SLOAN FELLOWSHIP

Marine biologist recognized as “rising star”

Dr. Julia Baum (biology) is among 126 recipients of the 2012 Sloan Fellowships, announced in February by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. The annual award honours early-career scientists and scholars whose potential and achievements identify them as rising stars. This is the first year the Sloan Award has included ocean sciences. Baum’s research explores the impact of fishing on the life of predatory species, such as sharks. More: http://bit.ly/IwD5E6

VICTORIA LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Purkis, Weaver honoured for community engagement

Dr. Mary Ellen Purkis, dean of UVic’s Faculty of Human and Social Development, and UVic climatologist Dr. Andrew Weaver received this year’s University of Victoria Community Leadership Awards at the eighth annual Victoria Leadership Awards (VLA) gala at the Fairmont Empress Hotel Feb. 21.

PRIVACY BREACH

Deadline approaching for free credit monitoring services

On Feb. 6, UVic announced it had made arrangements to offer 12 months of credit monitoring services from credit bureau Equifax and TransUnion—at no cost—to all employees/former employees affected by the theft of personal information from the UVic’s Administrative Services Building in early April of 2012. More info: www.uvic.ca/infobreach

BY DIANNE GEORGE

Dr. A.R. “Elango” Elangovan, professor and director of international programs with the Gustavson School of Business, is among 99 Canadian scholars honoured with a 2012 3M National Teaching Fellowship, and the ninth UVic scholar to receive this honour since its inception. The award recognizes exceptional achievements and contributions by teacher-scholars across Canada.

Students have a deep and abiding respect for Elangovan as both teacher and mentor. He has received multiple awards for his teaching excellence, including the UVic Harry Hickman Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching, and is a repeat winner of the MBA Professor of the Year Award.

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Science honours students parade their research

BY PHIL SAUNDERS

A throng of people gathers around an island of poster boards in the atrium of the Bob Wright Centre. Undergraduate students are proudly displaying their research with a cavalcade of professors judging them on their research and the way they explain it. Welcome to Honourfest 2012, the second celebration of undergraduate research science at UVic.

“Honourfest was born out of the idea that the capstone of any undergraduate degree is taking on original research,” says Dean of Science Bob Lipson. “Students performing the research and then explaining their work to a general audience is a wonderful example of integrating research and teaching missions.”

Of the 20 participants in this first annual event, four were honored nominally, while three more walked away with cash prizes. Honourable mentions earned a free membership to a professional association in their discipline while third- and second-place winners earned a $1,000 cash prize. The first-place winner received a cash prize of $2,000. Associate Dean of Science Kathryn Gilliss spearheaded the event. She says it will help students prepare for graduate school.

“They have now completed a small part of what they will be expected to do in graduate school,” Gillis says, “...and hopefully this experience will encourage them to continue—ideally, at UVic.”

First prize went to undergraduate Emma Conway from the Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology, the self-described ‘lab rat’ so enjoyed learning in the lab that she is now planning to pursue a graduate degree next year at UBC.

“One of the reasons I was attracted to UVic was the university’s amazing immunology lab,” says Conway. “My advisor John Webb (adjunct faculty with the Deep River Research Centre of the BC Cancer Agency) really encouraged me in the lab, and now I’m looking to do more of that kind of work.”

“An event like this allows students to explain complex ideas simply to others,” says Dr. Reeta Tremblay, vice-president academic and provost. “I know from hand the students have when they talk about their work and the equally exciting feeling they get when their listeners get it... I think this is an important part of the integration of teaching and research.”

First place
Emma Conway: Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology—“Therapeutic vaccine elicits immune response against multiple cancer-causing HPV strains.”

Second place:
Tatjha Gaudet: Department of Biology—“Will climate change influence nitrogen form preference in confers?”

Third place:
Rebecca Courtenamache, Department of Chemistry—“Just add tetrazoles.”

UVic’s renewed strategic plan.

