UVic’s ocean observatory helps BC prepare for The Big One

BY KRISTA ZALA

When the 9.0 earthquake struck Japan on March 11, UVic’s world-leading marine observatory helped BC residents know what to expect when the tsunami hit their shores. Now, scientists are using the data to improve our understanding of how earthquakes near and far affect the BC coast.

Sensors on the NEPTUNE Canada ocean network—part of UVic’s Ocean Networks Canada (ONC) Observatory—detected the earthquake and tsunami as it swept toward BC. Because the measurements are available in real-time, details about the tsunami size and speed were online moments after each observatory site measured them.

Scientists at Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) are using the data to get a better picture of how future tsunamis will affect each bay and inlet up and down the BC coast. DFO advises Emergency Management BC, which is responsible for issuing warnings to BC’s coastal communities.

“We know we’ll get our big quake anywhere from one to 800 years from now,” says Dr. Richard Dewey, associate director of research at the observatory’s VENUS network. The tectonic plates off BC have a subduction zone similar to the coast of Japan, and the violent rebound of a major quake will be the problem. “The kind of earthquake we’ll get, like the one in Japan, is particularly effective at generating large tsunamis.”

Most people on the coast are familiar with the risk; a tsunami may follow an earthquake. But each fjord, cove and point has its own features like origin, speed, size and direction, so every massive wave acts differently in each case.

Knowing how various kinds of tsunamis affect parts of our coast prepares British Columbians for how to respond when one happens, and it helps determine the materials, size and location of new construction for everything from schools to tsunami walls.

The ONC observatory has two networks: the NEPTUNE Canada regional network and the VENUS coastal network. Each added different pieces to the picture.

See ONC P.8

THE EARTH MOVED AND SHOOK US ALL

UVic Japanese students organize and respond with support

BY CHRISTINE MCLAREN

The waters have receded and the tremors have diminished in Japan, but amidst unstable nuclear reactors and the rubble of a starkly redefined landscape, communities begin to face the challenge of rebuilding and coping with the loss. Here at UVic, separated by an ocean of uncertainty, we watch and wait, wondering how this disaster will affect us all.

For two Japanese students in the School of Child and Youth Care, watching was not enough.

With support from the Office of International Affairs and the school, undergraduate students Keisichi Otani and Hiroko Ota have formed the UVic Support Japan Committee. They have organized a regularly scheduled “conversation lounge” for students and faculty, offering peer support in the Japanese language and a space for planning responses to the crisis. Graduate student Nioomi Kido from the school and visiting clinical psychologist and counsellor Dr. Haruki Miyakawa from Tezukayama University in Japan are also offering their assistance.

The space, located in the Human and Social Development Building room B141, will remain open every Friday (10 a.m. to 3 p.m.) and Saturday (10 a.m. to 1 p.m.) until further notice. Organizers are also seeking other venues to ensure that opportunities to provide group support are continuous and available as often as possible.

Otani, from Kanazawa city in mainland Japan, felt compelled to set up the support system at UVic. “Many people came forward and wanted to extend a helping hand to Japan and the students around me,” says Otani. “We have received tremendous support from students and faculty and the Office of International Affairs.”

The anxiety of being so far from home with incomplete access to information added to the feelings of helplessness. Connecting with people was paramount to Ota, and with the help of a friend she set up an event page on Facebook that provided opportunities for conversation and support. “The Facebook page helped get the word out and reach as many people as possible about our events and activities,” says Ota, whose family is from Kobe, Okinawa and Yokohama.

Otani has been touched by the growing number of supportive initiatives taking place on campus. Art and silent auctions, bake sales and fundraising events have raised thousands of dollars for the Japanese Red Cross and the Japanese coastline in Japan. CBC Radio One Vancouver and the local Community Radio Commission have also helped raise money.

The UVic Support Japan Committee is pleased with the outpouring of support. “We are happy to see the Japanese community is not alone in this,” says Otani. “We have received tremendous support from the community and the UVic Japanese Association.”

See Japan P.3
On March 30 members of the UVic community enjoyed cake and cupcakes in celebration of the successful completion of the Knowledge Infrastructure Program (KIP) renovations.

“We want to thank the campus community, especially the building occupants, for their patience and support during these major renovations,” said Tom Smith, executive director of Facilities Management. “We’re very happy to have brought the project on in time and on budget. Faculty, students, staff and researchers can look forward to enjoying the building improvements for a long time to come.”

Supported by $42.5 million from the Canada-British Columbia Knowledge Infrastructure Program, Facilities Management staff coordinated the upgrades to six of UVic’s oldest buildings—Clearihue, Cornett, Cunningham, Elliott, MacLauchlin and University Centre—between April 2009 and March 2011. The improvements extend the building lifespans, while improving safety and energy efficiency and increasing accessibility.

