Taxidermy: Salute to nature or abominable parody? · 12

Can a broken leg be life-threatening? It can in Uganda · 22

An all-female bhangra team is breaking traditional barriers · 29

The archaeologist who digs rock and roll · 17
FEATURES

12 The Beastly Art of Taxidermy
A stuffed lion with wooden teeth survived a fire and inspired a doctoral thesis.

22 Broken Bones, Fractured Lives
Break a leg in Uganda, and you may lose your limb or even your life. UBC and a Ugandan medical school are trying to improve the prognosis.

26 Alumni Centre
You told us what you wanted from an alumni centre. We created an artistic interpretation of your ideas.

29 UBC Girlz
The world’s first all-female competitive bhangra team was born of a UBC student club.

32 Alumni Centre
You told us what you wanted from an alumni centre. We created an artistic interpretation of your ideas.

34 Conflicts of interest
A stuffing designer wants to use real tissue to create a taxidermy museum in Ghana.

36 Branches & Events
Alumni volunteers are helping students gain quality experiences and boost their career prospects.

37 Book Reviews
Artistic interpretation of your ideas.

54 The Last Word
The founder of UBC’s Opera Ensemble loves dogs, Mozart, and dogs.

58 Alumni Centre
You told us what you wanted from an alumni centre. We created an artistic interpretation of your ideas.

DEPARTMENTS

5 Take Note
UBC researchers explore the benefits of coffee, how to tell crocodile tears from genuine remorse, and the downsides of tourism.

11 Letters to the Editor
“What just don’t recognize the campus anymore.”

17 Academics and Avocations
David Pokoroy gave up a promising guitar career to pursue the mysteries of early human life.

26 Alumni Centre
You told us what you wanted from an alumni centre. We created an artistic interpretation of your ideas.

42 Featured Volunteers
Alumni volunteers are helping students gain quality experiences and boost their career prospects.

43 Supporting Local Initiatives
What an alumna learned while volunteering for a microfinance organization in Bolivia.

What the Trek?
Trek Magazine caption competition
Here’s another cartoon by Trek designer Karthik Laimins that needs an accompanying caption. Send your captions (one per person) to vanessa.clarke@ubc.ca, or to the address in the right-hand column, by May 31.

The winning caption for our fall 2010 caption contest was sent in by Dean Chacon, BSc’79, PhD: “I just don’t recognize the campus anymore.”

Dean joins the select few fortunate enough to own a UBC Alumni travel mug. Hint: Keep your captions succinct and snappy. Some of the latest entries that could have been contenders were great in concept but rambling in execution (you know who you are).
Back when I attended UBC as a grad student, I can say with absolute certainty that I did not attend one spectator sport game of any stripe, didn’t think of attending one, and wouldn’t have, even if there had been beer. Didn’t care, still don’t. Hockey, basketball, football: meh.

I didn’t think of attending one, and wouldn’t have, even if there had been certainty that I did not attend one spectator sport game of any stripe, Back when I attended UBC as a grad student, I can say with absolute certainty that those connections were where it was at, where all the real fun was, and what made it all worthwhile. Who knew? It’s not just varsity sports, of course. It’s the AMS, the Chac Club, the Great Wall Club, the Fencing Club, the Gilbert and Sullivan Society or any of the 300 other student clubs at UBC that build a broad camaraderie between and among students. They also provide adult-world experience in sporty camaraderie.

At one point we saw a clip of a team scoring a big point. men’s volleyball, we thought, thinking them just a little less smart, a little bit failures. Where do you find that in a close reading of lofty types thought, were wasting their time dribbling basketballs when they should have been investigating the great intellectual questions. Now, I realize too late that those connections were where it was at, where all the real fun was, and what made it all worthwhile. Who knew? It’s not just varsity sports, of course. It’s the AMS, the Chac Club, the Great Wall Club, the Fencing Club, the Gilbert and Sullivan Society or any of the 300 other student clubs at UBC that build a broad camaraderie between and among students. They also provide adult-world experience in competition, cooperation and bonding, and opportunities for the kind of intimacy that comes from sharing great hopes, great successes and great failures. Where do you find that in a close reading of Chromo Yellow? Those UBC alumni I’ve met over the years who have been the most enthusiastic, the most involved, the most willing to give their time and enthusiasm and sporty camaraderie. At the same time, I felt a little jealous, cheated, look out. I felt like the empty arts grad (which I am), who always looked down his nose at the jocks and the joiners, thinking them just a little less smart, a little bit desperate for peer approval, a little less independent. Those people, we lightheartedly thought, were wasting their time dribbling basketballs when they should have been investigating the great intellectual questions. Now, I realize too late that those connections were where it was at, where all the real fun was, and what made it all worthwhile. Who knew? It’s not just varsity sports, of course. It’s the AMS, the Chac Club, the Great Wall Club, the Fencing Club, the Gilbert and Sullivan Society or any of the 300 other student clubs at UBC that build a broad camaraderie between and among students. They also provide adult-world experience in competition, cooperation and bonding, and opportunities for the kind of intimacy that comes from sharing great hopes, great successes and great failures. Where do you find that in a close reading of Chromo Yellow?

The study found that because as much as one third of natural gas is not completely burned in two-stroke engines, high emissions of methane are produced. Natural gas use also produced substantial emissions of high particulate matter from unburned lubricating oil, which can appear as blue smoke. The study’s first to examine the pollutant emissions from small vehicle engines fueled with natural gas and included significant laboratory testing of Indian auto-rickshaws. Two-stroke engine auto-rickshaws are common in Asia and Africa and the study’s findings will be valuable in informing future policy aimed at improving public health.

“Clean fuels are being used in Indian cities for transportation when they could save many more lives if used for cooking,” says study co-author Professor Milind Kandlikar. “The use of natural gas, a known clean fuel. But a UBC study found that because as much as one third of natural gas is not completely burned in two-stroke engines, high emissions of methane are produced. Natural gas use also produced substantial emissions of high particulate matter from unburned lubricating oil, which can appear as blue smoke. The study’s first to examine the pollutant emissions from small vehicle engines fueled with natural gas and included significant laboratory testing of Indian auto-rickshaws. Two-stroke engine auto-rickshaws are common in Asia and Africa and the study’s findings will be valuable in informing future policy aimed at improving public health.”

The global tourism industry is changing small rural coastal communities in Morocco into resort destinations and along with that change, cautious Dillabough, is an affect on local traditions and cultural identity. “This practice shapes how local youth view their own cultural traditions and in many cases forces young people to refashion and market their ‘exotic’ identities in order to survive,” she says.

Dillabough wants to run a pilot program offering a mobile school to the children, to educate them about the negative aspects of global tourism, including sex trade and trafficking, and present them with the idea of other alternatives as they continue to help their families a living from tourism. “The purpose is to assist in presenting young people with wider political and cultural images of their employment, as well as providing them a landscape of possibilities that showcases multiple paths into the future.”
SARAH MORGAN-SILVESTER
Reappointed Chancellor of UBC
Sarah Morgan-Silvester, BCom’82, has been reappointed for a second three-year term as Chancellor of UBC. Morgan-Silvester was first appointed in April 2008; her next term will begin July 1, 2011 and run until June 30, 2014.

The Chancellor is the ceremonial head of the university. Morgan-Silvester will confer all degrees and will continue to serve on both Senate, responsible for the university’s academic governance, and the Board of Governors, responsible for managing the property, revenue and business affairs of the university.

As required by the University Act, the Chancellor is recommended by the UBC Alumni Association and members of the university’s Council of Senators. The UBC Board of Governors must approve the recommendation.

“Throughout her first term as Chancellor, Ms Morgan-Silvester has been committed to UBC and has brought fresh perspectives and ideas to the university,” said Alumni Association chair Miranda Lam, who headed the committee responsible for considering morgan-Silvester’s reappointment.

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“I’m REALLY Sorry, Honest!”
Romare is a factor that can influence the criminal justice system. If detected by a judge or parole board, it might lead to a more lenient sentence or early release. But how to tell if someone is remorseful?

“Obviously offenders are motivated to pretend to be remorseful and local decision makers are motivated to detect crooked tears,” says Leanne ten Brinke, a PhD-candidate who has studied the human face for revealing cues on both genuine remorse and the deceptive expression of remorse.

The work involved studying videotaped accounts of wrongdoings by 31 Canadian undergraduates – including their expression of remorse, or falsified remorse – and coding the facial behaviour associated with both. Researchers analyzed nearly 30,000 frames of the upper and lower face.

“We found that during falsified remorse, people showed a greater range of emotional expression,” says ten Brinke. “They were more likely to show anger and contempt, whereas the genuine folks didn’t show those kinds of emotions.”

The sequence of emotional expression was also key. “Particularly in the lower face, liars were much more likely to be with us as emotionally turbulent, jumping from positive to negative emotions immediately. During genuine remorse, people are much more likely to return to a neutral emotion in between the extremes,” says ten Brinke, who conducted the study with colleague Professor Paper and Brian O’Connor from the Centre for the Advancement of Psychology and Law at UBC’s Okanagan campus, along with Sarah MacDonald from Memorial University in St. John’s, Newfoundland.

New Light on Skin Cancer
Three UBC professors have developed a non-invasive detection device for skin cancer that uses a light ray to determine whether or not a lesion is malignant. David McLean, Harvey Lia and Hai Shang Zeng’s new method, known as optical biopsy, would allow health care workers to scan moles and detect cancer within seconds. A doctor would follow up on suspect lesions with a traditional biopsy. Preliminary clinical results on ten patients at Vancouver’s Skin Care Centre suggest the device is accurate in detecting melanoma, and early data show promise for its ability to detect basal cell and squamous cell carcinomas, and even precancerous lesions.

Canada’s Variente Technologies Inc. recently obtained the rights for the new device and is preparing it for mass production. Awaiting approval from Health Canada, the device could reduce loss of life and health costs through earlier detection, as well as shorten patient wait times and avoid unnecessary surgery.

Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer, affecting one in seven Canadians at some point during their lives. The device was developed and tested at the BC Cancer Agency. The technology may be adaptable to testing for other forms of cancer and trials are now underway for the detection of lung cancer.

Playing Games with Climate Change
Much of Delta, BC, is below sea level and the risk of flooding is a constant concern, especially in light of climate change.

A UBC team is developing an interactive 3D game simulation that will enable players to walk through their digitally recreated community and see how the day-to-day choices they make could impact their actual environment. It presents alternative climate scenarios that are focused on the flooding risks in Delta. The team hopes the game will persuade the people of Delta to make change for residents, clarify the complex scientific information surrounding it and generate action.

“The complexity of climate science provides an excellent testbed between researchers and the public that becomes a critical barrier for social change, policy-making and implementing climate action.” said lead researcher Alexandria Dulic, professor of interactive art and dynamic media at UBC’s Okanagan campus. “It’s important to find engaging, direct and innovative ways to communicate important information about our environment to the public.” Creating a realistic simulation of a neighbourhood requires a large amount of detailed information, from new sewer systems and community building blueprints to municipal service information, climate data, GPS maps and even air pressure data. The Delta project is a collaborative effort with music professor Keith Hamel and Stephen Sheppard, a forest recreation management professor based on UBC’s Vancouver campus.

Through multimedia expression and game play, the project goal is to move towards deeper awareness, wider community engagement and sense of urgency, reaching people that climate science often fails to reach, and providing clear choices for feasible action.

Although this project is specifically aimed at the community of Delta, the idea and technology can be applied to anywhere in the world. In fact, Dulic is looking at creating a 3D game simulation for BC’s Okanagan region, which is prone to drought, and is exploring the possibility of incorporating local indigenous knowledge about the land and environment into the game play.

“We find this kind of approach helps policy-makers and researchers communicate, or perhaps becomes a useful teaching tool in classrooms, then this research could have many implications,” says Dulic.

The Canadian cultural landscape has changed dramatically in the past two decades, and UBC has embraced that change enthusiastically. As a global research institution, UBC attracts the best students, faculty and staff from all social, economic and cultural realities. We have identified this fact in our institutional priorities (see: www.strategicplan.ubc.ca), in our curriculum and in the way we conduct our daily business. Traditionally, Canada has been referred to as a “cultural mosaic,” meaning that our cultural fabric is constructed from the many ethnicities that make up our population. While this metaphor had resonance in the mid- to late-20th century, it no longer expresses today’s reality.