A Vision for the Future: Building on Excellence, was approved by the University Senate and the University of Victoria’s Board of Governors in January. The new plan, which will guide the institution’s evolution for the coming years, resulted from an extensive consultation process that took place throughout 2011. “There was a very high level of engagement in the consultations and discussions and am pleased with the strong consensus that emerged,” says UVic President David Turpin. “I look forward to continuing to work together with all members of our university community to realize our vision and strengthen the University of Victoria’s position as a university of choice for students, community members, faculty and staff.”

During the 2011 Planning and Priorities Committee facilitated more than 200 on- and off-campus consulta-
tion and discussion sessions with faculty, staff, students, community members, UVic alumni and retirees as well as community, business, government and educational leaders.

The consultations reaffirmed the university’s institutional focus on excellence in people, quality, community and resources; the current competitive post-secondary environment with growing fiscal constraints, the plan emphasized the need for greater flex-

ibility and optimization of resources and renew the emphasis on engaging our community, locally, nationally and internationally. Priorities for the future will continue to include improving student engagement and the quality of the student experience, and reinforcing the research-intensive qualities of the institution that contribute to its success as a destination university.

The renewed University of Victoria strategic plan is now available on the website at www.uvic.ca/strategicplan. Print copies will be made available in the coming week.

The Ring welcomes letters to the editor on issues of direct concern to the UVic community. E-mail addresses are welcome, but with appropriate credit to the writer.

The Ring’s Twitter feed: @uvicring

The University of Victoria’s community newspaper
ring.uvic.ca

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consumer recycled paper.

New strategic plan now available

This month UVic is renewing its community consultation process for its proposed Centre forAthlet-
ics, Recreation and Special Abili-
ties (CARSA) and related projects. The following process proposes recommendations in the Better Neighbours report commissioned by UVic from community engagement and municipal planning. The report responds to key community concerns regarding last year’s con-
sultation efforts for CARSA.

The first step of the process is a series of “drop-in” interactive open houses being held in the community: March 8 from 5 to 8 p.m. at Lambark Park Secondary; 4139 Der last Drive; March 10 from noon to 3 p.m. at St. Aidan’s United Church, 3703 St. Aidan’s Street; and March 14 from 4 to 8 p.m. at Queenwood, 2941 Arbutus Road.

“We recognize that our neighbours and surrounding community have concerns about specific aspects of the CARSA project,” said Kristin Simpson, UVic’s associate vice-president responsible for campus planning. “We are offering community members several opportunities to learn more about and provide feedback on the project, traffic management concerns, and we will share additional information about new design options for the parkade. Connecting with the communities around the university and those who will use CARSA is of utmost importance to UVic.”

Design options for the parkade include the possibility of partial undergrounding, a very small part of the structure, or a split struc-

ture that could be smaller parkades built instead of one larger one. Consideration of the options will take into account traffic and financial implications, Saanich by-

laws, visual appearance, efficient land use, consistency with UVic’s Campus Plan and 2008 Traffic and Parking Management Study. Other potential uses for the site, provision of sufficient, accessible and consistent parking for CARSA users, and technical implications.

Once the open houses are com-

pleted, members who were not able to attend will be able to submit their feedback at www.uvic.ca/carsa. UVic will use the input gathered during the March open houses and online to prepare a revised design for the parkade that will be presented at a second series of open houses planned for May.

“We’re committed to a meaningful consultation process and look forward to hearing input and sharing information with the community over the next several months,” says Simpson. “This process will also help us de-

velop a consultation framework for future campus planning and development projects.”

The proposed CARSA project would provide a new home for UVic’s Department of Athletics and Recreation and for CanAssist, UVic’s internationally renowned entity that develops and delivers technologies, programs and services critical to improving the quality of life for people living with disabilities. CARSA will include a 2,000-seat spectator gym, a multi-

purpose field house (flexible sport court and activity space), space for community recreation and fitness programs, squash and racquetball courts, a climbing tower, related office and activity spaces as well as office and laboratory space for CanAssist.

