University of Victoria

speed reading

UVic grad students awarded Pacific Leaders fellowships

BY ROBIE LISCOMB

Four UVic grad students are among the ten chosen by the provincial government to receive prestigious fellowships to support their research into key issues affecting British Columbia and to work in the BC public service upon receipt of their degree.

Receiving Pacific Leaders Graduate Student Fellowships are Lianne Charlie (history), Amber Roosa Mitchell (dispute resolution), Lois Stewart (sociology) and Aijun Yang (statistics). Each will receive $20,000 per year for up to two years and will be employed in the public service for at least the same length of time.

They were selected among applicants from the province’s four research intensive universities (UVic, SFU, UBC and UNBC). Requirements include a minimum A- average over the past two years of full-time study in a program 75 per cent of which involves research on public service or policy issues in areas where government is facing skill shortages.

Lianne Charlie is in her second year of a master’s degree in history, studying the historical and ethnographic contributions of Indigenous community specialist Anne York (Nlaka’pamux) of Spuzzum, BC. “York has contributed enormously to the cultural history of the region through her work with linguists, ethnohistorians, historians, anthropologists and others,” says Charlie. She has received little recognition, though these collaborations have resulted in several monographs, films and book chapters.

Amber Mitchell, a first-year master’s student in dispute resolution, is studying the integration of addiction and mental health services and the nature of collaboration across numerous disciplines and professions that is needed in order to achieve effective integration. This will lead to recommendations on how best to

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Two leading Indigenous scholars join UVic

BY VALERIE SHORE

An historian who studies how settler societies have impacted Indigenous societies and how Indigenous nations can recover their traditional values is the University of Victoria’s newest Canada Research Chair.

Dr. Waziyatawin (pronounced Wah-ZEY-yah-tuh-wen) joined UVic’s Indigenous Governance Program on July 1 for a five-year term as the Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Peoples.

Through years of collaboration with Indigenous Peoples in Canada and elsewhere, UVic has become a North American leader in research related to governance and development.

Indigenous historian is UVic’s newest Canada Research Chair

BY PATSY PITTS

Ottawa-born Indigenous scholar James Hopkins will become the inaugural National Aboriginal Economic Development Chair, based in the faculties of business and law. This new position, the first of its kind in Canada, will direct a program of research, relationship building and educational initiatives aimed at promoting Aboriginal economic development in Canada.

“I am delighted that UVic has been able to attract a scholar of Professor Hopkins’ calibre to carry out the wide-ranging goals of this position,” says University of Victoria President David Turpin. “I look forward to his appointment being a catalyst for research, partnerships and education.

Waziyatawin

Hopkins

THE RING

JULY 2008

The University of Victoria’s community newspaper

ring.uvic.ca

UVIC BUDGET

Plans to deal with cutbacks

In the wake of the provincial government’s $4.2-million reduction in the university’s operating grant announced this spring, the board of governors has approved a deficit management plan for 2008/09 and received a document outlining the university’s approach to budget reduction for 2009/10. Story on page 3.

DECANAL APPOINTMENTS

New leadership for engineering, law faculties

Donna Greschner brings a rich background of research, teaching, practice and public service in constitutional law, human rights and health care law to her new position as dean of the Faculty of Law. Dr. Thomas Tiedje will join the Faculty of Engineering as dean on Sept. 2. A much-awarded engineer, Tiedje comes from UBC, where he has served as head of the Department of Physics and Astronomy. Stories on page 2.

CHANCELLOR ELECTED

New chancellor a familiar face

After six years of service on UVic’s board of governors, Murray Farmer will don the robes of university chancellor starting Jan. 1. Farmer, a UVic grad and strong university supporter, is president of Farmer Industries Group, with interests in the construction, development and hospitality industries. Story on page 4.

HONOURING OUTSTANDING SERVICE

Distinction calling

Summer is a good time to start thinking about nominating your fellow employees for the 2008 President’s Distinguished Service Awards. The nomination deadline is earlier this year (Oct. 15) for this award program, which pays tribute to the effort and achievements of the University of Victoria’s 4,000-plus staff members. Nomination forms will soon be available on the PDSA website, which also contains information about the program and previous winners. More online at web.uvic.ca/hr/pdsa/index.html

SUMMER OLYMPICS

Vikes off to Beijing

Vikes running coaches Brent Fouger and Ingrid Ruy and Paralympics swimmer Stephanie Dixon will be in the Canada contingent at the Olympic Games in Beijing this summer. They will join 10 alumni from Vikes men’s and women’s rowing teams who will also represent Canada at the Games. Story on page 8.