The project involved 125 companies and positively affected over 1,300 local jobs. The upgrades are expected to result in projected annual energy savings of $180,000.

Uvic receives feedback on non-academic student misconduct policy

The university has recently conducted consultations seeking feedback on a new policy on non-academic student misconduct. If the proposed policy receives widespread support, the university hopes to implement it before classes start in the fall.

“We’re one of the few universities in Canada without a policy clearly outlining acceptable standards of student behavior,” says Associate Vice-President of Student Affairs Jim Dunsdon. “Through this policy we hope to clarify what constitutes non-academic student misconduct and set out processes for submitting, investigating and responding to misconduct allegations. The policy also contains a process to appeal any decision made under it.”

The proposed policy was developed through extensive consultation with campus student groups and the academic community. Further feedback was sought through meetings with UVic Students’ Society clubs and course unions and with the UVSS board, and via a survey on the University Secretary’s website.

The policy is intended to cover student misconduct that occurs on the university’s property or in connection with a university activity such as: theft, vandalism or tampering with emergency equipment; unauthorized entry or presence; health and safety endangerment; illegal alcohol and drug use; weapons possession or use; or obstruction or disruption of a university activity.

“All students are entitled to due process and we do not currently have a policy in place that ensures this happens on all occasions,” says Dunsdon. “The policy is not intended to penalize peaceful protest or to impinge in any way on freedom of speech. The policy is intended to provide a mechanism through which improper conduct can be identified, reported and addressed.”

The proposed policy will not govern academic integrity or academic appeals, nor will it apply to student conduct outside of the university’s property unless the conduct occurs as part of a university activity.

The draft policy is available on the University Secretary’s website at www.uvic.ca/universitysecretary/policies/news.

Uvic’s balanced budget framework provides boosts in key areas

The University of Victoria’s Board of Governors has approved a balanced 2011/12 budget framework that preserves funding in key areas such as student financial aid and library acquisitions while reducing expenditures in other areas. The 2011/12 budget framework is based on an operating budget of over $300 million supported primarily through government operating grants and student fees and other funding sources.

This is the first time in many years that the budget does not include incremental provincial funding to support undergraduate or graduate student growth.

“This budget reflects the changing financial environment, which is likely to constrain our ability to make incremental investments as well as limit our future financial flexibility,” says UVic President David Turpin. “Nevertheless, the plans in place do allow us to move forward confidently to achieve the objectives of our strategic plan. While we have made modest cuts in some areas, we are maintaining our commitment to increased student financial assistance and focusing our efforts to secure the support our teaching and research requires.”

The budget framework includes $1 million in one-time funding to support student financial aid at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. With student recruitment and retention a continuing focus of the university’s strategic plan, funding will continue for programs that support students academically and developmentally such as English language, writing and math assistance. The framework includes UVic and provincial funding to ensure the continuation of the LEQONET program. UVic’s national, ground-breaking program to support the post-secondary success of Aborginal students.

As in previous years, and consistent with Ministry of Advanced Education policy, the framework contains a 2-per-cent increase in tuition fees. This brings annual domestic arts and science undergraduate tuition to $4,962 from $4,766. Domestic graduate annual tuition rises to $5,049 from $4,950 effective May 1, 2011. The 2011/12 budget framework has been developed as part of a three-year planning cycle that continues until 2013/14. Access the complete document at: http://web.uvic.ca/vpfin

On one more occasion the advertisement appeared in the university newspaper.

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PHoTo: UVIC PHoTo SeRVICeS
Mobilizing the knowledge of students and faculty members

UVic’s industry liaison office is changing its name, reflecting the evolution of its role.

As of April 15, the Innovation and Development Corporation (IDC) will be known as UVic Industry Partnerships (UIP). “This change reflects an evolution in the role and focus of IDC towards creating opportunities for our students and faculty. Opportunities that will mobilize their specialized knowledge for the benefit of the province and Canada,” says Dr. Howard Brunt, UVic’s vice-president research and chair of the IDC Board of Directors. The name change is the culmination of a strategic renewal process that began three years ago under the leadership of the IDC Board and Brent Sternig, IDC’s president and CEO.

“The new name more accurately reflects what we do,” says Sternig. “UVic Industry Partnerships is a key point of contact for industry and government with UVic’s talented researchers. As such, we actively promote innovation and high-quality research at UVic. We help researchers connect with industry so they can access the many benefits of collaboration such as additional funding sources, access to new or additional industrial equipment, and the opportunity to obtain feedback from the marketplace.”