“Culture” in 2011, is a complex, fluid concept that includes not just ethnicities, but a vast array of components including political perspective, religion, sexual preference, education, place of residence (urban, rural or suburban) and even one’s favourite hockey team. “Diversity” no longer just means making room for another person’s religion or ethnic experience; rather, it means understanding how our differences – in culture, beliefs, attitudes, modes of dress, personal styles, etc. – combine to make up our world, and learning to embrace these differences. The more one is able to make sense of - and participate in - a completely diverse society, the more successfully she or she will be in all aspects of life.

As a university that defines itself as a centre of new ideas, UBC is uniquely positioned to examine culture and how it works. Where better to investigate, together, the things that make us distinctive? Whether you wish to learn how to believe with new questions, or just want to have fun, this game is a great tool to learn to see the world in new ways.
Clean Energy Project Leads the Way

The ground has been broken for a major four-storey facility that will be the hub of a clean energy project aimed at dramatically reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

The project, which recently received new funding from the federal and provincial governments, is expected to generate enough power for 1,500 homes, and the reduction in emissions would be equivalent to removing 1,000 cars from the road. The Biomass Research and Demonstration Project also covers research and development into clean energy involving multiple UBC units.

Biomass fuel could include tree chips from municipal operations, fibre from pine trees killed by beetles, and clean sawmill waste. The system, which recently received new funding from the federal and provincial governments, is expected to generate enough power for 1,500 homes, and the reduction in emissions would be equivalent to removing 1,000 cars from the road. The Biomass Research and Demonstration Project also covers research and development into clean energy involving multiple UBC units.

Trek

Coffee, the Miracle Drug

Coffee can help stave off morning sluggishness, but did you know that this beneficial little bean might also stave off the aging process? Coffee contains powerful antioxidants that help remove free radicals, which have been associated with aging. And if you want to take advantage of them, new UBC research suggests medium roast coffee contains the most.

The researchers have helped explain the presence of the antioxidants, linking their production to the chemical processes (known as the Maillard reaction) that happen during roasting. "Previous studies suggested that antioxidants in coffee could be traced to caffeine or the chlorogenic acid found in green coffee beans, but our results clearly show that the major source of antioxidants is the main component, coffee. Says lead researcher "Yahui-Luo, an MSc student in the Faculty of Land and Food Systems. The research also demonstrated that the beneficial compounds start to break down with excessive roasting at high heat. The study’s co-author is Professor David Gitto.

Find or Post a Volunteer Opportunity on CareersOnline

UBC’s CareersOnline is an exclusive service for UBC alumni and students that lists volunteer positions as well as opportunities for paid work across a wide range of fields both on and off campus. Register for an account – a simple process – and you can peruse the latest postings, store versions of your resume, look up organizational profiles and keep tabs on multiple applications. Alumni are also invited to post their own work and volunteer opportunities. For example, Peace and Love International is a not-for-profit conceived and operated by a group of UBC alumni and professors. The group currently has projects in Haiti, South Africa and around the world and has used CareersOnline to post volunteer positions.

Many UBC departments have volunteering opportunities and Alumni Affairs is busy developing more. Alumni Weekend is coming up in May and positions will soon be posted.

As well, plenty of organizations in the local community would benefit from a little help, and UBC is happy to facilitate access to its talented alumni. The Alumni Centre – has been written by alumni.

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Graduation isn’t Goodbye

Miranda Lom, LLE’02, Chair; UBC Alumni Association

Most of us have attended at least one graduation ceremony – our own – so we know the magic of the moment. We have felt that strange mixture of relief at being finished at last, of anticipation about an exciting future to come, and of its cousin, anxiety: “Yeah! What do I do now?” Despite any uncertainty about the future, graduation marked the end of an era and a final farewell.

In years past, that walk across the stage was the last you would hear from UBC until a year or so later when someone from UBC would call you up to talk about the possibility of a gift. You will still get that call, which many of us respond to with pleasure (though admittedly, it is not always welcomed). But what is different is the communications you receive from the Alumni Association after graduation about the events and programs we have developed to keep you in touch with each other and with the intellectual riches of UBC. What used to be “goodbye” is now an invitation to stay involved, connected and engaged – with no strings attached.

In my last column in this magazine, I asked, “Why wouldn’t you want to stay connected to an institution that was such an influential part of your life?” I then set out some of the great opportunities for engagement that we provide.

Now, I’d like to tell you why we want you to stay involved. As alumni, we are responsible for both the legacy and the future of the university. The most consistent voice of the university over the years has come from its graduates. Our history – from the Great Trek in 1922 and the “Back Mac” campaign in 1964 to the current development of University Town and the planned building of our Alumni Centre – has been written by alumni.

As your Chair, hearing your stories of positive change and connection has certainly been one of the most rewarding aspects of this role. This will be my final column in Trek as my term expires in September so I thank you sincerely for sharing your inspirational stories with me.

In 2013, we will open the new Alumni Centre at the heart of campus. It will be a place where you can make those connections and continue your relationship with UBC. Graduation no longer means “goodbye.” Come home to the Alumni Association and the Alumni Centre and get started at UBC all over again. Indeed, the world is waiting for you.

Your Alumni Appointed to BC Cabinet

Four UBC alumni were appointed to the BC government’s cabinet in March by new BC Premier Christy Clark:

- Naomi Yamamoto (BA in Film and TV Studies, 1982): Minister of Advanced Education
- Don McCrae (BA in International Relations, 1995; BEd in Social Studies, 1995): Minister of Children and Family Development
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When I joined the Alumni Association in September of last year, I did not think of the concept of excitement and anticipation. UBC is highly respected in the Pacific Northwest (my previous post was at Oregon State University), across Canada and around the world. My family, too, was excited at the prospect of living in this vibrant province. But the deciding factor for me in accepting the position was the opportunity to return to my alma mater and to be around people who can connect me to my alma mater. The university appeared to be very impressive with the developments since I was a student. The university seemed to be doing things that are stirring the imagination of those of us who are interested in the future of higher education. It seems to be a place where people can have a great experience and where they can learn about what a great experience you had. You offered a play in town and notice one of the lead actors is a student at UBC. You decide the doctor you see will be at Freddy Wood. Or you see in the newspaper that a UBC researcher has discovered a missing piece of the puzzle in the cancer puzzle and you talk a friend to find out more about this. But the person I really look up to is Janet Berryman. I’ll never forget your generosity. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to chase my dreams.

Why We’re Here

Jeff Todd, Executive Director, Alumni Association, IVP Alumni

Jordan Chan

Support thinking that can change the world.

To create your lasting legacy through UBC, call 604.822.5773 or visit www.supportingubc.ca.

LETTERS

Young alumni prefers print
I’ve spent 20 years in publishing and, though I grew up alongside the internet, I know that an email announcement heralding the latest digital Trek Magazine will most likely be left unopened among the other detritus in my e-mail inbox, the hyperlinks unfollowed. The host part of reading any “dead tree” material is that it is separate from the torrent of information I receive on a daily basis, and I can leave it to sit at my bedside until I can read it or turn it on at my times of my choosing. I enjoy receiving and reading Trek, and I’m sure I’ll miss out on some great articles in your new digital format. Keep up the good work.

Stephan LeRoy, B.A.Sc., M.E.

Multi-alumni prefers print
I get alumni magazines from UBC, Ut T and Concordia, where I teach. We get Trek Magazine via my wife’s PhD work there. Trek is consistently the best of the four. I think your editorial content, variety, readability and design trump the others. I always take the time to peruse, sit down, flip through, read something, muse about something, then set it down and come back to it. It doesn’t just get fired in the recycling bin and I don’t, or I sometimes do with the others, think “what a waste of paper.” I’ve also made use of your books by alumni pages and plan to send a copy of a novel shortly. So in that, I view your magazine as a venue worth trying to place your own undertakings in. If you and Concordia are on the go sending email newsletters, I don’t look at them carelessly. The Concordia one strikes me straightforwardly and I plan to send along my own email. What will happen to that “curl up on the sofa with a latte and read” ethos in a book or magazine” feeling that some of us crave. You can always put a book down and then just pick it up again later – not so easy on the email unless it is attached (literally) to one’s hip! I don’t usually send along my thoughts but felt the need to let you know what I think. Reading is so close to my heart. I teach kindergarten and some of my students are excited to be learning to read real books! I want to keep it real for them and me as possible! P.S. I attended UBC for one year to take my B.A. and thought it was a fantastic place to learn. And read!

Devon Cudemith, B.A.Sc.

“Will what happen to that ‘curl up on the sofa with a latte or tea and immerse oneself in a book or magazine’ feeling that some of us crave?”

Teresa Goff

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dESCRIPTIoN 1/3 Ad for Trek Magazine

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Alumni Association Board of Directors Nominations are now open and will close at 4:30 pm on May 11, 2011. For more information please visit the website: www.ubc.ca/alumni/nominations
In 1960, almost the entire taxidermy collection of the Saffron Walden Museum in England was destroyed, on purpose, by fire. No photographs exist from the bonfires, but the picture is clear enough. A disorderly mountain of stiffened lion cubs, lemmings, civet cats and barking deer. A smouldering llama, a black tailed wallaby, a polar bear - more than two hundred Victorian stuffed beasts had been discarded as refuse. No museum would ever dream of burning its unpopular cultural artefacts, but those century-old pieces of nature had been heaped on top of each other and set ablaze.

I first heard about the bonfires in the spring of 2005, when I spent several weeks in England visiting family. I had recently finished my PhD at UBC in comparative literature and just wanted to see relatives, go for walks - anything but think about what was next. When I visited a little museum in the countryside, I never could have guessed that a lion with wooden teeth named Wallace, the first lion to be born in Great Britain (in 1812) and one of the few survivors of Saffron Walden’s bonfires, would determine the next six years of my work. 

Opened in 1834, the Saffron Walden Museum is the second-oldest purpose-built museum in England. Throughout the 19th century, like so many Victorian museums, it collected and exhibited a random assortment of specimens: mummies, Roman coins, Anglo-Saxon swords, a motley array of stuffed beasts. The artefacts are still on display, mostly labelled and arranged behind glass. But with the exception of Wallace and a few birds, every once-living creature had been destroyed.

The story goes like this. In 1960, a young curator with a nerve to moderate wrote a persuasive report to the Saffron Walden District Council. It was time to sluice out the museum’s taxidermy, which she viewed as musty relics from a less enlightened era. In an age before colour photography and wildlife documentaries, taxidermy had been the cutting-edge technology for showcasing the fauna of distant lands. But those days were long gone. She argued that television and now gave children a better idea of nature; taxidermy had become crassly old fashioned. Plus, 19th century taxidermy was shabby; no doubt more than a few hides were cracked with age and sprouting straw. And so, having convinced the council that the museum’s taxidermy was a nostalgic embarrassment, the vigorous young curator hauled the antique beasts to the city dump and lit a match. The bonfires lasted three days.

The event seemed so extraordinary. I couldn’t stop thinking about it. Why had these animals been burnt? It seemed like a crime against nature, but maybe taxidermy deserved to be burnt. I visited family. I ate sandwiches. I went for walks across the astonishingly beautiful Suffolk countryside, and I thought about it. What was taxidermy anyway? And why would anyone want such strange animal-things to exist? When I returned home, my former supervisor urged me to apply for a post-doctoral scholarship, and so I did. I settled on the title Taxidermy and Longing. My adventures with taxidermy had begun.

What is taxidermy? Basically put, taxidermy is an animal’s skin (all flesh and bones removed) mounted over an anatomically perfect sculpture, positioned into a lively posture, and adorned with two glass eyes. In other words, taxidermy isn’t merely a representation of an animal. It is the animal, but blurred with human longing to perpetuate its form. Taxidermy is hardly a swift practice. It takes patience, skill, time and exacting labour, all of which depend on an intense desire to keep particular creatures immortally whole.

