in 2006 to complete her master's degree in the School of Kinesiology, she was captain of the rowing team for three years.

Her family spent a lot of time in Canmore, so she skied frequently and competed at the provincial level. But in 2008, she was skiing at Cypress and met a coach with the Nordic Racers Ski Club. He asked her if she was interested in guiding a skier with visual impairment, and her enthusiastic response shaped her future academic career.

Bundon's master's in kinesiology looked at how complementary and alternative medicine (such as massage, acupuncture, cranial sacral therapy, herbal treatments) was being incorporated into sports medicine at the national team level. After meeting the coach, she began guiding Courtney Knight from Burnaby, working out twice a week at Cypress and travelling to the Callaghan Valley on the weekends. "I was in the final stages of my master's project, and starting to think about my PhD research," recalls Bundon. "They basically convinced me that disability sport was the way to go. I thought I could do some research that would be of value to that group."

Bundon's PhD research at UBC looked at how different online platforms, such as blogging, Facebook, and Twitter, were being used in the Paralympic Movement.

In 2009, she and Knight qualified for the Vancouver Paralympics. They raced on trails they knew very well at the Callaghan Valley, in front of a huge group of family and friends. After those Games Knight retired, and two years later Bundon connected with Gorbounova, who lives in Ottawa. They corresponded by email and met up at training camps and races.

Bundon's PhD at UBC was about Paralympic sport and online communication. She looked at how different online platforms, such as blogging, Facebook, and Twitter, were being used in the Paralympic Movement. "This project was different because it was collaborative and community based," she said. "I was actually blogging with athletes and we created a website and

we would take turns blogging about topics related to disability sport. That could be media portrayals of athletes with disabilities, or someone encountering something in their club that was discriminatory and getting ideas on how to deal with it."

Because of their relatively small numbers, athletes with disabilities often find themselves alone in their clubs. "We looked at how you can use online networks to create community and build support, as well as sharing information and resources. We tried to replicate that team atmosphere that able-bodied athletes have locally."

Working largely online themselves, she and Gorbounova went through an intense time before the Sochi Paralympics. Bundon was finishing her PhD in the fall of 2013. Gorbounova experienced the loss of her sister-in-law two months before the Games. "Our plans kept changing," Bundon recalls. "We met up in Germany in January, right after I moved to England. We had great races in Germany and that sort of proved to us that we were ready."

Now, for the first time in 20 years, Bundon can't say when her next competition will be. She's joined a rowing club and explored running trails at Loughborough University, which is known for its sports programs.

She is completing her post-doctoral research at the Peter Harrison Centre for Disability Sport. Her project, which is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, looks at the experience of youth in disability sport in the wake of the London Paralympics. She is using digital media, including photographs, voiceovers, text, and illustration, to create digital stories about young peoples' experience in sport and physical activity.

There were many programs put into place after the Paralympics to encourage youth with disability to participate in sport. But looking at the straight statistics of youth competing in sport, or the economic spin-offs of the Games, are traditional takes on the idea of "legacy." Bundon is interested in a more personal impression. "On the ground level, that child who was in a PE class with a bunch of able-bodied classmates - has their experience changed as a result of hosting Paralympic Games? That's where I'm going with this, to get some individualized accounts."

The first part of the project is to collect and create stories, and the second part is to share them in many ways: online, in community centres, with sport groups, and in schools. She looks forward to seeing how they will be used. There's a lot of great research, she says, about storytelling as a way of influencing policy. "You can give a policy maker statistics and numbers, and that goes part way, but often what will connect with someone is a story." ■



Andrea Bundon's research explores sport and disability. Photo: Scott Grant/Canadian Paralympic Committee



WRITES OF PASSAGE

Never underestimate the
power of a girl and her pen.

BY HILARY THOMSON, BA'75

All photos courtesy of WriteGirl

haPENning
indePENdent
susPENseful
indisPENsible
stuPENdous
riPENening
eye-oPENing

Never underestimate the power of a girl and her pen. A surprising declaration in this electronic age where pen and paper rarely meet. But if you're a creative teenage girl from an inner-city school in Los Angeles you would probably recognize the rallying call of WriteGirl, the brainchild of UBC alumna Keren Taylor, BA'86.

Founded by Taylor in 2001, WriteGirl has a simple premise: pair professional women writers with teen girls for weekly one-on-one mentoring and writing workshops and watch the transformation that happens.

"These girls have tremendous challenges – depression, abuse at home, pregnancy, bullying – very serious issues," says Taylor, executive director of the organization. "They look like they've got it all together but nobody is paying attention to their inner life. This environment gives them space and time to think about who they want to be."

Currently, there are 350 at-risk girls aged 13-18 from 60 LA high schools participating in WriteGirl. About 150 of them are in the Core Program, which provides customized mentoring, genre-specific workshops, and support for college and scholarship applications. Girls are recruited with the aid of school counsellors and teachers and are able to stay in the program right through high school. Additionally, an In-Schools Program sees mentors leading weekly group workshops to improve literacy and communication skills for girls in underserved neighbourhoods and detention centres.

Women journalists, screenwriters, poets, grant-writers, novelists, corporate scribes and others form a volunteer network dedicated to nurturing the young writers' self-expression and self-confidence. With communication skills to open doors, the goal is to help girls believe in themselves. Women talk about how enriching and moving their mentoring relationships are – they say they can see the women these girls are becoming.

Mentors meet students in a coffee shop or library for one hour a week, participate in behind-the-scenes planning work and commit to attending monthly workshops held in partner venues such as the Grammy Museum and the Los Angeles Times headquarters. With an emphasis on acceptance, expression and fun, the writing and critical thinking workshops are designed to be completely unlike school – no judgment, no tests and no restrictions.

Amanda Gorman and her mentor are editing the first draft of a novel the 16-year-old has been writing over the last two years. Gorman says one of the toughest parts of being a writer is finding the courage to put forward your ideas and wear your heart on your sleeve. "You're literally an open book," she says. But her WriteGirl experience has allowed her to trust herself and has given her hope.

“Being a teenager, you’re so distraught with pressure,” she says. “There aren’t enough strong female advocates out there and writing isn’t usually suggested as a legitimate occupation. But WriteGirl shows you there is more world to explore with a pen in your hand than without one. But your pen isn’t the power – you are the power.”

Gorman, who also writes poetry, aspires to be a human rights advocate. She thinks if more schools were like WriteGirl, students would be stronger, more confident and have a passion to contribute positive solutions to the world.

Taylor’s own passion for WriteGirl is yielding impressive results.

Not only does the organization publish award-winning annual anthologies of student work, but since its inception WriteGirl has guided every one of the 500 teens in the Core Program to finish high school and enroll in college. In a city of high-density schools, few counsellors, and dropout rates of around 50 per cent for metropolitan schools, WriteGirl’s success has attracted well-deserved attention.

In 2013, the organization was one of 12 awardees chosen from 350 nominations to earn a National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award. Taylor and WriteGirl mentee Jacqueline Uy – an aspiring journalist – received the award from First Lady Michelle Obama at a White House recognition ceremony. The organization received \$10,000 and a year of communications and other support.



Taylor was also recently named a CNN Hero for her work with WriteGirl, part of the broadcaster’s campaign to honour “everyday people changing the world.”

“We want to give these girls tools that enable them to be positive and thrive and rise above whatever challenges they may be facing,” says Taylor.

She didn’t set out to create a support organization for teen girls. With an undergraduate degree in International Relations, she originally saw a future in the Foreign Service. But after taking a look around and realizing the service was very male-dominated with nary a female mentor in sight, she had to re-think her ambitions.

“I didn’t want to fight the fight to get myself and other women into positions of leadership,” she says.

So she drew on other talents. In addition to her UBC degree, Taylor holds a Piano Performance Degree from the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto and a Diploma from the American Music and Dramatic Academy in New York

City. During her 15 years in New York, she worked in musical theatre and also held song-writing and poetry workshops in city high schools. That’s where she had her Eureka moment. Taylor saw that students who were struggling with life at school and at home changed in the workshops – they found confidence and joy in creative expression.

That was familiar territory for someone who as a girl read hundreds of books every year and took classes in many forms of artistic interpretation. As a high school student Taylor had realized how few books were written by women or had interesting female characters. She became convinced of the importance of female voices being heard.

It was a few more years, including a stint as a performer in Las Vegas, before Taylor found herself in Los Angeles with an opportunity to revisit the idea of creative writing workshops for youth. Terminated from an advertising sales job, she used her severance pay to start WriteGirl and welcomed 13 girls to the first meeting.

“It’s ironic that the journey I didn’t want to take as a graduate is now exactly the journey I am taking,” says the 50 year-old. “Creating empowerment for women is something I am emotionally compelled to do something about.”

“These girls have tremendous challenges – depression, abuse at home, pregnancy, bullying – very serious issues. They look like they’ve got it all together but nobody is paying attention to their inner life.”





In 2013, WriteGirl was singled out for a prestigious National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award, presented by First Lady Michelle Obama.

There have been some changes in the past 13 years, including greater access to computers. However, Taylor remains a fan of pen and paper and believes the act of writing in a journal allows for more freedom of expression than writing on a screen. But most importantly, the same conditions persist for students from low-income families, producing “an endless stream of girls in need.”

This summer Taylor will be involved in a creative writing pilot program for boys who are incarcerated. She’s also thinking about doing more work globally, having Los Angeles girls connect with teen writers in Africa and India in what might be “an old-fashioned pen pal conversation.”

WriteGirl alumnae are all over the world, staying in touch via a Facebook page, and two “grads” have come back to serve as mentors. Even with such success, WriteGirl faces the challenges of maintaining a supply of mentors; retaining and renewing a network of supporters; and attracting funding to secure the organization’s future.

That all takes a lot of energy. Fortunately Taylor is able to re-charge through her own creative expression, which includes poetry, songwriting, singing with a band, jewellery-making and mosaic art.

“I’m so glad to be able to do this work,” she says. “These girls strike a chord inside me – they are unstoppable.”

For more information on WriteGirl visit www.writegirl.org

With an emphasis on acceptance, expression and fun, the writing and critical thinking workshops are designed to be completely unlike school – no judgment, no tests and no restrictions.