Since 1992, the office has been linking UVic researchers and students with industry, government, and community, transforming great ideas into commercially viable businesses. As of March 31, 2014, it had filed more than 340 national and international patent applications, helped incorporate more than 50 university spin-off companies and received more than 670 invention disclosures. In recent years, the office has shifted its focus to work with and assist the Office of Research Services in supporting the more than 350 research contracts the university enters into on an annual basis. “We still offer many of the same services to faculty, staff and students, so recent clients will not notice a lot of changes,” says Sternig. “However, those who have not worked with us in a few years will see a masked change in ideology. We are working more closely with researchers to take a holistic view of how intellectual property can be used to benefit all the stakeholders in a research ecosystem.”

For more information about UVic Industry Partnerships visit http://industry.uvic.ca after April 15. /IDC TO UIP

Murray Farmer reappointed chancellor

UVic’s Board of Governors has reappointed UVic Chancellor Murray Farmer to a second three-year term as the university’s titular head. Farmer was first elected chancellor in 2008 for an initial term that concludes on Dec. 31, 2013. The reappointment is effective January 1, 2012, and concludes Dec. 31, 2014.

“I am honoured to be asked to continue to serve,” says Farmer. “As an alumnus who first arrived at UVic the year it became a university, it’s been amazing to watch UVic become the outstanding university it is today. It’s very gratifying to have the trust of the university community in my current role. As far as I’m concerned, this is the best volunteer job in the country, largely because of the quality of the people at UVic. It’s wonderful to be able to represent UVic in the community in which I have spent my whole life and which has been so good to me. I look forward very much to my second term and to serving UVic as Chancellor during its 90th anniversary year.”

The reappointment was made possible through a change in the province’s University Act permitting a university’s board of governors to appoint a chancellor upon nomination by a university’s alumni association, and the opportunity to obtain feedback from the marketplace.”

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JAPAN CONTINUED FROM P1

activities have been sponsored by the School of Pacific and Asian Studies, Office of Community Based Research, and the Faculty of Human and Social Development; and many students whose home countries have been impacted by recent earthquakes have come forward with support. With calm determination, the students are helping to shed light on the strength of their nation, rebuilding in the face of uncertainty. As the world witnesses those efforts, we can appreciate the comment from graduate student Kido who says, “I believe that Japan will overcome this difficult time. I just know it.”

The committee is hosting an event on Friday, April 15, at the Vertigo Lounge in the Student Union Building from 3 to 5 p.m. There will be performances, Japanese food and information about supporting the relief efforts in Japan at this family-friendly event. To keep up to date on the work of this student committee join their Pray for Japan page on Facebook or contact the committee at uvic.prayforjapan@gmail.com.

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Bob Reimer

The Ring April 2011 Page 3

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As young journalists we often hear that we're stepping out into an industry that is rapidly changing, perhaps even dying.

Sometimes, however, the outlook we receive is a little bit sunnier, as was the case when John Stackhouse, editor-in-chief for the Globe and Mail, visited the Martlet on March 11. The visit was one of the prizes Martlet writer Karolina Karas received for winning the Globe and Student Newspaper Challenge last fall with her piece “Reason for gender gap in universities debated” (http://bit.ly/ggtcQP).

“I believe journalism still matters—quality journalism—and always will,” Stackhouse told us. “It’s interesting to see how there’s still response to media pressure … when we do things credibly—rooted in good reporting—things change.”

Stackhouse spent the afternoon with us, answering our questions about the strengths and weaknesses of the industry, what the Globe is doing to keep up and move forward, and what we, as young journalists, can do for ourselves and media in general. He encouraged us to look at change as opportunity, and embrace the strengths of all kinds of media. The digital world allows for speed, interaction and multimedia. Stackhouse said, calling the platform a “running river.”

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However, print is not dead, he emphasized. It still gives readers room for pause and has the ability to make visuals pop.

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“Facts do prevail. Sometimes it takes longer, but facts do prevail.”


discovering sweet suite music

By crystal bergeron

What do you get when you combine a handful of enthusiastic UVic music education students, 65 talented middle-school students and a few dedicated professional musical clinicians and performers? Sweet, “suite” music, of course.

Music education students from the UVic Student Music Educators’ Association (VSMEA) successfully organized, “Music Discoveries 2011,” a three-day music camp for middle-school band and choir students from the three local school districts, Victoria, Saanich and Sooke, Feb. 11–13.

The event started in 2008 in order to enable young musicians to come together and enhance their musical skills in an enjoyable yet educational way under the tutelage of music students in UVic’s Music Education program.

“In addition to giving the middle-school students a much-valued experience, the camp gave us [UVic students] a chance to practice our teaching skills as well as learn about the demands of planning and carrying out a full scale music event,” says Nathan Jacklin, VSMEA president.