When most people think of taxidermy, they think of hunting trophies. But taxidermy is a far more nuanced practice than just trophies and conquests. Mounted over an anatomically perfect sculpture, positioned into a lively posture, and adorned with two glass eyes. In other words, taxidermy isn’t merely a representation of an animal. It is the animal, but blurred with human longing to perpetuate its form. Taxidermy is hardly a swift practice. It takes patience, skill, time and exacting labour, all of which depend on an intense desire to keep particular creatures immortally whole.

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While I never advocate the making of new taxidermy, I believe that taxidermied animals can be reinterpreted as not just something to look at, but something to think with.
A United Approach to Biodiversity

The UBC Botanical Garden and Centre for Plant Food Systems to the Faculty of Science. This move takes advantage of natural synergies in the sciences, while allowing the Botanical Garden and Beaty Museum of Biodiversity to form stronger ties.

UBC Botanical Garden is Canada’s oldest continuously operated university-based botanical garden. Its collection of roughly 125,000 accessioned plants representing some 6,000 taxa will complement the Beaty Museum’s collections of two million preserved plants, animals, and fungi providing students, faculty and the community access to a curated site to study the myriad aspects of biodiversity. The Museum’s Herbarium of 600,000 specimens was begun by the Garden’s first director, John Davidson, around 1916.

While the Museum and Garden will have a common report to a new directorship, each institution maintains its distinct identity, organizational structure and advisory/scientific committees. They will make use of each other’s strengths to enhance their joint mission in biodiversity research and education. The Museum represents a world-class group of biodiversity researchers at UBC, and the Garden a decades-long experience in public outreach. Together they will communicate knowledge and passion for biodiversity to the public in new and exciting ways.

Curious by nature? Explore the Beaty Museum of Biodiversity’s stunning displays of birds, insects, fish, fossils, plants, shells and more. Enjoy hands-on activities and films for all ages. Open Wednesday through Sunday, 11:00am to 5:00pm. Tours daily. www.beatymuseum.ubc.ca. 604.827.4955

Visitors to the UBC Botanical Garden can expect a learning experience rich with interesting plants and informative signs. Spring hours: weekdays, 9:30am – 5:00pm; weekends 9:30am – 5:00pm. www.ubcbotanicalgarden.org. 604.822.4529
This is the first real extension of your body,” Pokotylo says. “You can do things with stone tools you couldn’t do with your feet, your teeth, your fingers. They extend your body dramatically.” These new skills may have allowed Homo-sapiens to move out of prime areas like the Rift Valley into higher elevations, and eventually towards Europe and Asia. In northern China, flakestone technologies persisted into the early Bronze Age, with stone tools being used alongside more efficient and complex bronze tools. Pokotylo and his colleagues are working in AnYang, an important city from the Shang Dynasty, and nearby sites where the two technologies overlap, offering unique insight into the value of stone tools in a changing society. Closer to home, in the Interior Plateau region of western North America, stone tools were used until very recently. Portable, durable and replaceable, these tools provide evidence of other social changes, like seasonal movement among camps, settlement of higher elevations and increased plant-harvesting. Having an academic foot on several continents allows Pokotylo to make broader comparisons. The sites correspond to very different time periods, but the basic technology persists. “Whatever they’re doing with these things, they worked incredibly well for over a million years,” he says. “Something’s going on there that makes this a very flexible technology.” In hammer in that point, Pokotylo teaches his students to use a flake stone tool. A small linear flake of obsidian, known as a microblade, can have edges close to one molecule in thickness. Under high magnification, these blades are thinner, straighter, and sharper than a stainless steel scalpel. Pokotylo’s operation was filmed and featured on an episode of CBC’s Doctor Doctor, and he found the subsequent healing time phenomenally fast. Pokotylo points out that creating such tools is a lost art and produces cutting edges that cannot be duplicated with modern tools (apart, possibly, from lasers). He tries to ensure that students have a healthy appreciation for how well this technology works.

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“The guess Who. Early success had a disruptive effect on Pokotylo’s first year of university; he spent more time playing gigs than going to class. Eventually, he had to face the decision to play music or go to school. A surprisingly good mark in anthropology, combined with a lucky placement in an archeology field school, helped Pokotylo find his direction. He made a clean break and removed the temptation to play music by selling all his equipment, including a 1959 Les Paul guitar (now worth about $275,000). But throughout his early academic career he never stopped listening to music, and nurtured a plan to return to playing it, this time for sheer pleasure. The opportunity arose when he taught his daughter to play guitar and he eventually found his way back into the music scene. He has been playing with the same group of people for nearly a decade, rehearsing and performing a wide repertoire of rock songs from the ‘60s to the ‘80s. It’s a comfortable fit and provides a welcome diversion from work pressure, with weekly practices and occasional gigs. They play at various venues including fundraisers, bars and corporate events. In addition, Pokotylo spent over a year playing in a Neil Young tribute band, but the intensive performance schedule was very demanding and hard to sustain for a busy academic. He’s moved on to a new project playing a blend of country and rock, describing it as “rock and roll with a twang.”

Pokotylo has since made up for losing all his original equipment. He plays a variety of guitars and has learned how to restore classic amplifiers from the ‘60s and ‘70s. His jet-setting fieldwork schedule allows him to track down elusive vacuum tubes from electronics repair shops in remote places. Never a mere dabbler, Pokotylo has mastered the necessary electronics from the ground up power supplies, transformers, capacitors and circuits. He happily desciphers old schematics and wields a mean soldering iron. After a long hiatus, Pokotylo was glad to be making music again. “I love to play and that’s all there is to it.”

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Filling in the Gaps

Jerry Lecovin was called to the Bar in 1958. While most of his peers started their law careers, Jerry headed off to tour the world for well over a year, beginning in England and then visiting a long line of destinations that included Finland, Russia, Turkey, India, China and Japan.

Returning to Vancouver, Jerry started working as an assistant prosecutor. He launched his own law practice a few years later and began focusing on family law, an area that became his specialty. He was honoured for his contributions in 2000 by being appointed as Queen’s Counsel. Although now semi-retired, he remains very active in his profession. He continues to present cases in court and to travel extensively.

“One of the things I came to appreciate the more I travelled was that there were gaps in my education,” he says. “I had taken very specialized courses in my university days and hadn’t had much exposure to the liberal arts: reading the masters, studying great works of art, or learning about the history of the institutions. They share their expertise on a wide range of subjects, from literature and music to psychology and politics. I’ve taken a variety of topics over the years and enjoy those eureka moments when I learn a new fact or discover an old truth.”

Jerry complements attendance at these lectures with regular visits to the symphony, opera and theatre. While it’s anyone’s guess where his travels will take him next, it’s a safe bet you’ll find him at ubC this summer, rounding out his knowledge alongside other avid learners.

From Pole to Pole:
Writing her way around the world

After completing her degree, Lee Treloar began a fulfilling career as a teacher that would take her from Vancouver to Australia and back again. Fast forward to 2011 and now she enjoys life as a teacher of a different sort. These days she’s a travel journalist and photographer who crafts her stories while visiting remote polar destinations and shares her experiences through multimedia lectures and presentations once she gets home.

Lee Treloar
BED’70

Lee has travelled quite literally to the ends of the earth: from the extreme north of Greenland to the Ross Sea of Antarctica. Says Lee: “I have been extremely privileged to have seen some of the most pristine places on the globe. I feel I have a huge responsibility as a steward and messenger for the polar regions, which are in a state of high peril. Through photography, I can capture images of rapidly changing ecosystems. Through writing, I hope to influence and encourage others to make changes that can make a difference.”

Lee launched her writing career after returning to her alma mater several years ago to take two ubC Continuing Studies courses on freelance journalism with instructor Jennifer Van Eura. “The courses gave me a road map to the writing industry: who to get in touch with, how to approach an editor, how to make a query stand out. Jennifer showed me that the long and sometimes lonely path to publishing was not only navigable, but that the journey could be enjoyable.”

Encouraged by her continuing education experiences at ubC, Lee put what she learned to good use. Her work has been featured in The Vancouver Sun, The Globe and Mail and Conde Nast’s Cameraworld magazine. She also holds the honour of Member International in The Explorers Club of New York. What comes next for someone who has circumnavigated the Arctic and completed five expeditions to the Antarctica? With more icy adventures sure to lie ahead, Lee plans to continue expanding her library of stories and images in her quest to capture the magic of the poles.

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Broken Bones, Fractured Lives

Break a leg in Canada, and you will probably receive immediate medical attention and perhaps some paid time off work to recover. Break a leg in Uganda, and you may lose your limb, your livelihood or even your life. A collaboration between UBC and an Ugandan medical school is attempting to address the complex problems behind this disparity in health outcomes.

Text and photos by Bonnie Allen

On the casualty ward at Uganda’s largest hospital, patients with fractured legs and open wounds are pressed up against one another, each fighting for space on a few hospital cots. A man lies naked on a blood-soaked foam mattress on the floor. The rancid smell of urine, blood and decay—old sweat mixed with bleach—wafts through the air. Patients must bring their own pillows and blankets and rely on family members to deliver food. They don’t know how long they’ll be here, but it’s likely weeks or months before treatment is often delayed and ad hoc.

In a far corner of the hospital, Piotr Blachut, an orthopaedic trauma surgeon from Vancouver, prepares for emergency surgery in what feels like a scene from M*A*S*H. There’s no running water, a shortage of blood and limited drugs. His unconscious patient, 10-year-old Gorritte Namaganda, has a broken thighbone and has lost a lot of blood from a splintered shinbone that’s jutting out of her skin.

“It can’t wait,” says Blachut, with that calm, matter-of-fact confidence that one wants in a person holding a scalpel. “That kind of injury can be life-threatening.”

Namaganda, a university student, was knocked off a speeding motorcycle taxi. She is one of many victims who collectively amount to a dismal ranking: Uganda has one of the worst road accident rates in the world. If neglected, Namaganda’s multiple broken bones and open wounds could result in deadly infection, amputation or life-long disability.

Unfortunately, trauma injuries are often neglected in Uganda’s overcrowded national referral centre, Mulago Hospital. Patients with broken bones requiring surgery are more often given cardboard splints.

As Namaganda clings to life on the operating table, she can count herself lucky to have landed in the hands of Blachut while he’s on a teaching trip to Uganda. A trauma surgeon at Vancouver General Hospital, Blachut is also a clinical professor for the UBC Orthopaedics Department (the same department where he did his residency 25 years ago). In 2007, Blachut and Peter O’Brien, head of UBC’s orthopaedic trauma division, visited Uganda to investigate the emerging health crisis of neglected trauma injuries. Shortly after, they started a partnership between UBC and Uganda’s medical school, Makerere University, and teaching hospital. It’s called the Uganda Sustainable Trauma Program (USTOP) and it recruits specialists from Vancouver to train staff in the developing country, fundraises for equipment and lobbies Ugandan health officials for more resources.

Now on his fourth trip to Uganda, Blachut is leading a 12-member team from VGH. These surgeons, anesthesiologists, nurses and technicians have volunteered their time and paid for their own flights in order to provide the training that will enable Ugandan hospital staff and medical students to speed up the surgical process and improve patient care.

The emergency surgery on Namaganda’s broken femur and tibia is a case in point: “In Canada, you would normally treat it within 24 hours. Here, that treatment takes, on average, 35 days,” says Blachut, who is dressed in blue scrubs. His surgical cap sports a Canadian maple leaf.

The hospital’s head orthopaedic surgeon, Patrick Sekimpi, has a laundry list of reasons why the treatment takes so long, but it boils down to a lack of trained staff, equipment and money. Uganda’s health budget and international donor money is largely consumed by HIV and AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis. Sekimpi sometimes cancels surgeries because he can’t find gauze or rubber gloves, and his patients are forced to wait. “Sometimes the backlog extends and someone stays for a month or six weeks waiting for a surgery,” he says.