MY NAME

by **Amanda Gorman**, Age 16

*I am Amanda Gorman
the pun standing, dependent, on the comical guilt of my last name.
I am Amanda Gorman,
even though I am not A MAN at all,
nor am I a gory man.
I am Amanda Gorman
I always thought my name had a perpetual amount of a's
blazing bright orange and shoving out the "d" like stones thrust from my lips
Or corncake dug violently from my teeth
It is the predictable weather, a storm inevitably followed by a rainbow,
my name followed by Gabrielle, my twin sister's name,
always
Amanda is the name of a character my mother created with love
in a book she wrote and tucked carefully into binders
A name of a relative
with immeasurable significance to my mother
But just familiarity to me
Amanda is a cloak, wrapping me with its dominating vowels
shrouding me from
vulnerability and exposing me to my strength
The yellow brightness of Amanda Banana
because I was born yellow

Or Amanda Panda
because I was also born very small,
like a baby panda
Or perhaps my true name is my middle name
a verb, an emblem, imprinted on my working hands,
coating my voice
like bitter frosting with the pretext of sweetness
Chase.
Yes, Chase, that's the name
Perhaps one day instead of Chase I will be Found
I will chase my dreams and hopefully find them as well
But for yesterday, today, and tomorrow, I will be Amanda
And I realize that Amanda
is more than good enough.*

n=

618 million

The number of Chinese Internet Users, according to visiting professor from Hong Kong University, Ying Chan. "China is already a digital superpower. The sheer size of the Chinese digital economy has made the country a leading producer and consumer of digital products," she says. (*UBC Reports, February 27*)

Daily amount of carbon dioxide that will be converted into chemicals for cement manufacturing at a Richmond plant, in a new pilot project using technology developed at UBC. (*The Province, April 9*)



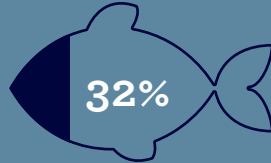
100 kgs

A new study co-authored by UBC professor Tony J. Pitcher estimates that up to 32% of wild fish imported to the US is illegally caught. US inspectors are not required to ask for proof of origin. (*The Washington Post, April 20*)



\$1.5 billion

In February, as part of the federal budget, late Finance Minister Jim Flaherty announced the government's 10-year commitment to the Canada First Research Excellence Fund, to support Canadian leadership in global research and innovation.



32%



162

The number of panels on a community mural being created in Vancouver by Foster Eastman to raise funds for the Vancouver Transition Network, a peer-based support program initiated at UBC to ease veterans' transition back into civilian life. Each panel represents a Canadian killed in Afghanistan.



1,000

The number of miles a concept car developed by UBC students can travel on a single gallon of gas. (*Metro, April 20*).

More than 18,000 rare and unique early photographs of BC from the 1850s to the 1970s have been gifted to UBC by Uno and Dianne Langmann. The images will be preserved, digitized and made public.

18,000



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BOOKS

REVIEWS BY TERESA GOFF

THIS LOCATION OF UNKNOWN POSSIBILITIES

Brett Josef Grubisic

(UBC professor of English Lit.)

Now or Never Publishing

342 pp.

Brett Josef Grubisic's newest novel, *This Location of Unknown Possibilities*, brings together two disparate realities: the fast-moving film industry and the staid ivory towers of academia. The combination creates a subtly complex composite that pokes fun at contemporary culture.

The story is a behind-the-scenes look at a low-budget movie set in Hollywood North. It revolves around two characters and their alter egos. English professor Marta Spök is uptight and earnest while her boss, film executive Jake Nugent, is cynical and sex-obsessed. The two first meet in Nugent's office at a film studio on the outskirts of Vancouver, where Professor Spök is already a long skytrain ride away from her comfort zone. The setting quickly moves to a remote location in the Okanagan, where both characters are faced with altered versions of their protected realities.

Grubisic uses a vortex of references from literary works, self-help books, online personals, B-grade slasher flicks and Hollywood actors to produce a meta-narrative that is oddly recognizable but defies labels. This stripping of labels applies not only to the book, but also the film at its centre as well as the characters responsible for creating it.

Professor Spök is an expert on Lady Hester Stanhope, a Victorian adventurer and traveller whose archaeological expedition provides the basis for the film *The Prophet of Djoun*. Spök's expertise on Stanhope lands her a job as a film consultant but the industry is fickle. *The Prophet of Djoun* becomes *The Battle of Djoun*, more of an action flick than a biopic. Aliens are added and Lady Hester Stanhope is rewritten. This mirrors the transformation of Marta Spök, whose personal shift is helped by Chaz, a self-mocking production assistant. Meanwhile, Jake Nugent, an A-type personality whose narcissism and insatiable sex drive renders him at once attractive and obnoxious, spends most of his time chasing sexual opportunities and a fraction of his time working to keep the film on budget and on time.

In the end, both Spök and Nugent come to the conclusion that "a perfectly seamless and unified selfhood is a consolatory fiction." *This Location of Unknown Possibilities* reveals that any film, or even person, can be rewritten. If we accept that the stable reality we inhabit every day is really only a frame of reference, anything is possible.



CHILDREN OF AIR INDIA: UN/AUTHORIZED EXHIBITS AND INTERJECTIONS

Renee Sarojini Saklikar, BA'85,

LLB'90 (UBC Book Club Facilitator)

Nightwood Editions

96 pp.



Renee Sarojini Saklikar's *Children of Air India* is a poetic response to the largest mass murder in Canadian history. On June 23, 1985, a bomb blew Air India Flight 182 out of the sky and into the Atlantic Ocean, killing 329 passengers, many of them Indo-Canadians.

After almost 20 years of investigation and prosecution, which cost Canadian taxpayers almost \$130 million, only one suspect was convicted. The Commission of Inquiry's report, released in 2010, blamed the government, the RCMP and the Canadian Security Intelligence Service for mishaps that allowed the act of terrorism to happen. All these facts do little to unearth the private grief buried beneath the public tragedy. *Children of Air India* is "the saga of a nation" presented in a sequence of elegies that speak to "what it feels like after".

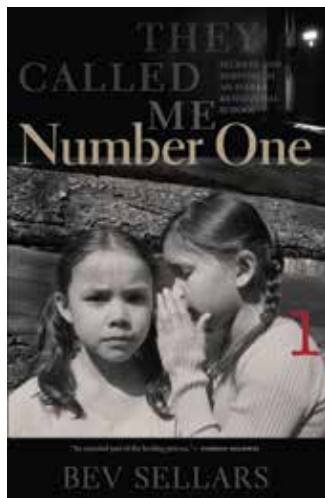
An introductory poem declares the book a lament, a work of fiction, weaving in fact. The last line says, "Another version of this introduction exists, it has been redacted". Throughout the book names are removed, authorities invoked then unauthorized and entire lines of text crossed out.

In the spirit of court proceedings, which often obscure or remove sensitive information, Saklikar selects and adapts anecdotes, gossip and facts from witness statements, newspaper clippings, the Air India Trial Media Information Package and John C. Major's Commission of Inquiry into the Investigation of the Bombing of Air India Flight 182, among other sources listed at the back of the volume. The sources are numerous and their individual pages lengthy, yet Saklikar constructs 96 slim pages of loose prose, "each story-bit / a laceration". The banal is lined up next to the bomb. The "plausible and implausible" are set beside the "catastrophic and unreasonable". As Saklikar writes in "Elegy: what it feels like after": "It is all there. It is nothing".

Children of Air India is a harsh rebuke. The fragments offered here, the child's battered shoe, the scrapes of memory, are full of horror and loss. In both form and delivery, *Children of Air India* tells us that without reflection, there is no remembering. Even then, another version exists and it too may be redacted. *Children of Air India* has been nominated for the BC Book Prize's Dorothy Livesay Poetry prize.

THEY CALLED ME NUMBER ONE

Bev Sellars, LLB'01
Talon Books
256 pp.



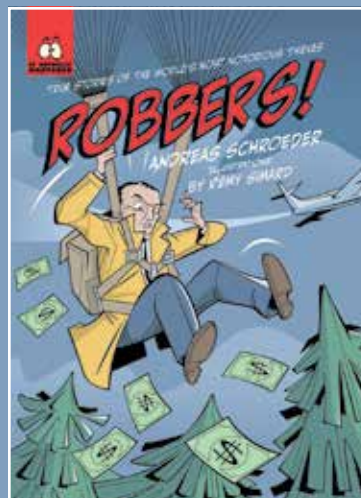
In her memoir, *They Called Me Number One*, Xat'sūll Chief Bev Sellars gives the first full-length account of life at St. Joseph's Mission Residential School, which operated from 1891 to 1981 in Williams Lake, BC. Five generations of Sellars' family attended. "In our house," writes Sellars, "we did not speak unless there was something relevant to say." What Sellars says in these pages is relevant, heart-wrenchingly dark and oddly uplifting.

Sellars starts her story with her grandmother, Sarah (Baptiste) Sam, who first attended St. Joseph's Mission in 1903, at the age of seven. At the Mission, Sarah Sam became Number 27. Her sister Annie was Number 28. From 1962 to 1967, Sellars lived a similar life at the Mission. There, she was known as Number One. "Thankfully," says Sellars, "our numbers were not tattooed on our skin." Upon arrival, students were deloused with DDT, even though it was banned in Canada. Her Gram often said that she hated to send the kids, "but if I don't, they will put me in jail."

They Called Me Number One describes a few positive memories at the Mission but mostly points to a culture of belittling and abuse, topped off by a disregard for basic human rights. The Mission, says Sellars, was "a breeding ground for dysfunction." Compassion was almost non-existent. As a result, Sellars says, "we remembered even the smallest bit of kindness." Though kindnesses did little to alleviate the lessons ingrained at the Mission. Lessons like "don't try to be better than anyone else" or "speaking your mind only results in trouble" stayed with Sellars throughout her life. But the biggest hangover was the shame of being an Indian.

When Sellars started public school in 1967, it became apparent she was "emotionally and socially crippled" but also incredibly bright. She had an IQ of 133, although she didn't know what that meant at the time. Despite difficulty dislodging ideas inculcated at the Mission, Sellars raised a family, went on to college, became Xat'sūll Chief, attended law school at UBC and found love. Her reflections on the reasons for the violence, alcoholism and abuse within her community are biting but fair-minded and, above all, essential to an understanding of the long-term effects of residential schools.

They Called Me Number One has been shortlisted for the 2014 Hubert Evans Non-Fiction Prize and won the 2014 George Ryga Award for Social Awareness in Literature. It should be read by all Canadians.



ROBBERS! TRUE STORIES OF THE WORLD'S MOST NOTORIOUS THIEVES

Written by Andreas Schroeder
(UBC Creative Writing instructor)
Illustrated by Remy Simard
Annick Press
168 pp.

Andreas Schroeder's graphic novel *Robbers! True Stories of the World's Most Notorious Thieves* balances grit and greed while exploring some of the most cunning crimes of the century. The book is part of Annick Press' *True Stories from the Edge* series for young readers and follows two previous books by Schroeder, *Scams!* (2005) and *Duped!* (2011).

