Olympic Torch Day Celebrate the arrival of the Olympic Torch in Victoria.

The torch will arrive in Victoria on Oct. 30 and UVic is hosting a community celebration in parking lot 4 near Centennial Stadium from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Enjoy a barbecue and refreshments and celebrate UVic’s tradition of excellence in athletics and health and wellness research and initiatives. The festivities will conclude in time to head downtown to the main torch ceremony on the lawn of the legislature.

New Program Lecture launches program in social justice studies

This term, UVic has launched a new interdisciplinary minor and diploma exploring the ways in which scholars, researchers and students address and engage with issues surrounding social injustices and initiatives promoting social justice in the contemporary world. To mark the occasion, UVic President and Vice-Chancellor Dr. Mary-Wynne Ashford, former UVic faculty member delivered a public lecture Oct. 1 entitled “Changing the World: What Works?” More: ring.uvic.ca

United Way That’s a lot of change

BY TARA SHARPE

Those spare coins jangling around in your pocket or purse can quickly add up to a whole lot of positive change for someone in need in the Greater Victoria region. That’s the idea behind this year’s United Way coin drive fundraiser now in full swing across campus.

Jennie Nilsson, placement co-ordinator for UVic’s Co-operative Education Program and Career Services, is organizing the coin drive and single-handedly delivered coin jars to 120 departments across campus in mid-September.

“I’m really excited the United Way is so prominently visible in every department,” says Nilsson. “Some departments are even clamoring for some friendly competition.”

Nilsson will be posting details, once finalized, at www.unitedway.uvic.ca about how to kick off challenges between departments. Every coin collected will go to the United Way of Greater Victoria.

Nilsson delivered the jars over a three-day period, starting off first in high heels then switching to flat shoes. She admits that by the end of the first day, she “was in flip-flops.” Some feet aside, Nilsson’s enthusiasm is evident, and she emphasizes the response from numerous departments during her visits was also “overwhelmingly positive.”

Although Nilsson isn’t storing them in her office, full jars can be returned to her at the co-op and career office near the UVic Bookstore to be shipped off for banking. Nilsson is also willing to slip on her flip-flops again and pick up jars. She can be contacted at jnilsson@uvic.ca or 250-721-6582. The coin drive wraps up in mid-December.

The UVic United Way campaign kicked off this year with the annual BBQ on Sept. 21. Other events are set to raise the temperature even hotter on the iconic United Way thermometer on campus and across the city. United Way of Greater Victoria hopes to raise $6.35 million this year.

“We have been hearing about a lot of tough economic times in the last year or so,” says Norah McRae, executive director of UVic’s Co-operative Education Program and Career Services, and this year’s campaign committee chair. “This means times are even tighter for those in need. Every pledge form, coin and dollar can truly make a huge difference.”

For as little as $120 a year ($1 per pay- cheque), a job coach can be provided to help a person dealing with mental illness and looking for work.

UVic adds two new Canada Research Chairs

Two promising scholars in the fields of brain function and micro-engineering are the University of Victoria’s newest Canada Research Chairs.

Also renewed for a second term are three existing UVic Canada Research Chairs—in law, engineering and environmental economics.

The five chairs, funded by a total of $52 million, were among 161 chairs across Canada announced on Sept. 23 by Minister of State (Science and Technology) Gary Goodyear.

“The Canada Research Chairs program continues to help us attract and retain some of the brightest researchers in the world,” says Dr. Howard Brunt, UVic’s vice-president research. “The expertise of these talented individuals helps us build on our areas of strength and provides our students with the opportunity to work with researchers at the forefront of their disciplines.”

There are two types of Canada Research Chairs. Tier 1 chairs are “acknowledged by their peers as world leaders in their field” and receive $1.4 million over seven years. Tier 2 chairs are “emerging researchers, acknowledged by their peers as having the potential to lead in their field.” They are awarded $500,000 in research funding over five years.