Uganda, dubbed the “Pearl of Africa” by Winston Churchill, is still recovering from two decades of turmoil under the oppressive regimes of Idi Amin and Milton Obote, as well as lingering hostilities in northern Uganda by the Lord’s Resistance Army. Since 1986, the country has maintained relative peace, strengthened its economy and slowly rebuilt its services. However, its population, now 32 million, has grown faster than its infrastructure, causing chaos on roads now jammed with tuk-tuks, mini-busses and motorcycle taxis that carry three passengers at a time and recklessly speed over goat-trail roads. Each day, on average, six people die in road accidents and 20 people suffer traumatic injuries. The accident victims who are waiting for surgery are often breadwinners and a prolonged hospital stay has a snowball effect, plunging their families into deeper poverty.

Fifty-year-old Amen Kanaala, a tailor and father of 10, lies on a bed with his scraped leg in traction, his unclipped toe nails curling over at the ends, his dry skin peeling off. At VGH he would have had a rod inserted in his broken leg within eight hours, then been released from hospital on crutches within three to five days. He’s been laid up in Mulago Hospital for two and a half weeks, with surgery scheduled within two days. His family comes from a remote village. “When we bring our son to the hospital, our family is broken,” he says.

This list of reasons why the treatment takes so long is never-ending. The hospital’s operating theatre is often occupied by the urgent medical cases of one of many victims who collectively amount to a dismal ranking: Uganda has one of the worst road accident rates in the world. If neglected, Namaganda’s multiple broken bones and open wounds could result in deadly infection, amputation or life-long disability.

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a half months. When asked how his children are getting fed, he replies, “God only knows.”

That, says Blachut, inspires him to keep working in Uganda. USTOp tries to be more than a short term medical mission that simply parachutes specialists into Uganda on a surgery spree. The goal is to teach local surgeons, medical students, nurses and administrators how to streamline the hospital system. “We realize how, with a system, you could dramatically change so many lives, so you continue trying to help,” he says.

In the operating room, Namaganda has been sedated for surgery but the correct metal clamps and tools aren’t there. Then comes more post-operative handling of patients. “It’s difficult when you come once a year. It’s a long time span between visits, and so a lot of things you institute fall by the wayside,” says Hamed Umudaly, another clinical professor from UBC, who feels the frustrations, but keeps returning to Uganda for personal reasons.

Umudaly was born in Uganda, then forced to flee to Canada with his family at the age of 12 when Idi Amin expelled all Asians from the country, accusing them of hoarding wealth. Umudaly eventually graduated from medical school in 1986. More than three decades after he left, the anesthesiology department of UBC’s anesthesia department has expanded their relationship to include some seven areas: obstetrics, plastic surgery, anesthesia, pediatrics, orthopaedic trauma, club foot care, and ears, nose and throat.

For Umudaly, these trips to Uganda are an opportunity to help a country he once called home, and practice old-school medicine. “They use their hands-on skills, finger on the pulse,” he says. “That’s impressive because it’s a bit of a lost art in our system. We depend a lot on technology.” Blachut goes back to VGIs trauma unit with a new appreciation for his well-lit, fully-stocked, state-of-the-art surgical theatres. Then, he vows to return to Uganda. “When you come back from here, you realize how well off we are,” he says. “It’s almost obscene to see the excesses in our system. So you say, we have some responsibility to give back. So that’s why you do it.”

For Sekimpi, a dedicated and talented surgeon, is considering reducing his surgery time because he earns just $750 a month and feels frustrated every day by the poor working conditions. “Here, people have lost the motivation to come to work,” he says. For that, the USTOp crew can only give encouraging words and a pat on the back to demoralized staff. But, says Sekimpi, it helps. “They’re bringing atitude change about ethics of work.”

Back in the operating room, Blachut finally has everything he needs to insert a rod into Namaganda’s broken femur. When all goes well, the Canadian team can reduce the average hospital stay for a patient down to two days. And all does go well for Namaganda, who hobblies out of the hospital a few days after surgery to recover at home.

But shortly after the USTOp crew leaves Uganda, the backlog of surgical patients begins to build up again and it makes Blachut question whether he’s achieving sustainable change. “It’s difficult when you come once a year. It’s a long time span between visits, and so a lot of things you institute fall by the wayside.”

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- Aarondrop Bain

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The Senates are the academic governing bodies of the University and are responsible for academic policy, admissions, curriculum, and related matters. They also serve as adjudication bodies for disputes on discipline or academic standing.

Convocation Senators serve on a volunteer basis. Reasonable travel costs are reimbursed within British Columbia.

For more information, visit: students.ubc.ca/elections
e-mail: elections.information@ubc.ca or
call: 604-822-9952

Nominations are due by 4 pm on 6 May 2011.

James Ridge
Secretary to the Convocation

On a November afternoon, soon after the sun has left the Roundhouse Exhibition Hall in darkness, a cross-section of Vancouver’s ethnic communities stands cozy-to-capacity watching a fusion of Japanese and Punjabi drummers. Back stage, a group of young women draped in jewellery and dressed in bright purple and turquoise – head scarves, vests and long skirts embroidered with gold – prepare to perform by bouncing up and down for five full minutes. The UBC Girlz dance team is here to celebrate Diwali, the festival of lights.

In the South Asian community, locally and internationally, everyone knows the UBC Girlz. Since 2000, when they split off from the UBC Bhangra Club to form the world’s first all-female competitive bhangra team, the UBC Girlz have performed at the Juno Awards in 2009, Vancouver’s 2010 Olympic Games, the Penn Museum in Philadelphia, as well as the Lincoln Center and Symphony Space venue, both in New York City. With each performance, they have taken bhangra beyond its more traditional borders creating a cultural identity grounded in their own reality.

Bhangra is a Punjabi folk dance of joy and celebration traditionally performed by farmers during Baisakhi, a festival that marks the arrival of the spring harvest. While its roots are thought to date back to the 13th century, some researchers argue that the dance went through a significant change after the Punjab was split between India and Pakistan in 1947. The new Indian government promoted it as the representative dance of the Punjab and from that point, it is argued, bhangra became an amalgamation of many other traditional dances – jhummar, luddi, dhamal – absorbing some of their characteristics and specific moves. Whether or not today’s version can be considered centuries old or only decades old, bhangra has always been a vibrant fusion of dance, music and song. It is the expressive, energetic dance movements and the heart-pounding beat of the dhol (a large barrel-shaped...
THE TEAM REHEARS AT THE ARIE CROWN THEATER IN CHICAGO FOR THE 2007 ANNUAL BEST OF THE BEST INDIAN DANCE COMPETITION.

says girn. Artists like Alaap and Apna Sangeet in relation to new styles and influences. “it starts in the agrarian roots in the eastern part of pakistan, and the Punjab in northern India; across the ocean to the United Kingdom, the United States and Canada, bhangra music has changed in relation to new styles and influences. “It started in the United Kingdom in the ’70s with people from Southall mixing it with rock and disco,” says girn. Artists like Alap and Apna Sangat fused new styles with old to create a new cultural identity. Lyrics that were once about looking for a lover in the fields of the Punjab were transposed and the same search took place in the same language but now in places like Soho Road in Birmingham. An estimated 300,000 cassettes per week were sold in the UK during the ’70s. From there the recorded music went to India then to Britain Columbia where bhangra became part of everyday celebrations like birthday parties, weddings and anniversaries.

“My first bhangra experience was with my dad and my brothers, all aviation in the basement of our Richmond house,” says Mandeep Patrola, one of the founding members of the UBC Girlz. “We would press stop and rewind and dance to our favourite Punjabi songs.” Since the ’70s, musical platforms have continued to shift. With the walkman and now the iPod, bhangra has become de-contextualized and re-contextualized. By plugging bhangra directly into your ears, the music, once a celebration of farmers in a field, can be a private party in an urban landscape thousands of kilometres from where the seeds of the songs were sown. Bhangra continues to be remixed with musical influences from hip hop to house and reggae to ragga. And technological innovations – like the recent Pocket Bhangra iPhone app, created by a Vancouver developer – allow users to create their own bhangra songs by looping pre-recorded beats. This re-imagining of bhangra within a different context has created spaces for new ideas.

Bhangra may have been transformed as a musical genre but as a dance, it has certain elements which many consider authentic. One of these is the gender of the performers. “This idea that women should be able to do bhangra is unique to Vancouver,” says Girn, who claims that Vancouver still boasts the largest number of female bhangra performers worldwide. In Vancouver women and men have been performing bhangra together since the mid-’70s. The Surrey India Arts Club, which took bhangra to stage at the 1976 Montreal Olympics as well as Expo 86, celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2005 by conducting a Girls Bhangra Survey. Of the 44 participants surveyed, an even split between male and female, 75 per cent believed that girls should be able to do bhangra. When asked what is wrong with girls doing bhangra, 45 per cent said that “bhangra is a male and girls can’t do it together,” 29 per cent said that “judges don’t like girls doing bhangra”.

Bhangra competitions, which were started in India as a way to patronize bhangra as the authentic Punjab dance form, continue in major urban centres across the United States. These inter-collegiate competitions have specific guidelines including an eight-minute time limit, and an integration of traditional and innovative dance moves. Many moves, such as squatting or slapping the inner thigh, are not considered feminine, according to some judges and some members of the South Asian community. “We would go to competitions and be told that we shouldn’t be doing bhangra,” says Patrola, the team’s spokesperson. “Making bhangra a female dance became their mission.”

“We actually entered the competition circuit not knowing we were the first all-girls team to compete,” says Kiran Mander, another founding team member, who remembers the Los Angeles Bruin Bhangra competition in 2002 as “a humbling moment.” Ten years later, there are many all-girls teams competing and dancing worldwide, but until the UBC Girlz showed up, inter-collegiate teams had been all-male or co-ed, with 12 to 16 members performing multiple stunts. At the Bruin Bhangra competition, the UBC Girlz only had eight members and one stunt: the pair of girls that stand in the middle with another person sitting on their shoulders and another in front with legs wrapped around the central person’s waist. While bhangra has always included stunts, in the U.S. it is heavily influenced by cheerleading culture. People make human chandeliers, human hydraulic and human skipping ropes. Girn recalls a performance in which an all-male team got down on stage in the middle of their performance and did push-ups. Each display illustrates the strength of the performers. “We do so many squats and low moves,” says Mander, her chest still heaving from the eight-minutes on stage at the Roundhouse. “You can feel it burn.” The physical endurance required to dance bhangra reflects the UBC Girlz’s ideological fight.

In many ways, the UBC Girlz have won. Within two years of that first competition in LA, they placed first at Bhangra Blast in Boston. That same year, the UBC Girlz took second place at Bruin Bhangra; in 2007 they secured second place at Bruin Bhangra but took first at the prestigious Vancouver International Bhangra competition. In between is a long list of firsts, seconds and thirds. Following their performance at the Vancouver Olympics, they went to New York to participate in Engendered, a transnational human rights and gender rights festival exploring dance as an anachronistic suspension of modernity that, according to the festival’s executive director Myna Makhijee, “preserves, reworks and re-appropriates forms of gender and sexuality.”

This year, the UBC Girlz changed their name to BC Girlz. The original moniker has served its purpose. The participants, a rotating roster that has had so much turnover since the team’s inception in 2001, have moved into the workforce or onto graduate studies and the team is no longer competing at college events. But they are still performing. Most recently they were invited to audition for TV’s America’s Got Talent. All because of their YouTube site, which is still called UBC Girlz.

Teresa Goff is a freelance writer and radio producer.

Arme Murphy is an assistant professor and chair of Punjabi Language, Literature and Sikh Studies at UBC. As part of the Museum of Vancouver’s (MVG) exhibition, students in her PUNJ 300 class are doing an oral histories project that involves interviewing members of the Punjabi community about their involvement in bhangra. The interviews will be part of an interactive map that layers people’s memories of bhangra onto the city itself. This map will include Flickr feeds, mapped out on the walls. Newly submitted images will be continuously updated and presented as a slideshow.