Nine tall tales are told in *Robbers!* They include the 1911 theft of the Mona Lisa; the 1972 bombing of a bank vault; the unsolved case of D.B. Cooper, who parachuted out of a plane with \$200,000 in 1971; the story of a robber so captivated by the Duchess of Devonshire, a painting he stole in 1876, that he carried it around in a false-bottom briefcase but eventually sold it to the Pinkerton Detective agency in 1897 with a caveat that included immunity from prosecution and financial security for his children; the botched getaway from a 1949 bank robbery in a prosperous northern Ontario gold-mining town; the 1927 holdup that was the undoing of a charming cat burglar whose decade-long career amassed an estimated \$10 million; the 1963 ambush of The Royal Mail car known as "The Great Train Robbery"; and the "ingenuity, psychology and audacity" of bank robber Willie Sutton, who was caught a dozen times and sentenced to more than a hundred years in prison but kept escaping and robbing banks.

This is merely the scaffolding that supports a myriad of rich detail. As a side bar to the bank robbery in Ontario's Larder Lake, Schroeder points out that, at the time, Montreal banks were robbed at a rate of one every 93 minutes. An interesting note that ends the story about Adam Worth, the cat burglar who stole the Duchess of Devonshire, says many believe Arthur Conan Doyle based Sherlock Holmes's nemesis, James Moriarty, on Worth's methods and exploits.

For young readers learning about the boundaries of social convention, *Robbers! True Stories of the World's Most Notorious Thieves* speaks to the impulse to "simply take something we want." But it is Schroeder's expansive knowledge coupled with his delight in recounting tales of mischievous bedlam that make this book notable. *Robbers! True Stories of the World's Most Notorious Thieves* was nominated for the Ontario Library Association's Silver Birch Award, which celebrates its 20th year in 2014. 📖

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The alumni UBC group in Indonesia made a \$125k donation towards the UBC Alumni Centre

CLASS ACTS

F**K CANCER

Got your attention? Good. That's the point. **Yael Cohen**, BA'08, president, founder and CEO of F**k Cancer, is on a mission: end late stage cancer diagnosis by getting people talking about the disease and educating them about the importance of early detection. The non-profit organization's mission is to empower Generation Y – a generation Cohen believes has been omitted from the cancer conversation – and inspire them to involve, engage and educate their parents about early detection. Cohen established the organization in 2009 after her mother was diagnosed with breast cancer. Shocked to learn that 90 per cent of cancers are curable in stage one, Cohen realized that spreading the message about early detection was imperative. Today, the passionate and creative 27-year-old is a recognized health advocate, philanthropist and social entrepreneur. She's been named to the *Globe and Mail's* list of 12 people who are transforming philanthropy; received the Queen's Diamond Jubilee medal; spoken at the White House; been named one of Women's Executive Network's 100 Most Powerful Women in Canada; and most recently was recognized as one of BC Business' 30 Under 30. Thanks to early detection, Cohen's mother, Diane, has joined her daughter's movement.



Yael Cohen (R) and her mother, Diane.

Norm Watt, BSc'67, MBA'69, recently released a second edition of his book, *Off the Beaten Path: A Hiking Guide to Vancouver's North Shore*. The book focuses on lesser known, but interesting trails throughout the forests of North and West Vancouver, many featuring sites of local historical interest, such as early 1900s logging, homesteading or sporting activities. The expanded version provides up-to-date information on changes to trailheads, signage, winter use and more. • After spending his entire working career in the pulp and paper industry, engineer **Dave Baker**, BAsC'69, retired early because of a stroke. In retirement, he's been enjoying success writing, singing and recording folk songs about Canada's west coast. Local choirs that have performed his work include Chor Leoni, the Vancouver Welsh Men's Choir, the Vancouver Orpheus Male Choir, the Enchor mixed choir, and the Jubilate Chamber Choir. In 2013, Baker was awarded the Phyllis Delaney Life After Stroke Award in recognition of his achievements and contributions to the Canadian music industry. • *The Great Gazzoan*, a 4-CD musical audio novel co-written and produced for Rick Scott by **Valerie Hennell**, BA'70, MA'72, won Children's Recording of the Year in the 2013 Western Canadian Music Awards, received a nomination for Producer of the Year in the 2013 Canadian Folk Music Awards, and was recently featured at the 2014 Vancouver Children's Festival. Hennell and Scott also wrote an educational program, *My Symphony*, which premiered with the Vancouver Island Symphony in February 2014. • This March, **Lyll Knott**, QC, BCom'71, LLB '72, was appointed chair of the Canadian Forces Liaison Council for BC and in April was appointed as a member of the Advisory Board to the Canada Institute of The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. Knott is a senior partner of Clark Wilson LLP and is the Honorary Captain of the Canadian Fleet Pacific, Royal Canadian Navy. He served as a Canadian Commissioner on the International Joint Commission from 2009-2013. • **Brian J McParland**, BAsC'79, MSc'81, PhD'85, recently published his third book, *Medical Radiation Dosimetry: Theory of Charged Particle Collision Energy Loss*. McParland will return to the Middle East this year to take up the new post of head of Medical Physics at the Sidra Medical and Research Centre in Doha, Qatar. • In June 2013, **Andy MacKinnon**, BSc'79, MSc'82, received an honorary Doctor of Science degree from SFU for his contributions to forest ecology research, land use planning on BC's coast, and his role as co-author of six best-selling field guides to plant identification in western North America. MacKinnon is a researcher with the BC Forest Service and an adjunct professor in the School of

Resource and Environmental Management at SFU. He lives in Metchosin, BC, with his family. • **Daniel Lefebvre**, MSc'80, won the Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching from the Queen's University Alumni Association. The award recognizes a Queen's professor who shows outstanding knowledge, teaching ability, and accessibility to students. Students say Lefebvre goes above and beyond his job title to connect with students and provide an excellent learning environment. • **Dr. Samuel Pang**, BSc'82, MD'83, medical director of the Reproductive Science Centers (RSC) of New England, was rated "Top Doc" in Infertility Diagnosis and Treatment by *Boston* magazine in 2013. Physicians selected for inclusion in the magazine's "Top Doctors" list are among the nation's top one per cent of physicians in their field. Dr. Pang is also director of the Donor Egg and Gestational Surrogacy program at RSC New England. He has conducted research, published professional articles, and is frequently invited to speak on menopause, male infertility, third-party assisted reproduction, and other topics related to fertility treatments. • **Howard Jang**, BMus'83, has been appointed as the new director of SFU's Woodward's Cultural Unit. In addition to this new role, Jang will also serve as professor of Professional Practice within SFU's School for the Contemporary Arts. Jang was previously the executive director of the Arts Club Theatre for 14 years. • **Shannon Selin**, MA'86, recently published her first novel, *Napoleon in America*, which imagines what might have happened if Napoleon Bonaparte had escaped from exile on St. Helena and wound up in the United States in 1821. • In 2013, **Lynn Price**, BMus'87, graduated with a BFA from Emily Carr University of Art and Design and was also the 2013 recipient of both the Mary Plumb Blade Award for Excellence

in Painting/Printmaking, and the Governor General's Silver Medal. Price's work was included in the *Art Mur's Fresh Paint/New Construction* exhibition in Montreal. • Special thanks to the **UBC Alumni Group** in Indonesia for generously committing \$125,000 to help build the UBC Alumni Centre – and especially to **Chris Bendl**, BSc'91, for leading the effort. The new 41,700 square foot Alumni Centre located at the heart of the Vancouver campus will be the first of its kind in Canada. • **Carol Lane**, BSc'91, PhD'99, neuroscientist and assistant clinical professor in UBC's Faculty of Medicine, recently received the Minerva and the Women In™ Science Philanthropy Award. Lane works primarily in university-industry partnership research developing treatments and diagnostics for patients, and has clinically developed numerous medications working with multinational pharmaceutical companies, local biotech and global contract research organizations. Lane is dedicated to the advancement of women in science and mentors undergraduate and graduate students, as well as academics, young industrial scientists in industry, and paramedics in the rural community. She is currently VP Medical and Scientific Affairs for Megassistance, a medical emergency transport and travel assistant company. • In fall 2013, **Kirstin Evenden**, MFA'92, was appointed executive director of Lougheed House and Gardens in Calgary. Evenden has worked in diverse aspects of the museum sector for two decades, being with the Glenbow Museum for a number of years, most recently as its president and CEO. Built in 1891, Lougheed House is a national and provincial historic site and one of the earliest surviving mansions of its kind on the Canadian prairies. Evenden is working to increase community engagement with the house and its gardens – the place has many stories to tell! • **Peter Raabe**,

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BA'94, MA'95, PhD'99, argues in his new book, *Philosophy's Role in Counseling and Psychotherapy* that philosophy can effectively inform and improve conventional methods of treating mental illness. • **Daphne M. Higgs**, LLB'98, has been promoted to partner at Perkins Coie. Higgs is a member of the firm's Technology Transactions and Privacy practice and the firm's Emerging Companies and Venture Capital practice. She counsels companies on complex technology transactions, with a focus on digital media, entertainment, open source, privacy, advertising and the transfer of technologies from universities. • *Emberton* by **Peter Norman**, BFA'98, is a literary gothic novel with a dash of humour. Norman's poetry, short fiction and non-fiction have been widely published in anthologies and magazines, including *The Walrus*, *This Magazine*, *Malahat Review*, *Literary Review of Canada*, *Canadian Geographic* and the *Vancouver Sun*. While attending UBC, Norman not only worked at the station as a DJ and on-air host, but also met his wife, novelist **Melanie Little**, MFA'00. • **Gabrielle (Gray) Phyo**, BA'99, and her husband, Chris, welcomed Antonia Eloise on November 9, 2013. Gabrielle has recently been appointed as Group Corporate Counsel at Spirax-Sarco Engineering plc, based in Cheltenham, UK. • *Return to the Land of the Head Hunters* is a book by **Aaron Glass**, MA'99, based on the recently restored 1914 film by

ALUMNUS CREATES WORLD'S THINNEST CONDOM

Who knew there was a Guinness World Record category for the thinnest condom? UBC Engineering grad **Victor Chan**, BAsc'09, certainly did. Chan's product, the Aoni condom, developed by Guangzhou Daming United Rubber Products in Hong Kong, was recently crowned the world's thinnest latex condom by *Guinness World Records*. Measuring a mere 0.036mm thick, the Aoni trumped Japan's record of 0.038mm. Chan, managing director and project lead, told *The Province* that developing the condom was a challenge: "It took a lot of work to arrange the right mix and fine-tune the ingredients to give us the right performance," he says. Condom research and development has been on the rise recently, no pun intended, since the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation announced it would shell out \$100,000 in grant money to innovators who develop a more comfortable condom that enhances pleasure for both parties. The challenge aims to encourage condom use, and ultimately decrease unplanned pregnancies and the spread of sexually transmitted diseases. The Aoni is sold primarily in Mainland China, but Chan plans to eventually introduce the condom into the North American market. Chan is now working on developing a vibrating condom and a "silver nano particles-coated sanitizing condom."