UVic grad students awarded Pacific Leaders fellowships

4 of 10

PROPORTION OF NEW BC PUBLIC SERVICE FELLOWSHIPS AWARDED TO UVIC STUDENTS

see fellowships p.3

see historian p.5

see Hopkins p.7

Toxins in Grizzly Diet

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HOPKINS APPOINTED ABORIGINAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CHAIR

By Patty Pitts

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See Historian p.5

See Hopkins p.7

University of Victoria

The University of Victoria’s community newspaper
New research centre on Aboriginal health

In May, the UVic senate approved the Centre for Aboriginal Health Research. Built on the foundation of UVic’s Aboriginal Health Research Group, the new centre will promote the health and well-being of Indigenous peoples, whose health disparities require urgent attention. This change in status will better position the centre’s faculty and student members to take advantage of funding opportunities in interdisciplinary research and training. Centre researchers will focus on the strengths, challenges, opportunities, and problems of Indigenous Peoples and the societal structures and institutions that affect them. The director of the new centre is epidemiologist Jeff Reading, who headed the research group and is also the scientific director of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research—Institute of Aboriginal Peoples’ Health, based at UVic.

BY PATTY PITTS

As she was completing her business degree at the University of Saskatchewan, Donna Greschner pondered what most graduates would consider a dream offer—a position with a prominent corporation in New York. Instead, she chose to go to law school.

“I never regretted it,” says Greschner, whose term as UVic’s new law dean began July 1. “I had been, and continues to be, a wonderful career for me.”

It’s a career that has taken her from growing up on a remote farm in Saskatchewan to sharing a dinner table with Nelson Mandela and negotiation tables with federal and provincial politicians. Throughout her career, she has always maintained a connection to academic life, most recently as a faculty member at the University of La Verne’s law school in southern California. She is unequivocal in describing why she applied to UVic Law’s next dean.

“I’ve always considered UVic to be one of Canada’s most educational institutions,” she says. “Its law school is an exceptional place, one of the best in the common law world. It attracts remarkable faculty and students.”

Greschner brings to UVic a rich and varied background of research, teaching, practice and public service in constitutional law, human rights and health care law. After graduating in 1980 as Saskatchewan’s gold medallist in law, she earned her graduate law degree from Oxford University as a Commonwealth Scholar.

Returning to the U of S, she taught the university’s first course in feminist legal theory. In the mid-80s, she represented the prairies on the federal Women’s Studies Advisory Committee, which chose five inaugural chairs in women’s studies at Canadian universities. In 1987, Greschner was chosen by then justice minister Ray Hnatyshyn to serve on Canada’s Human Rights Commission. A frequent advisor on constitutional matters, she served as Elijah Harpur’s advisor during the Aboriginal campaign against the Meech Lake Accord. In 1992 she was a member of Saskatchewan’s negotiating team for the Charlottetown Accord.

“That was one of the most intense years of my legal career,” said Greschner. “It’s a career that has taken her from growing up on a remote farm in Saskatchewan to sharing a dinner table with Nelson Mandela and negotiation tables with federal and provincial politicians.”

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By Patty Pitts

New Law Dean

Human rights, constitutional law scholar to lead law faculty

Dr. Thomas Tiedje is UVic's incoming dean of engineering.

Currently a professor in the department of physics and astronomy and electrical and computer engineering at UBC, Tiedje will begin his five-year term on Sept. 2.

“Research programs are one of the most important assets of a university,” says Tiedje. “They draw people to an institution, energize its academic and economic activity and create social benefits. Although relatively small and new compared to competing faculties at other universities, at engineering UVic has one of the strongest research programs for its size in Canada. We can always attract and mentor outstanding graduate students and faculty, bring in new programs, and make the connection with undergraduate education.”

A fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and the American Physical Society, Tiedje has received the BC Science Council Gold Medal, the UBC Killam Research Prize, the NSERC Steacie Fellowship and the Herzberg Medal of the Canadian Association of Physicists. Tiedje graduated from the University of Toronto and UBC, then moved to Texas A&M Research and Engineering Co., where he worked on photovoltaics and was group head of nanostructure materials from 1983 to 1997. In 1997 he joined UBC as an associate professor in physics and electrical engineering, where he was first director of the Advanced Materials and Process Engineering Lab and head of physics and astronomy. He has also been a visiting researcher in Germany and Japan.

During his time as dean he plans to continue his research on materials for light-emitting devices and focus forward with collaborating with people working in related areas at UVic. UVic’s current vice-president of research, Dr. Michael Miller, has been on the engineering faculty since 1987 when he was named dean of the Department of Engineering. He will complete his second five-year term as dean on June 30.

New Engineering Dean

Incoming engineering dean a much-decorated researcher

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Continued from P.1

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By Jessica Gillies

Sexually transmitted infections aren’t something most people like to talk or even think about. But when we do, syphilis doesn’t immediately spring to mind. After all, it’s a disease of the past, right? Wrong. Syphilis rates are rising in BC and in the rest of Canada. The latest statistics reveal that BC has the highest reported rate of syphilis in Canada, with 6.8 cases per 100,000 people—a more than double the rate of 10 years ago.

Dr. Caroline Cameron, a University of Victoria medical historian and holder of the Canada Research Chair in Molecular Pathogenesis since 2006, is one of a handful of researchers who study this disease and the only one in Canada examining it at a basic science level.

Cameron is trying to understand how the syphilis bacterium, Treponema pallidum, attaches to the tissues of its host, how it passes through the tissue barrier and how it spreads to distant tissue sites.

“The syphilis bacterium is one of the most invasive organisms there is, and that’s partially because it’s screw-shaped,” says Cameron. “It bores into tissues and is able to spread through the bloodstream to virtually every tissue and organ.”

Research on the fragile T. pallidum bacterium can be difficult. “When you try to use normal lab techniques on it, it breaks apart,” says Cameron. “Because it’s so technically challenging, there are very few investigators worldwide who work on it.”

But for Cameron, the challenge is exciting. “Treponema pallidum is fascinating,” she says. “It has shaped the history of the world; it’s still a problem; and there’s hardly anyone looking at it.”

There are three stages of syphilis. The primary stage appears as painless open lesions at the site of infection. These lesions may go unnoticed, especially if they occur internally, and therefore the disease goes untreated. In the secondary stage, an infectious rash appears, possibly with other symptoms. In the third, on the other hand, the primary and secondary symptoms disappear. For 70 per cent of those infected, the disease will stay latent for the rest of their lives. But for the other 30 per cent, the disease enters the late stage and can lead to tissue destruction, insanity and death. This stage can occur anywhere between two to 50 years after infection.

The bacterium enters the body through a mucous membrane or a break in the skin. From there, it moves to the bloodstream and then to the rest of the body. It’s this movement into and out of the bloodstream that is the focus of one of Cameron’s projects.

The bacterium attaches to specialized tissue, called the “basement membrane,” that lines blood vessels. One of the key components of this basement membrane is a substance called laminin.

“I have identified a protein from the bacterium that binds to laminin, so we now know how it is attaching,” she says. “Our goal is to prevent that binding by coming up with inhibitors or even a vaccine to stop it from getting into the bloodstream.”

Cameron is also working on two other T. pallidum projects: she’s investigating the proteins that are important to the development of the disease, and she’s developing an improved diagnostic test for syphilis.

In its early stages, syphilis is easily treatable with antibiotics. “In theory, we should be able to eradicate this disease from the globe, but that’s not happening,” says Cameron. In the developing world, lack of access to antibiotics is a big factor. In developed nations, the continued prevalence of syphilis is more complex, she says.

“The fact that syphilis is still here demonstrates that current public health measures are not sufficient to eliminate this disease.” And it clearly shows the need for new ways to combat the disease. “The best way to accomplish this is through a greater understanding of the mechanisms of infection,” she says. “Research will enable us to conquer this pathogen and develop new methods for diagnosis and prevention.”