The Bhangra Me Exhibit, a collaboration between the Museum of Vancouver and the Vancouver International Bhangra Celebration, runs from May through October 2011. The sixth annual Vancouver International Bhangra Celebration will take place May 4-14, with the Opening Reception at the Museum of Vancouver on May 4 at 6:00pm.
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Doreen Margetts made me who I am today. I used to work in the technology sector, but Mrs. Margetts’ gift allowed me to follow my love of animals. I was accepted to the UBC Animal Welfare Program — a program partly funded by her estate. This allowed me to pursue a career that improves the welfare of all animals: domestic, farm, and wild. Now I’m the Director of Farm Animal Programs for the Vancouver Humane Society. My degree gives me the credibility I need to be effective in my work. And I owe it all to a woman I’ve never met. Mrs. Margetts, I never knew you but I’ll always be grateful to you. You’ve inspired me to leave my own gift to benefit the UBC Animal Welfare Program. Thank you.

- Leanne McConnachie

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We have the doctors behind the doctor treating your heart disease.

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www.aplaceofmind.ubc.ca/health
1961 Law Grads Reunion

Patrick Dohm and Thomas Hara are organizing a 50th anniversary class reunion for the Law Class of ’61 and request their classmates to contact them at bjdohm@telus.net (Patrick) or tomhara@shaw.ca (Thomas) and provide their “snail mail” address.

We’re here, we’re there, we’re everywhere!

No matter where you are in the world, chances are there are other UBC alumni living nearby. With more than 50 alumni branches, we make it easy to stay connected whether you’re living in Calgary or Kuala Lumpur. Below are some of the locations that hosted UBC alumni events in the last three months.

- Spent an afternoon in conversation with Canada’s first female prime minister - Vancouver
- Attended a provocative dialogue about “storytelling from the fringe” at the Film Festival - Whistler
- Held a reception to support the rebuilding of Haiti - Toronto
- Watched the Canucks take on the Rangers - NYC
- Attended a networking luncheon - Ottawa
- Connected with other Re:Life alumni as well as current and future admirers - Vancouver
- Chose a side and cheered on the Canucks (or Sharks) - San Jose
- Learned effective self-marketing at Granville Island - Vancouver
- Enjoyed a pint at pub night - London
- Played a round at the B.C. Desert Classic - Palm Desert
- Read three great books for Book Club - Vancouver
- Watched the men’s and women’s basketball T-Birds take on the Vikes - Victoria
- Discussed the future of fish - Richmond
- Watched a family-friendly performance of Alice in Wonderland - Toronto
- Held a lively dialogue about police reform - Surrey
- Sailed the Nile, protest erupted, made unscheduled flight to Qatar - Egypt
- Voyaged to the southernmost continent - Antarctica
- Observed astonishing wildlife while sailing the Galapagos
- Islands - Ecuador
- Spotted big game on safari before relaxing in Zanzibar - Tanzania
- Drifted through the islands of the Caribbean - Lesser Antilles
- Cruise through the tributaries of the Amazon on a riverboat - Peru
- Explored cloud forests and volcanoes before crossing the Pacific coast of Central America - Costa Rica
- Went on safari - South Africa
- Ate, drank and were merry at the Third Tuesday pub night - Toronto

Past Imperfect, Present Tense

Review by Kyle Sullivan, MA’09

Derek Wynn, BA’66, MA’69

Wynnam’s 11th collection of poems is just as sharp, percipient and heartfelt as his first. Did I mention the blue butterfly? (See page 11.)

The Knife Sharpener’s Bell

Rhea Tregebov, UBC Assistant Professor of Creative Writing

Annette Gershon, the novel’s protagonist and narrator, is a young woman trapped in the undertow of an economic and political upheaval. She tells the story of her passionate pursuit of wholeness during a historical epoch that has splintered previously held notions of nationality, family and selfhood.

City of Love and Revolution: Vancouver in the Sixties

New Star, $24

George Bowering, MA’63

The western novel reinvented by Canada’s first poet Laureate. A great read set in BC’s interior in the 1890s. Caprice is a new kind of western heroine, and Bowering gives her all the spark she needs.

Fishing With Gubby

Harbour Publishing, $19.95

Kim La Fave & Gary Kent

Great artwork in this graphic novel for kids (of all ages). We follow Gubby and his fish boat crew up the west coast for an authentic, entertaining look at the lives of fisherspeople. Sort of a New You’ve Got It (a great graphic novel from the ’40s) for the fishing industry.

Chopin Revisited 1810-2010

Towner, $21.95

John Towner

The inside story of one of Vancouver’s oldest and finest sports traditions.

From Country to Country

Trafalgar Publishing, $24.95

Peter I. Battuls, BS ’64

Personal story of a Latvian family that fled Soviet oppression during WWI and survived Nazi Germany before settling in Canada.

Gladly’s Wake

Secret City Press, $9.95

Barbara Anderson, BFA’74

The story of a grandmother with an anarchist past and her Muslim convert granddaughter who is on trial for a bombing at a college in New York.

Other Alumni Books

Love Games: A Personal History of the Vancouver Lawn Tennis and Badminton Club

Hon. Garde B. Gardom, QC

Bayeux Arts, $17.95

David R. Williams, QC and Hon. Garde B. Gardom, QC

New Star, $24

Chopin Revisited 1810-2010

Towner, $24.95

Carol Wootton, MA’70

A personal reflection on Chopin’s work and literary influences, published on the bicentenary of his birth.
38 TExK SPRING/SUMMER 2010

CLASSACTS

Long Time, No UBC… what have you been up to lately?

Let your old classmates know what you’ve been up to since leaving campus. Send your news and photographic evidence to Mike Awmack at michael. awmack@ubc.ca or UBC Alumni Association, 6251 Cecil Green Park Road, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1. (Mail original photos or email high resolution scans – preferably 300 dpi.) Please note that Trek Magazine is also published online.

1930s

David E. Carey, BA’38, who resides in Asheville, North Carolina, was featured in the US Tennis Association magazine in spring 2009, complete with a photograph of himself and Andy Roddick. Carey, who is 96, has won 31 USTA national senior championship trophies for singles and doubles (more national championships than Roddick and Serena Williams combined) and has been nationally ranked in the Top 3 every year starting in the 80s age division. He won the 2000 World Singles titles for 85s and 80s age division. He won the 2000 Top 10 every year starting in the 1990s with a photograph of himself and a magazine in spring 2009, complete with the Scotti Crop Research Institute (SCRI).

Starting in the 1960s, Hugh and Dr Derek Jennings of SCRI exchanged germplasm and information, resulting in a series of raspberry cultivars that increased the adaptation range of the crop. They combined genes originating from the European and North American red raspberries (Rubus idaeus and Rubus strigosus, respectively) with genes from the northeastern North American black raspberry (Rubus occidentalis). Agriculture Canada's Tulameen is an outstanding example of a cultivar developed from the collaboration; it has become the most widely-grown fresh market raspberry in the world and the most widely-grown fresh market raspberry in the world and the northern hemisphere, as well as in the Pacific Northwest. Currently he is an active member of Friends of the UBC Botanical Garden, on the board of the Native Plant Society of BC, and regional representative of Seeds of Diversity Canada.

The studio is being promoted as an example of international cooperation, the type of which is now endangered by the increasing degrees of privatization in fruit breeding programs. Hugh and Derek were honored at a special dinner held in August in Lisbon during the 28th Congress of the International Society for Horticultural Science. They were also the subject of a dedication in the latest volume of Plant Breeding Reviews. Hugh is also responsible for the Totem strawberry cultivar which, after more than 30 years, is still widely planted in the Pacific Northwest. Currently he is an active member of the Portland State University, on the board of the Native Plant Society of BC, and regional representative of Seeds of Diversity Canada.

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1940s

Knute Soroe, BA’40, and other members of the civil engineering class of 1940 met up on September 15, 2010, for their 65th reunion. It took place at the Boeufoster’s Chop House and Grill in Nanaimo. BC. Of the 65 original members of the grad class, 29 all survive. As they are all well into their 80s and time passes by quickly for them, in recent years they have held an annual reunion. At the 2010 reunion, they celebrated the first anniversary of the establishment of their UBC Civil 1940 Burary Endowment Fund, which supports burarys for undergraduate students in the department of civil engineering. They established the fund in 2009 to commemorate the 60th anniversary of their graduation.

1950s

Ted Hunt, BSc’50, BA’50, LLB 70, has been busy in his retirement, authoring three books in as many years. The first two, Ben Hogan’s Magical Device: The Real Secret to Hogan’s Swing Finally Revealed and Ben Hogan’s Short Game Simplified, are instructional golf books. His third book, The Company of Heroes, is a historical epic that draws together three true stories of national political intrigue that were hidden by the Americans and Russians after WWII. Hunt carried out 25 years of research to complete the novel, which will be published soon. Learn more about these books and find out where to purchase them at www.tedhunt.org.

Ted Hunt

The International Society for Horticultural Science recently recognized Hugh Dunbany, BA’ (Agr)’51, BSc’55, emeritus scientist with Agriculture Canada, for his studies on red raspberry breeding, carried out cooperatively with the Scottish Crop Research Institute (SCRI).

Starting in the 1960s, Hugh and Dr Derek Jennings of SCRI exchanged germplasm and information, resulting in a series of raspberry cultivars that increased the adaptation range of the crop. They combined genes originating from the European and North American red raspberries (Rubus idaeus and Rubus strigosus, respectively) with genes from the northeastern North American black raspberry (Rubus occidentalis). Agriculture Canada's Tulameen is an outstanding example of a cultivar developed from the collaboration; it has become the most widely-grown fresh market raspberry in the world and the most widely-grown fresh market raspberry in the world and the northern hemisphere, as well as in the Pacific Northwest. Currently he is an active member of Friends of the UBC Botanical Garden, on the board of the Native Plant Society of BC, and regional representative of Seeds of Diversity Canada.

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1960s

Palm Springs-based philanthropists Harold Meyerman, BSc’39, MSc’40, LLB 70, and his wife, Dorothy, received the Ann Angel Award for their support of local charities, including the Stroke Recovery Center. Harold also serves as chairman of the Palm Springs Art Museum and Dorothy is an active and founding member of the Architecture and Design Council of the Palm Springs Art Museum. The annual award is given to community members who have donated time, expertise and resources to those less fortunate.

1970s

There was a special reunion on May 27, 2010, at Alicante Airport when Hispanic and Italian studies master’s grad, Nicholas Collins, BA’73, and Robert (Bob) Howes, BA’73, met. They had not seen each other for 40 years, yet they recognized each other immediately. In the 40 years since graduation, “Busy” Bob Howes returned to Cambridge for a PhD, followed by an MA in library science at Leeds. He worked at the British Library and Bussen University before joining the LSE library. Nicholas worked at the Vancouver School Board, Vancouver Community College and Capilano University, where he had been since the 1970s. At the reunion, they spoke Spanish and English and ate, drank and reminisced for a whole week. Bob, a rail buff, tried the single track tram from Valencia to Castellon. Forty years of Christmas cards had kept them in touch. Bob feels his one year at UBC was just about perfect. They plan to meet again before another 40 years pass.

Kim A. Stephens, BA’73, MPhil’78, has been appointed executive director of the Partnership for Water Sustainability in British Columbia, an autonomous non-profit society that was incorporated in November 2008. The Partnership provides a legal entity for delivery of program elements developed under the umbrella of the Water Sustainability Action Plan for British Columbia, released in February 2004. In 2010, the British Columbia Water and Waste Association honoured Kim with its Bridge Building Award. This award recognized his accomplishments since 2004 in building a partnership network that is implementing the Water Sustainability Action Plan in the local government setting.

Ronald Wilson, BA’63, MSc’78, was recently presented with the award for Family Physician of the Year in British Columbia.

Ted Hunt

Ronald Wilson

Kim A. Stephens
In December 2010, David Walkem, BS'79, was re-elected as chief of the Coosu Ferry Indian Band, Shakes-pamen Nations for his seventh term. When not riding his Harley, he is also chair and president of Stó:lo Resources Joint Venture, which in December was awarded the BC Aboriginal Business Award for Best Joint Venture. 2010 Stó:lo Resources is a forest management venture that is owned and operated by eight First Nations in southern BC, surviving despite the best efforts of mountain pine beetles and the American softwood lumber trade war.

Jackie Hildering, BS'47 (AGH), won the Vancouver Aquarium's Murray A. Newman Award for Excellence in Aquatic Conservation. She is communications director with the Save Our Salmon Marine Conservation Organization and has dedicated her life to marine conservation through education.