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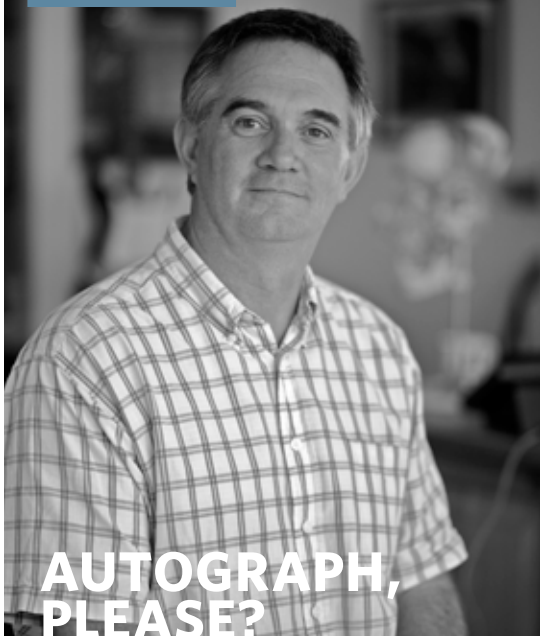
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AUTOGRAPH, PLEASE?

UBC Creative Writing students were a little star-struck recently when Hollywood heavy-hitter **Hart Hanson**, MFA' 87, writer and producer of the long-running TV series *Bones*, returned to the department as its writer-in-residence. Hanson, a former professor there, talked to creative writing students about his award-winning TV writing career and also gave a free public lecture entitled *From Here to There: A Nice Canadian Boy Goes to Hollywood*. His impressive list of writing credits includes many Canadian and American shows, ranging from *Road to Avonlea* to the Emmy-nominated *Judging Amy*. His most recent series, a crime drama called *Backstrom*, was recently picked up by Fox. The show is a dark comedy, dubbed a "crime-ed" by Hanson, and stars Rainn Wilson – who played Dwight on *The Office* – as a cranky and offensive detective who continually strives to change his self-destructive behaviour, but fails. The series has filmed scenes at various locations on the Vancouver campus, including alumni UBC's classy digs at Cecil Green Park House. While scouting locations on campus, Hanson told *The Province* that it was a bit strange looking up at his old office in the Buchanan Building. He admits that it wasn't something he could have predicted when he was teaching at UBC – a nice Canadian Boy making it in Hollywood.

Edward S. Curtis, *In the Land of the Head Hunters*. In recognition of the film's centennial, and alongside the release of a restored version by Milestone Films, *Return to the Land of the Head Hunters* brings together leading anthropologists, Native American authorities, artists, musicians, literary scholars, and film historians to reassess the film and its legacy. • **James D. Kondopulos**, BCom'00 (Hons), LLB'03, has been named one of Lexpert®'s Rising Stars: Leading Lawyers Under 40 competition. Kondopulos has a partnership interest in Vancouver-based employment and labour law boutique Roper Greyell LLP. • **Pete Koat**, BSc'01, has been appointed as chief technology officer for Vancouver-based Incognito Software, where he is responsible for defining the strategic agenda for the company's product line. • The feature film, *Stress Position*, was released nationally in Canadian theatres on April 18 at the Carlton in Toronto, and on May 23 at the Vancity Theatre in Vancouver. The film was created by a talented group of alumni that includes: **A.J. Bond**, BA'03, writer/director; **Amy Belling**, BA'03, cinematographer/producer; **Jessica Cheung**, BA'06, producer/production manager; **Adam Locke-Norton**, BA'05, editor; and **Dan Werb**, MSc'10, PhD'13, composer. *Stress Position* is a genre-bending feature film about two close friends who make a bet to see which of them can withstand a week of psychological torture at the hands of the other. In 2013 the film won Best Cinematography – Las Vegas Film Festival; Best Experimental Film – Lady Filmmakers Film Festival; and was the official selection at The London International Festival of Science Fiction and Fantastic Film. • Alumna **Rose-Ellen Nichols**, BMus'05, MMus'08, will be starring in a new opera by Margaret Atwood and Tobin Stokes based on the life of writer, poet and First Nations advocate Pauline Johnson. Nichols, also of First Nations heritage, will be performing the part of Pauline. • On April 1, 2014, **Danielle Metcalfe-Chenail**, MA'07, was named Historian Laureate of the City of Edmonton. Metcalfe-Chenail is a freelance writer, speaker and historian who loves to explore Edmonton's stories. She was the first female to be elected president of Canada's Aviation Historical Society, and her upcoming book, *Polar Winds: A Century of Flying the North*, will highlight Edmonton's aerial connections to the North from the Klondike gold rush era to the turn of the last century. • **Kip Warner**, BSc'07, is an ethical hacker who, with NASA's permission, developed the technology to recover many of the first images captured from the surface of Mars during NASA's Viking mission in the 1970s. In November 2013, Warner released the DVD-ROM, *Avaneya: Viking Lander Remastered*, which allows users to see the images that were previously in jeopardy of being lost due to magnetic tape deterioration and archaic proprietary technology. Warner is currently project lead for a science-fiction game set on Mars, called *Avaneya*. • Congratulations to **Brittney Kerr**, BA'09, for recently being named as one of BC Business' 30 Under 30. As a senior consultant at Earncliffe Strategy Group, Kerr is an expert in public policy, strategic communications, stakeholder relations, and project management, and is actively involved in the political landscape. She's served as the director of Operations for the BC Liberal Party, where she managed political operations and communications strategy, and as the BC Coordinator for the Leader's National Tour. Her mission: To change young BC voters' perception of politics. Kerr is a dedicated volunteer who sits on the executive board of Vision Vancouver and serves as BC Chair of the federal Liberal party's policy committee. Since graduating, she's continued to volunteer with UBC's Delta Gamma sorority, serving as a regional collegiate specialist advising university students in Delta Gamma chapters across North America. Kerr is currently completing a master's of Public Policy at SFU. • **Simone Osborne**, DipMusic Perf'09, one of the youngest winners of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, recently completed her tenure as a member of the prestigious Canadian Opera Company's Ensemble Studio. Osborne starred in the company's production of *Un Ballo in Maschera* as Oscar, and in March was back home with the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra to perform a wonderful program including Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* and Strauss songs. In 2013, Osborne played Pamina in Vancouver Opera's *The Magic Flute*, made her debut at both the Los Angeles Philharmonic debut and Carnegie Hall, and completed the Jeunesses Musicales Canada's first Maureen Forrester Award Tour through Ontario and Quebec. • **Jared Miller**, BMus'10, was recently named composer-in-residence of the Victoria Symphony. His orchestral works have been performed by the Toronto and Kitchener-Waterloo symphony orchestras, Cleveland's Contemporary Youth Orchestra, and Toronto's Sneak Peek Orchestra.

A composition he wrote while a student at UBC, *2010 Traffic Jam*, was commissioned by the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra as part of its Olympic year presentations. His composition *Flickering Images* premiered in Lincoln Center in New York and won the 2011/12 Juilliard Orchestra Competition. Miller is currently completing his doctoral program at the Juilliard School. • **Roydon Tse**, *BMus'13*, a master of music student studying with Professor Christos Hatzis at the University of Toronto Faculty of Music, is the 2014 winner of the Canadian Music Centre Prairies' Emerging Composers Competition. His winning work, *Three Musings* – a triptych for chamber orchestra – was performed by the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra on January 28 as part of the symphony's New Music Festival. **T**

STARTING SOMETHING

At the ripe old age of 23, **Brian Wong**, *BCom'09*, has made Forbes magazine's 30 under 30 list... for the third time. The Sauder School of Business grad is the co-founder and CEO of Kiiip (pronounced KEEP), a rewards-based mobile ad start-up that offers prizes from major brands to players who reach new levels or achievements in games or apps. Wong explains that Kiiip transforms mobile advertising into a positive experience by rewarding consumers with prizes when they reach new milestones, and enabling brands and companies to engage with consumers during their "achievement moment." Since its creation in 2010, Kiiip has raised \$15.4 million and is used by more than 500 major brands, reaching 70 million users through 2,000+ games and apps. Based in San Francisco, Kiiip has offices in Chicago, New York, Los Angeles, Bogota, and recently added an office in Vancouver. In addition to his most recent accolade, Wong's been recognized with many awards for his accomplishments and leadership, including the Top 20 Under 20 awards for all of Canada, *Business Insider's* Top 25 Under 25 in Silicon Valley, 18 Most Important People in Mobile Advertising, *Mashable's* Top 5 Entrepreneurs to Watch; and the *AdAge* Creativity Top 50.



Photo: kiiip

What have you been up to lately? Share your latest adventures, unique stories, milestones, and journeys with fellow alumni in Class Acts. Don't be shy. You're a member of *alumni UBC* – you've got bragging rights. Have photographic evidence? Email high resolution scans (preferably 300 dpi) to trek.magazine@ubc.ca. Submissions should not exceed 200 words.

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T-BIRDS DIGEST

2014 UBC BIG BLOCK AWARDS AND SPORTS HALL OF FAME DINNER

Canada's most decorated university athletics program celebrated its best and brightest stars, past and present, at the 93rd annual UBC Big Block Awards and Hall of Fame Dinner held on April 1 at the Vancouver Convention Centre. More than 900 current and former Thunderbirds were in attendance.



Photo: Rich Lam

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Two-time Olympic rowing bronze medallist Laryssa Biesenthal and national team soccer alumna and 1993 CIS MVP Tammy Crawford were unable to accept their Hall of Fame honours in person, but former T-Bird and international rugby great Robert Hindson made his way downtown from his Naramata vineyards to be inducted in the Athlete category. The South African-born viticulturist had recently been inducted into the BC Rugby Hall of Fame and BC Sports Hall of Fame. Former Bobby Gaul Award winner Kevin Konar only had to navigate a short distance from his North Vancouver office to the VCC ballroom. A two-time CFL all-star, Konar completed an MBA at UBC in the middle of a 10-year middle linebacker career with the BC Lions and now heads a wealth management team with RBC Dominion Securities. Former T-Bird, national team swimmer and Renaissance man Mark Versfeld was the evening's final inductee in the Athlete category. An Olympian in 2000 and a double medallist in the 1998 Commonwealth Games and 1998 World Championships, Versfeld is a futures trader by day and a painter by night. His work can be viewed by request along with that of former UBC team mate Sol Sallee at Remington Gallery. Dr. Laura Bennion, the founder of the modern UBC women's ice hockey program, retrieved her lost ID just in time to make her flight from Calgary to be honoured in the Builder category. Accompanied by her parents, and husband and fellow UBC Medicine graduate Ian Auld, the former T-bird and coach was

enthusiastically received by the current team, which won UBC's first-ever conference championship in 2012-13 and has posted an unprecedented 20 regular-season victories this past year.