UVic’s two new tier 2 chairs are Dr. Clay Holroyd (psychology) and Dr. David Sinton (mechanical engineering).

Holroyd, the Canada Research Chair in Cognitive Neuroscience, is a psychologist who conducts brain research on how people detect and correct their errors and how they learn from the consequences of their actions. His research is advancing the study and treatment of addiction, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), schizophrenia and many other neuropsychiatric disorders.

“I’m especially interested in what goes wrong in the process of decision-making and learning for children with attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder,” says Holroyd. He and his research team are recording the electrical brain activity of ADHD children at play to gain a better understanding of the challenges faced by children with attention problems.

Sinton, the Canada Research Chair in Ingested Microfluidics and Nanofluidics, describes the focus of his research as “plumbing, but not on the conventional scale.” He studies fluid flow in plumbing the width of a hair—and a thousand times smaller than that at the nanoscale.

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NUMBER OF CANADA RESEARCH CHAIRS AWARDED TO UVIC TO DATE

See Canada Research Chairs p.6

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See United Way p.8
Fighting the Flu

By Pattye Pitts

The flu season is here—and it’s likely H1N1 according to the provincial health authorities monitoring the situation in the province. UVic Health Services is seeing an increasing number of students coming to its clinic with flu-like symptoms, and the BC Centre for Disease Control says it considers 9 to 19 per cent of all cases to be H1N1.

“Students who are ill should all visit www.health.uvic.ca to recognize flu symptoms, learn how to care for themselves and understand when it is appropriate to seek medical advice from a physician,” says Dr. Bill Dyson, director of UVic Health Services.

After hours, they can contact the BC Nurse Hotline at 8-1-1 or the Health Services physician on call for assistance. “Most of the cases we have seen thus far have been mild and have not required a doctor’s visit.”

The university is not experiencing widespread student absenteeism, and Dyson says it’s important to continue to practice good hygiene to slow the spread of the disease.

“If this virus is as more cases develop, people may stop washing their hands so frequently or coughing into their sleeves because they think they’re catching the flu is inevitable,” he says.

“But it’s still very important to maintain these good practices to slow the spread of the virus. Hopefully we can blunt the anticipated spike in cases and therefore better manage those serious cases that will occur.”

Students who are absent from classes for less than two weeks do not need to provide a letter giving a medical reason for their absence to their instructors. “Given the situation with H1N1, we decided it was best to relax this requirement for the fall term,” says UVic’s Associate VP of Academic Planning Katy Materie.

UVic’s H1N1 planning group continues to meet regularly to monitor the situation on campus and liaise with public health authorities. A representa- tion from the Vancouver Island Health Authority toured the campus recently to view sites that would be suitable for a community immunization clinic.

“We showed the representative some sites that they could use if the H1N1 vaccine becomes available and availability protocols are in place, but no plans have been made about clinics yet,” says UVic Occupa- tional Health, Safety and Environment Director Richard Piskor. “We’ll continue to update the campus community through the UVic H1N1 website about clinic developments.” [www.uvic.ca/flu-update]

Some cases of flu have been reported in UVic Child Care Services, and parents are reminded to keep their children at home if they are display- ing flu-like symptoms. “Despite our best efforts to increase our cleaning and encourage good hygiene among the children, there is a group of families that is very vulnerable to the flu, given that kids like to play together and share toys,” says Jim Dunsdon, associate vice-president student affairs. “We ask that parents continue to encourage good hygiene with their children, so we can slow the impact of the disease.”

Seasonal influenza vaccine will not be available on campus this fall. The province announced last month that seasonal flu vaccine will only be provided to those over 65 and to residents of care facilities, since this segment of the population appears less vulnerable to H1N1 but more vulnerable to seasonal flu.

You have to be a bit of a Renaissance man to take on the role of general counsel for a university, and Don Barnhardt is prepared. You can imagine UVic’s general counsel this summer—brings just such breadth of experience to the position.