Dr. Mary Kennedy, associate professor of music education, agrees. “This event gave our pre-service music educators an opportunity to do all that music teachers need to do. Teaching music involves so much more than just the ‘face to face’ interaction that occurs in the classroom. Music teachers need to be superb administrators, planners and organizers too. They regularly handle large budgets, plan trips, organize festivals and interact with parents on an ongoing basis.”

Music Discoveries is a perfect example of real experiential learning.”

“The weekend was also a wonderful opportunity to further connections between the Music Education Program and the wider community and build on the strong partnerships that already exist between UVic Music Education and our three local school districts,” adds Kennedy.

The young protégés were exposed to professionals on their instrument of voice and were encouraged to explore a number of music electives including African drumming, musical theatre and improvisation. In addition, they attended a UVic Wind Symphony Concert, watched a performance by Rhapsody Belle, a local cappella vocal ensemble, participated in large ensemble rehearsals, sectional master classes in technique and gave a final concert in the Phillips T. Young Recital Hall which showcased their impressive talents to a full house of family and friends.

Associate Dean of Teacher Education Dr. Alison Preece couldn’t be more pleased with the great sense of pride and community engagement exhibited by the pre-service music teachers. “I applauded the music education students for the warm and personally engaging ways they have helped this talented group of middle schoolers bring their musical talents to life and showcase them.”

In 2010, Music Discoveries had 20 participants. This year the number of participants more than tripled and added a choir component. Plans for 2012 include adding a strings group so that all three major musical groups (choir, band and strings) from the local districts will be well represented.

More information: www.uvsmea.ca

Globe and Mail editor-in-chief visits student journalists

By Gemma Karstens-Smith, editor-in-chief, The Martlet

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Writing instructor’s new novel focuses on post-earthquake Victoria

BY JOHN THRELFALL

The Big One has hit the West Coast and the earthquake damage to Victoria is far worse than anyone was expected. The city’s downtown has been damaged, families torn apart and the survivors left wandering through a dystopic hell on Earth. Such is the setting for Into That Darkness (Thomas Allen & Son), the first novel by award-winning UVic writing instructor Steven Price.

Coming on the heels of the recent earthquake in Japan and New Zealand, not to mention the Great British Columbia Shaker Out disaster drill, Price’s Into That Darkness is very much a story of our time—one that reflects back to us our deepest fears and strongest hopes in the face of impossible odds.

But the novel’s roots actually stretch back to another moment of urban horror, the September 11 attacks in New York City. “I was in grad school in Virginia when 9/11 struck, and the sudden prominence of the disaster and the shift from a peaceable society to a society under siege left its impact,” says Price, who then began considering what kind of devastation could be visited on his home in Victoria.

Price’s debut volume of poetry—2006’s Ancestors, a key-length poem about Hurricane Houdini—earned him a Gerald Lampert Award, a spot on the BC Book Prizes shortlist for Darkness, and a nomination for the Canada Reads award. But like in many novels hinging on disasters (Neil Shute’s On The Beach, say, or Stephen King’s The Stand), the fictional set-up, Price feels, simply allows him the freedom to imagine his characters. “This novel, though about many things, holds as one of its central concerns the problem of natural evil—why bad things happen to good people—so the earthquake is really just one of the characters.”

Given that Into That Darkness was completed well before last month’s earthquake, how does he feel about releasing it the same month as the recent devastation in Japan? “People over there are suffering so terribly. I couldn’t possibly draw any links between my novel and that tragedy. But I think the natural inclination, living in an earthquake zone as we do here on the coast, is to wonder just what would happen if such a disaster struck us here—which is, to an extent, what the novel asks.”

With that in mind, does the author have an earthquake kit ready? “Yes, although a poor one. I’m as guilty as anyone of understanding what it means to live in an earthquake zone without really comprehending it.”

And while Price has never lived through a major disaster himself, he does have childhood memories of staring at downtown Victoria through the window of his home overlooking Esquimalt Lagoon. “My father liked to say, ‘You know, son, when The Big One hits, all of this will slide down into the sea. I’d look out at the water and try to imagine the city like that. It left an impression.’”

Into That Darkness—Could it happen here?

BY DAPHNE DONALDSON

MANAGER, UVIC EMERGENCY PLANNING

Timing is everything. Considering the recent devastating earthquakes in New Zealand and Japan, there is a eerie sense of reality with Steven Price’s new book, Into That Darkness. An 8.7 earthquake occurring in Victoria now seems much more believable. The horrific images of destruction in two well-prepared countries struggling with seismic disaster are becoming harder to ignore. Many people on campus are asking about how to be better prepared. For some, it’s improving their existing kits and plans, for others, it’s time to start. Here are some ideas:

Purchase or put together a kit for each member of your family (including pets). Make sure you have food and water for at least three days. Develop a family plan including an out-of-town contact in case you become separated. Consider having items at work and in your car, as well as at home. Expect many aftershocks. Take a first aid course and have medical supplies available. Keep cash on hand. Consult with neighbors about how you might help each other. Go to http://ohs.uvic.ca and click on Emergency Management for more tips.