Nancy J. Powers (née Cocking), BS'67, and Jered W. Powers were married on Saturday, September 11, 2010, at St. Francis-in-the-Wood Anglican Church, West Vancouver, and the ceremony was followed by a reception at West Vancouver Yacht Club. Nancy recently celebrated her 20-year anniversary working for the law firm Borden Ladner Gervais LLP (formerly Ladner Downe). Jason Ferris, BS'90, authored and published Hockey: Play-by-Play Canuck Captains with Jim Robson. In commemoration of the Vancouver Canucks’ 40th anniversary, this publication chronicles and celebrates the 14 captains who have led the Canucks, from Orland Kurtenbach to Roberto Luongo. The book is a supplement to Ferris’ 2005 national best-seller Hockey Play-by-Play: Around the NHL with Jim Robson and lets hockey fans re-live another 10 great games armed with Hall of Fame broadcaster Jim Robson’s hand-written game notes and hockey memora- bilia. Canuck Captains is available at www.canuckcaptains.com, with part proceeds to benefit Canuck Place Children’s Hospice.

On January 1, 2011, Alexander D.C. Kask, BS'68, LLB'98, joined the partnership of Guild Yule LLP, a Vancouver-based law firm that traces its history back to 1924. Alex, who completed his undergraduate degree in Asian Studies in 1986, spent two decades five years living in Tokyo and working as an editor at the Charles R. Tuttle Publishing Company. This position involved identifying, developing and managing book projects on a variety of topics related to East Asia and Japan in particular. He was also a freelance writer and editor during that time. In 1988, Alex met Akemi and in 1994 they married. In the years that followed, he wrote five books concerning the Japanese language. During his time in Japan he also began his study of classical Japanese martial arts. In 1996, he returned to Canada to study law at UBC and began teaching martial arts at the university, which he continues to this day through the UBC Sports and Recreation Program. During law school, Alex worked for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police as a civil litigation analyst. He was called to the British Columbia Bar in 2000 and has practiced as a litigator since then, providing advocacy before all levels of court in BC as well as before a variety of administrative tribunals. In 2008, he joined Guild Yule LLP and has a practice that involves general insurance law, municipal law, professional negligence, products liability law, human rights law and personal injury law. He has been an instructor for both the BC Continuing Legal Education Society and the Paralegal Certification Program at Vancouver Community College.

On November 29, 2010, in Toronto, Anna Murray, BA'91, LLB'99, received a 2010 Canada’s Most Powerful Women Top 100 Award in the Future Leaders category. Her career is focused on corporate social responsibility and balancing corporate profit with ethical business practice. It has taken her around the world, to the United Nations and back to the private sector. Throughout her career she has focused on the integration of international business and society. Having worked in China, the United States, Switzerland, the Dominican Republic, Tanzania and Canada, she has strategically aligned her business skills with the growing demands of a globalized economy and the importance of corporate social responsibility.

Currently Anna is a senior advisor to Xetara Nickel and works with both the Corporate Affairs and Sustainability teams. Her expertise includes stakeholder engagement and community relations, human rights and security, international communications and issues management, social performance and governance activities including corporate policies and procedures.

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Videsh Kapoor, still remembers her first international volunteer experience, shortly after graduating from medical school. Accompanied by a friend from her class, she decided to lend a hand at a health post in remote Nepal. The excitement was overpowering: their ethnoities – Hindu and Japanese – would surely allow them to blend seamlessly with the local population.

Through the GHI, she supervises four projects: the India Split Health Project, which seeks to improve the health of children attending the Marawal-Ling Boarding School for children Kindergarten to Grade 10; the India Viroc of Children project, which is aimed at improving basic health and hygiene in the Uttarakhand province at the foothills of the Himalayas; the Kenya Pamoja project, intended to address urgent health needs in Kisumu, Nyarasa province; and the Uganda Nacodi project, devoted to serving the locals through improved medical care and education. This April, she is pioneering a partnership between the GHI and Nigacara Children’s Foundation, focusing on improving the healthcare of children at these schools in San Juan del Sur.

Throughout all of this, Videsh has always remembered the lesson that her first international volunteer experience taught her: respect for cultural diversity. She hopes to impress that learning upon future volunteers through the GHI program. She believes volunteering abroad is a collaborative partnership with host communities, that requires humility and sensitivity.

Lucia Lam, always remembered the lesson that her first international volunteer experience taught her: respect for cultural diversity. She hopes to impress that learning upon future volunteers through the GHI program. She believes volunteering abroad is a collaborative partnership with host communities, that requires humility and sensitivity. **VOLUNTEER PROFILES**

What a Backpack Can Teach Us

Videsh Kapoor, BSc ’08, BEd ’09, MD ’12, teaches students to approach international volunteering with respect and sensitivity.

**By Irina Dragan, 4th year science student**

Videsh is the director of the UBC Division of Global Health in the department of family practice and voluntarily contributes her time and expertise as co-founder of the Global Health Initiative (GHI), a program that offers skill-building workshops for UBC medical students interested in helping abroad. The Medical Undergraduate Society recognized her with the 2011 William A. Weber Award for her contributions to undergraduate medical education and commitment to the future physicians of British Columbia.

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Helping Students Choose the Right Path

Carmen Lee, BSc ’06, loves herjob, and volunteers to help students find the same level of satisfaction in their future careers.

**By Gulnara Patel, BSc ’07**

Carmen Lee is someone who wears many hats. Somewhere between working as the marketing manager for a global consulting company, kneading dough as a culinary student, taking classes on image consultancy, and refining her palate through involvement with the Wine & Spirit Education Trust, she finds time to help UBC students and young alumni tread the oft-perilous path towards professional fulfillment as a volunteer with Career Services.

Carmen describes volunteering as part of her lifestyle. It’s a value that’s been ingrained in her since she was young. As a UBC student she volunteered for student organizations such as Imagine UBC, and the Political Science Students’ Association. Through these roles she built valuable relationships at UBC, many of which lasted long after graduation.

Carmen graduated from UBC in 2001, at a time when the job market was still reeling from the bust of the dot-com bubble. Armed with a degree, yet unable to officially declare the end of her days as a ‘starving student,’ Carmen’s career path reached a crossroads early on. She could have chosen the path where many political science students had gone before, law school, or she could tap into her natural abilities as a people-person and pursue a career in communications. After completing the LSAT, and on the verge of applying to law schools, Carmen made a career defining (and much less expensive) detour and enrolled in the one year Corporate Communications program at Seneca College in Toronto. Shortly after graduating, opportunity knocked in the form of a marketing internship with Deloitte, a firm that consults Fortune 500 and 1000 companies and that employs more than 10,000 people worldwide. Marketing presented Carmen with a learning curve, but one that excited, rather than intimidated, her.

Even though Carmen has been at Deloitte for nine years now, she still talks about her job with as much passion as she had on the first day. She remembers her time at UBC with a fondness that inspired her to return to campus as a volunteer. She now spends her time and talent as a number of organizations at UBC such as the Alumni Associates, Career Services and the Faculty of Arts’ Tri-Mentoring Program.

Carmen has provided career and interview advice to students, a role she takes seriously since mentors have been important in her own life. Whether it was her elementary school teacher who taught her to take risks, or her professor at UBC who encouraged her to take learning beyond the classroom, Carmen knows the importance of good advice.

As a volunteer, she continues to help others understand the importance of relationship development and communications, skills she learned at UBC that have helped her navigate successfully through work and life.

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Will UBC join the NCAA Division II?

Since 2000, UBC’s administration has been considering joining the NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) as the main organizing body for the university’s varsity sports. Currently, UBC is a member of CIS (Canadian Interuniversity Sport) in the Canada West region, and NAIA (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics) in the United States. The issue has both positive and negative aspects, and there has been an intensive process of consultation. UBC’s administration would like to come to a final decision before the NCAA’s annual application date of June 1. This spring, alumni were invited to make their opinions known. Membership in the NCAA would help UBC attract academically qualified student athletes from across Canada and the US, who would otherwise choose CIS-affiliated schools. One of the main issues is scholarships: under CIS rules, host schools are only allowed to cover tuition costs with athletic scholarships, while NCAA schools can include housing and other costs in their offers. It would also ensure a future for NAA sports if that league merges with the NCAA.

On the other hand, membership in the NCAA would eliminate UBC’s ability to compete with other Canadian schools (except for UofS, which is an NCAA affiliate). As well, NCAA membership requires UBC to undergo an institutional accreditation conducted by one of six US-based agencies.

UBC would enter the NCAA as a member of the Great Northwest Athletic Conference in Division II, which would include UBC among institutions such as Seattle Pacific University, Western Washington University, and the University of Alaska Anchorage. A decision is anticipated by the end of April. Please visit www.students.ubc.ca/ncfa for updates and a review of the issues.

CIS National Champs!

The Thunderbirds, after a 1-11 regular-season campaign, won their fourth straight national title, earning CIS, the CIS championship in Laval, bringing home a bronze medal at the CIS Final 8 in Ottawa. The Thunderbirds appear primed for a great season.

Men’s Volleyball

The regular season record, 7-11, of this scrappy T-Bird squad could have well been over .500 as they pushed some of the top teams in the country to five sets only to fall just short. Leading the way for the T-Birds the entire season was Blair Bann, who captured his fourth straight Canada West Libero of the Year award in his final year at UBC. Over his five year career, Bann never missed a set and owns Canada West records for digs in a game, season, and career. And with the loss of only Bann and setter Ryan Zwartch, the 2011-12 edition of the UBC Thunderbirds appear primed for a great season.

Women’s Volleyball

It was another banner season for the T-Birds as they picked up their third straight Canada West title with a thrilling 3-2 comeback victory over their rivals from Trinity Western in the championship final. They followed up that title with a thrilling 3-2 comeback victory over their rivals from Trinity Western in the championship final. They went on to collect a bronze medal at the CIS Final 8 in Ottawa.

Women’s Basketball

In the always-tough Canada West conference, the T-Birds put together a 17-7 regular-season campaign which was good enough for a fifth-place finish in the regular-season standings. They lost their opening round playoff series to Alberta but under the new CIS playoff format, were still being considered for a spot in a regional tournament which acts as the opening round of the national championship tournament. Tara Hunley was named a second-team Canada West all-star after leading the T-Birds in scoring and finishing second in rebounding.

Men’s Hockey

In one of Canada West’s most tightly contested seasons in recent memory, the Thunderbirds barely missed a trip to the post-season. Injury struck the team hard, and at one point UBC was icing fewer than three forward lines. But the women showed heart, competing closely with their opponents despite adversity. It was a monumental year for a number of core T-Birds who graduated after five years, having played more than a hundred games apiece. The team’s biggest loss will be outstanding goaltender Melissa Choy, who gave the T-Birds a chance to win every night.

Swimming

UBC brought home a pair of conference banners this season, claiming Canada West titles in both men’s and women’s swimming in their home pool. They went on to finish second at the CIS Championships in both the men’s and women’s competitions. Savannah King, a 2008 Olympian, was named the CIS Female Rookie of the Year after posting gold medal finishes in the women’s 400 and 800-meter freestyle at the national meet. Thirteen T-Bird swimmers were recognized as CIS All-Canadians this season.

Spring Shorts

Both the UBC Thunderbirds baseball and softball teams have begun their seasons with road trips down the coast. The men’s baseball squad are ranked no. 10 in the NAIA and opened league play over the final weekend of February. The women’s softball team began their year with a couple of strong performances and were 8-8 through the month of February. Competing against NCAA Division I schools, the men’s golf team brought home a pair of top-5 finishes from tournaments in the new year. They are preparing for a run at another NCAA national title behind the leadership of Andrew Bedell and Dave Shuman. Alpine skiing brought home a ton of hardware from their regional competition with the men finishing second and the women third. At nationals, the men finished fifth overall and the women were sixth, an impressive feat for the only Canadian school in the competition...the Track and Field team is just starting to get its season underway with a number of distance runners already having qualified for the NAIA national championships scheduled for May.