After earning his BA (‘82) and LLB (‘83) from UBC, Barnhardt worked for Canadian Pacific Railway for more than 20 years, serving as solicitor and commercial coordinator, senior counsel and corporate secretary and assistant general counsel. During those years, he gained broad experi- ence in corporate, commercial and financial law, real estate, corporate governance, administrative and environ- mental law and litigation.

This broad range of work helped make it easier for me to step in here at UVic and fairly readily assume the role of general counsel,” Barnhardt explains. “I was attracted to UVic be- cause of the opportunity to be a part of an organization that contributes so much to society. And I was also impressed by the collegial atmosphere and the cooperative way that people work together here.”

As general counsel, Barnhardt reports to the vice-president finance and operations and works with the administration on the development of policies and procedures to ensure legal compliance, manage risk and provide broad oversight on all legal and regulatory requirements affecting the university.

That includes contracts, such as those relating to research, technology transfer, promoting and real estate transactions.

Intellectual property and copyright matters; freedom of information and protection of privacy; international agreements for student and faculty exchange programs and development of university policies. In this position, he will be working closely with a number of units on campus including UVic Innovation Development and the UVic Research Office, the Office of Research, the Office of the President, the Office of the University Counsel, the Office of the Insurance and the Office of the General Counsel.

“I expect my work will be quite heavily weighted to the legal dimen- sions of UVic’s relationships and interactions with other organizations and businesses,” says Barnhardt. But he is also here to help members of the UVic community with any individual questions pertaining to legal aspects of their work at the university.

Barnhardt is born in Cranbrook and has family on Vancouver Island. He enjoys running and has completed several marathons.
What do you see when you look up at night? For three University of Victoria researchers, what’s up in the sky is better than fiction. They are members of the three UVic astronomers involved in the study: “We have been able to acquire the deepest ever image of our nearest neighbour: Andromeda. And what is truly amazing is that we are actually seeing stellar wisps that are the leftovers of smaller galaxies swallowed up by Andromeda during its formation.”

The Milky Way and its two nearest star systems, Andromeda and Triangulum, are spiral galaxies occupying an infinitesimally small region of space. There are tens of billions of other galaxies spread through the universe, and current cosmological theory suggests the larger ones are busy (in the small galactic sense of industry) devouring smaller galaxies and essentially feeding off their counterparts in a cannibalistic outer-space version of Darwinian survival.

This computer simulation sketches a possible orbit of the Triangulum galaxy around Andromeda, suggesting the former will eventually be devoured by its massive neighbour. (Image: Pan-Andromeda Archaeological Survey (PanADAS).)

Call for Proposals

Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation, BC/Yukon Region 2009 Breast Cancer Research Postgraduate Fellowship Competition

All qualified candidates are invited to apply for funding to study breast health and breast cancer through the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation, BC/Yukon Region Fellowship Program. This program is intended for qualified health care professionals, or recent graduates to begin their careers as investigators in breast cancer research. The 2009/2010 fellowship awards are generously supported by Nite of Hope, a volunteer-led event.

Deadline for applications is November 16, 2009.

For more information, please contact Haifa Stadi, Manager of Grant Allocations at 1.800.566.6171 ext 239 or hstadi@cfbc.org.
Grads travel to France to experience the Middle Ages

BY STEPHANIE JURY

From June 1–14, Bryan Solly, Ryan Hunt and I—all 2009 UVic Medieval studies grads—were privileged with the opportunity to travel to Montpellier, France, to study three different medieval manuscripts. The trip was the capstone to our undergraduate degrees. Our two weeks were spent attending lectures at the Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier III and researching our manuscripts at the Bibliothèque Universitaire de Médecine.

A month before we left for France, we each received a research question related to the manuscript we were to receive. My question, for example, was to investigate the purpose of the Jerusalem map in manuscript H142. I was to use the physical features of this historical anthology to discover why the map was included.