Members of UBC's women's field hockey teams from 1998-99 and 1999-2000 accepted their induction certificates in the Team category from 1980s team alumna Jean Forrest. Playing under now retired head coach Hash Kanjee, the two teams forged lasting bonds of friendship after posting identical 14-1-1 seasons and winning back-to-back CIS Championships in 1998 and 1999. Seven team members, Laura Balakshin, Kim Buker, Ann Harada, Stephanie Hume, Lesley Magnus, Mo O'Connor and Emily Menzies, also represented Canada in international competition. Several members of the 1986 grid Birds were inducted for going undefeated and winning arguably the most exciting Vanier Cup game in history. The outcome was famously determined by a short pass in the dying seconds from game MVP Eric Putoto to Rob Ros to seal a 25-23 victory over the Western Mustangs. Football team alumnus and professor emeritus Ken Craig handed out the certificates, after which the team's revered defensive coordinator, and later Toronto Varsity Blues head coach, Bob Laycoe, joined team members on stage. Former running back Terry Cochrane briefly reminisced and described "a lot of love in the room tonight." And having used daily swims at UBC to turn the hands of time well back from his 80 years, a tanned and fit Frank Smith acknowledged the talent and efforts of his boys, noting that 10 members of the team went on the play in the CFL.



Laura Bennion and current hockey coach Graham Thomas
All photos by Rich Lam



Two-time CFL all-star Kevin Konar



Lisa Barclay and Andrew Firth, athletes of the year



BIG BLOCK AWARDS

Women's swim team captain and graduating Arts student Laura Thompson received the Jama Mahlalela Award for service by a student-athlete from athletic department associate director Theresa Hanson. Named after the T-Bird basketball alumnus and current Toronto Raptors assistant coach, the award recognizes Thompson for numerous above and beyond activities, including two years of service as president of the Thunderbird Athletes Council, and spearheading the Chance2Swim camp, which enables non-swimmers to experience the sport. The 2013 Canada West Community Service Award winner, Academic All Canadian and three-time CIS medallist also participated in the annual UBC Thunderbirds Habitat for Humanity homebuilding trip to El Salvador.

2013-14 Athlete of the Year Award Winners

MAY BROWN TROPHY (graduating female athlete of the year): **Kylie Barros** – Golf

MARILYN POMFRET TROPHY (female athlete of the year): **Lisa Barclay** – Volleyball

BOBBY GAUL MEMORIAL TROPHY (graduating male athlete of the year): **Andrew Firth** – Baseball

BUS PHILLIPS MEMORIAL TROPHY (male athlete of the year): **Luc Bruchet** – Track

2013-14 UBC National Championships

Women's field hockey – CIS Championship
(third consecutive)

Men's soccer – CIS Championship

Women's swimming – CIS Championship
(third consecutive)

Women's cross-country – NAIA Championship
(second consecutive)

Men's and women's cross-country combined – NAIA Championship

MANAGING DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Greetings from Point Grey to all alumni and friends of the UBC Thunderbirds.

As many of you know, the objective of the recent UBC varsity sport review was to create a framework for delivering new levels of excellence with long-term financial sustainability. After receiving much feedback, and carefully assessing the potential of each team, we have retained 24 teams and placed each into one of three groupings (enhanced varsity, continued varsity, and hybrid funding varsity). Although grouping teams, given the complexity and uniqueness of each team's landscape, is not perfect, this approach begins to provide a common structure for teams with similar potential and needs. The framework helps us make choices about where and how to invest resources, and how to maximize the return on those investments for our athletes, our students, and our community. There are three key outcomes to highlight.

Firstly, we now have valuable information – never gathered before – on each team. With comprehensive baselines and targets now in place, we can measure the success of our teams in a more rigorous and objective manner. This sets a foundation for a culture of accountability, where targeted support and adjustments can be made based on a team's performance against measures of success. Coaches are leaders in performance, but they are often left to operate in isolation and it can be a lonely, difficult job. Support, interaction, feedback – these are things on which our coaches will thrive.

Secondly, we are now in a better position to bridge the very real gaps between Athletics and Recreation and the university that were identified in the 2012 review of the department. We have formally dropped our ancillary status and will pursue opportunities to create enhanced student learning and engagement across campus. Over the coming years, we will foster partnerships with expert faculty in areas such as sports administration, sport marketing event management, athlete training, sport science and sport medicine. We will work with our UBC colleagues to help our community better connect with UBC, offering sport and the Thunderbird experience as a tool for growth in social engagement and school spirit.

And finally, we can now sharpen our focus upon being a more integrated part of Canada's sport community. Our success in swimming through partnerships with competitive swim clubs on the one hand, and our national team program on the other, is a superb example of how UBC can be a part of the playground-to-podium continuum of athlete and coach development. Our mandate has formally grown beyond inter-university championships to include progression to national and professional teams. Over the years, we will align with local, provincial and national sport organizations including the Canadian Sport Institute.

Looking to the immediate future, our key areas of focus will be converting the review information into action, consolidating our visions and emerging with five-year sport plans for each team; harnessing our resources in varsity, recreation, facilities, marketing, and finances to support our vision with a review of our organisational structure, roles and responsibilities; and addressing the considerable challenges we face over sustainability, including fundraising to meet the income required to support our 24 teams.

Although at times tumultuous, this process has sparked our community to support our teams in new and encouraging ways. Recently I was delighted to overhear one of our alumni say: "I took what I needed from my Thunderbird experience, and for years, I walked away. Now, I'm back."

In support of these challenges, my hope is that all alumni and friends will remain engaged.

Sincerely,

Ashley Howard
Managing Director
UBC Athletics and Recreation



Photo: Martin Dee

IN MEMORIAM

DORIS MURIEL CALL (NÉE SALTER) BA'34



Muriel was born in Vancouver and was a life-long resident of her beloved city until she passed away peacefully on February 1, 2013, in her 100th year. Muriel grew up in Point Grey and attended Prince of Wales Secondary School. While at UBC, she was a member of Alpha Phi sorority, and later an active member of the University Women's Club. Muriel often commented that her time at

UBC was one of the best times of her life. After graduating, she worked for the Vancouver Sun Publishing Company, and later as a manager of a small local business. At a dude ranch in the late 1930s she met a fellow lover of horses, Herb Call, with whom she spent 10 happily married years. After Herb's death Muriel began a career as an English teacher, retiring from Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School in 1976. Retirement gave Muriel the opportunity to pursue her passion and talent for painting. She was a member of the Canadian Federation of Artists. Muriel loved to paint trees, travel the world, listen to classical music, read a good book, play golf and bridge, and enjoyed a lively discussion. She has left her family a legacy of strong values, independent thinking, and appreciation of beautiful things. Muriel is survived by her sons, Ron, *BCom'66*, (Christel) of Oakville and Lony, *BA'69*, of Galiano Island; her grandchildren, Kirsten, Tahirih, Josli, Christopher and Oleann; and her nephews, Stephen and Michael Town of Seattle and David Town of Anaheim. She is predeceased by her husband, Sydney Herbert Call; her parents, PJ and Evelyn Salter; and her sisters, Phyllis Salter and Audree Town, *BA'39*.

WILLIAM HICKSON BARTON, CM, BA'40, LLD'99



William Barton was born in Winnipeg on December 10, 1917, and died on November 8, 2013, in Ottawa. As a distinguished diplomat with a career spanning more than three decades, he dedicated his life to international peace and security and to the betterment of Canada. After serving his country in World War II, William joined the Canadian civil service as Defence

Research Board Secretary in 1946, and in 1950 he became a secretary at the National Aeronautical Research Committee. Soon afterwards, he joined the Department of External Affairs, serving in Vienna and Geneva at the UN, and over the next few years held positions including Alternate Governor for Canada at the International Atomic Energy Agency and Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs.

In the 1970s, William represented Canada in Vienna, Geneva and New York as an Ambassador and Permanent Representative for Canada at the UN; held leadership roles with the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks; and served as President of the UN Security Council. He developed a reputation as an internationally recognized authority on peace and security issues and from 1984 to '89 was the first chairman of the board of directors of the Canadian Institute for International Peace and Security.

In retirement, William was a sought-after international affairs expert

and active philanthropist supporting the education of future generations of diplomats. In 1993, he received the Order of Canada for having "enhanced Canada's role and stature in the international community." UBC awarded him an honorary degree in 1999. He also holds honorary degrees from Carleton and Mount Allison universities.

CHARLES ALFRED CLARIDGE, BA'43



September 5, 1921 – June 1, 2013

Born in Victoria, Charles spent his early years in Kelowna and moved to Vancouver in 1933. While at UBC, Charles was active in the workings of *The Ubysey* newspaper and Phi Delta Theta fraternity. After graduating with a degree in bacteriology, he spent time with the Royal Canadian Navy until the end of WWII.

On September 12, 1947, Charles married M. Elaine Rogers, *BHE'46*, and moved to Montreal to work as a research scientist for Ayerst. In 1948 there was another move to Ames, Iowa, to attend graduate school. Charles obtained a PhD in microbiology in 1953 from the University of Iowa State – his post-doctoral studies were at Oregon State College. Charles and his growing family spent 28 years in Manlius, NY, where he was senior research scientist in microbiology with Bristol Meyers Squibb. He really doted on the lives and activities of his immediate family, which included Boy Scouts of America, Trinity Episcopal Church, Cazenovia Ski Club, and the Syracuse Camera Club. In 1986 Charles had instant retirement from Bristol due to a stroke but overcame the many physical obstacles. In 1986 he moved back to the Northwest to Woodinville, WA, where he was a scientific consultant for Pan Labs of Bothell, WA, and Taiwan. At 69 he decided to really retire and take life a little easier. He was a member of the Puget Sound Camera Club and helped found the Puget Sound Society of Industrial Microbiology. Elaine and Charles travelled considerably and visited England, France, West Indies, Panama Canal, and many parts of his beloved Canada. Charles is survived by his wife, Elaine, and their five children – Anne, Bruce, Fraser, Catherine, and Emily – and 11 grandchildren. Charles was a prince of a man and will be greatly missed.

PERCY COLIN GLOVER, BCom'44



Percy passed away in Victoria on June 9, 2013. He had celebrated his 96th birthday at a reunion in Courtenay the month before.

Born in Kamloops, his early life and education took place in Vancouver. His long-term teaching career commenced in one-room schools in the Interior. Following graduation in 1944, he enlisted in the Canadian Army and in due

course was commissioned as an infantry lieutenant. Following VE-Day, he volunteered to serve in the war and was posted to Canada's Pacific Brigade. Subsequently, he attended the University of Toronto, receiving his Bachelor of Pedagogy degree in 1947 and resuming his vocation as a teacher, teaching in high schools in Grand Forks and Victoria. Along the way he obtained

his MBA from the University of Washington in 1961, and was co-author of a mathematics textbook that was included in the BC school curriculum for many years. He was seconded to the Ministry of Education, 1966-1968, after which he was appointed principal of the new Reynolds Secondary School. He next served as assistant superintendent of the Greater Victoria School Board for four years and then as secretary-treasurer of the South Cariboo School District. Following his retirement in 1980, he studied music at the Victoria Conservatory and the Royal Conservatory in Toronto and obtained his ARCT in piano in 1990. His service as a volunteer included a long-time membership in Gyro International and a 20-year stint as auditor of the Scholarship Foundation of the Greater Victoria Retired Teachers Association. He and his wife, Shannon, took part in many cruises throughout the world. An avid golfer and dahlia grower, he kept in good physical shape with weekly workouts and daily walks. He is also survived by his three children, eight grandchildren, and other members of his extended family.