CARSA community consultation continues

PHOTO: PHIL SAUNDERS

L-R: Emma Conway describes her first-place research project to Tremblay, Gillis and Lipson. PHOTO PHIL SAUNDERS

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Bob Reimer
3M AWARD CONTINUED FROM P1

his colleagues, his institution and the community at large seemingly know no bounds.”

Seven years ago, Elangovan started a new stream of scholarship on the topic of callings. His research focuses on guiding people in optimizing meaning in their work lives by finding their true calling, improving organizational performance by building high trust cultures and assisting leaders in making strategic, conflict management and leadership skills.

“As my work progressed, I began to wonder about my calling, whether

I had one, and what it might be,” he says. “I started researching from my own research that one doesn’t have to feel called to a certain occupation, but it took me another two years to understand enough of myself to realize that the invisible, intangible central tenet of my life was the notion of living a life of dignity, and that teaching was a wonderful fit for engaging and enacting my calling to help others live such a life. Teaching was a truly an honour, and I am deeply grateful for the opportunities I’ve been given,” says Elangovan.

“Dr. Elangovan is not only a superb instructor to our students, he is also an amazing administrator and mentor,” says Ali Dastmalchian, dean of UVic’s Gustavson School of Business. Al Dastmalchian, Cecily Cosby (1991), Brian Richmond (fine arts/noW with Blue Bridge Theatre), Prof. Emeritus Dr. David Chaney (geography/near with the Centre on Aging), Dr. David Zimmerman (history), Sara Wogestad (Health Services), Susan Stroga (School of Social Work), alums Leslie Lee and student Ruth Fernandes, all of UVic—were celebrated at the gala event. Long-time UVic supporter and local businessman Naz Rayan was also presented with the 2012 Leadership Victoria Lifetime Achievement Award.

Leadership Victoria is a voluntary organization committed to developing, supporting, recognizing and honouring outstanding community leaders. The local program has graduated over 250 community champions who work collaborative-ly to resolve the complex challenges facing our city.

Visit the Leadership Victoria site for a full list of biographies and all nominees: www.leadershipvictoria.ca/v_awards.html.

Evangeline’s UVic’s ninth recipient of the award, which was established in 1986 through the generosity of 3M Canada and the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education. Other recipients include Gwenneth Doane (nursing, 2006); Jamie Cassels (law, 2002); Marty Wall (education) will discuss a theme entitled “The Climate of Victoria, Vanatons and Changes in Community” in which he will discuss how Victoria’s changing climate impacts Victoria’s climate.”

On April 14, Stas Blyler (geography) presents a lecture entitled “The utility of digital technology for the understanding of the complex challenges facing our city.”

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Since becoming the director of the Westphalia (nrW) research award, with the Award of Excellence in year. She was primary author of also pursuing her own program annually by the Quebec Music and Medicinal Chemistry, has been the category “Book of the Year” for top award. After graduation, Sprigg continued her research with the BC Cancer Agency in Vancouver for a year and is currently studying medicine at the UBC Kelowna campus.

Noreen Frisch (nursing), has been recognized by the College of Registered Nurses of BC (CRNC) with an Innovation in Nursing Administration, given in recognition of outstanding contributions to the profession and outstanding excellence in relation to the CRNC professional standards for registered nurses. Since becoming the director of the school in 2007, Frisch has excelled in all areas of administration while also pursuing her own program of scholarship and research. Her leadership has transformed the school, and in her work with the provincial and national nursing associations. She will be receiving her award on April 19 at the 2012 CRNC awards ceremony at the Vancouver Convention Centre.

Dr. Jonathan Goldman (music) recently won the Opus Prize in the category “Book of the Year” for his book The Musical Language of basketball head coach, was recently named Coach of the Year in 2003–04 and received the national presence as an entertainer.

In a study appearing in this month’s Astrophysical Journal, an interna- tional team of scientists—including Dr. Arden’s research analyzing the opportunities that exist there, and the UNCRC, those children should be receiving more and better supports.