Women's Hockey

The Blue and Gold started the 2010-11 season with great promise, scoring early road victories over Canada West’s top teams. But the pace slowed as the season went on. The injury bug struck the team hard, and at one point UBC was icing fewer than three forward lines. But the women showed heart, competing closely with their opponents despite adversity. It was a monumental year for a number of core T-Birds who graduated after five years, having played more than a hundred games apiece. The team’s biggest loss will be outstanding goaltender Melissa Choy, who gave the T-Birds a chance to win every night.

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The day following Douglas “Buzz” Moore’s official retirement in April 1986 started out like any other. He got up at the usual hour, turned the keys of an aging Plymouth station wagon and drove the familiar route from his West Vancouver home to UBC. And just like every other work day of the previous 22 years, he went about his usual chores at UBC’s Athletics Department. Nobody was surprised to see Buzz turn up at the War Memorial Gym offices that day. Always one step ahead when he needed to be, he hadn’t told a soul he had reached the age of mandatory retirement. The only person who knew he was officially off the payroll was then athletic director Bob Hindmarch, who secretly hoped nobody would notice. And while the paycheques stopped, Buzz didn’t. Loyal to the core, he carried the ball for another 20 years as the UBC stopped, Buzz didn’t. Loyal to the core, he operated Moore’s Bakery in Kerrisdale. Among his regular customers were UBC’s physical education director Bob Osborne and athletic director Buzz Phillips, who convinced him to put his business skills to work at UBC. For more than 40 years, Buzz served as the department’s business and facility manager, fund raiser, rugby coach, media relations officer, construction superintendent, and overseer of the 8,000-member Big Block Club. His annual “Sweaters or Better” fundraising campaign resulted in sufficient alumni contributions to pay for the iconic Big Block sweaters given to all UBC student athletes. Not only did he acquire the sweaters, he fitted them too — some 5,000 over the years — and took great pride in being the first to congratulate new members. His irreverent humour and generous spirit didn’t go unnoted by the students, who eventually inducted the Buzz Moore Leadership Awards in his honour. The university tipped its hat too, when in 2002 his unflagging service was officially recognized with the degree of Doctor of Laws, honouris causa.

Born in 1921 in Regina, Buzz moved with his family to Vancouver at the age of four. As a 16-year-old student at Lolel Byng High School, he joined the Vancouver Meralomas rugby team and began a 27-year playing career. A member of the BC Sport Hall of Fame, he played in every international match in which BC participated between 1948 and 1966, and was the first Canadian to receive the Barbarian Jersey, the highest honour in traditional British rugby circles.

On the evening of March 21, 2011, Buzz Moore walked off the playing field for good. Just a few weeks later, on a night closely coinciding with what would have been his 90th birthday, the UBC Athletics Department staged the 39th annual Big Block Athletic Awards banquet, and dedicated the evening to his memory.

It was a fitting coincidence that the Big Block Club came into existence in the same year Buzz did. To all who knew him, they were one and the same.

A. Bruce Macdonald

With great sadness we announce former director of UBC Botanical Garden, A. Bruce Macdonald, has passed away following a long illness.

Bruce came to Canada in 1980 to take on the role of associate director at the Botanical Garden, with responsibility for horticulture and plant introductions. He became acting director in 1985 and director from 1987 to 2002. Bruce was involved with the International Plant Propagators’ Society (IPPS), both in Britain and after he immigrated to Canada, eventually becoming international president. He was senior lecturer in nursery stock production at Hadlow College in England, and later, during his tenure at UBC, taught plant propagation in the Horticulture Program. He was much admired for his encyclopedic knowledge of cultivated plants and plant propagation and production methods and for his enthusiasm, yet easy and relaxed teaching style.

Bruce was well known in the nursery industry around the world through his work with IPPS, and as author of the widely acclaimed Practical Woody Plant Propagation, an exhaustive exposition of propagating methods. Throughout his years with UBC, Bruce worked exceptionally hard, bringing together staff, industry and the Garden’s volunteer organization, the Friends of the Garden, to make the Botanical Garden a viable, dynamic institution, sometimes, against considerable odds.

In 1998 Bruce was awarded the Royal Horticultural Society’s most prestigious international award, the Gold Vitch Medal. The award is given for outstanding contribution to the advancement of the science and practice of horticulture. Among his many achievements, Bruce helped develop the Botanical Garden’s innovative Plant Introduction Scheme, which selected and introduced new and improved plants to nurseries. This was the first time the medal had been given to a Canadian since first presented in 1922.

Bruce loved UBC Botanical Garden and saw it through some very difficult times. He always had a smile, and his door was always open. At the request of his family, UBC Botanical Garden will graciously accept memorial contributions in Bruce’s honour. Please contact Marcia Thomson at marcia.thomson@ubc.ca or 604 822 0623.

Phoebe Noble, 1927 (Hon)

Phoebe was born in Victoria in 1915 and attended local schools before entering Victoria College at age 14. After completing her bachelor’s degree in honours mathematics and teacher training, she returned to Victoria to teach in high school. She married Jack in 1941 and their daughter, Sandra, BA VI (Math and Business), was born in 1942. Phoebe joined the faculty at Victoria College in 1945 and retired 33 years later from what had subsequently become the University of Victoria. She was a professor emerita of the university. During her years at UVic, she took an active part in university life. She was president of the Faculty Association for several years, organized the Omega chapter of Phrateres International in 1961, was the coordinator of women’s activities (a position that evolved into dean of women) for many years, was instrumental in having the first residences built on the UVic campus and was the first woman to head any department when she became head of the mathematics department, a position she held twice for several years. Phoebe was also active in the community. In 1966 she and Jack were co-chairers of the Greater Victoria United Appeal drive. She was on the executive of the United Commercial Travellers and served on the board of governors of St. Margaret’s School for many years.

In 1968 Phoebe organized a Victoria chapter of Zonta, an international classified service organization of executive women in business and the professions. In 1999, the Victoria chapter honoured Phoebe by providing a Zonta Burseary at Camosun College to be given to a mature female student in the field of landscaping/gardening. In 1977 she received a Queen’s Silver Medal in recognition of her outstanding dedication to the teaching profession and to community service. The following year she received one of the 100 Jubilee Medallions minted to celebrate UVic’s Jubilee year in recognition of her years of service. In 2002, she received a Queen’s Golden Jubilee medal in recognition of her dedicated volunteer service.

Phoebe had always been interested in gardening and, after her retirement in 1978, it became not only a full-time hobby, but also a passion. In addition to developing an internationally-known garden of her own, Phoebe was active in the formation of a volunteer group to restore and maintain the gardens at Government House in Victoria. These gardens are now among the most beautiful public gardens in the world and in 2002 the Government House complex was designated as a National Historic Site.
In 1994 Phoebe published a small booklet on her grandmother Grace Mussallem’s life, which detailed her world travels and the new hybrids that originated in her garden are now in commerce worldwide. One of them was named in her honour: Geranium Mussallem “Phoebe Nola.” Her energy and enthusiasm knew no bounds. Phoebe was also known for her quick wit and humour.

Evelyn Willemse (Billie) Burgess, BA’79
Billie passed away peacefully January 31, 2011, after a brief hospitalization. Predeceased by Norman, her husband of 57 years, Billie continued to travel the world and was vital and active up to the summer of 2010. Born in Ottawa, Billie moved with her family to Vancouver when she was 13. She and Norm returned to Canada in 1942. Following RCAF discharge, Billie and Norm settled in Port Alberni where they raised their three sons and stayed for 30 years. Billie was always active in the community through involvement in many groups and organizations. At retirement, they moved to Kelowna, and built their new home on their long-time summer camp property. Over the ensuing 30 years, Billie enjoyed the community and the people of Keremeos, Quinn Lake, and the surrounding beaches, swimming pools, the writing club, her golf partners and her dear friends. Billie is survived by her sons and their families: Ken and Tami; daughters Diana and Anita – David Bergman and nana’s great families: Ken and Tami; daughters Diana and Anita – David Bergman and her grandsons Chace and Olivia, Jim and Cathy and sons Joey; Warren and Erin and sons Shane and Clayton.

Douglas MacDonald Wilson, BA’40
Douglas passed away peacefully into God’s arms at the Leacock Care Centre in Orillia. He had a passion for music, and was active in many music events in the community. His family was his joy and he was the cherished grandfather of Jean-Lac and Daniel Roy, Tamara and Dahlia Wilson, Brett and Glen Wilson. Douglas enjoyed working for more than 25 years with the Boy Scouts Executive of Orillia. He was a member of the Oriolla Historical Society; a Brewhay Tennis Club enthusiast and had a special place in his heart for all animals, especially boys and girls who enjoyed his outstanding hockey rank in the backyard of his family home on Lacile Street. Douglas enjoyed all forms of entertainment on Lake Couchiching, whether it be swimming, sailing or canoeing.

Douglas was a WWII veteran who served overseas. He was a pilot and RCAF Captain. He retired as an English teacher with the Oriolla District Collegiate and Vocational Institute. If desired, memorial donations to the Oriolla Soldiers’ Memorial Hospital Foundation would be appreciated.

Eric Nicol, BA’41
Eric Nicol, a Vancouver writer best known for his 30 years as a humour columnist with The Province, passed away on Wednesday, February 2, at 91 years old. Nicol’s career was prolific. It started at UBC where he received his degree in French and wrote articles for The Ubyssey. Nicol didn’t just write articles; while serving in WWII he wrote comedy skits to entertain the armed forces, and while serving in WWii he wrote articles for The Province. He was a director for the Kettle Valley model railway society, which resulted in the newfangled radiotelephone technology to replace miles of copper wire on poles, economically and reliably. Nicol’s love of words was in his element working as the radio equipment engineer with other enthusiastic WWii veterans who were cut to prove that multi-channel radio sets could be built by citizens inexpensively and that they would indeed work reliably. Frank was a devoted husband, father and grandfather, and he served in the navy. Frank never attended a regular fall or winter session on campus.

Frank Fraser
Frank was a student at the University of British Columbia from the early 1940s to the late 40s. He attended UBC and worked as a radio engineer for the BC Telephone Company in 1949 and moved to Lenkurt Electric Co. in Burnaby, BC, as head of the microvese systems design department, and then as a production engineering manager. In 1973, Frank was appointed head of the engineering physics department of the BC Research Council and president of Tech West Enterprise, a company owned by the council.

When Frank retired in 1981, he and June moved from Vancouver to a home with a magnificent view of Okanagan Lake and downtown Penticton. Renovating the 1912 house and the backyard swimming pool were ongoing projects, interspersed with bouts of rebuilding his beloved old Dodge Power Wagon. Unavailable parts or tools? No problem; Frank simply made them!

As an admirer of old radios, Frank actively searched for old battery-operated radios from the early 20th century and took pride in designing, building and installing new power supplies and giving the old fashioned radios a new lease on life.

His hobby of model railroading led to his serving as a president of the Kettle Valley Model Railway Club in the late 1990s. The club still maintains a fully-operational diorama in the historic S.S. Sicamous in Penticton, where the electronic controls were designed and built solely by Frank.

Frank was a devoted husband, father, grandfather and the sole caregiver when June became incapacitated in the late 1990s.

Gordon Hughes, BA’49, Beth (née Simmons) Hughes, BA’49
Frank and Beth (née Simmons) Hughes passed away on April 30, 2017. His wife, Mary Elizabeth “Beth,” passed away on November 5, 2009. Both were the first university graduates in their families and both worked hard to earn their degrees through correspondence courses and summer school while supporting themselves with their early teaching assignments. Following the war, Gord attended UBC full time for one year, completing his BA in geography in 1950 and a BEd in 1951. Beth completed her BA in biology in 1949, having never attended a regular fall or winter session on campus.

Beth was born Mary Elizabeth Simmons in Vancouver on January 11, 1922. She graduated from Britannia in 1939, completed Normal School in Vancouver in 1944, and then taught
IN MEMORIAM

Gordon Keith Heydon, BA’71, MD’74

It is with sadness we announce that on August 16, 2010, after a courageous battle with cancer, Gordon passed away peacefully in Chemainus with his family by his side. He was born November 25, 1928, in Victoria, British Columbia, to Gordon and Beatrice Heydon, who were both born in England. Gordon was one of five children, with brothers Donald, John, and Robert, and sister Dorothy. After his father passed away in 1930, Gordon was raised by his mother and his maternal grandparents, firstly in their home on 3rd Avenue in Victoria, and later in the family apartment on Trida Svobodi in Prague, Czechoslovakia, where emile lived for the rest of his life.