JOHN SAMUEL GIBSON KIRKALDY, BAsC'49, MASc'51

"Jack" passed away on April 17, 2013, after a long illness. He is predeceased by his wife, Anne, in 2011, and survived by his children, John, Lorne, Barbara and Jennifer. Born in Terrace in 1927, Jack was a brilliant student who pursued a distinguished career as a university professor and scientific researcher. He obtained a doctorate in nuclear physics at McGill University in 1953 and served in the Metallurgy Department. In 1957 he became a founding member of the Department of Metallurgy and Material Sciences and Engineering Physics at McMaster University, and held the Steel Company of Canada Chair of Metallurgy from 1966-69. In 1967, he was president of the Ontario Confederation of Faculty Associations and from 1969-71 served on the Wright Commission on post-secondary education in Ontario. During a career spanning more than 40 years, he published over 250 peer-reviewed academic papers and received numerous awards, including three honorary doctorates. He was a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, the Canadian Academy of Engineering and the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers. He's been described as the "father of Metallurgy" and "a national treasure." He continued publishing scientific papers and mentoring post-doctoral students from all over the world long after he retired from McMaster. He'd often entertain the foreign and Canadian students at his Ancaster home, where Anne was known as a gracious hostess with exceptional culinary skills. Jack was a rugged outdoorsman who worked as a lumberjack during his BC student days. An avid hiker and camper, he helped blaze the Bruce Trail in the early '60s. In the last 30 years, he spent his summers at a rustic cottage on Georgian Bay. No stuffy academic, he was well known as a party animal who, in the early days, often regaled his guests with renditions of Fats Waller on his baby grand piano.

CDR. FRANCIS JAMES (FRANK) DAYTON, BAsC'50

November 7, 1924 - May 22, 2013

It is with great sadness that we report the death of Frank Dayton, husband, father, grandfather, uncle and friend, who passed on to higher service at the age of 88, surrounded by family at home in Victoria. Frank was born in Portage-la-Prairie, MB, and educated at Edmonds Street School, Burnaby. During WWII, Frank was a pilot in the Royal Navy Fleet Air Arm. In 1949, he enlisted in the Royal Canadian Navy as an Engineering Officer, and in 1952-53 received specialized training in Marine Engineering at the Royal Navy Engineering College, Plymouth, UK. Frank served the Royal Canadian

Navy as a Marine Engineer until he retired in 1975. Postings included HMCS Ontario (1950, 1953); HMCS Dockyard (1950); HMCS Magnificent (1951); HMS Thunderer (1952); HMCS Venture (1954); Royal Military College (1956); HMCS Skeena (1958); RCAF Staff College (1960); HMCS Stadacona (1961); HMCS Bonaventure (1964); Ship Repair Unit Halifax (1966); CF Fleet School Halifax (1970); and CFB Shearwater (1972). In 1975, Frank began teaching Marine Engineering Technology at Saint Laurence College of Technology in Cornwall, ON, until he retired for a second time, to Victoria in 1985. He is predeceased by his parents and his brother and sister. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Edith; his daughter, Dr. Elizabeth Ann Bowler; his son, Rev. Bruce; five grandchildren: William, Victoria, Amanda, Caroline and Charlotte; and two nieces: Sharon Delany and Sue Edwards.

ROY MCBRIDE, BAsC'50

Roy leaves a family that he loved and many accomplishments and contributions that will be remembered as part of his legacy. In 1950, Roy married Joan Maultsaid and together they raised two children, Brenda, *BEd'76*, and David, *BSF'78*. The family grew with the addition of four grandchildren. Roy was employed by Halse Martin Construction Co. in 1950, becoming equal partner and owner of the company in 1973. Roy acted as president of the company and, together with Sandy Thomson, completed many commercial/industrial restorations of important Lower Mainland landmarks, including The Orpheum, CP Railway Station, the Roundhouse, the whale pools at the Vancouver Aquarium and RCMP vessel the *St. Roche*, on display at the Maritime Museum. Roy served as the president of the Amalgamated Construction Association, as an executive member of the Canadian Construction Association, president of the BC Construction Association, life member of the Vancouver Regional Construction Association, and as a member of the Vancouver Building Board of Appeal. In 1989, Roy and his partner sold their company and Joan and Roy retired to Vancouver Island. Roy became involved in several volunteer projects, including supervising the construction of the Qualicum Beach Community Centre and the Parksville Lawn Bowling Club. He sat on the Parksville Board of Variance and was a member of the Nanoose Stream Keepers. With a personal, lifetime goal to help find a cure for bipolar disorder, Roy established a fund for research at the UBC Faculty of Medicine. Joan and Roy enjoyed their retirement - gardening, boating, fishing and travelling. Unfortunately, Roy developed malignant mesothelioma due to asbestos exposure during his career in the construction sector, and on July 6, 2013, shortly before his 63rd wedding anniversary, and just after his 87th birthday, Roy passed away surrounded by his family. He will be missed by all who knew him.

GEORGE EDWARD SCOTT, BSc'50, LLB'54

November 26, 1921 - March 28, 2012

George Edward Scott passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on March 28, 2012, at St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver. George was born and raised in Vancouver to parents Peter Lees Scott and Letitia Annie (Browne), whose pioneer family homesteaded in Ladner in the late 1800s. George spent much of his childhood between the family's Vancouver home and the family farms in Ladner and Delta. He attended school in Vancouver and graduated from Britannia in 1940. George entered the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1942 and attained the rank of Flying Officer (Pilot). He subsequently transferred to the British Royal Navy Fleet Air Arm in



1945 as Sub Lieutenant (A) where he served as a flight-training instructor for the RCAF, RAF, the Free French and RNVR. After George was called to the Bar in 1955, he articulated at Bull Houser and practised with the firms of Marshall and Munro, Meredith and Company and was a co-founder of Worrall Scott and Page, where he specialized in securities and corporate law. After retiring in

1991, George continued a limited practice as general counsel for the Venture Group of companies. George is survived by his loving wife of 63 years, Helen, and their three daughters: Dianna Scott (Spencer Gray), Dr. Sandra Scott (Dr. Douglas Adler), and Gillian Scott. George was a loving granddad to grandsons Justin, Sam and Harry, and granddaughters Silesia and Katie. George was predeceased by his son, Peter, and his sister, Beatrice. In later years, George became adept in computer technology and also continued to pursue his interest in WWII European military history. In memory of George, donations to Canuck Place or Covenant House would be appreciated.

W. DALE CRIPPS, BASc'51

Dale Cripps was born in Vancouver on June 13, 1929, and died peacefully at his seaside home in North Saanich, BC, on May 12, 2013, after valiantly trying to overcome cancer. He had a remarkable career that spanned over 50 years and was involved in the Kemano, Arrow Lake Dam and Port Mann Bridge projects, was project engineer during construction of the Knight Street Bridge and Cassiar Connector, and played a key role in both the Coquihalla and Sea to Sky Highway projects. He loved his work, and in later years spent considerable time in China with SNC Lavalin instructing highway design and construction. His community interests included Sea Scouts, West Vancouver Band, North Shore Light Opera, sailboat racing at Royal Victoria Yacht Club, Saanich Stroke Club, and Palm Court (light) Orchestra (Board of Directors). His love of music and passion for building things was passed to his children. Dale was predeceased by Beverley, his wife of 53 years, in 2006, and is survived by his children, Roy, Gerry (Sue), Shari, and David (Tina); seven grandchildren; and his brother, Michael (Diane).

AUDREY EDITH MACMILLAN (NÉE BUTLER), BCom'54



Suddenly and peacefully on May 9, 2013, Audrey Edith MacMillan passed away after 81 years. A Vancouver native and a Britannia High School graduate, Audrey majored in retail management at UBC and was an active member of her undergraduate class. She joined the Alpha Phi sorority and helped start apparel sales in the UBC Varsity Shop. Upon graduating she began

working at the Hudson's Bay Company and married Douglas MacMillan, BCom'55, in 1959, raising their children, Bruce, BCom'82, Jane, BHK'94, and Ross, in Montreal and North Vancouver. In 1985 she returned to work after her father passed to manage her family business, Progressive Engineering Works. Upon retirement she moved to Little River near Comox, BC, where the Butler family settled a generation earlier, moving from Brigus, Nfld. Little River was where she was happiest, building a homestead and garden that she loved to share. A Celebration of Life amongst the rhododendrons in Audrey's garden was held on May 20, 2013, where family and friends from BC, Alberta and the US shared memories and stories of her legacy.

SHEILA MAUREEN DUNCAN (NÉE SWINARTON), BA'56



Sheila Maureen Duncan was born March 18, 1934, and passed away on April 29, 2013, after losing her battle with COPD. As her husband of more than 56 years, I can attest that the world and I, and son James – his daughters Rylie, Alexandra, Stephanie, Lindsay and Jennifer – and daughter Cyndi – and her daughter Michaela – have lost a wonderful person, wife, mother, and

grandmother. Her beauty and charm made her the Sweetheart of Sigma Chi while at UBC. She continued on a career in art history that lasted over 40 years, becoming a docent at the Phoenix Art Museum and at the Vancouver Art Gallery. She loved to travel and we visited, under her direction, most of the major art museums in the world. She was bright, inquisitive and most of all, charming. She leaves behind a legacy of good times, good friends and great memories for me and her children and their children, who all loved her dearly. We will miss her terribly.

STEPHANIE (STEVIE) JOAN (NÉE KENT) (MUNDLE) LOWTHER, BPE'56

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the sudden passing of our mum and granny, Stevie Lowther, on April 23, 2013. She is survived by her children, Bryan (Pauline), Scott (Michelle), Todd (Shannon), and Stephanie (Rich); her grandchildren, Taylor, Leeanne, Robyn, Cameron, Kirsten and Kent; and many more stepchildren and step-grandchildren. She loved to watch her children laughing, debating, cheering or challenging each other over any topic, unless she was finishing a particularly difficult crossword puzzle! She loved knitting, reading, sports, CBC, the news and her recent introduction to the computer. Although it helped with critical crossword clues, more importantly the Internet allowed her to communicate with her many friends across the continent. She was a people-watcher and people-meeter with her dog, Sasha, leading the way. Her dogs kept her out in the world, making her take the multiple daily walks she hated. It's amazing how someone so athletic could be so exercise-averse! Knitting was her constant companion – her incredible gift of creation. She was always looking for new recipients and designs, not to mention the wool she joyfully collected and used masterfully. Though Kitsilano and Mara Lake were her final neighbourhoods, she was a woman of the world, both by travels and in spirit. With an estimated 45 different homes in her 78 years, she was a wanderer who made community wherever she went. People felt cherished and stimulated around her and she deeply appreciated all for their help, time and love. A proud York House girl, Delta Gamma and physical education grad, she received a master's in psychology after the children were older. She wore her Saskatchewan years as a proud badge and loved her work as a counselling psychologist and mother hen at the Calgary YWCA and at the Alberta Vocational Centre. She will be missed, but never forgotten.