Bryan and Ryan both had to discover the uses of their manuscripts through physical features as well. Bryan worked on a text containing philosophical texts, and Ryan studied a book of law.

The trip to France presented each of us with a variety of “firsts.” For one thing, none of us had ever been to Europe, the very place which we have studied for at least four years. We had the opportunity to do some additional travelling to the surrounding countryside (such as Paris, Arignon, Nimes, and Carcassonne) in order to see first-hand the objects of our studies.

The most important “first,” in my opinion, was the research we were able to conduct while at the Bibliothèque Universitaire de Médecine. It was our first chance to work with an entire manuscript. Each of us had taken at least one class at UVic pertaining to Medieval manuscripts. In these classes we were able to access the small collection of manuscript fragments that our library has. To be able to actually hold and study an entire manuscript was something we would not have had the opportunity to do had it not been for the Medieval Studies Program’s initiative to create ties with the library and university in Montpellier.

You can learn so much more by having a whole book, rather than one page, to work with. In my case, I was able to determine the contents surrounding the map, which helped lead me to the conclusion that the map was intended to visually explain the surrounding historical works on Jerusalem. Had I only been able to look at the map, which the library sent to me digitally, I might not have been able to arrive at this same conclusion. I would also have missed out on the wonderful opportunity to experience a different culture, learn from different professors, and put to use the skills I have accumulated over four years of study at UVic.

The trip to Montpellier was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for all of us. For me, it reinforced my decision to continue studying the Middle Ages. It gave me a greater appreciation for what I have already learned and a desire to delve into areas of history I had never considered before. I think I can speak on behalf of all of us and say that this trip has given us the drive to continue along an academic path revolving around the discovery of Medieval history.

UVic’s Faculty of Humanities owes its current exchange agreement with Université Paul Valéry-Montpellier III, in Montpellier, France, to Dr. Claire Latine. In 2006-07, she negotiated the arrangement according to which several academic units contribute to the costs of the program in return for their own exchange opportunities. There have already been some individual faculty exchanges, but this was the first time that students have been involved (some of the funding for the students’ travel also came from generous donors to the Medieval Studies Program). Dr. Hélène Gues (French, continuing studies) worked with the manuscript librarian in Montpellier and laid the foundations for the three graduating students to undertake their capstone research projects.
Absent Citizens: Disability Politics and Policy Bookstore) are celebrating with an exhibition. The book in Canada, Professor of Social Policy in the Faculty of Human and Social Development, launches his new book, of award-winning book design, a book launch of public awareness and at the periphery of Victoria’s Don Drummond is a leading national expert on matters related to the performance of the Canadian economy, from GDP to the labour market. His career has been divided between the public and private sectors. He spent 22 years with the federal finance department, rising through the ranks to become associate deputy minister. In 2000, Drummond was appointed senior vice-president and chief economist of the TD Financial Group’s economic analysis and forecasting group. One of Canada’s most trusted economic analysts, he frequently contributes his insights on the economic issues of the day through his commentary in the news media. Drummond is also active in the application of economics to public policy development on issues of the environment, social welfare, housing and immigration.

Victoria Conference Centre. This year’s awards recognize a distinguished alumnus, lifetime achievements in research, and a key architect of the Vikes athletics program. An award for teaching will be presented in 2010. On this very special occasion, we will honour four Legacy Award recipients whose energy and dedication have contributed significantly to the quality and reputation of the University of Victoria,” says President David Turpin, “Equally important—and in the deepest sense of the word ‘legacy’—the achievements of these recipients make them role models for our current students.” The Legacy Awards welcome a new presenting sponsor this year, Uniglobe Geo Travel, and they’ll be hosted by ‘X Vancouver Island weatherman and community relations manager Bruce Williams.