Gordon was a graduate of Hawthorne Elementary and then Bessborough Elementary (where he met Beth) before moving to Vernon in 1942, attending Vernon Junior High (later known as Seaton), Hollyburn in West Vancouver and Ridgeway in Burnaby. He graduated from Burnaby High in 1946 and went on to receive an LLB from the University of British Columbia in 1950, followed by receiving his MD from the University of Toronto in 1971.

The first child of emile and marie Lautard, Gordon was born in Greenwood, BC, on October 29, 1921. The family home at that time was the general store and post office in Carmi, BC, a predominantly Friesian community. While his father was employed by the Canadian Pacific Railway, the family moved to live at various stations along the Kettle Valley line, settling at Rhone in 1934, where Pai was a section foreman. Emile attended school in Rhone, and spent some time mining before following his father into a railway career. This path was disrupted by the commencement of WWII when Emile, at age 18, volunteered for the RAF. He served in the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve (RAFVR) from 1939 to 1945, flying as a pilot and serving in the royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) radar and services.

It is with sadness we announce that Gordon passed away peacefully in Chemainus on August 16, 2010, after a courageous battle with cancer. Gordon was predeceased by his parents, Irene and Bernice, and his brother, Don, who died in 2008. He is survived by his loving wife, Beth; his children, Lauren, Graeme, and Carson; and his adored grandchildren, garrett, dana, and johnathan.

IN MEMORIAM

Donald J. Moffett, BSc’73

Donald J. Moffett was born February 28, 1927, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Following university, he started working at Sable Lumber. He then worked at Alto Lumber until 1962, when he started his own business. Donald owned Sable Lumber, which was a pre-eminent firm in the industry. In 1962, he moved from Vancouver to acreage in Langley. In 1972, his son, Craig, was born and he and Barbara raised him in the family home. At this time, Donald was heavily involved in playing polo. Horses were his big love and he and Barbara married the horses up the interior of the province for horse-racing occasions. In 1979, Donald and Barbara took a one-month holiday and went to Grand Cayman in the summer of 1979. In 1980, Donald was appointed to the Order of Canada. In 1982, his son, Craig, was born and the family moved down the Washington coast. His next hobby was falconry. Donald was an outdoorsman and as a young man he and Barbara were brought back to BC and will be taken to Manning Park. Donald was an outdoorsman and as a young man he and Barbara were brought back to BC and will be taken to Manning Park.

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Leszek Karpinski, BSc'69

Leszek was born on September 17, 1937, in the age of 63. He is survived by his wife, Pat, his life partner, Ken, his son Colin (Shannon) and granddaughter, and friends. Leszek is at peace after a courageous six year struggle with prostate cancer.

Rein Crema, BSc'70, MSc'72

On Friday, September 24, 2010, Rein Crema died suddenly at his home in Pritchard, BC, at the age of 67. He was survived by his wife, Pat Kenyon, son (Shannon) and granddaughter. He was a more devoted “nonno” as he delighted in his huge list of projects: gardening and tending his vegetable and flower gardens, travelling extensively, supporting many community projects, especially

Thomas Edward James, BSc'62

Thomas died on Mount Shasta in northern California on April 1, 2010, at age 66. While at UBC, Tom completed an 18-month engineering co-op work placement with INCO in Thompson, MB. His final year project was a feasibility study on installing a solar energy system in an engineering building at UBC. After graduating, Tom worked as a process engineer for Fluor Corporation in Vancouver. In the fall of 2009, he moved to the company’s office in Dublin, California. As an engineer, Tom was passionate about making a difference through sustainability. He played a key role in bringing a biodiesel production project to UBC. A plaque will be hung in Tom’s honour near the reactor that is part of the biodiesel project.

Leszek Karpinski

Leszek was born on September 17, 1937, in the multicultural city of Lvov, then part of Poland. In 1940, his father, an officer of the Polish Army and a medical doctor, was murdered in Katyn. Leszek finished his high studies in Krakow at the Jagiellonian University. For two or three years he hesitated about whether or not to do a degree in music at the conservatory or pursue an academic career. Finally, Mediterranean archeology won out. Having previously studied Latin, English, Russian, German and Italian, he added Hebrew and Arabic to his language base. Leszek graduated with a MA and was offered a position with the Jagiellonian University Library. He continued taking graduate courses both at the University of Krakow and commuting for some courses to Warsaw University. In 1966, he received a government fellowship to do a PhD in Denmark and became fluent in Danish. To supplement his government grant, he worked as a reference librarian at the University of Arhus and soon realized this was the association he enjoyed. Emigrating to Canada in 1967, he received the position of technician in the cataloging department of the library at Carleton University in Ottawa. Shortly thereafter he decided that the harsh climate was not to his liking and received an appointment to work at Simon Fraser University Library. Despite moving, he still loved in Vancouver and its environment at first sight. Realizing that he needed a Canadian professional degree in librarianship, he applied to UBC Library School. After receiving his degree, he was appointed as a cataloguer, later as a humanities reference librarian and finally as a bibliographer at UBC Library. He built a strong library collection in the field of religious studies, German, French, Italian language and literature, classical studies, archeology and European history. Leszek published The Religious Life of Man: a guide to basic literature and Religious Studies Without Years: student guide to basic literature. In 1975 he was granted leave to study at the Institute Bourgiba in Tunisia and the American University in Cairo. He also became active in Vancouver’s musical world and for many years sang with the Vancouver Opera Chorus, Bach Choir, North Shore Light Opera and the Vancouver Men’s Chorus.

Bill enjoyed gardening, travelling and attending the five-year Norrish family reunions. He loved the sport of curling and was a member of the Mission Curling Club from 1954 to 2005. He first taught at Nicomen School in Mission and retired in that position in 1972. His genuine concern and caring manner was loved throughout his life.

Thomas Edward James, BSc'62

Thomas died on Mount Shasta in northern California on April 1, 2010, at age 66. While at UBC, Tom completed an 18-month engineering co-op work placement with INCO in Thompson, MB. His final year project was a feasibility study on installing a solar energy system in an engineering building at UBC. After graduating, Tom worked as a process engineer for Fluor Corporation in Vancouver. In the fall of 2009, he moved to the company’s office in Dublin, California. As an engineer, Tom was passionate about making a difference through sustainability. He played a key role in bringing a biodiesel production project to UBC. A plaque will be hung in Tom’s honour near the reactor that is part of the biodiesel project.

Leszek was born on September 17, 1937, in the multicultural city of Lvov, then part of Poland. In 1940, his father, an officer of the Polish Army and a medical doctor, was murdered in Katyn. Leszek finished his high studies in Krakow at the Jagiellonian University. For two or three years he hesitated about whether or not to do a degree in music at the conservatory or pursue an academic career. Finally, Mediterranean archeology won out. Having previously studied Latin, English, Russian, German and Italian, he added Hebrew and Arabic to his language base. Leszek graduated with a MA and was offered a position with the Jagiellonian University Library. He continued taking graduate courses both at the University of Krakow and commuting for some courses to Warsaw University. In 1966, he received a government fellowship to do a PhD in Denmark and became fluent in Danish. To supplement his government grant, he worked as a reference librarian at the University of Arhus and soon realized this was the association he enjoyed. Emigrating to Canada in 1967, he received the position of technician in the cataloging department of the library at Carleton University in Ottawa. Shortly thereafter he decided that the harsh climate was not to his liking and received an appointment to work at Simon Fraser University Library. Despite moving, he still loved in Vancouver and its environment at first sight. Realizing that he needed a Canadian professional degree in librarianship, he applied to UBC Library School. After receiving his degree, he was appointed as a cataloguer, later as a humanities reference librarian and finally as a bibliographer at UBC Library. He built a strong library collection in the field of religious studies, German, French, Italian language and literature, classical studies, archeology and European history. Leszek published The Religious Life of Man: a guide to basic literature and Religious Studies Without Years: student guide to basic literature. In 1975 he was granted leave to study at the Institute Bourgiba in Tunisia and the American University in Cairo. He also became active in Vancouver’s musical world and for many years sang with the Vancouver Opera Chorus, Bach Choir, North Shore Light Opera and the Vancouver Men’s Chorus.

Leszek Karpinski, BSc'69

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Bill enjoyed gardening, travelling and attending the five-year Norrish family reunions. He loved the sport of curling and was a member of the Mission Curling Club from 1954 to 2005. He first taught at Nicomen School in Mission and retired in that position in 1972. His genuine concern and caring manner was loved throughout his life.
Canadian-born lyric coloratura Nancy Hermiston has performed throughout Europe and North America. She has worked as voice teacher, stage director and coordinator with the University of Toronto’s Opera and Performance divisions.

In 1995 she joined UBC’s School of Music as the Head of the Voice and Opera divisions, and established the UBC Opera Ensemble. In 2004, Nancy was named the UBC University Marshal and in 2008 the university awarded her the Dorothy Somerset Award for Performance and Development in the Visual and Performing Arts. She received the Killam Prize for teaching in 2010.

Nancy is a favourite guest for master classes throughout Canada, China and Germany. Her UBC Opera Ensemble tours regularly to the Czech Republic, Germany, Ontario, China and throughout BC.

 Interviews with Nancy Hermiston, Head of the UBC Voice and Opera Divisions at the UBC School of Music. 

What is your most prized possession? My doggie, Valentino. He is a havanese and a real rascal but very sweet. Man and woman’s best friend. Life without dogs would be terrible. What was your nickname at school? Hermie. 

What are your pet peeves? Someone wasting my time makes me really angry.

What would you take to that desert island? 

Which three pieces of music would you take to that desert island? 

If a genie granted you one wish, what would it be? To find a cure for cancer, strokes, heart disease, MS — all the terrible things that take our friends and family away from us. What item have you owned for the longest time? A little figurine of a dancer, given to me by my mother when I was a very little girl. What is your latest purchase? A little figurine of a dancer, given to me by my mother when I was a very little girl.

Where do you most admire (living or dead) and why? My mother. She was never able to go to secondary school and certainly not university, yet her music brought so much joy to so many people. She played the piano in my family’s dance band. She played at wedding dinners and at the 60th anniversaries of the same couples. She was so open-minded and fair. She loved life and the door was always open, coffee pot on. There were always good things to eat for visitors. She took in boarders, baked for fairs, neighbours, or events, and worked at a clothing store so that I could go to university and follow my dreams. Her uBC Opera Ensemble tours regularly to the Czech Republic, Germany, Ontario, China and throughout BC.

What was the last thing you read? What if there were no curveballs? Never Say It Can’t Be Done.

What was your childhood hero? Victor Borge, Lucille Ball. Their facial expressions and physical portrayal of characters were priceless, a real study in the actor’s handiwork. Vancouver Symphony’s Bramwell Tovey always makes me laugh. The same is true of Christopher Grace of Bard on the Beach. 

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Get a Second Opinion

In these turbulent investment markets, a Second Opinion could bring you the stability you’re looking for.

Why Do You Need a Second Opinion?
Uncertain market conditions can leave you trying to balance your own peace-of-mind with your investment needs and goals. We can help guide you through a process to understand where you stand today and will help you to:

- **Understand and prioritize your goals**
  Before considering specific investments, it’s important to identify your goals and priorities. What do you want to achieve? How much time do you have? What is your risk comfort level?

- **Assess your current portfolio**
  We can share with you our investment process which is designed to help ensure you are in the best position to achieve what you want. This process will define an appropriate asset mix and analyze your existing investments.

- **Make changes where needed**
  You will also receive helpful recommendations on how you may potentially get more from your investments, including GICs, mutual funds, RSPs, RRIFs, and RESPs.

**Contact us to schedule a Second Opinion today:**
Call 1.877.464.6104  Email invest@clearsight.ca  Visit www.clearsight.ca/ubc