For Murray Farmer, one UVic door is closing while another opens. His six-year appointment to the board of governors ended with the board’s June meetings. A few days earlier, Farmer was elected to serve as the university’s next chancellor starting Jan. 1.

In month-long balloting among members of the UVic convocation, Farmer—received 2,512 votes compared to 1,326 for Jim Dutton, a retired cardiovascular-thoracic surgeon. Voting, via WebVote and paper ballots, was conducted among members of the UVic convocation, the Royal BC Museum and the University of Greater Victoria.

Farmer will succeed Chancellor Ron Lou-Poy whose second and final three-year term concludes on December 31. The formal installation of the new chancellor will take place during June 2009 Spring Convocation ceremonies. The chancellor is the titular head of the university, confers degrees and serves on the board of governors and senate.

President David Turpin, in a message to the university community, welcomed the election results. “Dr. Lou-Poy and his predecessors have served our university as chancellor with immense grace, generosity and wisdom. Murray Farmer will sustain the quality of leadership and spirit we at UVic have been so fortunate to enjoy.”

Farmer, 2007 recipient of the UVic Alumni Association’s Distinguished Alumni Award for Lifetime Achievement, is president of Farmer Industries Group, with interests in the construction, development and hospitality industries. With his wife, Lynda, he is a co-owner of a Central Saanich equestrian training facility for young people.

Farmer’s extensive volunteer leadership has included time with the Victoria Foundation, the Sidney Marine Discovery Centre Campaign, the Royal BC Museum and the United Way of Greater Victoria.

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THE BEAR FACTS
BC grizzlies carry worrisome levels of manmade toxins, grad student finds

BY VALERIE SHORE
We’ll all see them—photos of grizzly bears snatching salmon from raging waterfalls or grazing on sedge grass in picturesque estuaries. They symbolize a wilderness world far removed from the hustle and bustle of modern urban life.

But is our wilderness as pristine as we think it is?

So it isn’t, says Jennie Christensen, who has just completed a four-year study of environmental contaminants in BC grizzlies. She graduated last month with a PhD from UVic’s School of Earth and Ocean Sciences.

“I’ve always felt a strong connection with wildlife and the environment,” says Christensen, who was born in Courtenay but spent most of her childhood in St. Albert, AB. Her first introduction to the world of grizzlies came through a school work experience program.

“I was lucky enough to hold and feed two orphaned cubs—it was amazing. How could I resist an opportunity to work with these animals in the future?”

That opportunity presented itself after Christensen had completed her master’s in amphibian toxicology. She saw an ad for the UVic PhD project—“a partnership with Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Raincoast Conservation Society and UVic—and jumped at the chance.

Recent studies show that salmon can contain a number of contaminants originating from all over the globe, she explains. These pollutants include PCBs, DDT, other organochlorines, pesticides, and flame retardants known as PBDEs.

“We wanted to find out whether salmon are playing a role in delivering these contaminants to grizzlies,” Christensen says.

The answers have important implications not just for the bears and the ecosystems in which they live, but for human health, as governments seek effective ways to regulate the use and spread of these highly toxic chemicals.

PCBs and DDT are linked with immune, reproductive and brain impairments and are largely banned in North America. But they’re still used worldwide, she says, and concentrations are transmitted globally by air and through the food chain.

As are PBDEs, which are still widely used and are manufactured in everyday products such as televisions, computers, furniture, clothing, and electronics. When these products are discarded into the environment, PBDEs creep their way up the food chain as they go.

To find out what toxic load BC grizzlies are carrying, hair and fecal samples were collected from bears in coastal and interior regions of BC.

Fat samples were taken from legally hunted bears. Christensen also spent many hours on the Koeye River on the central coast, observing feeding habits and collecting food items.

“This dietary information is critical if we are to understand how different foods transfer contaminants to the bears,” says Christensen, who is respectful but fond of the powerful bruins. One Koeye bear, a young male she and her team named Zoolander, was especially endearing.

“Every day, for hours, he would follow us as we worked. When we stopped to collect food samples, he would stop too and lay down and have a snooze.”