GEORGE BARRY PHILLIPS, BSc'56

November 18, 1932 – September 9, 2013

Barry was born in Chemainus, BC, and passed away peacefully at his home in Christina Lake after a four-and-a-half month battle with cancer. He is predeceased by his parents, George and Emma, and stepfather Robert Turnbull. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Peggy; children Doug, David (Marjory) and Monica (Jeffrey); grandchildren James, Robb, and Lex Phillips, and Kayden and Jenna Sim; and two step grandchildren,



Aaron and Shane Roberts. Barry attended elementary school in Chemainus and Christina Lake and graduated from Grand Forks Secondary School. After graduating from UBC, he completed a year of medical school. Barry moved back to Grand Forks, working as a pharmacist for Jack Acres, later becoming a partner, and eventually purchasing the business. Some years later, he

started the pharmacy at the Boundary Hospital. After a successful career of 35 years, he retired in 1993. During his working and retirement life he was one of the co-founders of the Christina Lake Golf Course, was an active participant in the local Trap Club and Curling Club, and was a Cub Scout leader. He was a member of Harmony Lodge No. 37 and received his 50-year pin. He was an avid fisherman, enjoying salmon fishing on the West Coast and subsequently deep-sea fishing in Mexico. He enjoyed hunting in his early years, and later became a passionate gardener, baker, and Sudoku player. Huckleberry picking was a favourite family ritual in the summers. After a little push from Peggy, he became interested in world travelling – New Zealand and Africa were two of his most memorable trips. He lived life richly and will be greatly missed by family and friends. Donations to the Phoenix Foundation in memory of Barry (or a charity of your choice) are gratefully appreciated.

MALCOM BAIN ANDERSON, BCom'57

Malcolm died peacefully at home in Victoria at the age of 78. He is survived by Moira, his wife of 54 years; his daughters, Melissa and Marianne (Andrew); and much loved granddaughter Olivia. Malcolm was a rare man – good natured, gregarious and without prejudice. He was an optimist who lived for the moment and had a genuine sunny personality. He was a loving, engaged and supportive husband, father and granddad. He understood that the best things in life are not 'things' and created the life that he wanted to live – a life centered on family and friends. He was extremely close to his sister, Fiona Hyslop, and brother David (Sandra). It was a rare day when they hadn't shared each other's news. He had a long career in sales with the Hudson's Bay, Eaton's, Dominion Securities, CJVI Radio and Shell Oil. He served in many volunteer roles, including Alderman for the City of Victoria in the 1970s, the fourth member of his family to do so. Malcolm loved sports and the outdoors, especially the ocean. He sailed twice in the Victoria-Maui race as well as countless Swiftsures, and enjoyed sea kayaking the local waters. Rugby was the sport of his youth, and for many years he was an avid squash player. Starting in his 60s, he explored the Sooke Hills weekly with his hiking group. He rekindled an early love of music by taking up the cello in his 70s at the Victoria Conservatory of Music and enjoyed attending concerts and the opera with Moira. Diagnosed with late stage colorectal cancer in early 2010, Malcolm lived these past years with characteristic bravery, dignity and an irrepressibly positive attitude. He was much loved and will be greatly missed. Donations to The Land Conservancy of BC can be made in his memory.

THOMAS BARRIE LINDSAY, BCom'58

1935 – 2014. Past President, UBC Alumni Association, 1970-71.

With deep sadness we announce the passing of Thomas Barrie Lindsay on January 4, 2014, in Vancouver, surrounded by his loving family. His

family was of paramount importance to him. He is survived by the love of his life, Lois, and his children, Diane (Mark Gerrard), Susan (Noel- John Richardson), Craig (Maryam) and Scott (Lana); 15 grandchildren; his sister, Helen Dusting; his brother, Keith; and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his brothers, Roderick and William. He was a gracious gentleman, respected the good in everyone he met, and was well-known for his work ethic, honesty, loyalty and integrity. Barrie will be deeply missed and forever remembered by all he touched for his compassionate nature, kind spirit, generous heart and the ever present twinkle in his eye.

NEIL VICTOR MERRICK, BCom'58

Neil was born in Athabaska, AB, on October 5, 1935, and passed away in Sorrento, BC, on April 1, 2013, at the age of 77 years. Neil is survived by his wife, Lois, daughter Lonna (Bobby), grandson Cody, and son Collin (Toni). Neil began work at the Hudson's Bay store while attending UBC. He worked in Vancouver, Toronto, Victoria and Calgary, leaving The Bay in 1983. While at UBC, Neil was UCC chairman on Student Council. Neil loved the outdoors and was an avid golfer, fisherman and hunter. Neil also loved playing various games with his many friends (his favourites being Mexican Train and Wizard). Neil was an active member of Crossroads Free Methodist Church in Salmon Arm, serving as chairman of several boards and committees locally and nationally. Neil loved to sing and had added his bass voice to a local glee club and also sang in a men's quartet in Yuma, AZ.

ANDREW BRYSON YOUNG, MD'59

Drew passed away February 13, 2013, in Chilliwack, where he'd been a dedicated and beloved general practitioner with his brother, Archie, for 35 years. Drew was born in Vancouver in 1934, the youngest of eight children. Drew's parents, John and Mary, emigrated to Canada from Scotland in 1929, John becoming stock manager of a new herd of Ayrshire Cows with UBC's nascent Faculty of Agriculture. Drew walked out the back door of their Wesbrook Crescent home for 12 idyllic years at University Hill School, and then subsequently out the front door for further studies at UBC, obtaining his MD in 1959. He and his (true love) Marilyn (née Gowan), *Dip Pub Hlth Nurs.'57*, then journeyed east, for an internship at the Calgary General Hospital. Settling in Chilliwack, "Dr. Drew" became known in the surrounding Fraser Valley as a physician of exemplary patience and compassion, with whom no ailing soul ever felt neglected or forgotten. With Marilyn, Drew raised five enthusiastic children – Cathy, Sharon (*BASc'86*), Brian (*BA'87*), Don (*BSc'89, MD'94*), and Dave (*BHK'94, BEd'95*) – and cherished his six beautiful grandchildren. He is survived by siblings Archie, Isobel and Jean. Dr. Drew gave generously of himself to both community and profession. He chaired the BCMA Economics Committee and the CMA Council on Health Care. He was delegate to the CMA General Council, and the BCMA Board and Executive. Respectful recognition of constant dedication came in the form of the UBC Medical Alumni Dr. Wallace Wilson Leadership Award, the BCMA Dr. David Bachop Gold Medal, and the BCMA Silver Medal of Service. Drew's life was immensely well lived – he'll be greatly missed by all that he touched. In the words of his adored Robbie Burns: "For ev'n his failings lean'd to virtue's side." Donations to the "Drew Young Memorial Fund," with proceeds going towards patient care at Chilliwack General Hospital, can be made at www.chhcf.org.

HEDIE HINTZ, BSN '59, MEd '88



Hedie was born in Arnaud, MB, and as a young woman completed her RN at St. Boniface Hospital. She then attended UBC on scholarship, graduating with a BSN and MEd. Hedie was a beloved wife, mother, sister, friend, nurse, teacher and counsellor who lived a life of service to others: raising a family, caring for grandchildren, entertaining friends and new acquaintances,

providing nursing care, teaching nursing at UBC and BCIT, and working with the boards of Pinegrove Place, MCC, and Point Grey Inter-Mennonite Fellowship. She touched many lives before Alzheimer's took its toll; she was cared for by her husband, Edwin, and caregiver Emily Banac. She will be missed by her husband of 56 years; her three children, Carl (Doreen), Susan (Fred), and Peter (Dagmar); and grandchildren Laura (Tim), Graeme, Felix, Forrest, Madeleine, Marlene, Judith and Simon; and relatives and friends. Donations may be made to the Mennonite Central Committee at MCC.org.

FRANCES M. BAKER (NÉE FRAZER), MA'60



Frances was born in Edmonton in 1933 and died in New Westminster in 2010. From 1956 to 1961, she was the graduate student don in all three of UBC's first women's residences. She was a role model, counsellor, chaser of assignments, and encourager of student activities. As an undergraduate at McMaster, Frances was news editor of the student paper the year it was declared the best in English

Canada. She acted in and produced plays. She danced and sang whenever possible, and enjoyed student clubs. She wanted her freshettes in residences to enjoy the undergraduate life she had enjoyed. She said that, like her, they could play bridge all night as long as they were quiet. She also received a first class honours degree with distinction. After UBC, she received her PhD at the University of London. Her three-volume thesis on *G.B. Shaw's Three Plays for Puritans* was a variorum edition, a critical commentary and stage history. The chair of her examining committee wrote that she should have received three PhDs. A major Shaw scholar on the committee wrote that she had advised publishers that Fran was the only person to edit *Caesar and Cleopatra*. Her edition, intended for students, was praised in the Year's Work in English Studies. She taught at Alberta, SFU, and the University of PEI where she was chair of English and the first female Dean of Arts. She was admired both as a scholar and fascinating teacher of Victorian literature, contemporary drama, and children's literature, and also as an administrator. She married Ron Baker, BA'51, MA'53, the first president of the University of PEI, and as his wife was praised and said to have added joie de vivre to the university's early days.

CHARLES HENRY "CHUCK" TURNER, BAsC'60

Chuck, 77, of Coquitlam, passed away peacefully after a very brief illness on April 24, 2013, with his family by his side. He was a loving husband and companion of 50 years to Pat; devoted father of son Scott, BEd'01 (Kerrie), daughters Sharon (David) and Susan, BAsC'94 (Gregg, BAsC'94); grandfather to Sydney, Connor, William, Madison and Jaxon; and was loved by extended



family in England and many friends. Chuck was born on May 3, 1935, in Surrey, to Petra and Richard Turner and studied mechanical engineering at UBC before heading to Montreal, where he met his wife, Pat, who had come from London, UK, to work at Royal Victoria Hospital. After Montreal Chuck moved to Sherbrooke, where he married Pat and they lived for three years before spending five

years in Ocean Falls. They relocated to Clearbrook, and then to Coquitlam to make their home and raise their family while Chuck pursued his engineering career. Chuck's biggest joy was spending time with family. He also enjoyed curling, lawn bowling, golf, camping, travelling to sunny and exotic places, the grad group, music, and all sports, most notably the Canucks. Chuck enjoyed reunions with his fellow UBC mechanical engineering graduates, most notably the 50th reunion in 2010. Chuck was known by all for his cheerful personality, kindness, and sense of humour. He was much loved and will be greatly missed.