They wanted strong young voices that could provide personal per- spectives on their initiatives such as Shannen’s Dream, supporting safe Aboriginal schools providing cog- nitionally based and equitable education; Jordan’s Principle, which helps ensure that First Nations’ children are not denied government services; and the I Am a Witness campaign, which calls on Canadians to be involved in the human rights issues surrounding the untreated First Nations children in the child welfare system.

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When musician, author and broad- caster Jann Arden wanted to tap into social media, she thought of her new book, Falling Backwards, she turned to YUPIQ, a Victoria-based company that had sprung directly from an internship with Jann Arden and Jeff Crowe. The Internship program of scientists—including Dr. Arden’s research analyzing the opportunities that exist there, and the UNCRC, those children should be receiving more and better supports.

The campaign went through a difficult period, and then implementing it was unique, as I found my voice at the UN, and then implementing it was unique, as I found my voice at the UN.

The key is to get people to use a product and then share it with their network and measure the results,” Voiers says. “The internet provides much more opportunity to do that, and marketers are starting to realize the opportunities that exist there, and that is where our success has been.

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The challenge was a blur of information that could provide personal per- spectives on their initiatives such as Shannen’s Dream, supporting safe Aboriginal schools providing cogni-}
Climate change and the Alberta oil sands are two related topics that never fail to capture international media attention when new information is published. Combine the two topics into a single article, and you get the avalanche of media attention when new information about the Alberta oil sands is released. This phenomenon is often referred to as the "oil sands effect," where every small piece of news about the oil sands is amplified through the media, drawing attention to a global issue in a way that never fails to capture international attention.

But what is the impact of this media coverage on public perception and policy making? Some experts argue that media coverage has the potential to raise awareness and inspire action on climate change. Others argue that media coverage can be sensationalized and used to mislead the public.

One way to mitigate the oil sands effect is to focus on prevention, early intervention, and treatment services for students at risk for developing disordered eating patterns. By treating students early and fostering healthy eating habits, we can help prevent long-term effects of disordered eating and disordered eating patterns.

In conclusion, the oil sands effect is a phenomenon that has significant implications for public perception and policy making. By focusing on prevention, early intervention, and treatment services for students at risk for developing disordered eating patterns, we can help mitigate the negative impact of this phenomenon and work towards a healthier future.
Save the date: Sept. 28–30, 2012

The university is currently planning its 50th Anniversary Festival to help celebrate this momentous milestone by opening its doors and welcoming the local community onto campus on the last weekend in September.

Also that weekend, UVic will be holding its inaugural Homecoming specially for alumni.

“This truly is a weekend for all,” says 50th Anniversary Manager James Burrough. “We envision our campus being a destination for everyone that weekend: students, alumni from near and far, faculty, staff, families and the community at large. Homecoming will be a big part of the 50th Anniversary Festival, with programming geared directly to alumni returning to campus, including an alumni-only dinner and social events. Events for everyone that weekend will include a children’s zone for families, themed walking tours of campus, sports demos and Vikes games. We even plan on hosting a main stage with bands. We hope to see everyone attend and enjoy this terrific weekend.”

Planning for the weekend continues, and details will be found on the 50th anniversary website starting in early April. In the meantime, pull out your calendars and flag the dates Sept. 28, 29 and 30.

And for more general articles and background on UVic’s past 50 years, visit the anniversary website, uvic.ca/anniversary

“Books” that talk back

UVic Libraries’ Equity and Diversity Committee welcomes the community to explore the visible and invisible diversity in our community at the Human Library on the main floor of the McPherson Library from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. March 21 and 22.

The “books” in the Human Library are human beings—often those who have been confronted with prejudices and stereotypes—who have volunteered to tell their stories to others. Readers can reserve a time to have a personal conversation with one of these human “books”—or can drop by on the days of the event and see what “books” are available.