As a society, we’ve become dependent on others for ready sources of food, water, and medical help. As Steven Price’s book graphically illustrates, during a disaster, help will not be immediately available—‘we’ll have to fend for ourselves. We need to be prepared for at least three days—a week is preferable. It can happen here, and it will happen here—all it’s a matter of timing.”

All UVic staff welcome at ConnectU

ConnectU is a new professional development opportunity for UVic staff, taking place June 1 and 2 in the Cadboro Commons Building. The conference will feature a wide range of presentations promoting skill development, knowledge transfer and increased efficiency, plus networking opportunities with other staff. Choose one program track or mix and match:

Developer: Build essential professional skills for working at UVic

Leader in U: Strengthen your leadership skills

Navigate U: Learn about UVic’s structure and governance, research, projects and programs

Navigate U: Get to know UVic through never-before-offered guided tours

Free and open to all UVic staff.

More info: connectu@uvic.ca

Registration opens on April 16.

Details: www.uvic.ca/connectu.
Nursing students take caring to new heights
School of Nursing helps with the RJH Patient Care Centre Tower move

BY ROBBYN LANNING

On Sunday, March 13, over 200 UVic Nursing “Students on the Move” helped transfer nearly 300 patients from the Royal Jubilee Hospital’s old inpatient units to its new Patient Care Centre (PCC) Tower in just under eight hours.

Teams of nursing undergrads volunteered their time, working four- and six-hour shifts, to help Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) staff receive patients relocating from the old hospital. With patients being moved to the PCC at the staggering rate of one every two minutes, the students created a buddy system, providing the essential service of orienting patients to their new surroundings one-on-one.

Dr. Lynn Stevenson, VIHA executive vice-president of people, organizational development, practice and chief nurse, witnessed “the enormous contribution the students made to helping the patients settle in to their new environment. [The students] provided a wonderful safety valve for the receiving RNs who would not have had the time to just be with the patients as they were very busy taking report on each new patient as he or she arrived.”

Third-year nursing student and Students on the Move (SOTM) team leader Christine Lockhart was pleased to help coordinate student participation in the event. “It’s all about collaboration and partnerships,” says Lockhart. “I’m proud to be part of a student body where so many people came together to be there that day.”

Natasha Tran, third-year nursing student and SOTM team leader, described a round of applause given to the first wave of student helpers by the PCC nursing staff. Tran observed that participation in the move was a way for students to give back to nurses who serve as preceptors during student practicum placements.

The PCC is a building where research manifests into real-world practice. The building is a departure from the older hospital as it emphasizes the human side of care, rather than focusing on the diagnoses and treatment of diseases—activities that now take place in an adjacent building.

Simple changes to room design, such as configuring bed placement so that patients’ faces—rather than feet—are visible at a glance, allow nurses to assess patients both more efficiently and personally.

Over 80 per cent of the rooms in the PCC house single beds, each equipped with its own adjoining toilet and washing facility. Rooms are designed so that patients can rest in privacy while friends and family are able to visit in increased comfort over extended periods of time. Sound-dampening panels are used in walls and ceilings, patient rooms contain large windows to supply natural light and fresh air resulting in a comforting and less institutional atmosphere—innovations that may speed patient recovery times by as much as 20 per cent.

Amber Hawkins, third-year nursing student and SOTM team leader, describes how the design promotes togetherness in healthcare. “Nursing students take caring to new heights. Public Lectures

Retirees spark discussion with Masterminds Lectures

Learn about ethics in health care, art in the High Arctic, and the secrets of the ocean floor as UVic’s 2011 Masterminds Lecture Series continues.

On April 13, NEPTUNE Canada Director Dr. Chris Barnes (professor emeritus) will speak on recent progress and results from NEPTUNE Canada—the world’s first regional cabled ocean network. His lecture is entitled “Understanding the Ocean: New Approaches and Early Results from the NEPTUNE Canada Ocean Network.”

On April 20, award-winning artist and art education professor (emeritus) Dr. Bill Zuck will present “Spirit of the Arctic: New Directions in Art and Culture.” His lecture will address traditional art and lifestyles and the ways the Inuit people continue to adapt and innovate in the High Arctic.

On April 27, nursing professor (emeritus) and health ethicist Dr. Janet Storch will discuss the impact of cutbacks and related changes to health care and concerns with regard to patient safety in her lecture “Continuing Cuts in Health Care: Ethics and Safety Concerns in Hospital and Home Care.”