UVic’s celebration of excellence

BY MIKE McNENY

The Legacy Awards, UVic’s annual gala celebration of outstanding members of the university community, will be presented on Oct. 13 at the Victoria Conference Centre. This year’s awards recognize a distinguished alumnus, lifetime achievements in research, and a key architect of the Vikes athletics program. An award for teaching will be presented in 2010. On this very special occasion, we will honour four Legacy Award recipients whose energy and dedication have contributed significantly to the quality and reputation of the University of Victoria,” says President David Turpin, “Equally important—and in the deepest sense of the word ‘legacy’—the achievements of these recipients make them role models for our current students.” The Legacy Awards welcome a new presenting sponsor this year, Uniglobe Geo Travel, and they’ll be hosted by ‘X Vancouver Island weatherman and community relations manager Bruce Williams.

Celebrate Library Month with UVic Libraries, Bookstore

October is Canadian Library Month and the UVic Libraries (with help from the Campus Bookstore) are celebrating with an exhibition of award-winning book design, a book launch and a reception and reading to honour recent UVic authors.

On Oct. 22 Michael Prince, Lansdowne Professor of Social Policy in the Faculty of Human and Social Development, launches his new book, About Citizens: Disability Politics and Policy in Canada (Univ. of Toronto Press). The book describes how disability exists in the shadows of public awareness and at the periphery of policy making. People with disabilities are, in many respects, missing from the theories and practices of social rights, political participation, employment and civic membership. About Citizens also considers social activism and civic engagements by people with disabilities and disability community organizations to ameliorate the marginalization of an often overlooked segment of the Canadian population. Prince will give a free public talk, followed by refreshments, Oct. 22 from 4-6 p.m. in the staff lounge of the McPherson Library.

Meanwhile, through Nov. 14, the 32 winners of the Alcan Society Awards for Excellence in Book Design in Canada are on exhibit in the Archives and Special Collections reading room. In February, these books compete in the annual Stiftung Buchkunst competition, the largest book-design competition in the world, in Leipzig, Germany. Award winners include BC publishers, authors and artists, including Frances Hunter, Daphne Marlatt, PK Page, Paul Headrick, and UVic’s Ian Stewart. The Alcan Society of Vancouver promotes a wider appreciation of books and reading, and supports excellence in book design and production.

And on Oct. 27, UVic Libraries and the UVic Bookstore invite everyone to a reception to honour UVic authors from 7:30–9:30 p.m. in the Bookstore. The evening will feature readings by four authors chosen from the 144 submitted works from 2007 and 2008: Lorna Jackson (writing) well read from Cold Cocked: On Hockey, Bill Gaston (writing), Gargoyles; and Paul Zehr (exercise science, physical and health education), Becoming Batman: The Possibility of a Superhero, and Karen Shaw (environmental studies), Indigeneity and Political Theory: Sovereignty and the Limits of the Political.

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in memoriam

Dr. Thom Hess passed away on Aug. 27 after a three-year battle with cancer. He is survived by his partner, Bob Taylor. Thom joined the Department of Linguistics in the late 1960s and retired in 2000. He was a gentleman, an outstanding teacher and a generous soul who shared unstintingly his time and his extensive First Nations language materials with students, colleagues and members of the First Nations communities. Many of us owe him so much. Thom is remembered fondly by students (and their children and grandchildren) of the Native Indian Language Diploma Program in which he played a pivotal role in the 1970s.

His teaching methods provided a template for First Nations language lessons developed throughout the area over the decades. He developed a highly popular, pioneering course on writing systems of the world. Thom was honoured as an outstanding instructor in 2000 with the Faculty of Humanities Excellence in Teaching Award. He will be missed. At Thom’s request there will be no service. In lieu of flowers a contribution to the BC Cancer Agency or a local charity will be appreciated.