The first Human Library event was held in Denmark at the Roskilde Festival and initially was an effort to use peer education to support anti-violence awareness. Twelve years later the phenomenon has grown, and Human Library events are offered worldwide as opportunities for individuals to learn more about the diversity of human experience through conversations with people they may never have met before. UVic’s “book” titles include: “Crosing the Border: Coming Out as an Exile,” “Lesbian Mother of Three Sons” and “Preparing for Death at Home: Talking about Spirituality.”

The Human Library event offers readers a chance to peel away layers of assumption and make a connection with a real person, rather than a static label.

To learn more about the event and the human “book” titles, look for the event promotional table in the McPherson Library, March 15–20.

Thousands of top scholars to converge on UVic for Congress 2013

In June of 2013 the campus will welcome the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences Congress, comprising 70 professional associations with an expected presence of more than 8,000 delegates between June 1 and 8.

“This is one of the most prestigious gatherings of intellectuals in Canada,” says Congress Chair Dr. Catherine Matert, associate vice-president academic planning. “It’s an especially fitting event in a year that will mark the 50th anniversary of UVic.”

In selecting UVic for the site, Executive Director Judy Ciupo noted that the application instilled confidence that the university’s reputation for professionalism, enthusiasm and strong community engagement are all markers of Victoria’s anticipated strength as a host city.

“The events held on campus that week are going to create new opportunities to help celebrate our anniversary,” said Vice-chair Jim Dunsdon, associate vice-president student affairs. “I hope that our students will take advantage of the many events and Human Library activities are of special interest to us.”

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When Nancy Pike is in her office in UVic’s School of Social Work, you will probably find her door open. Fitting, since her role at UVic working in collaboration with the Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) is all about opening doors for social work students looking for good practicum placements.

“You can call it opening doors,” says the avid gardener, “but I like the idea of calling it planting seeds. You do what you can to make the environment right, but the rest is up to the plant.”

For the past two years Pike, the school’s field education coordinator, has been spending half her time at UVic providing opportunities for social work students and the other half working at VIHA cross-pollinating between the social work curriculum and the needs of the regional health district.

“The unique position I have here allows me to influence the curriculum in our program while identifying opportunities within the health system for graduate practitioners so they can be prepared to respond to the immediate needs of an industry that is rapidly changing.”

After earning a teaching certificate in 1970 from UVic, Pike taught elementary school in Victoria until 1971. She moved to Vernon, BC, to start a family in 1976. While living there she became involved with the Vernon and District Association for Community Living in 1984, and oversaw 14 programs as its executive director for 12 years between 1988 and 2000.

“In working with people who have intellectual disabilities in Vernon, I realized that our laws and ways of being in Canada provided them with opportunities to be equal citizens,” she says. “The more I learned about human rights from that perspective, the more I became committed to that in other areas like poverty and discrimination, and that just brought me closer and closer to social work.”

The experience drove her to pursue a Bachelor in Social Work at UVic in 2002. This led to a Master’s in Social Work from Dalhousie University, which she completed in 2006.

“The experience of returning to school after many years away informs the way she works with students today.”

“Nevertheless, I always felt that everyone should have an equal opportunity to an education, so my interest in social work probably started in my early 20s when I was teaching elementary school.”

She describes the special opportunity that you get when you are there, watching someone learn.

“Here’s a moment when you ask that question—when your curiosity opens a door for someone else. And you are never really sure where they’re going to go when you open that door, or even if you’ve opened the right door,” she says. “But there are those moments when you do...that’s when the world stops because you’ve hit it. That’s when you start to see the growth and energy that flows out when someone is learning. Done well, that’s pretty much what social work does too.”

A mother of three and now a grandmother, Pike says that it was her personal connection to someone with a disability that encouraged her on this career trajectory, but admits not fully understanding the challenges of a developmental disability until she encountered it first hand.

Una imagem de arte relacionada con jardinería. PHOTOS: UVIC PHOTO SERVICES