Supported by the university and co-sponsored by the Centre on Aging, the series profiles retirees who continue to contribute to both the university and the community. The lectures will take place every Wednesday in April at 7 p.m. in the Hickman Building, room 105. Please register by calling 250-721-6369 and plan to arrive early, as seating is limited. More info: www.uvic.ca/masterminds

This year’s Masterminds series was launched April 6 with a presentation by physical education professor (emeritus) Dr. David Docherty on “Fun, Fitness and Mental Functioning.”
calendar highlights
Events free unless otherwise indicated. For a complete list of events, visit the online calendar at www.uvic.ca/events

THURSDAY, APRIL 7
■ Lecture/Seminar 12:30 p.m. The Machinery of Climate Anti-Science. Erik Schlenker (in English). Michael K. Schlenker (University of Autonoma Metropolitana, Mexico). Debbie Barnett, 250-472-5455
■ Music 7:00 p.m. String Quartet. University Cente Farquhar Auditorium. Tickets 15.25 plus service charges. https://tickets.uvic.ca
TUESDAY, APRIL 13
■ Masterminds Lecture 7:00 p.m. Understanding the Oceans: New Approaches and Brain Science Seminars. An hour and a half of intellectual interaction and collegiality. See http://web.uvic.ca/psy/graduate/academic.php for schedule. Contact Kaela.A.282@uvic.ca
SATURDAY, APRIL 9
■ Lecture 7:00 p.m. Cognition and Brain Science Seminars. An hour and a half of intellectual interaction and collegiality. See http://web.uvic.ca/psy/graduate/academic.php for schedule. Contact Kaela.A.282@uvic.ca
FRIDAY, APRIL 15
■ Lecture/Seminar 1:30 p.m. Cognition and Brain Science Seminars. An hour and a half of intellectual interaction and collegiality. See http://web.uvic.ca/psy/graduate/academic.php for schedule. Contact Kaela.A.282@uvic.ca
SUNDAY, APRIL 17
■ Music 11:30 a.m. Inside Opera with Robert Holstien. An in-depth presentation and discussion of Pacific Opera Victoria’s production of Ariadne auf Naxos. Space is limited and reservations are required. Contact 250-382-6416 or mora@uvic.ca to reserve. Marlaina Biers, 250-595-8679
THURSDAY, APRIL 14
■ Lecture/Seminar 7:00 p.m. Life in the Middle in Today’s Middle East. Rev. Dr. Kamal Farah. More Info: Rev. Heno Look 525-323-4074 or kmfarah@uvic.ca. University Centre Arts Centre Chambers, 250-721-8918
■ Lecture 3:00 p.m. Cognition and Brain Science Seminars. An hour and a half of intellectual interaction and collegiality. See http://web.uvic.ca/psy/graduate/academic.php for schedule. Contact Kaela.A.282@uvic.ca
■ Lecture/Seminar 11:00 a.m. Teaching the Humanities in Mexico: A Conversation with Prof. Michael Schlenker (in English). Michael K. Schlenker (University of Autonoma Metropolitana, Mexico). Debbie Barnett, 250-472-5455
■ Lecture/Seminar 10:00 a.m. And April 20th. Autono Open House. More Info: http://autonomy.uvic.ca/dance/ Wright Centre 10th Floor Observatory, 250-721-7190
TUESDAY, APRIL 19
■ Lecture/Seminar 6:30 p.m. Cafe Scientifique—Tennis Analytics and Community Collaboration: Examples from First Nations and Hearst Populations.” By Dr. Laura Arbour. Hosted by the Centre for Biomedical Research. Stratford Hall Hotel, 250-853-3678
■ Other 10:00 a.m. BC Chinese Scholars Symposium. For more information and a program, contact Richard King (rking@uvic.ca) or Doug Thompson (cap@uvic.ca). Hickman Building 110. 250-721-8148
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20
■ Masterminds Lecture 7:00 p.m. Spatial Politics of the Aesthetics. John Marshey. Info: http://web.uvic.ca/psy/graduate/academic.php for schedule. Contact Kaela.A.282@uvic.ca
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27
■ Masterminds Lecture 7:00 p.m. Continuing Care to Health Care: Ethics and End of Life Issues in Hospital and Home Care. Dr. Janet Smith (UVic). Holman Building 115. 250-721-6962 to register
SATURDAY, APRIL 30
SUNDAY, MAY 1

around the ring
Recycle your electronics for Earth Day
Celebrate Earth Day sustainably by bringing your unwanted electronic items to UVic’s free e-recycle days:
April 15 and 19 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. outside the Student Union Building (look for the tent on the grass on the south side). Students, staff and faculty members are all welcome. The following items will be accepted and do not need to be in working condition: computers and computer accessories; speakers; televisions/monitors; printers/axes; scanners; audio and video playback/recording systems (e.g. MP3 players, iPods); non-cellular telephones. UVic-owned equipment will not be accepted. More info: www.uvic.ca/sustainability