BRAD ROMANIN, BSc'86

With great sadness, we announce the sudden passing of Brad Romanin. Brad was a loving father, natural teacher, great outdoorsman and the kindest, gentlest person you could ever meet. The only consolation we have is that Brad left this world on a beautiful, sunlit summer Saturday afternoon - one final lap around the lake with friends - and gone... exactly as he would've wanted it. We will think of him forever in the glint of the snow, the rustle of fall leaves and the laughter of children. Rest well, Brother. You did good!

ERICH W. VOGT, DSc'99

November 12, 1929 - February 19, 2014



Nuclear physicist Erich Vogt was a distinguished researcher, a respected professor, a pioneer in his field and one of Canada's most gifted scientists. Erich received academic degrees at the University of Manitoba and Princeton University. From 1956 to 1965, he was on staff as a theoretical physicist

at the Chalk River Nuclear Laboratory, where he published a large number of papers on nuclear reactions and was heavily involved in the creation of the first CANDU reactors for Canada. In 1965, he became a professor at UBC, and was a founder and one of the pioneers behind the TRIUMF project - Canada's National Meson Sciences Research Facility located on the Point Grey campus. From 1975 until 1981, Erich served as Vice President, Faculty and Student Affairs, at UBC. In 1978, he was appointed as the first Chairman of the Science Council of British Columbia, a position he held until 1980. In 2006 he was appointed to the Order of British Columbia and in the same year received the UBC Faculty of Science Achievement Award for Teaching. Erich continued to teach first year physics until his 80th birthday in 2009, and in 45 years taught more than 5,000 students. He was president of the Canadian Association of Physicists from 1970-71, earning the 1988 CAP Medal for Achievement in Physics. In 1976 he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada. He received the Queen Elizabeth Silver Jubilee Medal in 1977, the Golden Jubilee Medal in 2002, and the Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012.

ANDREA MARIA JUNE TOTH, BEd'99



Born January 18, 1973, Andrea passed away in Newcastle upon Tyne, UK, on July 14, 2013, where she studied, lived and worked as a professional artist and educator at Newcastle University.

Metastatic breast cancer took her from us too early in her life. Andrea was born in Prince Rupert and moved with her family to Kamloops. She completed her high school education at Kamloops Senior Secondary in 1991 and was awarded scholarships for her excellence in art. She attended the University of Calgary and in 1995 obtained a BFA in painting and drawing. She travelled extensively in Europe and England, visiting many galleries. She was a substitute teacher, had her own Andrea Toth Arts business for teaching art and making and printing art cards, and was curator of the Vernon Art Gallery for two years. Andrea pursued her dream of furthering her art education and was awarded an MFA at Newcastle University in 2006. She lived and worked in Newcastle for nine years, where she excelled with her beautiful landscape paintings. She taught in first year Architecture and Fine Art departments at Newcastle University. Andrea was an inspiration and delight to all who met her. Andrea leaves to mourn her passing her parents, Geza, BSF'60, and Diane, BSR'65, of Vernon; her sister, Georgina Chipman, BSc(Pharm)'94, (Gord), BSF'93, DipForest Eng'01, and their three children, Stephen, Katie and Matthew. She is predeceased by grandparents "CD" Bill Osborn, BSc'33, and June Tryon Osborn, and Gyula and Maria Toth.

Please submit obituaries to trek.magazine@ubc.ca including "In Memoriam: first name, last name, class year" in the subject line, or mail to:

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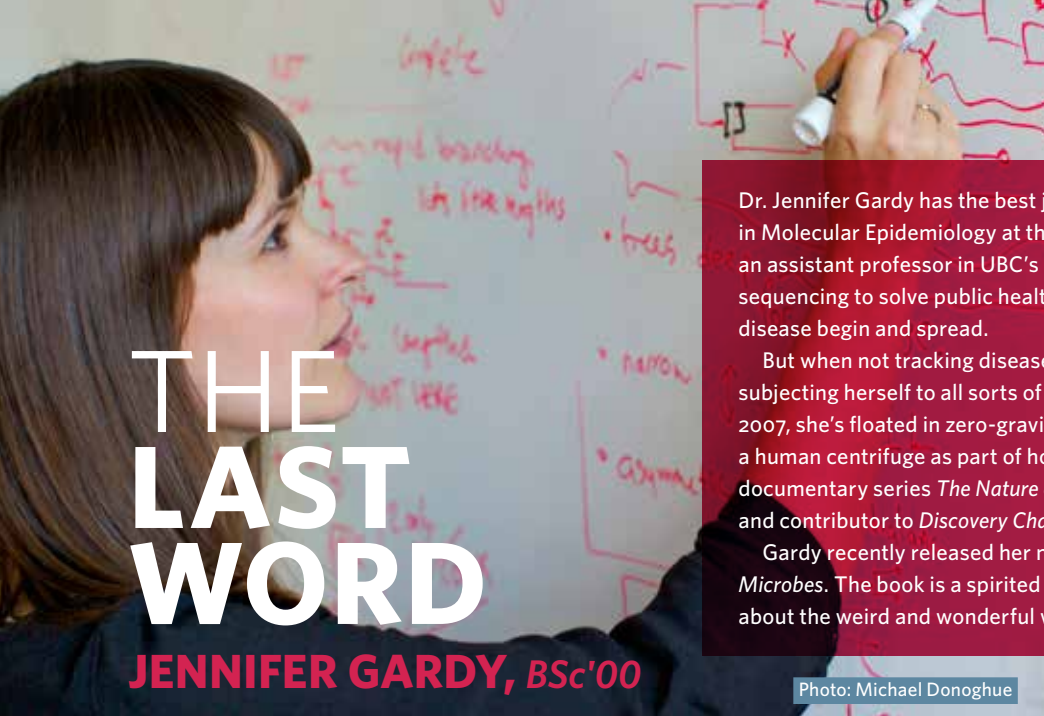
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THE LAST WORD

JENNIFER GARDY, BSc'00

Dr. Jennifer Gardy has the best jobs in the world. Most of the time she's a senior scientist in Molecular Epidemiology at the British Columbia Centre for Disease Control and an assistant professor in UBC's Faculty of Medicine, where her research uses DNA sequencing to solve public health problems, like figuring out how outbreaks of infectious disease begin and spread.

But when not tracking disease, Gardy works in science documentary television, subjecting herself to all sorts of indignities in the name of science communication. Since 2007, she's floated in zero-gravity, been dunked in ice-cold water, and spun around in a human centrifuge as part of hosting many episodes of CBC Television's long-running documentary series *The Nature of Things*, and since 2011 she's been a regular guest co-host and contributor to *Discovery Channel Canada's* nightly science news magazine *Daily Planet*.

Gardy recently released her new book, *It's Catching: The Infectious World of Germs and Microbes*. The book is a spirited romp through everything young readers need to know about the weird and wonderful world of microbes. Learn more at jennifergardy.com

Photo: Michael Donoghue

What is your most prized

possession? Is a cat a possession? Because I'm really awfully fond of mine. The night he hid under a junked-out van in the alley and wouldn't come out, rendering me inconsolable, was the night I realized I probably didn't have the stamina to parent an actual human child.

Who was your childhood hero?

I was a big fan of scientists - I had a set of kids books and some of the volumes talked about Louis Pasteur and Edward Jenner, and when I wasn't reading those I was watching Bob McDonald on *Wonderstruck* or Bill Nye the Science Guy in his earliest incarnation on Seattle's KING-TV show *Almost Live!*

Describe the place you most like to spend time. Airports, because it means you're either going on an adventure or returning from one to see your nearest and dearest.

What was the last thing you read?

For pleasure, *The Orenda*. For things-I-am-obligated-to-read-for-science, *Relaxed Phylogenetics and Dating with Confidence*, which I can assure you is not at all what it sounds like.

What or who makes you laugh

out loud? I might have an advanced degree and give off the appearance of an educated and erudite individual,

but I can't get enough cat videos from the Internet. It will be my downfall.

What's the most important lesson you ever learned? Life, and all the moments within it, is what you make it. Be proactive and bring a positive attitude to all that you do, and you'll make out all right.

What's your idea of the perfect day?

I think I just had it - flew from Vancouver to Hong Kong for a science trip, met the famous-on-the-internet cat Brother Cream, and ate a fresh spicy crab with my bare hands in the Temple Street Market.

What was your nickname at school?

I was one of a million Jennifers in school in the 80s, so it was probably something like Jennifer #6.

What would be the title of your biography? *Jennifer Gardy: Never Stop Talking*

If a genie granted you one wish, what would it be? I'm going to give this one to my science brethren - I wish for stable science funding here in Canada, and recognition of science's importance across all sectors of Canadians' lives.

What item have you owned for the longest time? In terms of things I actually still use on a regular basis, a copy of Laurie Garrett's 1994 book

The Coming Plague. It inspired my choice of career and I still consult its chapters 20 years later.

What is your latest purchase?

A pile of new wardrobe items for an upcoming *The Nature of Things* shoot. Turns out my usual attire of cat-hair-covered black stuff doesn't translate well on TV.

Whom do you most admire (living or dead) and why? I've had amazing scientific mentors - Fiona Brinkman, Bob Hancock, Bob Brunham, and Bonnie Henry - and if I could manage a tenth of their intelligence, grace, and wisdom in my daily interactions, I'd die happy.

What would you like your epitaph to say? She knew what it was to love.

If you could invent something, what would it be? Some kind of very powerful vacuum embedded in the baseboards of a house that, every day, would turn on and suck up all the pet hair from the floors. I should write to that Dyson guy...

In which era would you most like to have lived, and why? The future! As a woman in science I can't very well imagine being happy in the past, and I always wondered what our future would look like, from 100 years out to the last moment before the end of the universe.

What are you afraid of? Losing loved ones.

Name the skill or talent you would most like to have. The ability to complete my own taxes.

Which three pieces of music would you take to that desert island? Something by my husband; Brian Eno's *Ambient 1: Music for Airports*; and something that would become my coconut-picking theme song. Probably that Harry Nilsson number.

Which famous person (living or dead) do you think (or have you been told) you most resemble? Amelie. I had to grow my hair out after that film came out; the comparisons were getting a little too frequent.

What is your pet peeve? When individuals fail to consider the consequences of their actions for others, or act in a way that demonstrates they can't see perspectives other than their own. This is most obvious in Vancouver drivers.

What are some of your UBC highlights? Working at *The 432* (erstwhile satirical rag) and *The Ubysssey*, bZZr gardens and general mayhem on Fridays, destroying the elections commissioner's will to live with the constant hijinks of our Radical Beer Faction party - all things that probably aren't even close to permissible anymore. **T**

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