In general, the study found that bears that consume salmon contain higher concentrations of DDT and PCBs than interior bears, which eat mainly vegetation. But the interior bears harbour “significantly higher” concentrations of PBDEs. This was a surprise to Christensen.

“We expected the salmon-eating bears to be more contaminated with PBDEs,” she says. “This clearly demonstrates that local use of PBDEs is having an impact on wildlife in the terrestrial food web.”

A unique risk factor for bears is hibernation, when they burn their fat stores for energy. “In some cases, the contaminants are tripping in concentration by the time the bears emerge in spring,” says Christensen. “Hibernation is also when mothers give birth and nurse their young; so vulnerable cubs are being exposed to the highest concentrations through their mother’s milk.”

While contaminant levels over-all were lower than those in other animals where toxic effects have been observed, there is still cause for concern, says Christensen. “Some toxic effects can occur at the sub-cellular level, and research is only beginning to uncover the health ramifications at this scale.”

Although the study is completed, Christensen says that grizzlies, coastal rainforests and toxicology will always be an important part of her personal and professional life.

“Our coastal rainforests are incredible and are something we should be really proud of,” she says. “However, these forests and all the wildlife that depend upon them desperately need our protection and increased conservation efforts.”

ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES
New photocopieters use less energy, paper

HISTORIAN CONTINUED FROM P1
Peoples have been historically treated by the rest of society,” says Dr. Howard Bruce Atwood, who worked with Waziyatawin. “This Canada Research Chair will build on those strengths.”

The Canada Research Chairs program is designed to attract the best talent from Canada and around the world, helping universities achieve research excellence, says Waziyatawin, with a PhD from Concordia and engineering, health sciences, and social sciences and humanities.

Waziyatawin, who is a Wahpetonan Dakota from southwestern Minnesota, says that UVic’s Indigenous Governance Program was the only one in North America that she was interested in joining.

“What drew me to the program’s intellectual commitment to Indigenous liberation and its dedication to personal decolonization and social action,” she says.

Waziyatawin’s research interests include Indigenous women and the struggle for social justice, the recovery of Indigenous knowledge, and truth-telling and reparative justice. She holds a PhD in American history at Cornell University, and spent seven years teaching history at Arizona State before leaving in 2007 to work as an independent scholar.

“My work is grounded in Indigenous world views and values, especially from a Dakota perspective,” she says. “That perspective has fostered my deep respect for Indigenous knowledge. It’s knowledge that can be seen in all of my research and writing.”

Waziyatawin is the author, editor or co-editor of four books, including In the Footsteps of Our Ancestors (2006), which tells the story of the brutal Dakota Death March of 1862 in which 1,700 Dakota women, children, and elders were collected from a concentration camp and eventually expelled from their homeland. Among them was Waziyatawin’s great-great-grandmother.

It’s a dark chapter of Minnesota history that is ignored in the history books, she says. Waziyatawin, with a PhD in American history and research frequently challenges the institutions and systems of “settler society” which, she says, continue to oppress Indigenous Peoples in North America.

As a settler society acknowledges the immorality of practices and actions such as invasion, ethnic cleansing, forced removals, land dispossession, genocide and colonisation, we can finally take the first steps toward justice.”

Waziyatawin—who whose name translates into “Woman of the North”—says she is looking forward to learning about the history of Indigenous Peoples of British Columbia and Canada.

“Obviously, each Indigenous nation is unique with its own distinct culture and relationship to the land, but the historical experiences of Indigenous Peoples on both sides of the Canada-US border are remarkably similar,” she says.

The latest round of Canada Research Chairs was announced nationally on May 10. Also included were two UVic chair renewals, for Sarah Chappell, Canada Research Chair in Social Gerontology and Dr. Sara Ellison, Canada Research Chair in Observational Cosmology. The renewals are for seven- and five-year terms respectively.

The University of Victoria has signed a new strategic alliance contract with Kyocera Mita Canada Ltd. and its local servicing partner Island Office Equipment to replace the university’s current fleet of photocopiers with a new generation of energy-efficient multi-tasking devices boasting several sustainable features. The goal of the program, which Kyocera calls Advantage², is to eventually eliminate independent laser printers; fax machines and scanners across campus. Through the five-year, $1.5-million contract, Kyocera will supply new machines that will photocopy, print, scan and fax.