Framed!
After being mentored by some of the top contemporary artists in the country, graduating visual arts students will be displaying their work at a pair of upcoming shows:
In “Out” UVic’s BFA visual arts graduates show, opens April 15, 7 to 11:30 p.m. and continues daily to April 23, Exuvion, UVic’s MFA visual arts graduates show, opens April 22, 7 to 11:30 p.m. and continues daily to May 7. Both in UVic’s Visual Arts Building.

sell your textbooks
get some coin
you could win $1,000!

More Ring. More you.
Great UVic stories are everywhere, across campus and beyond. They’re in your stories, your news, your opinions. For year, the Ring has been UVic’s community voice, sharing your stories in print and online. And now, with the launch of our new website, we’ll be sharing more of your stories than ever before.
And that’s where you come in. We’d like you to help us by becoming a volunteer contributor. We want more voices, more news, more opinion, more photos, more video. We need you.
To learn how you can contribute to the new Ring, visit ring.uvic.ca and click on “Get involved.”

UVic Bookstore
uvicbookstore.ca
uvac.uvic.ca
250-721-9542

Exhibit Until May 2, Centennial Square and the Gordon Head Campus. Seminal Projects (1962–1982). Part of a series of exhibitions and publication projects that will explore the development of a regional modernist aesthetic in post-war Victoria and celebrate the 100th anniversary of the City of Victoria and the University of Victoria. Malcolm Ford and Showings Gallery at the McPherson Library, room A27. 250-721-8139

If you sell your books and that pushes us over the milestone of paying out $5,000,000 for used textbooks, you’ll win $1000 cash! It’ll happen sometime in April, but we don’t know when…

McPherson Library, room A27. 250-721-8139

UVic Bookstore
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For a complete list of events, visit the online calendar at www.uvic.ca/events

We’re buying used texts
Starting April 4

If you sell your books and that pushes us over the milestone of paying out $5,000,000 for used textbooks, you’ll win $1000 cash! It’ll happen sometime in April, but we don’t know when…

We’ll also be drawing for a 2nd prize of $500 cash at the end of April. So don’t forget to fill out an entry form.

sell your textbooks
get some coin
you could win $1,000!

The Ring April 2011  Page 7
BY MARIA LIRONI

If not for a chance remark made by his father, Veronica Grammel might have never ended up working for UVic’s Office of Indigenous Affairs.

“in 2001, when I was just 21 years old, I was part way through my undergraduate degree in anthropol- ogy at Concordia and had made it a point to focus my courses on First Nations,” recalls Lefebvre. “I had a passion for First Nations cultures and history; in some ways I felt like I could relate to everything I read. It was because of this interest in First Nations culture and history that my dad just decided one day to tell me that his grandmother was Blackfoot. This was definitely an ‘aha’ moment for me—until then I didn’t know about my First Nations heritage, although I had always felt there was a part of me that was missing. This helped explain that missing piece, and I realized that my passion and interest in First Nations culture and history came from my ancestors, and they were guiding me to this.”

Lefebvre says she wasn’t too surprised when she heard the news. Although she is the only blue-eyed blonde on her father’s side of the family, she can see the Blackfoot in her dad’s features and in the relatives in his too.

“Once I found out, I started looking in genealogy, reviewing my dad’s family tree and picking at the strings of other people’s memories,” says Lefebvre, who grew up in Montreal. She has discovered that she has Blackfoot ancestry on her mother’s side as well. “I now identify as being part Blackfoot, as well as having French and English ancestry.”

Lefebvre brings this newfound Blackfoot identity to her job as the assistant to the Director of the Office of Indigenous Affairs (InAF). She’s one of the eight members on the InAF team, helping more than 700 Indigenous students access services and programs that will help empower them during their time at UVic.

She runs all the administration for the office, assists InAF director, Dr. Frant Hinton-Junusso and co-ordinates InAF events such as the Indigenous Recognition Ceremony that honours Indigenous graduates.

“It’s the first time I’ve worked in an academic setting, and I love it,” remarks Lefebvre, who moved here from New Brunswick in 2007 with her husband Neil Barrett, a UVic PhD candidate in computer science. “Every day here is different. I’m involved in all of the office’s projects and meet a lot of community members. I get to work for two fantastic families. I do feel that at InAF is influencing her life.”