Submitted by Dr. Thomas Hukari, professor emeritus, Department of Linguistics

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**Doctor Nash**

Steve Nash addresses Convocation after receiving an honorary doctor of laws degree from UVic on Sept. 18. While playing for the National Basketball Association’s Phoenix Suns, Nash was named the league’s most valuable player in 2005 and 2006. His Steve Nash Foundation works to increase access to critical needs, health and education resources for underserved children in Arizona, Paraguay, northern Uganda and BC. A video of the ceremony is available on the web at: http://www.uvic.ca/victors/nmn/.

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BY MELANIE GROVES

First Peoples House, one of the university’s most distinctive capital projects, welcomed its first occupants in early August, including the staff of the Office of Indigenous Affairs and Aboriginal counsellor’s office.

The house creates an academic and cultural centre for Indigenous students as well as a welcoming space on campus for the broader community.

“The house provides an important central gathering space and a place to connect on a regular basis with the elders,” says Fran Hunt Jinnouchi, director of the Office of Indigenous Affairs. “Although our Indigenous students, staff and faculty are from different nations across the country, we all now have a sense of home, of place and of a stronger connection to the local communities.”

Designed by Alfred Waugh Architect of Vancouver in the Coast Salish style, First Peoples House includes academic, administrative and ceremonial spaces. Boasting a green roof, storm retention pond and natural light and ventilation, the building is expected to achieve gold-level certification with the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating Standards program.

Landscaping with native trees and vegetation has already transformed the former construction site into attractive green space with pathways. Completed on time and on budget, the $7.5 million project was managed by Knappett Projects Inc.

The First Peoples House Advisory Council, co-chaired by Hunt Jinnouchi and Robina Thomas (social work) will provide guidance and advice on the mission, purposes and priorities of the house, and develop principles for its use and programming.

“Indigenous faculty are excited that the house offers us a cultural and spiritual place where we can profile the outstanding work that Indigenous students are engaged with,” says Thomas.

“There is a sense of optimism as students have started coming through the doors into this bright and inviting space,” adds Hunt Jinnouchi.

A date for the formal opening of First Peoples House will be announced later. For more information, contact the Office of Indigenous Affairs at 250-853-3601.

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**First Peoples House opens its doors**

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**Canada Research Chairs**

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SUCCESS

“Financial support for students trying to achieve higher education is a gift that can change a student’s life. As a recipient I know how wonderful this gift can be.”

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Annual sustainability initiatives have been coordinating the launch of a pilot study to evaluate the level of engagement of faculty, staff and students in a recycling sorting-at-source program. The pilot study is being conducted by TRI-Technology Resource Inc. and facilities management in five campus buildings through late November.

"Sorting our own recycling is one of the easiest but most important ways to reduce the amount of material destined for the landfill," says Ariff. "If this pilot program is successful, there may be an opportunity to expand it campus-wide in the future."

Staff, students and faculty in the participating pilot study buildings (Strong, MacLaurin D wing, Cheerhe 2nd floor A wing, Continuing Studies and the SUB) are being asked to take a few minutes each week to sort their recycling into the upgraded recycling bins that were installed in late September. Acceptable recycling materials include mixed paper, glass, plastic/metal, and refundable beverage containers.

Preliminary results from the study are expected to be available early in the new year.

Questions or suggestions: 250-853-2160 or nariff@uvic.ca.


“Sort it out” during pilot recycling study

Have you ever wondered what happens to that bottled water container after you toss it in your office bin? A recent study of the campus waste and recycling collection system found that there are few options in administrative and academic buildings for recycling materials other than paper and refundable beverage containers.

In fact, estimates suggest that UVic sends to the landfill approximately 8,000 tonnes of material a year that could be composted or recycled. The Sustainability Action Plan: Campus In 2009–2014 calls for the waste from the landfill by 2012.

Enter Nadia Ariff, the new waste reduction coordinator, whose first task since taking up her position with facilities management in August has been coordinating the launch of a pilot study to evaluate the level of engagement of faculty, staff and students in a recycling sorting-at-source program. The pilot study is being conducted by TRI-Technology Resource Inc. and facilities management in five campus buildings through late November.

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