“UVic is very pleased to enter into this strategic alliance with Kyocera,” says Gayle Gorrill, UVic’s vice-president finance and operations. “Employees and students will find the Kyocera devices more efficient, and their environment-friendly features are consistent with UVic’s commitment to sustainable operating practices.”

Advantage² includes a mandate to use 100 per cent post-consumer recycled paper stock for all printing on campus.

The new copiers will have the capacity to store and share digital files, eliminating the need for master copies. Users will also be able to fax directly from their computers to cut down on paper usage.

Through the strategic alliance with UVic, Kyocera will support several university initiatives, including scholarships, co-op and other sustainability initiatives, such as providing partial funding to enable The Ring to be printed on 100 per cent post-consumer recycled paper.

UVic began phasing in the new machines at the beginning of 2008, and full replacement of the existing photocopy fleet is expected to be complete within the next four years.

Training is available to all departments as part of the installation process. For more information and to arrange a complimentary needs assessment for your office, please contact Peter Kilt, manager of Printing Services at 721-8302 or visit the website at http://printing.uvic.ca/kyocera/

Office 2003 Training
Check the lineup of Office 2003 classes this summer. Class size limited to 14 so register early to avoid disappointment. All future Camosun computer classes will be taught in version 2007.
The Ring

The Social Sciences and Mathematics Building was officially opened on June 23. The new facility provides 9,090 square metres of research, teaching and learning space for students and faculty in the departments of geography, political science, mathematics and statistics, the School of Environmental Studies and the UVic/Environment Canada Water and Climate Impacts Research Centre (W-CIRC). The building is the third facility at UVic to be registered in the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating Program. Sustainable features include green roofs and extensive use of mountain pine beetle wood. More at www.uvic.ca/buildings/cab.html

Climenhaga

Dr. John L. Climenhaga died on May 27 at home in Victoria. He was 91. He joined the faculty of Victoria College in 1949 as a teacher of physics. He was the first head of the physics department at the University of Victoria, a position he held until 1969, when he became dean of arts and sciences. He served as dean with fairness and openness through a turbulent period in the university's history, before returning to teaching and research in 1972. Climenhaga was an effective and determined advocate for the creation of a university in Victoria during the 1960s, and, as head of physics, he was a major contributor to the creation of one of the finest physics research programs in Canada. He completed his PhD in astronomy at the University of Michigan in 1960 and was also an effective advocate for the creation of the astronomy program at UVic in 1965. He championed UVic's participation in TRIUMF, the Tri-University Meson Facility at UBC.

In 1972 and 1973, he spent a sabbatical doing research in Japan, South Africa and Poland, and his research collaboration with Dr. Jan Smolinski of the Polish Academy of Sciences' Institute of Astronomy continued for many years, until not long before Smolinski's death a decade ago. Upon his retirement in 1982, the observatory on the roof of the Elliott Building was named the Climenhaga Observatory in his honour. After retirement, Climenhaga continued to teach at UVic for a dozen years and gave many popular talks on astronomy in the community.

On his 70th birthday, he was honored by the International Astronomical Union when it assigned the name Climenhaga to an 8-km asteroid (minor planet 3034), which orbits the sun between Mars and Jupiter. In 1996, UVic granted him the honorary degree of Doctor of Science. Donations in his name may be made to the John L. Climenhaga Scholarship, which was created in 1972 to assist a senior UVic student in physics or astronomy, c/o the University of Victoria Development Office, PO Box 3060, Victoria, B.C., V8W 3R4.

Nixon

Mary Theresa Nixon passed away peacefully in her home on May 29 after a very brief illness and shortly before her pending June 30 retirement from the work she loved. Mary is survived by Don, her husband of many years, and by their son Mark.

She served the university and its students in the Faculty of Education for many years as a long-service sessional instructor, beginning that work in 1968 and continuing until her death.

Mary began her work as a teacher in England, and together with Don traveled, taught and learned on three continents. They moved eventually to Canada, where in 1975 Mary completed her PhD in educational administration at the University of Alberta, numbered early among women academics in that field.