“Thankfully, I have my job as a part of me that was missing. I had a Nations culture and history that my dad hadn’t told me about. This was the one and the many converge: the space he leaves behind is the one he created in me, in turn refines the models and helps create the next generation. I get to work for two fantastic families. I do feel that at InAF is influencing her life.”

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“Yes, my job has opened up a can of worms for my family,” Lefebvre jokes. “A lot of people are looking into who they are. My dad is interested in getting his status card, and I’m still trying to find out what bands or nations my Blackfoot ancestors belonged to.”

“Is this my dad’s said told me about my Blackfoot heritage when he did, I don’t know where he’d be now,” says Lefebvre. “I really don’t think I can thank him enough for telling me because I love being here at UVic. Working in, and learning about, First Nations culture really right because it is really part of me.”

Student creates interactive earthquake map

If you curious about the history of earthquakes you may want to check out an interactive map created by UVic doctoral student Lars Grammel (computer science).

By using an online visualization toolkit “chooeri” that he created for his PhD research. Grammel has produced an online map that plots all of the earthquakes since 1900 in which a thousand or more people have been killed. You can view this information by continent, magnitude, number of casualties and decade. Many of the mapped earthquakes are also linked to a Wikipedia site with photos and other details.

“After the tragic earthquake happened in Japan last month, I searched the web for information about earthquake quakes and came about a blog post where someone analyzed where and when those devastating earthquakes occurred,” Grammel explains. “I used that blog post contained only pictures and texts, and I thought it would be interesting to have an interactive online visualization that people could explore on their own.”

To view Grammel’s interactive earthquake visualization visit: http://web. uvic.ca/~grammar/blog/ earthquake-visualization/ (the visualization does not work in Internet Explorer).

NEPTUNE Canada and the tsunami

The NEPTUNE Canada regional network work has five study areas stretching 2000km from the coast, down the continental shelf, and across the Juan de Fuca Plate. Sites vary in their depth: research nodes are as shallow as 20 metres in Folger Passage (in the Juan de Fuca Plate) and as deep as 2660 metres on the abyssal plain.

NEPTUNE Canada registered both the earthquake and tsunami at all of its pressure sensors. The quake caused the water to move in the ocean, sending the tsunami a mere 12 minutes after it happened more than 7,000 km away, which means the tsunami surged 120 km past Vancouver Island and 100 km past Juan de Fuca Strait and into the Strait of Georgia, where it reached the node at Saanich Inlet. A more expansive version of this obituary is available on The Ring website at the ring. uvic. ca/people/memorial/univ-baby-jackman

ONC CONTINUED FROM P1

The tsunami first registered on a NEPTUNE Can- ada node about nine hours after the earthquake in Japan and the subse- quent tsunami’s journey across the Canada Basin took an estimated 13 hours to reach Saanich Inlet after it passed through Juan de Fuca Strait and into the Strait of Georgia, where it reached the node at Saanich Inlet about two hours after the NEPTUNE Canada arrived. As it is common with tsunami, the level of the sea varied in the inlet dropped first as the trough of the wave led the approach. After dropping a foot, it rose to about the same height and sloshed around in the inlet’s basin for hours.

The measurements confirmed models created models created by DFO that predict how long a tsunami would take to reach Saanich Inlet after it passed through Juan de Fuca Strait.

“This one wasn’t a concern to us, but it will help us see which towns are most vulnerable to the kinds of tsunami that are most likely to occur,” says Dewey. “The question of whether to build a 3-metre or a 4-metre dyke at a town is going to make all the difference.”

At a March 17 public forum at the University of Victoria on understanding and responding to the devastating earthquake and tsunami in Japan, Dr. Chris Barnes, director of the ONC, said that tsunami data and related net- work, presented a series of graphs, charts and images of the devastating earthquake in Japan and the subse- quent tsunami’s journey across the Pacific. For his presentation, visit: http://bit.ly/1w4M

Scientists such as Rick Thomson and colleagues at the Institute of Ocean Sciences in Sidney, BC, use the data to test their predictions and refine their models.

“The real-time data are being inte- grated into national and international tsunami warnings as refinements that model leaders think will improve and plan ahead of an event,” she says.

The tsunami reaches VENUS

VENUS has four study sites branch- ing from three nodes in Saanich Inlet, and three at the nodes in the Strait of Georgia, 300 km away. The tsunami neared Vancouver Island, part of it pushed through Juan de Fuca Strait and into the Strait of Georgia, where it reached the node at Saanich Inlet about two hours after NEPTUNE Canada sensed it. As it is common with tsunami, the level of the sea varied in the inlet dropped first as the trough of the wave led the approach. After dropping a foot, it rose to about the same height and sloshed around in the inlet’s basin for hours.

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