She was widely affirmed for her work with many undergraduate students in teacher education and with graduate students in educational leadership. Her commitment to guiding and supporting students was reflected in their assessment of her work.

Mary's outstanding work as a teacher was recognized in 2004 with the faculty's selection of her as the recipient of the Full-time Sessional Excellence in Teaching Award. Her letter of citation noted that Mary's ongoing support for students, her attention to their needs, mentoring activity and collaboration with colleagues "far exceeds faculty expectations." It added, "You are an excellent role model and inspiration for faculty members and colleagues in the Faculty of Education."

Mary will be remembered and missed by her family, friends and colleagues for her clear commitment to others and to her work over many years.

Contributed by Vernon Storey, Professor Emeritus, Faculty of Education.

in memoriam
Legacy Gallery hosts 'Picasso of the North'

More than 15 paintings influenced or created by internationally renowned Anishnaabe artist Norval Morrisseau will be on display at the Legacy Art Gallery and Cafe from July 9 to Nov. 30.

"Copper Thunderbird: Invention, Inspiration and Transformation" will feature painted works spanning three decades as well as costumes, drawings and photographs designed by celebrated Canadian stage designer Mary Kerr (theatre) from "Copper Thunderbird," a biographical play about Norval Morrisseau staged last year at the National Arts Centre.

Legacy Art Gallery and Cafe is located at 630 Yates Street and is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday to Sunday. For further information visit www.legacygallery.ca/
A DAY IN THE LIFE OF KATHY HARRIS involves communicating with companies across North America, setting up purchasing programs and special UVic rates and responding to concerns about payments. Harris, who started at UVic in 1994, is the supervisor of supplier payments purchasing in Purchasing Services. “I work with a wonderful and dedicated team of Donna Maxwell, Dana England and Pat Barnes,” she says. “They process over 200 invoices daily and 400 purchasing cards monthly, checking each statement for receipts and compliance to purchasing policy and PCard guidelines. “Although I usually start my day at 7:30 a.m., sometimes I’m in by 6:30 a.m.”

leading to the Card.

Three Vikes heading for Olympics

VIKES ROUNDUP

Three Vikes will be bound for Beijing this summer. Brent Fougner, head coach of the Vikes cross-country and track teams, will work with the middle-distance teams at the Games, including medal hopefuls Harris Reed of Victoria. Ingrid Roy, who joined the Vikes as an assistant middle-distance coach this past year, has been appointed Canada’s team manager of athletics. Para-athletics swimmer Stephanie Dixon will be making her third Summer Olympics appearance. Dixon has represented Canada at the 2000 Sydney Games and 2004 Athens Games. Born missing a leg, the psychology major currently holds three world records and six Canadian records. Since 1970, nearly 130 Vikes athletes and coaches have represented Canada at the Olympics and Paralympic Games.

TEN ALUMNI ROWERS QUALIFY FOR BEIJING

In June, Canada’s women’s eight crew, featuring four former Vikes rowers, won the Olympic Qualification Regatta in Poland, claiming one of two available spots for Beijing. Former Vikes Darcy Margatroid, Buffy Alexander, Romina Stefancic and Sarah Berni native will be accompanied by teammates Kevin Light and Adam Kreek, while the lightweight four features Mike Lewis.

VIKES CROWNED RCGA CHAMPS

In late May at Corvina Bay Golf Course, the UVic Vikes women’s golf team captured the 2008 RCGA University College Championships for the first time. The Vikes finished the 72-hole tournament four strokes ahead of the four-time defending champion UCBC Thunderbirds.

Led by senior Christina Spence, who won the individual title for the second straight year, the Vikes became the first women’s team other than UBC to win the RCGA title since the tournament was conceived in 2004. Spence finished the tournament at 15 strokes over, defeating her next closest competitor by 12 strokes. The UVic Law student, who is in the midst of completing her bar exams, led the field from start to finish.

The first place finish earns Spence an invitation to the World University Golf Championships this summer in Sun City, South Africa. The Port Alberni native will be accompanied by teammate Anne Baber, who finished in fifth place in the tournament. It will be the second trip to the World University Championship for the duo, who also represented Canada in 2007 in Bangkok, Thailand.